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**LOCAL NEWS**

# Strike saga

STRIKES are once again impacting train services across Mallorca. Dozens of routes were suspended on February 1 as the lingering dispute between workers and train companies began its 2017 saga. Long-distance and subway trains alike were frequently cancelled last year due to industrial action. The dispute shows no sign of abating.

# Record rentals

ANALYSTS believe that 2017 will see more rented cars than ever before on the roads of Mallorca. Last year smashed records with more than 50,000 rental vehicles found at any one time during the high season. That number will likely be dwarfed this summer as the island's 110 different rental companies predict a hugely profitable season.

# Nutty affair

ALMONDS are in crisis on Mallorca, which is why this is the perfect time to visit the Son Servera Almond Fair. One of the island's nuttiest events, it takes place on Sunday February 5 from 9.30am until 2pm in the north-east. The country fair is entirely devoted to the humble almond.

# 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 therapy

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](http://gofundme.com).

<https://www.gofundme.com/leotheli0n3>

**LITTLE LEO: With proton therapy he can still progress.**



Check out the [www.euroweeklynews.com](http://www.euroweeklynews.com) website to keep up-to-date with fundraising efforts and other updates as Leo's battle continues.



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## Desperate measures

A MALLORCAN man imprisoned in Cape Verde since November 2014 has announced that he has started an indefinite hunger strike over 'illegalities in the judicial process.'

Juan Fernandez Bustos, 42, was incarcerated in the Ribeirinha Prison on San Vicente island after being convicted for drug trafficking and money laundering alongside an accomplice from the Canary Islands.

He was handed a 15-year sentence and stripped of his possessions, but refuses all charges, claiming he was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time.

A letter written by Bustos has appeared in the *Diario de Mallorca* newspaper, and in it he laments "an illegal trial, absurd judicial errors, intolerable violations of the rule of law, our rights of defence and the guarantee of a fair and equitable process.

"During the last two years we have been ignored by the Embassy of Spain, who we have repeatedly addressed without receiving any help whatsoever."

## Make Magaluf Great Again

#MAGA has been trending on the internet, with the abbreviation looking set to enter the English lexicon. But it's not short for Magaluf. Rather it is President Trump's shorthand for 'Make America Great Again.'

Still it's been a terrific source of amusement for millions of online-savvy Brits who get a kick out of seeing the new president proclaim his love for MAGA every day. The campaign slogan was first used by Ronald Reagan but has become synonymous with Trump and his 'America First' policies.

## Big Mac Manacor

A NEW McDonald's in Manacor is hoping to change the way Spanish people view the American fast-food restaurant. The new affair marks the 500th restaurant across the country since Ronald McDonald first arrived in Spain in 1981.

In Manacor, however, things will be done a little differently. The chain is desperately trying to reinvent itself as a 'healthy' eating destination. There will be waited table service and digital ordering.

## British murder mystery

THE fiancée of murdered British children's author Helen Bailey spent two weeks holidaying in Mallorca while her body rotted in a septic tank at the couple's Hertfordshire home.

Ian Stewart, who denies her murder, was arrested on his return from the island. He is on trial at St Albans Crown Court accused of disposing of her body at the home they shared. The court has been told he stood to gain the bulk of her multimillion-pound fortune on her death.

The author, who wrote the Electra Brown series for young

## 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

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



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.

## 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 cog-



Used in 22 countries.



nates, 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.

The adverts department has gone to great lengths to stress that all beef is Spanish and comes with no preservatives.

## Plastic beach needs action

MURO Council has requested an 'immediate action' by the Balearic Department of Agriculture and the Environment in order to remove 'a ridiculous amount' of rubbish

currently covering the town's beach.

Photos depicting plastic, drinks cans, driftwood, rotting vegetables and even dead animals have been circulating on social media.

The mayor, Marti Fornes, said that he feels "impotent" after being roundly ignored by the powers that be since the summer.

The fear is that if the beach is not cleaned, the litter will be buried and decompose, potentially contaminating the area.

## Tragic find ends search

THE dead body of a 71-year-old man who disappeared from his home in Manacor on Sunday was found in the cistern of a shed on a building site near the town's hippodrome yesterday.

The grisly find brings to an end an intensive search in which local and auxiliary police worked alongside the Guardia Civil and fire brigade.

No further details were available as the *Euro Weekly News* went to press.

## 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.

## INSIDE VIEW

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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 jumps onto tracks

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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# Big burglary spree



**SANTA PONSA:** Police are investigating just how many burglaries were carried out.

By *Matthew Elliott*

GUARDIA CIVIL officers arrested two men accused of committing a series of burglaries of upscale homes across Santa Ponsa and the Costa d'en Blanes. Both men are Romanian nationals and one was caught red-handed smashing into a Nova Santa Ponsa apartment.

After arresting him and finding a substantial quantity of stolen goods at his home police determined that he hadn't acted alone. They started a search for a second suspect and soon found his countryman and thief-in-law.

The second man was on his way to the airport, having bought a ticket to Romania when the first was captured.

He had 14 luxury watches worth in excess of €100,000 on his person, all stolen.

Police are now investigating just how many burglaries the pair are responsible for. People from Santa Ponsa, Costa d'en Blanes and Bendinat are invited to contact Local Police if they have been burgled since August and the crime remains unsolved.



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# Farmer's flood funding fury



**MAJOR FLOODS:** Have left farmers suffering.

By Matthew Elliott

THE Spanish national government in Madrid has approved a special royal decree enabling emergency compensation for the Balearics after the storms and floods of recent months.

However the Mallorcan Farmers Union is furious with the details, suggesting that ministers are having a laugh at their expense.

Severe flooding struck Mallorca in mid-January, inflicting particular damage on corn and potato farmers. They were already suffering af-

ter major floods in December and angry that swifter action wasn't taken to prevent the latest floods.

Government compensation for weather damage is notoriously slow to arrive in Spain. By declaring a major catastrophe, the Balearics were able to request emergency funding.

The farmers note however, that only those with insurance will receive any money, which they reckon makes a mockery of the concept of emergency aid. Insurance is still relatively uncommon across the islands.

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# Raiders terrify elderly couple

TWO men suspected of a brutal attack on an elderly couple in Arta have been arrested. They are charged with kidnapping, assault and robbery.

Both are in Guardia Civil custody in Manacor as investigations into the December crime continue.

The elderly couple had returned home to their quiet finca at midnight on December 9. Opening the door they surprised the two burglars searching for cash and valuables. The men drew knives and locked the woman in the trunk of her car.

Threatening her husband they escorted him to an ATM in nearby Sant Llorenç des Cardassar and forced him to withdraw €600 in cash. They then abandoned him by the side of the road, using his car to make their escape.

The Audi Q3, worth around €35,000, was torched and found burnt out the following day by a surprised cyclist.

Police suspect the two men of having previous works at the finca. The couple suggested that they had precise knowledge of the property's interior.

# Wreckage reveals Roman amphorae

ARCHAEOLOGISTS uncovered an ancient Roman shipwreck off the coast of Cabrera, Mallorca.

Wreckage was discovered by divers in October 2016 but it took three months to get the archaeologist crew

down into the watery depths to investigate.

Scientists have now revealed that the boat is nearly 2,000 years old. They describe it as a 'spectacular find' due to its tremendously well-preserved condition.

In fact it may be the best preserved Roman vessel found in the western Mediterranean, and certainly in the Balearics.

**“ Researchers believe it may have been a cargo ship that transported a special fish sauce.**

The ship, which measures 15 metres long and 10 metres wide, holds thousands of amphorae, containers used to transport liquids. Researchers believe it may have been a cargo ship that transported a special fish sauce to and from the Balearics.

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- On occasions
- Very rarely

**Which sections of the EWN do you read?**

- Local News
- General Features
- Business
- Leapy Lee
- Other columnists
- Television
- Horoscopes
- Time Out
- Letters
- Health & Beauty
- Food/Social Scene
- Homes & Gardens
- Community
- Classified
- Motoring
- Sport

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.....  
 .....

**What do you EXPECT from the EWN?**

.....  
 .....

**What would you like to CHANGE about the EWN?**

.....  
 .....

**How long do you spend reading the EWN?**

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

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.....

**Where do you usually pick up your copy?**

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 .....

**Do you have a suggested new distribution point?**

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 .....

## You and the EWN Online

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- Radio
- Newspaper
- Internet

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- Laptop
- Tablet
- Mobile phone
- Smart TV

**What time do you normally browse the internet?**

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- Afternoon
- Evening
- All day

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- More than once a day
- Once a day
- Once a week
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## Q & A

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- 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).....

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

**Is your mobile**

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- 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
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- Other (specify).....

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- Regularly
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- Never

**Which social media sites do you use?**

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- Twitter
- Instagram
- Other (specify).....



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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Terrible accident**

AN 11-year-old girl is in a critical condition 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.

**Jobs 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.

**Transport rebellion**



**BUS SERVICE:** The idea of a direct link to the airport has been rejected.

By Matthew Elliott

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.

Taxi drivers have made their fury at new direct bus service plans well-known. They have even threatened to strike over Easter if their demands were not met.

Councillors also noted that the bus service would have to be subsidised by the taxpayer. Meanwhile a substantial tax revenue is raised from the more expensive taxis.

Regardless of the vote, major changes are afoot for the public bus sector in Mallorca. Subsidies will be stopped and the service thrown out to more privatisation and competition. The number of passengers is expected to almost double in the next decade.



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**Inhuman conditions**

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

The illegally employed workers had no holidays, endured 13 hour days, seven days a week and were paid a measly €1.50 per hour. They lived together in squalid cellars with no natural light or ventilation.

The hotel owner is accused of recruiting the workers from a Romanian website. He paid for their flights to Mallorca and promised them good pay and opportunities.

When they arrived they were isolated from other workers and threatened with punishment if they considered going to the police.



# Five-star love affair



**PALMA:** Is now targeting a more sophisticated market.

By Matthew Elliott

PALMA'S continuing quest for ever more luxury will see a fifth five-star hotel built in the city. Pabisa is planning to construct a new luxury affair at the Playa de Palma by the end of 2019.

It will be the hotel chain's second five-star effort in the city.

The five-star revolution has happened almost all at once on the promenade. Only shortly before Christmas did the first open at the Hotel Palace Llaut. The Hipotels Playa de Palma Palaca and Spa and the Joan Llull are five-star hotels under construction. Meanwhile the Pure Salt Garonda and the Iberostar Playa de Palma

are in the process of upgrading to five stars.

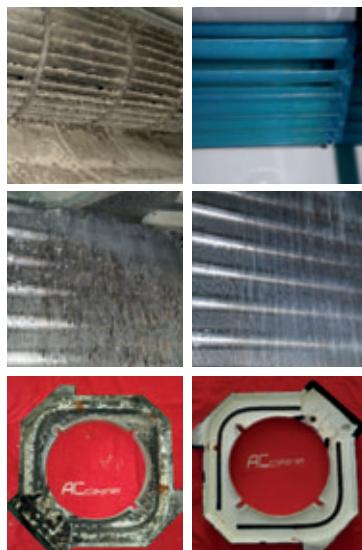
The luxury drive comes as Palma seeks to redefine its tourist credentials. Gone are the days of promoting itself as a party destination. The target now is a more sophisticated market and the off-season bounty of corporate conferences and culture vultures.



