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Clampdown continues