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

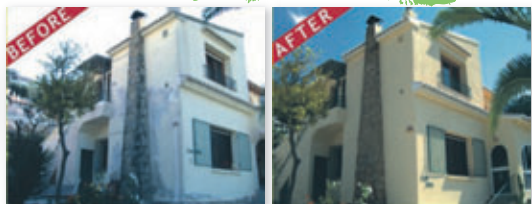
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# Sterling leads again

## Commentary by Moneycorp

### EUR weekly currency update

Neither the British nor the Euroland statisticians had much to say for themselves. The monthly round of provisional purchasing managers' indices, in which the UK does not participate, indicated that activity in the €Z private sector continued at a decent clip in January, even if not all of the readings met expectations.

In Germany consumer confidence improved while business confidence deteriorated slightly. UK retail sales fell in December, perhaps as a result of consumers bringing forward their Christmas purchases to Black Friday in November and Britain's economy expanded by a provisional 0.6% in the fourth quarter of 2016, slightly more than forecast.

Sterling led the field for a second week, strengthening by two US and two euro cents. Its saviours were the Supreme Court ruling that parliament must approve activation of the Article 50 EU departure process and the government's promise of a white paper. Investors demonstrated their preference for transparency over opacity.

### USD weekly currency update

Politics, not economic data, shaped the fortunes of the dollar and the pound. In Westminster the government's reaction to the Supreme Court's ruling that parliament must approve the

EU departure process was positive for sterling. Investors welcomed the promise of a white paper that should further clarify Downing Street's plans for Brexit and beyond.

In the US pronouncements and executive orders of the new president were unhelpful to the dollar. His obsession with the numbers attending his inauguration worried investors, as did his readiness to quote 'alternative facts' when the real ones don't suit. The prospect of a trade war with Mexico was another concern.

The dollar took a weekly loss of two cents to the pound. It was unchanged against the euro. Economic data played only a minor role. British retail sales for December were disappointing while growth in the fourth quarter of 2016 beat expectations.

### CAD weekly currency update

The Loonie got off to a poor start. Disappointing sets of data for Canadian inflation and retail sales last Friday continued to hang over the currency. There was also concern Canada could become embroiled in the trade war that seems to be shaping up between America and Mexico. The Canadian dollar's situation improved, however, on Wednesday when the new US president gave his backing to the stalled Keystone pipeline project to carry oil from Alberta to the Gulf coast.

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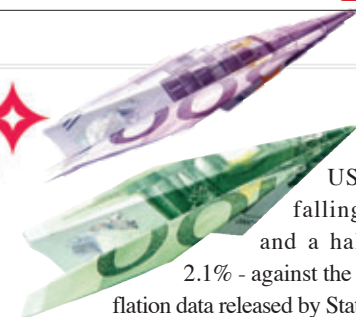
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A ruling by the Supreme Court that parliament must approve the initiation of Britain's departure from the EU was positive for the pound. It received further help when the government promised a white paper on the subject. For a second week sterling showed the other major currencies the way, adding a third of a Canadian cent. The Loonie took just over a cent off the US dollar.

### AUD weekly currency update

The Australian dollar and the British pound occupied opposite ends of the currency spectrum. Sterling led the field for a second week while the Aussie languished at the back, losing a third of a



US cent and falling by three and a half cents - 2.1% - against the pound. Inflation data released by Statistics Australia and the Reserve Bank of Australia came in below forecast: headline CPI went up by 1.5% in the year to December while the RBA's trimmed mean was 1.5%. The figures cost the Aussie an almost immediate cent.

Sterling, meanwhile, dodged a bullet from weak UK retail sales figures and felt the benefit of stronger-than-expected 0.6% provisional growth in the fourth quarter. Its biggest advantages were the Supreme Court's ruling that parliament must approve the initiation of the EU departure process and the government's commitment to producing a white paper on the matter. Investors welcomed the increased transparency.

### NZD weekly currency update

The NZ dollar beat its antipodean neighbour principally on the back of inflation data. Australian prices went up by 1.5% in the year to December and in New Zealand they went up by 1.3%. The Kiwi's relative advantage was that the previous NZ inflation reading had been just 0.4% while the Australian figure fell short of forecast.

For a second week sterling led the major currency pack, strengthening by 1.0% against the Kiwi. It only took a glancing blow from weak UK retail sales figures and was helped by news that the economy grew by more than expected.

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**POLITICAL TURMOIL:** For the Balearic Parliament.

# New year, but same problems

By Matthew Elliott

THE Balearic Parliament opened for its first session of the year amid a fair deal of political turmoil. President Armengol called for a fresh start after former speaker of the parliament Xelo Huerta was finally ousted in January over corruption allegations.

Huertas of Podemos furiously denies the claims but her dismissal has revealed deep divisions in the anti-austerity party.

Armengol of the Socialist PSOE needs Podemos to remain unified if they are to see off the conservative challenge of the Popular Party together.

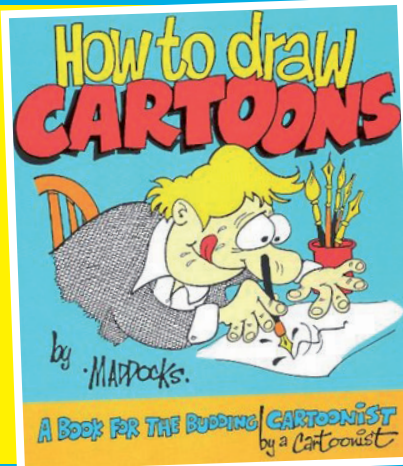
A new speaker has not yet been nominated for the parliament, which faces a series of controversies to kick-start the new year. Chief among them will be the tourist tax revenue and how to properly spread it. Palma has requested at least 50 per cent of this year's revenue.

In 2016 more than €30 million was raised but there were disputes on both sides of the aisle over its use. Environmentalists feel not enough has been allocated for green projects, despite that being the tax's purpose.

Roughly €24 million has been dedicated to environmental projects, around €15 million of which is destined to help salvage the island from drought. GOB, one of the Balearic's most influential green groups argue that the government should have, and already had, earmarked millions for helping with the water crisis. They feel that the eco-tax is being used as a substitute for government funding, rather than as an addition to it.

Meanwhile the hotel industry is preparing a serious lobbying effort aimed at abolishing the tax altogether. Hoteliers are also readying to go to war over tourist rental regulations set to take effect this year. They want private accommodations to undergo precisely the same scrutiny as faced by hotels to stop being undercut by what they see as a black market in tourist stays.

## PETER MADDOCKS

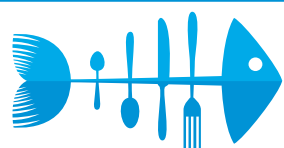


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# Brexit negotiator warns against Trump



## 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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# Brave new motorways



**BUS LANES:** Would ease traffic flow. |

By Matthew Elliott

A NOVEL idea could see Mallorcan motorways have dedicated bus lanes running through the middle of them. Gone would be the typical green shrubbery dividing opposite lanes. Rather they would become special bus lanes to help ease traffic flow.

The idea is to make public transport even quicker than private transport. In an ideal world this

would encourage people to ditch their cars and travel collectively, easing pollution on the island.

Express bus lanes are in operation in dozens of cities across the world, such as Istanbul which has more cars than Madrid has people.

The Balearic government is hoping to raise the relative share of public transport to 25 per cent of all transport across the islands by 2028. Currently around 13 per cent of trips

are taken collectively.

A first step in the project could see bus lanes introduced from the airport on the motorway route to Peguera. Another proposal is that cars carrying three or more passengers could also use the dedicated lanes.

The plan is not, however, without its detractors. One commentator noted the irony of trying to improve the environment by replacing miles of green shrubbery with bus lanes.

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## NEWS EXTRA

Weather  
ahead

MILD temperatures with highs of between 16 and 18 degrees, with lows around 10 and some clouds, a little wind and a small chance of coastal rain.

Flight  
fantastic

BRITISH airline Jet2 will substantially expand flights to and from Mallorca this summer. By 2018 the airline expects to double the number of flights between the UK and Palma.

## Mini cattle

A FAMOUS breed of Irish cattle can be found grazing in Felanitx. The Dexter cattle are miniature cows renowned for their succulent taste and used in gourmet dining.

## Calanova Cancer Care

THE Calanova Cancer Care charity had their Christmas lunch at Mood Beach Restaurant in December which was a great success with everybody enjoying themselves immensely.

The Anita Baggaley choir from Balearics International College (BIC) were amazing and performed like the little angels they were. The children sang so beautifully with renditions of old and new carols there was hardly a dry eye in the room and they really got everyone in the spirit of Christmas.

Identical twin brothers Philipp and Fabian Nusser also enthralled all with their piano recital, whilst their sister Dana played the recorder for the choir... a very musical family, their brother Erik played for the charity last year.

After a scrumptious Christmas lunch cheques were presented by Angela McGrath: €8,000 to Jaime Coll for ASPANOB the Children's Cancer Charity, €1,000 to Marie who received it on behalf of DIME Palliative Care and €1,000 to Krista for The Cancer Support Group.

Miss Shirley Bassey, aka Carlos, then entertained the audience with her fabulous voice and finally the party finished with dancing to the live music and songs of Sylvia and Marcela, two girls who got everyone going.

Thanks are extended to everyone who attended and to Margaret Whittiker and all at



ENTERTAINING: Miss Shirley Bassey, aka Carlos, at the Christmas lunch.

Mood Beach for making it such a memorable day.

The charity would like to remind everyone that the Calanova Cancer Shop now has a new shop dedicated to nearly new furniture just a few doors down the road at number 352 Joan Miro.

In the main shop there is a lot of good ski-

ing clothes, warm winter coats and sweaters, duvets, blankets and other things to keep warm now the weather has changed.

A big sale on trousers and skirts started in January and continues with more goods in February which will include a number of carnival things and costumes to be put on display.

Thinking  
about  
Mahatma

THOUSANDS of schoolchildren across Mallorca celebrated the School Day of Non-Violence and Peace. Students read manifestos, engaged in artwork and released balloons to commemorate the special occasion.

In Lluçmajor hundreds of children formed a human chain and sang for peace. In Sagrat Cor they marched around the streets to a drumbeat waving peace-themed placards in different languages. Other students planted trees and released doves into the air.

The day is celebrated on January 30 each year by schoolchildren across the world to commemorate the death of Mahatma Gandhi. But its roots actually lie in Mallorca. It was founded by Mallorcan poet Llorenç Vidal Vidal in 1964.



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#### 2016 taxes must be declared and paid before the end of 2017.

Spanish tax law requires that non-resident owners of property in Spain have to pay Spanish income tax even if they have no Spanish earnings for example, rental income or bank interest.

If you wish to receive an information sheet regarding non-resident tax email to [info@gcmca.es](mailto:info@gcmca.es), alternatively, you can telephone the office and we will discuss your requirements with you.

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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

vis 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



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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# LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 30

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,348.00	-21.00	-1.53	19,007.40
Associated British Foods	2,405.00	-24.00	-0.99	18,936.85
Admiral Group	1,785.50	-19.50	-1.08	5,030.19
Ashtead Group	1,628.50	-10.50	-0.64	8,232.23
Antofagasta	820.75	-1.75	-0.21	8,251.62
Aviva	478.75	-6.75	-1.39	19,738.92
AstraZeneca	4,237.00	-2.00	-0.05	54,379.56
BAE Systems	593.75	1.25	0.21	18,928.90
Babcock International Group	895.50	-1.50	-0.17	4,557.95
Barclays	227.70	-2.90	-1.26	39,414.10
British American Tobacco	4,874.75	-45.75	-0.93	91,904.31
Barratt Developments	469.95	-2.55	-0.54	4,743.70
British Land Co	580.50	-2.50	-0.43	6,028.87
BHP Billiton	1,437.75	-12.25	-0.84	30,530.00
Bunzl	2,083.00	-7.00	-0.33	6,950.42
BP	481.43	-5.37	-1.10	94,548.00
Burberry Group	1,637.50	-11.50	-0.70	7,323.45
BT Group	303.05	0.25	0.08	30,085.43
Coca-Cola HBC	1,807.00	-12.00	-0.66	6,592.00
Carnival	4,326.00	-14.00	-0.32	9,376.02
Centrica	224.95	-2.05	-0.90	12,464.45
Compass Group	1,407.00	-10.00	-0.71	22,885.71
Capita Group (The)	504.75	-4.75	-0.93	3,359.06
Croda International	3,395.00	-11.00	-0.32	4,449.30
CRH	2,830.50	-13.50	-0.47	23,840.16
Convatec Group Ord 10p Wi	244.40	-0.50	-0.20	4,716.71
Dixons Carphone	316.55	-0.65	-0.20	3,694.59
DCC	6,282.50	92.50	1.49	5,388.17
Diageo	2,209.50	-34.50	-1.54	55,819.89
Direct Line Insurance Group	352.60	-2.30	-0.65	4,848.25
Experian	1,546.50	-2.50	-0.16	14,471.07
easylet	960.00	-14.00	-1.44	3,952.22
Fresnillo	1,419.50	-8.50	-0.60	10,110.18
GKN	346.25	-2.25	-0.65	6,004.09
Glencore	325.38	-1.97	-0.60	46,127.95
GlaxoSmithKline	1,520.25	0.25	0.02	75,075.58
Hikma Pharmaceuticals	1,854.00	-1.00	-0.05	4,487.15
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,334.50	-6.50	-0.48	6,412.79
Hammerson	543.25	-3.75	-0.69	4,334.78
HSBC Holdings	683.70	-3.90	-0.57	135,861.84
International Consoltd Airlines	491.30	-6.60	-1.33	10,415.73
InterContinental Hotels Grp	3,768.50	-16.50	-0.44	7,393.08
3i Group	694.25	-3.75	-0.54	6,780.24
Imperial Brands	3,677.00	-39.50	-1.06	35,462.72
Informa	653.25	-0.25	-0.04	5,368.39
Intu Properties	265.90	-3.60	-1.34	3,668.09
Intertek Group	3,434.50	-12.50	-0.36	5,609.80
ITV	207.70	3.00	1.47	8,252.09
Johnson Matthey	3,259.50	6.50	0.20	6,231.78
Kingfisher	330.20	-2.30	-0.69	7,388.72

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Land Securities Group	985.00	-7.00	-0.71	7,954.74
Legal & General Group	241.80	-2.00	-0.82	14,487.68
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	65.41	-0.46	-0.70	47,228.00
London Stock Exchange Grp	3,102.00	2.00	0.06	10,736.89
Micro Focus International	2,120.00	-5.00	-0.24	4,825.50
Mediclinic International	792.75	-17.75	-2.19	5,949.56
Merlin Entertainments	483.35	-0.05	-0.01	4,893.15
Marks & Spencer Group	339.35	-4.65	-1.35	5,543.57
Mondi	1,744.50	-28.50	-1.61	8,599.16
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	237.70	-0.40	-0.17	5,518.73
National Grid	917.50	-4.70	-0.51	34,307.63
Next	3,822.50	-27.50	-0.71	5,683.74
Old Mutual Group	207.90	-5.30	-2.49	10,441.61
Provident Financial	2,681.50	-12.50	-0.46	3,957.27
Paddy Power Betfair	8,125.00	20.00	0.25	6,733.68
Prudential	1,565.75	-11.25	-0.71	40,948.54
Persimmon	1,905.00	-12.00	-0.63	5,818.28
Pearson	607.50	0.50	0.08	5,113.63
Reckitt Benckiser Group	6,818.50	-51.50	-0.75	47,899.21
Royal Bank of Scotland Grp	230.20	-1.60	-0.69	27,536.15
Royal Dutch Shell	2,179.25	-11.75	-0.54	96,948.70
Royal Dutch Shell	2,271.75	-14.25	-0.62	85,584.37
RELX	1,413.50	1.50	0.11	15,150.22
Rio Tinto	3,543.75	-23.75	-0.67	48,579.32
Royal Mail	405.90	-2.80	-0.69	4,082.00
Rolls-Royce Group	682.25	-3.75	-0.55	12,724.47
Randgold Resources	6,522.50	-57.50	-0.87	6,018.88
RSA Insurance Group	575.25	-3.25	-0.56	5,954.20
Sainsbury (J)	253.85	-0.65	-0.26	5,644.23
Schroders	2,912.00	-11.00	-0.38	6,660.88
Sage Group (The)	605.00	-5.00	-0.82	6,469.95
Shire	4,398.00	9.00	0.21	40,128.49
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,101.00	-4.00	-0.19	4,859.28
Sky	1,004.50	-0.50	-0.05	17,258.93
Standard Life	347.25	-3.25	-0.93	6,963.69
Smiths Group	1,522.50	-3.50	-0.23	6,049.86
Smith & Nephew	1,188.00	-4.00	-0.34	10,247.86
SSE	1,482.50	-9.50	-0.64	15,130.06
Standard Chartered	777.90	-3.70	-0.47	25,920.76
St James's Place	1,079.50	-3.50	-0.32	5,659.89
Severn Trent	2,244.00	-18.00	-0.80	5,202.06
Tesco	203.13	-3.42	-1.66	15,450.08
TUI AG	1,163.00	3.00	0.26	6,762.68
Taylor Wimpey	165.90	-1.80	-1.07	5,399.22
Unilever	3,211.00	-22.50	-0.70	40,955.19
United Utilities Group	902.00	2.50	0.28	6,065.40
Vodafone Group	198.93	5.58	2.89	51,239.55
Wolseley	4,931.50	-3.50	-0.07	12,495.23
Worldpay Group	282.10	0.10	0.04	5,616.00
WPP Group	1,871.00	-7.00	-0.37	23,657.38
Whitbread	3,942.00	-21.00	-0.53	7,145.23

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# DOW JONES

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 30

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	177.48	0.37%	0.66	106M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	76.85	-0.10%	-0.08	69M
APPLE	121.95	0.01%	0.01	640M
BOEING CO	167.7	-0.84%	-1.42	103M
CATERPILLAR	98.99	1.82%	1.77	57M
CHEVRON	113.79	-2.37%	-2.76	214M
CISCO SYSTEMS	30.98	0.78%	0.24	155M
COCA-COLA	41.45	-0.86%	-0.36	179M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	77.7	-0.37%	-0.29	67M
EXXON MOBIL	85.51	-0.11%	-0.09	353M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	30.01	-1.02%	-0.31	265M
GOLDMAN SACHS	236.95	-1.10%	-2.63	94M
HOME DEPOT	138.33	-0.09%	-0.13	168M
IBM	177.3	-0.76%	-1.36	169M
INTEL CORP	37.98	1.12%	0.42	180M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	86.93	0.21%	0.18	310M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	113.38	1.38%	1.54	307M
MC DONALD'S CORP	122.86	0.80%	0.98	100M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	61.75	0.90%	0.55	170M
MICROSOFT	65.78	2.35%	1.51	510M
NIKE	53.19	-0.86%	-0.46	70M
PFIZER	31.42	0.45%	0.14	190M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	86.72	0.14%	0.12	221M
TRAVELERS CIES	118.1	-0.03%	-0.03	32M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	109.7	-0.60%	-0.66	90M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	162.99	0.15%	0.24	155M
VERIZON COMMS	49.6	0.98%	0.48	201M
VISA	83.77	0.64%	0.53	155M
WAL-MART STORES	65.66	-1.60%	-1.07	201M
WALT DISNEY CO	109.3	1.15%	1.24	173M

# NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 30

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
Pulmatrix, Inc.	\$ 3.37	1.15 ▲ 51.80%
Oncobiologics, Inc.	\$ 3.74	0.68 ▲ 22.22%
Commercial Vehicle Group, Inc.	\$ 6.22	0.59 ▲ 10.48%
Air Transport Services Group, Inc	\$ 16.92	1.50 ▲ 9.73%
Key Technology, Inc.	\$ 13.38	1.18 ▲ 9.67%
Osiris Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 5.90	0.50 ▲ 9.26%
Spartan Motors, Inc.	\$ 9.35	0.75 ▲ 8.72%
Wynn Resorts, Limited	\$ 103.08	7.58 ▲ 7.94%
Syneron Medical Ltd.	\$ 9.65	0.70 ▲ 7.82%
Synergy Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 6.27	0.44 ▲ 7.55%
Atrion Corporation	\$ 505.35	32.25 ▲ 6.82%
<b>Most Declined</b>		
Novan, Inc.	\$ 4.86	13.84 ▼ 74.01%
The KEYW Holding Corporation	\$ 10.09	2 ▼ 16.54%
Diana Containerships Inc.	\$ 2.41	0.39 ▼ 13.93%
Avinger, Inc.	\$ 2.75	0.35 ▼ 11.29%
Eagle Bulk Shipping Inc.	\$ 6.36	0.60 ▼ 8.62%
LEAP THERAPEUTICS, INC.	\$ 7.77	0.7001 ▼ 8.27%
Spark Energy, Inc.	\$ 27.55	2.35 ▼ 7.86%
Strattec Security Corporation	\$ 36.70	2.95 ▼ 7.44%
8point3 Energy Partners LP	\$ 13.66	1.09 ▼ 7.39%
PTC Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 12.82	0.98 ▼ 7.10%
JetBlue Airways Corporation	\$ 19.65	1.45 ▼ 6.87%

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 Multi Asset Growth B GBP  
 Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

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 €0.9654..... -€0.0002  
 £1.1293..... -£0.0068  
 €1.0645..... -€0.0069  
 £1.2529..... -£0.0082  
 €1.1712..... -€0.0083  
 £1.3650..... -£0.0112  
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# Leaders' speeches grabbing attention

## Ask the expert

Peter Loveday



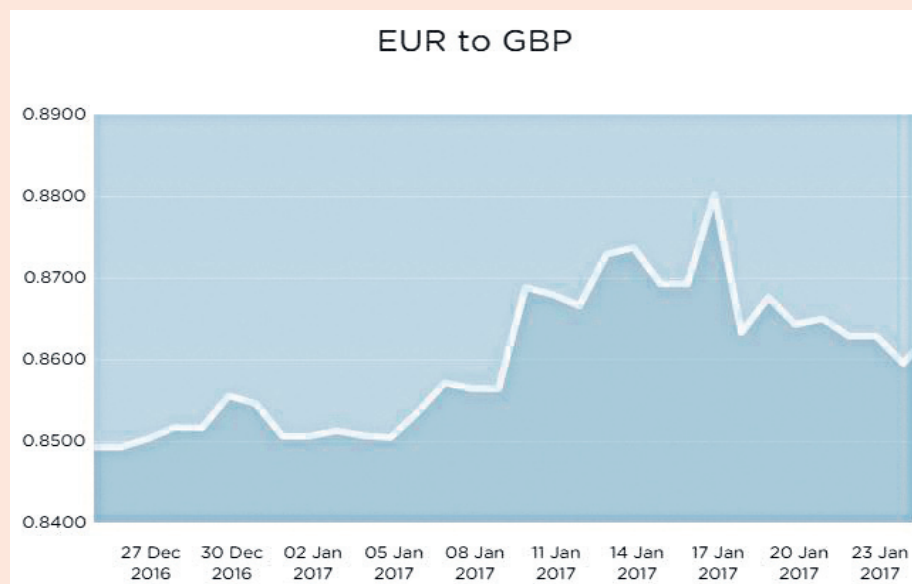
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IT has been a fiery start to 2017, with the markets having to decipher the outcome of speeches given by some of the world's most powerful political figures, Theresa May and Donald Trump.

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

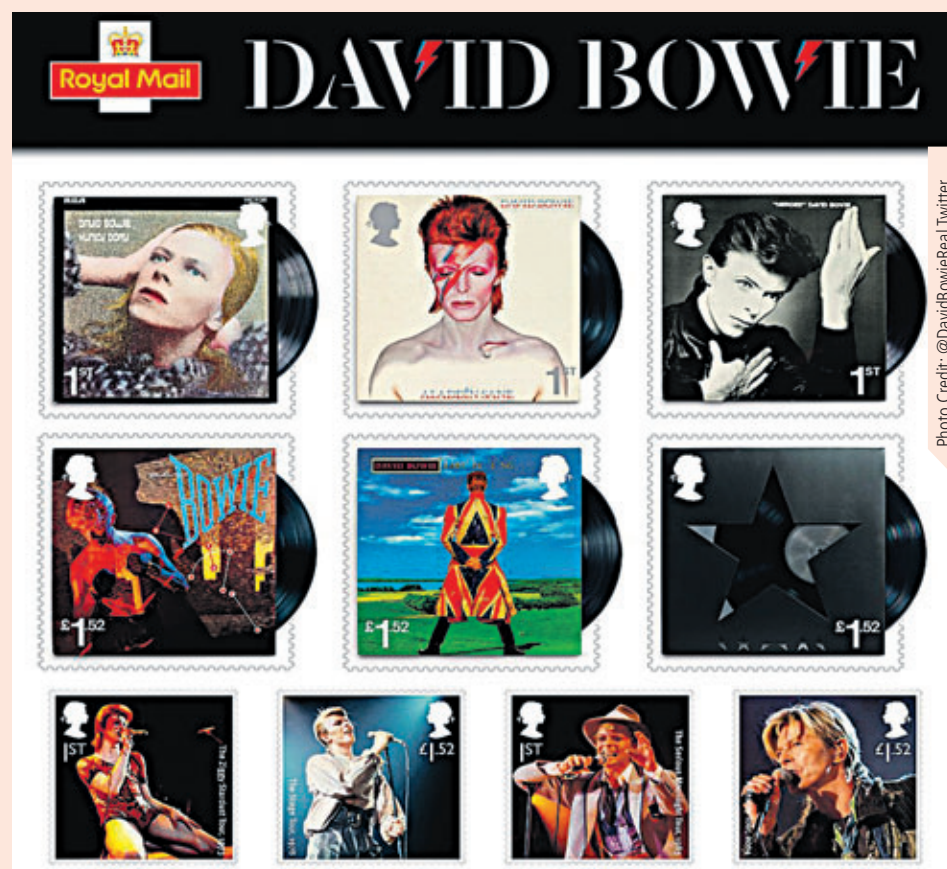


Photo Credit: @DavidBowieReal | Twitter

## 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 swiftly coming to a head and at least we no longer

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

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!

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*Love Leapy.*

*Leapylee2002@gmail.com*

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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1						
02 FEBRUARY	6:15pm	Pointless	7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys	8:30pm	Energy Bills: Can We be Smarter?	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	7:00pm	Home and Away	6:30pm	Premier League Review
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	8:00pm	Put Your Money	9:00pm	Emmerdale	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	7:30pm	Barclays Premier League World
	7:30pm	BBC London News	9:00pm	Where Your Mouth Is	9:30pm	The Cruise	7:00pm	The Simpsons	8:00pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	8:00pm	Premier League Match Pack
	8:00pm	The One Show	10:00pm	The Great Pottery Throw Down	10:00pm	Unforgotten	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	9:00pm	Bargain Loving Brits in the Sun	8:30pm	Football Premier League Match Pack
	8:30pm	EastEnders	11:00pm	Natural World	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother	11:00pm	Premier League Match Pack
	9:00pm	Spy in the Wild	11:30pm	Mock the Week	11:30pm	ITV News London	9:00pm	The Secret Life of 5 Year Olds	11:00pm	Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink	11:30pm	La Liga Show
	10:00pm	Death in Paradise	12:15am	Newsnight	11:40pm	Unbelievable Moments	10:00pm	Escape to the Wild	12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side	12:00am	Barclays Premier League World
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten		Further Back in Time for Dinner	12:40am	Caught on Camera	11:00pm	Parenting for Idiots				
	11:30pm	BBC London News				Tipping Point	12:00am	60 Days in Jail				
	11:45pm	Question Time										
12:45am	This Week											
FRIDAY 03 FEBRUARY	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	6:15pm	Flog It!	8:30pm	Coronation Street	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	7:00pm	Home and Away	4:00pm	The Premier League Years
	7:30pm	BBC London News	7:00pm	Eggheads	9:00pm	Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	6:00pm	Premier League Matchpack
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	8:00pm	Caravanning	6:30pm	Football Gold
	8:30pm	Spy in the Wild	8:00pm	Big Dreams Small Spaces	10:00pm	Piers Morgan's Life Stories	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:00pm	Monkeys Make You Laugh Out Loud	7:00pm	The Fantasy Football Club
	9:30pm	Room 101	9:00pm	Mastermind	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm	Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast	10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother: Live Final	8:00pm	Football
	10:00pm	Not Going Out	9:30pm	Only Connect	11:30pm	ITV News London	10:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side	11:15pm	Barclays Premier League Preview
	10:30pm	Tracey Ullman's Show	10:00pm	QI	11:40pm	Fishing Impossible	11:00pm	The Last Leg			11:45pm	The Fantasy Football Club
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:10am	The Wine Show	12:05am	First Dates Hotel			12:45am	Football Gold
	11:25pm	BBC London News		Tennis			1:00am	Virtually Famous				
	11:35pm	The Graham Norton Show										
12:25am	Uncle											
SATURDAY 04 FEBRUARY	6:30pm	BBC News	3:30pm	Cheetahs	3:15pm	Dance Dance Dance	4:30pm	A Place in the Sun	7:10pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	12:30pm	Football
	6:40pm	Regional News	4:30pm	The World's Most Extraordinary Homes	4:45pm	Regional News and Weather	5:30pm	Location, Location, Location	8:05pm	NCIS: Los Angeles	4:00pm	Gillette Soccer Saturday
	6:45pm	Weather	5:30pm	Mastermind	5:00pm	ITV News and Weather	6:30pm	Grand Designs	9:00pm	NCIS	6:15pm	Football
	6:50pm	Pointless	6:00pm	University Challenge	5:15pm	Rugby	7:30pm	Channel 4 News	9:55pm	5 News	9:00pm	EFL Goals
	7:40pm	Let it Shine	6:30pm	Only Connect	8:00pm	Ninja Warrior UK	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	10:00pm	Football on 5	9:30pm	Nissan Game of the Day
	9:25pm	Casualty	7:00pm	Tennis	9:00pm	The Voice UK	9:00pm	Penelope Keith's Hidden Villages	11:00pm	Football on 5	11:30pm	Nissan Match Choice
	10:15pm	Taboo	9:30pm	Dad's Army	10:30pm	Through the Keyhole	9:00pm	Great Canal Journeys	11:30pm	Britain's Biggest Armed Robbery	12:30am	Football
	11:10pm	BBC News	10:00pm	QI XL	11:30pm	ITV News and Weather	10:00pm	A Million Ways to Die in the West	1:00am	Super Casino	1:00am	Football
	11:25pm	Weather	10:45pm	The Falling	11:45pm	The Bourne Supremacy	12:15am	Van Helsing			1:30am	Football
	11:30pm	Match of the Day	12:25am	Julie and Julia	1:45am	Jackpot247						
1:00am	The NFL Show											
SUNDAY 05 FEBRUARY	6:05pm	Spy in the Wild	6:15pm	Ski Sunday	7:30pm	Dance Dance Dance	4:00pm	Step Up All In	3:00pm	Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole	10:00am	The Sunday Supplement
	7:05pm	BBC News	7:00pm	Six Nations Rugby Special	9:00pm	Lion Country	6:15pm	Channel 4 News	4:00pm	Leap Year	11:30am	Goals on Sunday
	7:20pm	Regional News	8:00pm	City in the Sky	10:00pm	Good Karma Hospital	6:40pm	Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs	5:50pm	Around the World in Eighty Days	1:30pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
	7:25pm	Weather	9:00pm	Dragons' Den	11:00pm	ITV News and Weather	8:30pm	The Jump	8:05pm	The Medallion	4:30pm	Live Nissan Super
	7:30pm	Countryfile	10:00pm	Special Forces - Ultimate Hell Week	11:15pm	Peston on Sunday	10:00pm	Homeland	9:55pm	5 News	8:00pm	EFL Goals
	8:30pm	Still Open All Hours	11:00pm	Live at the Apollo	12:15am	Rugby	11:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	10:00pm	When Live TV Goes Horribly Wrong	8:30pm	Football
	9:00pm	Call the Midwife	11:45pm	Women's Six Nations Highlights	1:20am	Jackpot247	12:00am	Magic Mike	1:05am	Celebrity Botched Up Bodies	11:00pm	Live NFL Super Bowl
	10:00pm	Apple Tree Yard	12:15am	Tennis	4:00am	Chopping Block	2:05am	How to Lose Weight Well			4:00am	PI Match Highlights
	11:00pm	BBC News			4:50am	Nightscreen					4:30am	PI Match Highlights
	11:20pm	Regional News										
11:25pm	Weather											
MONDAY 06 FEBRUARY	8:30pm	Inside Out	7:00pm	Eggheads	8:30pm	Coronation Street	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	8:00pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
	9:00pm	EastEnders	7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys	9:00pm	The Martin Lewis Money Show	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	8:30pm	Spanish Football Gold
	9:30pm	Panorama	8:00pm	Put Your Money	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News	8:40pm	Football
	10:00pm	Apple Tree Yard	9:00pm	Where Your Mouth Is	10:00pm	The Halcyon	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	The Cars That Made Britain Great	10:40pm	Spanish Football Gold
	11:00pm	BBC News	9:30pm	University Challenge	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm	The Fake News Show	9:00pm	Police Interceptors	11:00pm	Scottish Football Round Up
	11:30pm	Regional News	10:00pm	An Island Parish	11:30pm	Regional News and Weather	9:30pm	Food Unwrapped	10:00pm	The Accused	11:15pm	Football Gold
	11:40pm	Weather	10:00pm	SAS: Rogue Warriors	11:40pm	Through the Keyhole	10:00pm	Confessions of a Paparazzo	11:30pm	The Bucket List	11:30pm	NFL Super Bowl Highlights
	11:45pm	Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You	11:00pm	Insert Name Here	12:40am	The Chase	11:00pm	First Dates Hotel	1:20am	In Therapy	1:30am	Scottish Football Round Up
	12:30am	The Graham Norton Show	12:10am	Newsnight			12:05am	Tattoo Fixers	2:15am	Super Casino		
				Weather					4:10am	A New Life in Oz		
TUESDAY 07 FEBRUARY	7:30pm	Regional News	7:00pm	Eggheads	9:00pm	Tales From the Coast with Robson Green	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News	7:00pm	Premier League Review
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys	10:00pm	The Secret Life of Dogs	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	8:00pm	Loch Lomond: A Year in the Wild	8:00pm	Scottish Football Round Up
	8:30pm	EastEnders	8:00pm	Our Dancing Town	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:00pm	The Yorkshire Vet	8:15pm	Football Gold
	9:00pm	Holby City	9:00pm	Further Back in Time for Dinner	11:30pm	Regional News and Weather	9:00pm	How to Get Fit Fast	10:00pm	Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh	8:30pm	Gillette Soccer Special 2016/17
	10:00pm	The Moorside	10:00pm	Sicily: The Wonder of the Mediterranean	11:40pm	Wilderness Walks with Ray Mears	11:40pm	24 Hours in A and E	11:00pm	When Magic Goes Wrong	11:00pm	La Liga World
	11:00pm	BBC News	11:00pm	Mock the Week	12:10am	The Investigator: A British Crime Story	12:05am	Britain's Greatest Hoaxer	1:00am	Super Casino	11:30pm	Football Gold
	11:30pm	Regional News	11:30pm	Newsnight			1:55am	KOTV Boxing Weekly	1:50am	Super Casino	12:00am	Premier League Review
	11:40pm	Weather	12:10am	Weather			2:25am	Gillette World Sport	4:10am	GPs: Behind Closed Door		
	11:45pm	Tourettes: Teenage Tics										
	12:40am	Who Do You Think You Are?										
WEDNESDAY 08 FEBRUARY	5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip	6:15pm	Flog It!	8:00pm	Emmerdale	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	6:00pm	5 News	8:00pm	Barclays Premier League World
	6:15pm	Pointless	7:00pm	Eggheads	8:30pm	Coronation Street	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	8:30pm	Gillette Soccer Special 2016/17
	7:00pm	BBC News	7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys	9:00pm	Midsomer Murders	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	11:00pm	Barclays Premier League World
	7:30pm	Regional News	8:00pm	Put Your Money	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News	11:30pm	Great Sporting Moments
	8:00pm	The One Show	9:00pm	Where Your Mouth Is	11:30pm	Regional News and Weather	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	Loch Lomond: A Year in the Wild	11:45pm	Great Sporting Moments
	8:30pm	Match of the Day Live	10:00pm	Trust Me, I'm a Doctor	11:40pm	Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera	9:00pm	Location, Location, Location	9:00pm	GPs: Behind Closed Doors	12:00am	Football's Greatest Teams
	11:00pm	BBC News	10:00pm	Hospital	12:40am	It's Not Rocket Science	10:00pm	No Offence	10:00pm	Climbing the Property Ladder		
	11:30pm	Regional News	11:00pm	Common Sense			11:00pm	Four Rooms	11:00pm	Extraordinary People		
	11:40pm	Weather	11:30pm	Newsnight			12:00am	24 Hours in A and E	12:05am	Autopsy: Bobbi Kristina Brown		
	11:45pm	A Question of Sport	12:10am	Weather			1:00am	Live From Abbey Road Classics				
12:15am	Film 2017											





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## 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](mailto:mikesenker@gmail.com).

## 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 Torre Vieja, Costa Blanca, who set up the N332 website and Facebook page to help break down barriers.



**CYCLISTS:** 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 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](http://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 terminology,*

*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?’*

*N S (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](mailto:Ask@lawtaxspain.com), or call 952 667 090.

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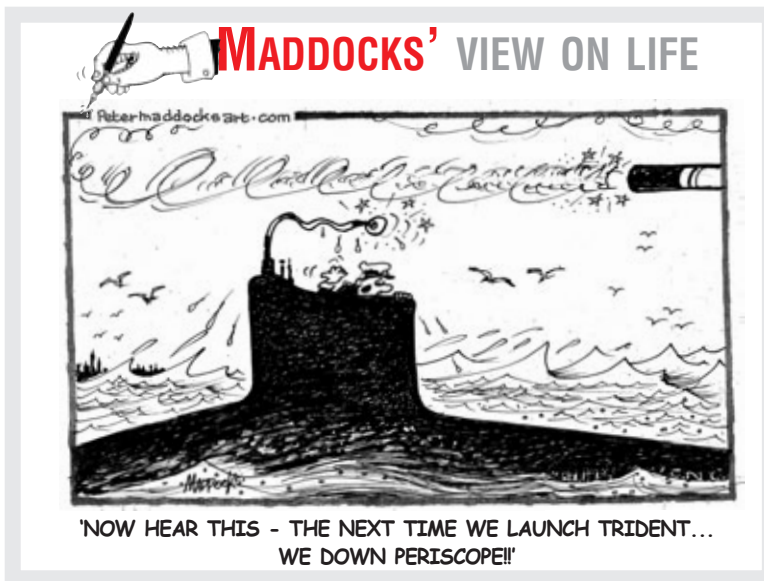
## Kakuro

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					
	26					
31						
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 firmed 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

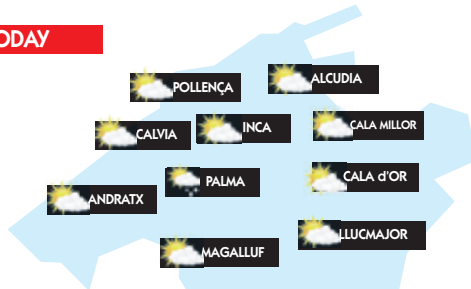
Sunday January 29

15	40	41	BONUS BALL
49	51		9

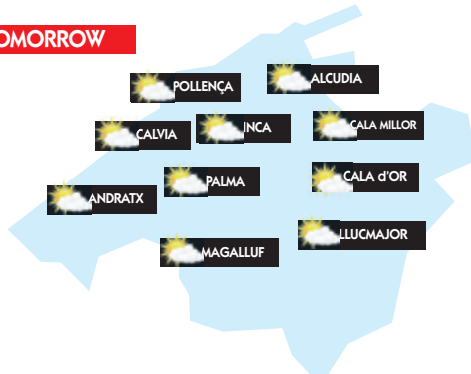
## MALLORCA

## weather

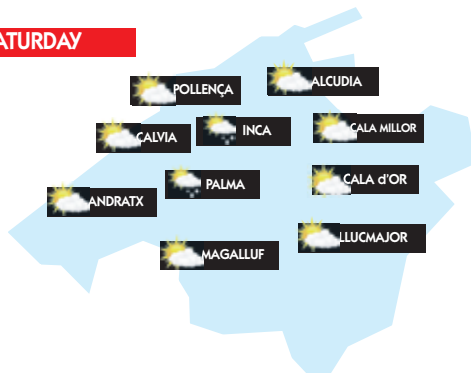
### TODAY



### TOMORROW



### SATURDAY



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

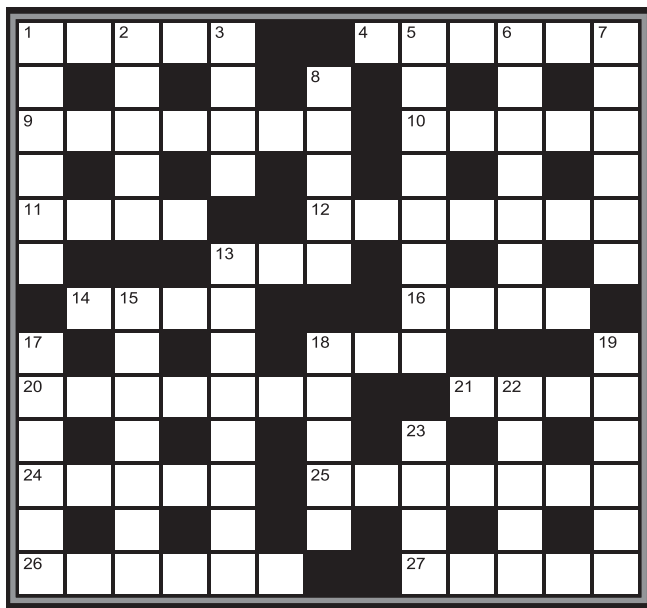
### Cryptic

**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

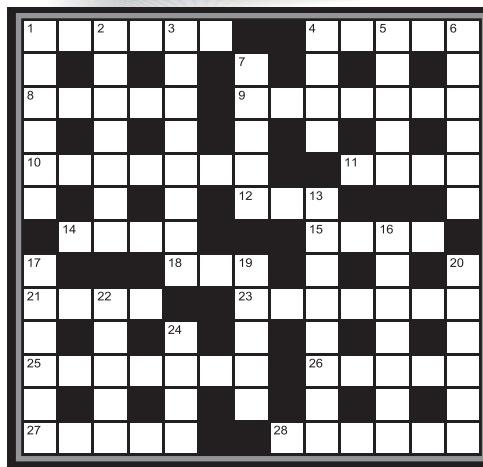
**Down**

- 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**

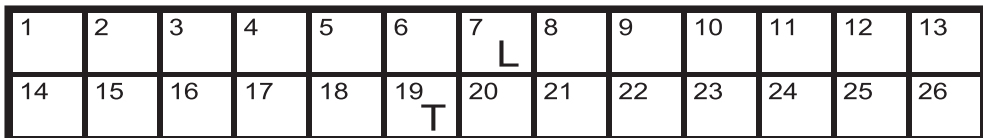
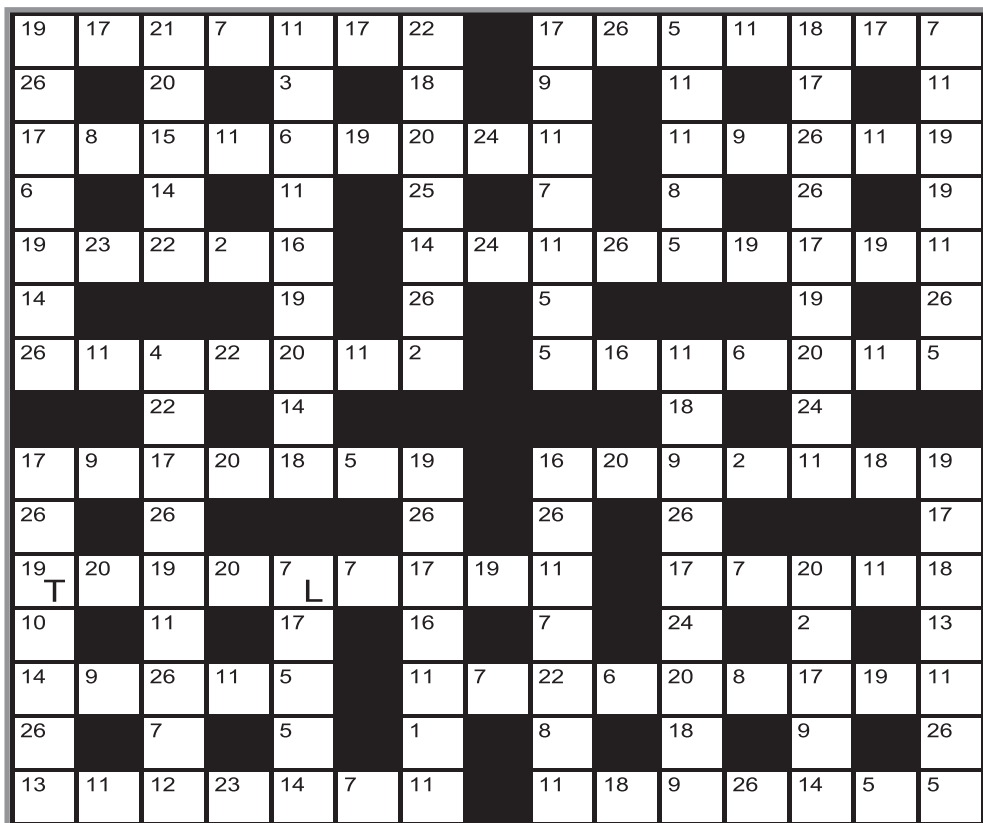
- 1 Full supply (6)
- 4 Hide from view (5)
- 8 Happen again (5)
- 9 In accordance with fixed order (7)
- 10 Yarns (7)
- 11 Bucket (4)
- 12 Travel on snow (3)
- 14 South American country (4)
- 15 Small cut (4)
- 18 Weep convulsively (3)
- 21 At a distance (4)
- 23 Atrocity (7)
- 25 Invoke admiration (7)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

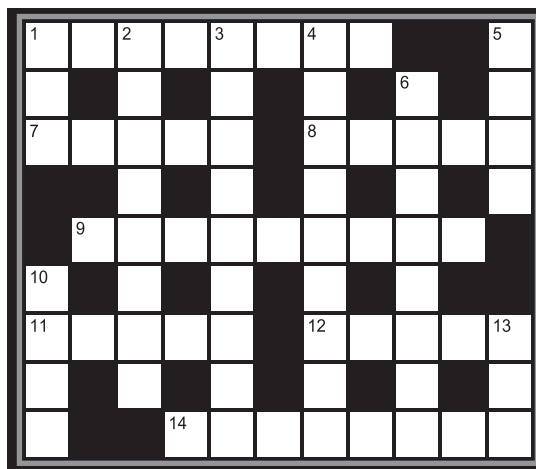
### Code Breaker

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)

### 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



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**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 traumatically 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 Andalucia 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.

# It's a funny old game life, isn't it?

**Guest**

*Columnist*

Today: Marshall Howe

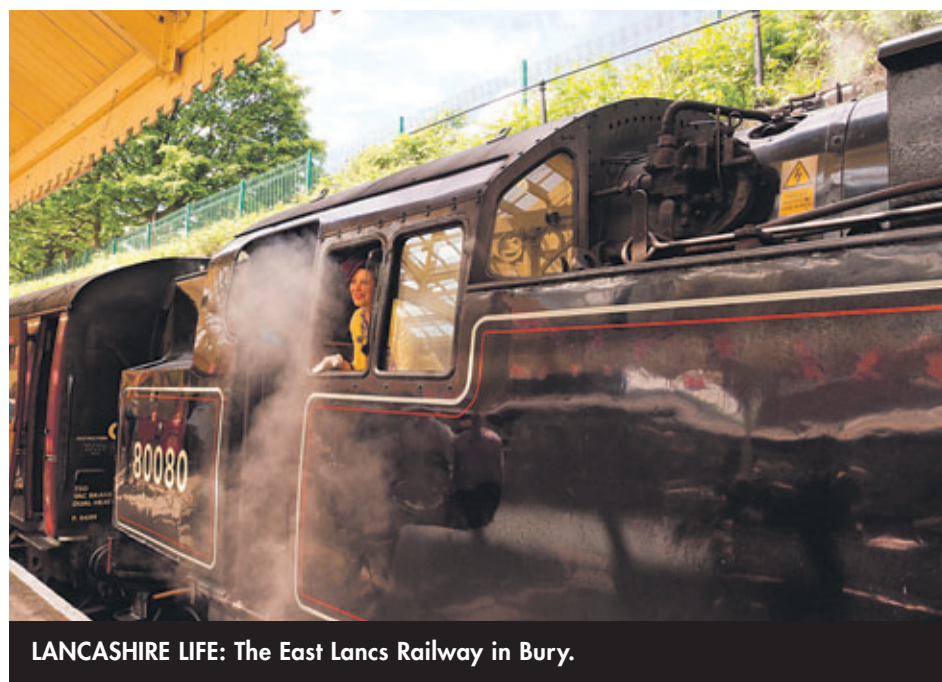


I WANTED to be a professional footballer. My Mum wanted me to be a ballet dancer (where she got that from I'll never know). I nearly succeeded having played at Bury, Oldham and Rochdale but never in the first teams.

**“ I love life here, but will always remember my life in Lancashire and England.**

After student teaching in Bury I went labouring on building sites and eventually finished up running my own civil engineering business which took me all over the country.

Three wives and six children later I've finished up in España and loving it. I wouldn't change a thing (well apart from the first two wives) and hopefully I will be able to pass on some of the stories and experiences in future articles.



LANCASHIRE LIFE: The East Lancs Railway in Bury.

My wife says I should write a book and I did start it once entitled 'The Escapades of a Lancashire Navvy.' I used to note stories in a little book as past incidents popped into my head. How it fell into my accountant's hands I'll never know, but at our annual review he brought it out and we spent the whole meeting laughing. I don't know how much tax I paid that year but I know he still charged me

for the session. The book was never returned and I bet he finished writing it under a different name, changed the title and made a fortune - well he is an accountant after all!

Earlier I mentioned teaching. It was at East Ward Secondary modern in Bury (it's gone now) as a PE and maths teacher. School uniform was leather jacket, jeans and hobnailed boots - and that was just the girls! I enjoyed

teaching as it can be very rewarding - children can be 'entertaining' to say the least.

One morning as I was stood at the side of the hall during assembly and the Head read out his 'rogues gallery' list of who he wanted to see outside his office after assembly. "Smith, Jones, Tomkins and Mr Howe."

Two hundred and fifty heads swivelled in my direction and laughter and sniggers rippled round the hall. Sure enough I finished last in line outside Mr Bradbury's office. "What you being done for Sir?" was the question they all asked. I genuinely did not know but it was a first for the school. Apparently a Prefect had booked me in for arriving late three days running (my old Austin A30 kept breaking down). Embarrassed!

I made that kid's life hell, especially when I got him on the football pitch for games lessons. (Not really as everyone could see the funny side). However, I've remained punctual for the rest of my life.

I still work every day pricing jobs for two of my sons (I wouldn't know what to do with myself) and I love the life here. But I will always remember my life in Lancashire and England. It made me what I am today and who knows what life has in store and what little adventures are still to undertake?

Yes. Life is a funny old game.



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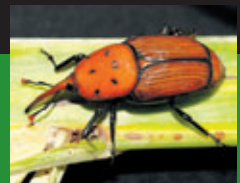


**Do you think your palm trees may be infested with Beetles?  
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There are some new services that are being offered this year including  
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picked up ready for disposal when full and will be priced per bag.  
However if you want to take the hard work from this get Darrmar's  
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In addition to building preparation we have also been involved in  
excavations in order to create cellar space and Darren has good  
experience of this from his past work in the UK. This excavation work  
also includes swimming pools.

We also prepare plots of land ready for building.





## LETTERS

## YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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# 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](mailto: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.

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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](http://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?



Photo Copyright pixino Shutterstock

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.sallytrotman.com).

**FEBRUARY: Spend time with family and friends this month.**





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# More men are loving fake tan

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,

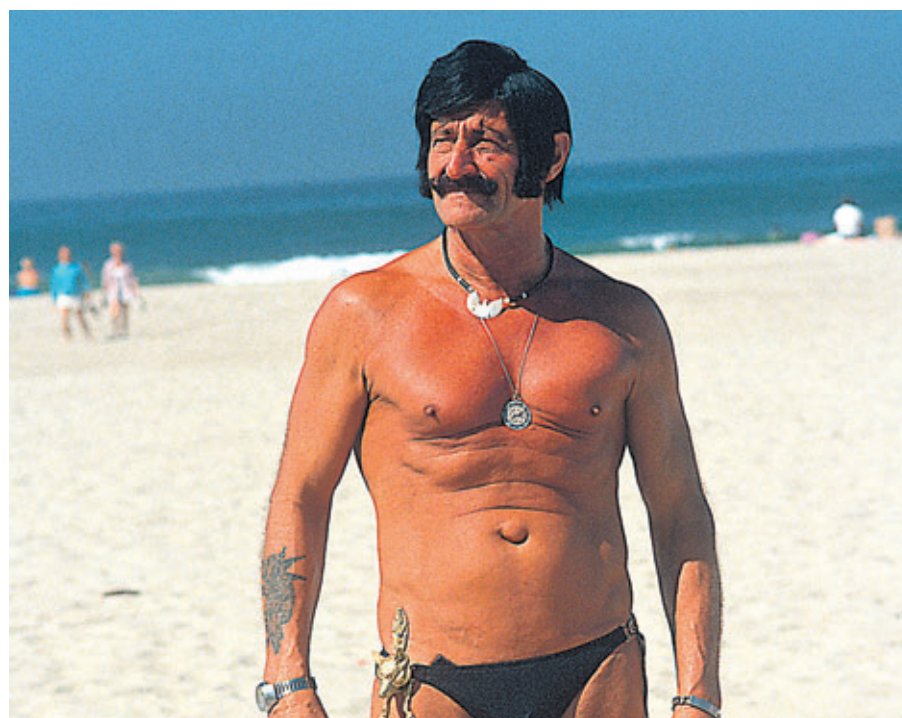
gradual tanners and oral tanning supplements have also increased.

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



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

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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## 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@helicopterosanitarios.com



**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.

## 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.

# 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 unsaturated fats and mono-unsaturated fats that help maintain a normal level of blood cholesterol. Pistachio also has a high thiamine content, which con-

tributes 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.



**PISTACHIOS:** Protective properties. |



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TO READ MORE

## Spectacular light show at La Seu

AN incredible occurrence happens at the Palma Cathedral only twice a year. On February 2 and November 11 La Seu holds a wonderful light show at around 8am when the rising sun projects a rosette just underneath the rosette on the entrance door.

The morning sun falls through a peculiar angle to reveal the memorable optical spectacle, which attracts hundreds of people each year.

Also known as the Cathedral of Light, La Seu features a terrific array of colours and geo-

metric patterns which make the event possible.

The thought and skill put into making the phenomenon possible is mind-bending. The architects intentionally wanted the sunlight to fall at this particular angle on the particular days of February 2 and November 11, the saints days of Candelaria and San Martín de Tours. How they managed it hundreds of years ago is one of Mallorca's most beautiful mysteries.

If you want to catch the spectacle be sure to get along to La Seu well before 8am on the day.

## A violin wizard

LEGENDARY Spanish-Lebanese violinist Ara Malikian has added another date to his Mallorca tour. Popular demand saw the 48-year-old musician add a third date to his Trui Theatre set. Malikian, who has won numerous awards and even runs his own orchestra, will now play on February 16, 17 and 19.

Tickets for the Tri Theatre shows in Palma start at €30 and can be purchased from the theatre's website.

# Bisbal and the Beach Boys' summer shows

By Matthew Elliott

TICKETS are now on sale for two incredible shows coming to Mallorca this summer. Legendary Spanish pop singer David Bisbal is confirmed for the Palma auditorium on July 19. The platinum selling artist has millions of adoring fans in Europe and Latin America.

The grammy winning singer, songwriter, and TV star has released five studio albums and is considered one of Spain's finest pop exports of all time.

A historic gig will be held at Palma's Son Fusteret on June 18. Tickets have only just been released for the Beach Boys who will be bringing their Good Vibrations to the island. And no this is not a cover act but the real Beach Boys who are, unbelievably, continuing to tour the world.

Of course not all of the original line-up are involved, but singer Brian Wilson will be in town as the band keeps up the



THE BEACH BOYS: Bringing their Good Vibrations to the island.

incredible success of its 50th anniversary Pet Sounds tour. The psychedelic album was released in 1966 to massive critical acclaim.

Other members of the band due in Mallorca include Al Jardine, Mike Love, Bruce Johnston and David Marks. Tickets are available online.



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# Show love by donating food this Valentine's

FEBRUARY is the month of love, but rather than just treating that special someone, optical chain Specsavers Opticas are asking people to show their love for the most disadvantaged in their community by making a small food donation this month.

They are collecting non-perishable food for the Spanish Federation of Food Banks in all eight of their stores on the Costa del Sol, Costa Blanca and Mallorca throughout the month and hope residents will get behind the campaign.

The Spanish Federation of Food Banks is a non-profit organisation which is fighting against hunger and waste and brings together 56 food banks throughout Spain. Each day they give out 419,000 kilos of food to the very needy members of society and have seen a massive increase in demand

“ The food bank is particularly short of food and items for children and babies, such as baby food, milk, nappies, wipes and breakfast items.

in recent years. In order to meet that need, they require donations from individuals, organisations and companies and Specsavers Opticas has taken up the challenge to make a difference this February.

From February 1-28, anyone can drop off their food at their local store during opening hours. At the end of the month it will be donated to Mallorca Food Bank, for them to distribute in the community via partnerships

with local charitable organisations. The Mallorca food bank are particularly short of food and items for children and babies, such as baby food, cereal, follow-on milk, nappies, wipes and breakfast and snack items for children, although any donation is of course welcome.

Specsavers Opticas is located in Santa Ponca, on Avda. Rei Jaume 1, 117 for more information visit [www.specsavers.es](http://www.specsavers.es).

## Almond plague

ALMOND farmers fear that the disease found in olive trees in a Mallorca garden centre may be behind the mysterious death of thousands of almond trees. Xylella fastidiosa is an extremely harmful pathogen dubbed 'olive ebola' for its terrible impact.

Exports of all plants from Mallorca to the mainland have already been banned. Authorities have also announced an impending cull of thousands of olive trees to help contain the threat.

The official story runs that the pathogen was found in a garden centre in

November. But almond farmers suggest that it has actually been on the island far longer. Roughly 12,000 hectares worth of almond trees have perished in recent years.

The government claims that a fungus is responsible, but the symptoms bear a strong resemblance to those left by olive ebola. Scientists are now considering whether the almond trees were weakened by the fungus and then killed off by the pathogen.

Olive ebola killed more than a million olive trees in Italy, proving the threat to be very real.

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# Craft beers are becoming big business in the UK

with Garry Waite

**T**HOSE 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 Andalucia, 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?



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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,

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**THE following** beers are at present being produced.

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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](mailto:garrywaite@euroweeklynews.com).



# Colonial controversy

By Matthew Elliott

FACEBOOK CEO Mark Zuckerberg is preparing to back down from expanding his secretive property empire in Hawaii. The billionaire entrepreneur was accused of behaving like a colonial overlord after filing lawsuits against hundreds of locals in a bid to enlarge his \$100 million home on the island of Kauai.

Hawaii's historical land laws mean

prove their ancestors own the land, paving the way for savvy American lawyers to query ownership in so-called 'quiet title' lawsuits. Zuckerberg's legal army set about demanding that hundreds of locals prove their property rights, expecting to clear the entire estate of small title owners.

The backlash, however, has been immense. The 32-year-old and world's sixth richest man has been accused of colonialism and embarrassed by the publicity. At Christmas he and his wife wrote that they wanted to 'plant roots' in Hawaii and 'join the community,' a task made a little harder by infuriating the entire population.

**“ Hawaii's historical land laws mean that hundreds of 'natives' technically own tiny parcels of land on Zuckerberg's recently acquired 100 acre estate.**

that hundreds of 'natives' technically own tiny parcels of land on Zuckerberg's recently acquired 100 acre estate. Land is traditionally considered a collective responsibility and generations ago people who worked the soil were granted small pieces of it as payment.

But many Hawaiian's haven't kept the paperwork to



MARK ZUCKERBERG: Planting roots.

## Europe's vision for 2017

SPAIN is now one of the best places to invest in real estate in Europe as political turmoil grips the continent. Investor expectations for 2017 have been undermined by political uncertainty, especially in the UK, but Spain fares very well in recent reports.

PwC has released its European Real Estate Market Trends 2017 analysis. The global law firm surveyed almost 800 top real estate managers to get their thoughts on the year ahead.

Low inflation and low interest rates were largely considered to consolidate Europe's global positioning as a top property investment destination. But Brexit, and upcoming elections in France and Ger-

many, led to most managers expecting a lower return on their assets compared to 2016.

Yet more than three-quarters of those questioned believed the impact of Brexit will be largely confined to the UK. Spain meanwhile was highlighted as an up and coming destination with Madrid and Barcelona among Europe's top cities, only slightly behind the German powerhouses of Frankfurt and Berlin.

Investors also suggested that alternative property markets will see huge growth this year. Student housing, nursing homes, hotels, and new urban residential areas will draw massive international investment this year across the EU.



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## Did you know?

BANKIA has launched a free tool that allows anyone to discover the market price of any home in Spain. People can even obtain a detailed report on the property, local facilities, and its price evolution in recent months.

The tool can describe the socio-economic condition of the neighbourhood, transport services, nearby shops and schools, and information on the local real estate market.

It has only been active for just over a week and has seen thousands of 'simulations' carried out online each day.

Developed in partnership with property portal Idealista, the tool estimates prices based on previous offers and counter offers collected by Idealista. It also has a mortgage simulator which can estimate monthly costs based on loan calculations and the property's intended use.

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Ever heard of Lluccmajor? Nice town in the south eastern part of Mallorca, very well communicated with Palma and offering some of the most interesting coast sites on the island.

### Ref 3052, Lluccmajor, 280,000€

MUST BE SEEN! Beautiful completely reformed townhouse with small garden. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with fireplace and American kitchen. Air con warm & cold. living area 215m<sup>2</sup>.



### Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€

Semi-detached house with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with American kitchen, garden and roof terrace. 75m<sup>2</sup> living area.



### Ref 3030, Randa, 290,000€

Townhouse with 40m<sup>2</sup> courtyard. 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, toilet, lounge, kitchen/diner, garage, 230m<sup>2</sup> living area.



### Ref 2194, Vallgornera, 180,000€

Apartment with views to the sea. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, kitchen, laundry room, large balcony, parking place, community pool. Living area 80m<sup>2</sup>.



### Ref 2997, Lluccmajor, 175,000€

Charming little chalet with 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bathroom, garage. Electricity with solar panels. House 73m<sup>2</sup>, plus 25m<sup>2</sup> garage, plus 25m<sup>2</sup> covered terrace plus 30 m<sup>2</sup> storerooms.



Various building plots with building permission in Vallgornera. Frontline from 600,000€ and third line from 95,000€, around Lluccmajor and Algaida from 110,000€.







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## 11605 Elegant penthouse in Cas Catala



 150sqm     14sqm + 160sqm (roof terrace)     3     2

**Price: 690,000€**

This beautiful large penthouse is located in Cas Catalá and offers a living space of 150 sqm distributed into 3 bedrooms (one of them is used as a dressing room), 2 bathrooms, a modern fully equipped and furnished kitchen and a very spacious and bright living and dining room with a cosy chimney with access to the 1 sqm large terrace with beautiful panoramic views. It has a roof terrace of 160 sqm with exclusive use, currently accessible from the exterior part of the apartment. This beautiful apartment is situated in one of the most required residential areas of the south-west of the island that has access to a community pool and gardens. The property is in 5 minutes walking distance from one of the principal beaches of the area and all important facilities like supermarkets, schools and restaurants are in very close proximity. The centre of Palma City is only 10 km away.





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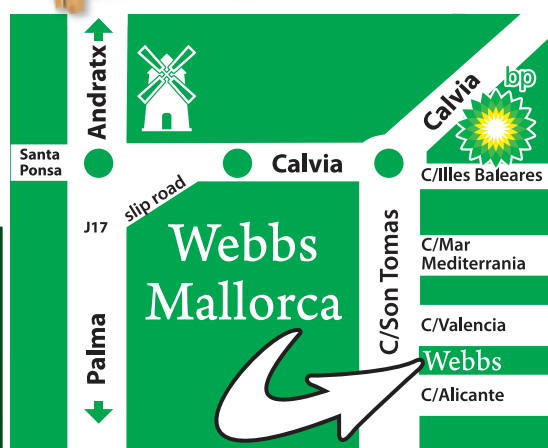
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## Top tips for house plants and cacti

HAVING a few houseplants or cacti around the home not only looks good but has been found to have health benefits. To keep them looking the best, follow these simple tips:

- Never over-water plants or let them sit in water. Soggy soil suffocates roots and makes them rot. Don't let them dry out completely either, though, keep a careful eye on the soil to water before this happens.
- Houseplants are likely to need repotting in the spring to allow more space for growing roots.
- Avoid placing houseplants or cacti in direct sunlight, but do ensure they get enough light to help them grow. Cacti should be turned regularly to ensure even growth.
- Remove any dead flowers or leaves as quickly as possible to prevent disease or pests. Check cacti carefully for any signs of fungi or insects and act accordingly: prevention is the best cure.



**NO SPACE:** Opt for hanging baskets.

## Small but stylish

JUST because you have a small garden, or balcony, doesn't mean you can't make the most of it and create a stylish place to relax.

First of all, play with light and mirrors to make your little oasis look bigger than it is: hanging mirrors will give an illusion of space or you could consider laying a trellis over a large mirror to make it look like there is another garden on the other side. Focal spotlights and mounted wall lights can add ambience in the evenings and give an impression of style.

Even a tiny balcony or patio has space for a table and chairs if you can put them away when not needed. There are many folding bistro sets available which take up little storage space when not in use.

If floor space is sparse, you can still have plenty of plants. Think vertically and go for hanging baskets or a wall garden.

Finally, just because your garden is small don't think you can't have a water feature.

Make your own mini-pond by recycling an old butler sink or galvanised water tank. It is very easy to add a few oxygenating plants and even a small pump and filter for a little fountain.

# 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 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



Photo by Barbara Siebert Shutterstock

**MANDEVILLA:** Needs plenty of sunlight or it will not flower profusely.

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 with-

out 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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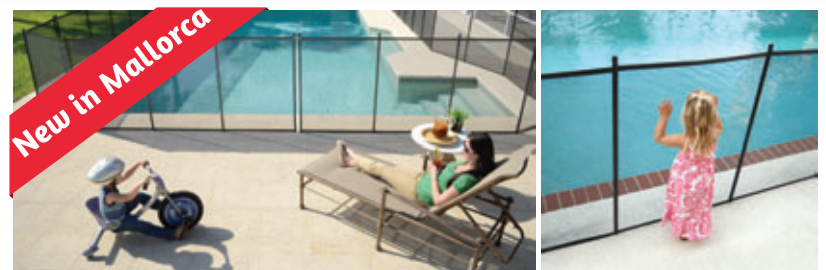
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## Advertising feature

# The kindest cut is very safe

IN an earlier article I talked about the dilemma of street cats, their health problems and over population problems and even their interaction with our pet cats.

In this article I would like to talk about our responsibility for getting pet cats spayed and castrated, so as not to add to the stray cat crisis.

It has to be said at the beginning, that the benefits in terms of health greatly outweigh the risks of the normally straightforward operation.

Entire males can cover vast areas searching for females in season. This can get them lost, in fights or even run over, not to mention the spreading of the highly contagious and life-threatening feline leukaemia and feline AIDS (both of which are cat specific and cannot spread to us)

Female cats can also go out in search of males, which can get them in trouble; injuries or fights and/or they could pick up nasty infections. A female can have three to four litters, of four to 10 kittens at a time, per year. And can be responsible for 20,000 cats in their lifetime!!

Hence the importance of early spaying and castrating, before they get lost or into fights or even worse, get pregnant. (I always say "No,



THE ENGLISH VET: The operations involve a general anaesthetic.

it's not good to have a litter before they are operated." This would just add to the huge problem.)

The operations involve a general anaesthetic. These days the drugs are very safe and they re-

cover very quickly. They go home the same day and they are climbing the curtains as normal, by the evening.

Tomcat castration involves one small incision and no stitches. The females require their ab-

domen to be opened but it is only an incision of less than 1cm with hidden stitches.

The only disadvantages of the operation is that you cannot breed and in the future you have to watch their weight. But with modern low calorie diets this should not be too difficult!!

Common Myths:

- a cat will miss their sexual urges
- it's not fair for my cat to miss out on motherhood/fatherhood
- my cat needs to have a litter before being spayed
- my cat will turn into a characterless 'wimp'
- neutering will make my cat fat

We should not impose human emotions on our pets!

'Castration and spaying are the kindest cuts,' I think this is very true.

Nick Murgatroyd BVSc MRCVS,  
The English Vet

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## Cats can be just as smart as dogs

A NEW study at a Japanese university is once again backing up the age-old cat lovers' theory that felines are just as clever as dogs.

Forty-nine domestic cats were used for the study at Kyoto University, which tested their ability to remember which food bowl they had

eaten out of after 15-minute intervals.

The cats, reported psychologist Saho Takagi, appeared to remember exactly which bowls should still contain food, suggesting they had what is referred to as episodic memory.

"Cats may be as intelligent as dogs, as opposed to the common view of people that dogs are much smarter. Also, an interesting speculation is that they may enjoy actively recalling memories of their experiences just like humans," the scientist said.



SMART CATS:  
May be just as clever as dogs.

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## Pablo likes to soak up the sunshine

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

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 has acquired and rescued many dogs. At one time she had nine, all cared for at home.



FUR FAMILY: All very much loved.

Now her fur family are reduced but all very much loved.

Jose has always used her local kennels, which she and the dogs have loved for 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.

HouseSitMatch was mentioned on David the Dogman's TRE radio show and she began to think maybe that might work

for them. She contacted me and we started talking about her available options. So we have started to work together to build her online profile, her advert to promote the house-sit assignment and to find suitable sitters to move in and care for her dogs at home.

Do you need a house or pet-sitter? Get in touch. House-sitting can be a win-win for both parties, free house and pet-sitting, and the experienced and checked sitters get free accommodation! Register as either house-sitter or homeowner now with a 20 per cent off introductory offer using coupon code PERFECT20. Visit our website [www.HousesitMatch.com](http://www.HousesitMatch.com).



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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.

vCOMPACT 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

**ROAD TEST** by Nick Fletcher

# Renault Kadjar

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 up-market 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 con-

trols, 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.

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# Competition down under

By Matthew Elliott

LAST week saw the Millennium Cup regatta enjoy its 17th year in New Zealand. It has been growing every year and January saw Tawera dominate once again, holding on to her title and taking three awards home.

This year's competition took place around the picture perfect Bay of Islands with three days of idyllic weather. The area celebrated its very own sailing week in January and is fast becoming a Pacific hotspot for the sport's most promising stars.

“Cape Town to Melbourne across the Indian Ocean will undoubtedly be one of the hardest legs.



**VOLVO OCEAN RACE: Melbourne will be a key port.**

Not one to be outdone, Australia has taken some of the boating limelight away from its southern cousin. Melbourne announced it will be a key port in the 2017/18 Volvo Ocean Race. It will be the first time in over 10 years that Oz has participated in the race, one

of the most prestigious and challenging on the planet.

This year's Volvo Ocean Race will begin in Spanish waters, in Alicante on October 22. Participants in the grueling nine month, 45,000 mile odyssey will then sail to Lisbon and from there

to Cape Town, South Africa.

Cape Town to Melbourne across the Indian Ocean will undoubtedly be one of the hardest legs. Spectators should expect to see crews arrive down under at Christmas time. The race will finish up in the Netherlands in June 2018.



**HULL OVERHAUL: Ready for summer.**

## Back to basics

NOW that the snow and storms have faded away and the days are getting longer, it's the ideal time to start some DIY projects on your, or your friend's boat.

With a bit of care, patience and determination you can completely transform or renovate your pride and glory by summer.

Relatively easy DIY projects include installing a new battery charger and replacing old or plastic steering wheels with sports ones that look and feel better. You could also replace any incandescent bulbs with LED ones which are much brighter and last longer.

Locate and seal any leaks, repair torn sails, or

give your helm a nice new finish.

While you're fixing her up you might as well follow these helpful tips and tricks. Use white vinegar instead of bleach as a green alternative that doesn't stink out the deck too much. Make sure your engine belts have the right level of tension.

Give the plumbing system a full look over – any problems here can cause serious issues further down the line. Check for rust and use masking tape when drilling through fibre glass. Make sure to replace any anodes that have started to waste away and be sure to check the horn works!

## Airship enterprise

ARTIST George Lucian has designed a 350-foot yacht/airship, comprising a superyacht with an enormous helium-inflated airship tethered above the yacht while not in use.

Owners can sail and fly on the same luxurious piece of craftsmanship. Picture a Zeppelin aboard a modern day superyacht to get an idea.

But Lucian's concept is relatively modest compared to Halo, from London-based Andrew Winch Designs. This €400 million floating starship has already been tested in open waters and may be available within a decade. It would have a vast self-contained living area with space for hundreds of people, cars, motorbikes, helicopters and a cinema.

# Brexit boating bonanza



**BRITISH YACHT COMPANIES: Saw sales increase by up to 50 per cent after the pound collapsed.**

BRITISH boat builders are doing rather well out of Brexit. The collapse of the pound following the referendum saw sales increase by up to 50 per cent for British yacht companies in the second half of 2016.

Rich Russians, French and Italians have been snapping up superyachts with substantial price reductions, up to a fifth off in some cases. With prices in the millions, that amounts to discounts worth hundreds of thousands, helping

make British companies extremely competitive on the world scene.

The data belies earlier post-referendum claims that Brexit would negatively impact British industry, although the long-term picture is as yet unclear. Crews may face bureaucratic difficulties ahead but nothing too serious is likely.

Sunseeker London, whose yachts have featured in recent Bond films, expects an extremely strong year ahead with international orders for 2017 al-

ready up by around 40 per cent.

Fairline Yachts of Northamptonshire has reported a record-breaking 2016 for sales while Princess Yachts of Plymouth mentions Brexit as a major spur in recent buying trends and growing profits.

Globally the superyacht industry is in rude health with more millionaires exploring more creative and unusual options from different designers than ever before.

## Finland steals show in Florida

AS the 2017 boating season swings into action all eyes are on Florida where the Miami Beach and Miami International shows kick off in February. Warm winter waters and an abundance of wealth have allowed the southern state to flourish as an international boating hub.

Many of the yachting favourites to shine this year debuted in November, also in the Sunshine State, at Fort Lauderdale. The port's international boat show was a defining one for yacht-lovers and builders on both sides of the Atlantic.

One rather unexpected star of the show was Baltic Yachts in Finland. The brand enthralled owners and sailors alike with their stylish carbon fibre sailing yachts that monopolised design awards at Fort Lauderdale.

Their 115-foot flagship yacht Nikata drew all the attention at the show and spring 2017 will see them unleash the 175-foot carbon fibre sloop Pink Gin VI.



# 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 Pilica in the Sierra Cabrera Mountains overlooking Turre.

Costa de Almeria

### 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 battle, and they meet in a vital 'six-pointer' at Selhurst Park, also on Saturday... manager Sam Allardyce against his former club. Reigning champions Leicester 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 Sunday 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 gets under-

way. 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.

### SERENA WILLIAMS:

Wins her 23rd Grand Slam after beating sister Venus.

• 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 out-

ed 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.

• 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.

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A victory for Chelsea over Arsenal this weekend could set them up for their fifth Premier League win in 12 years, a first for manager Antonio Conte.

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# Wins for El Toro, Bahia and Ponent

SON CALIU saw a good number of supporters watching the game between El Toro RC and Shamrock RC on Saturday afternoon.

Both teams tried to take the initiative from the first whistle and the ball changed possession frequently. The fitness and stamina of the slightly younger and more experienced El Toro RC team began to show as the match progressed and the tries added up with them scoring a further five. Final score was 52 points to 10 for the home team.

The Bahia RC against Ibiza RC match began with both teams attacking and defending equally well. The home team proved to be too strong and consistent and the game finished with a win for Bahia RC by 23 points to 11.

In the RC Ponent versus TRUC Menorca match the home team showed their superiority winning by 66 points to seven.

The CR Escolar match against Union RFC was postponed.

Sunday saw the Balears U16 and U18 teams play against visiting teams from Catalunya in Son Caliu. Final scores were five points to 40 for the Balears U16 team and 0 to



EL TORO RC: The fitness and stamina of the younger team showed.

73 for the U18 team.

Coming up next weekend the youngsters have their turn with a rugby day organised by Shamrock RC who also host the U14, U16 and U18 matches. The next encounter

for the girls' teams is in Son Roca and also organised by Shamrock RC.

The Balears U20 team has a training session and the senior teams have a rest weekend before the remaining matches of the season.



IBIZA RC: Attempting to stop a Bahia RC player.



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\*Fees and exchange rate data for banks taken from the International Money Transfer Index™ (IMT™).  
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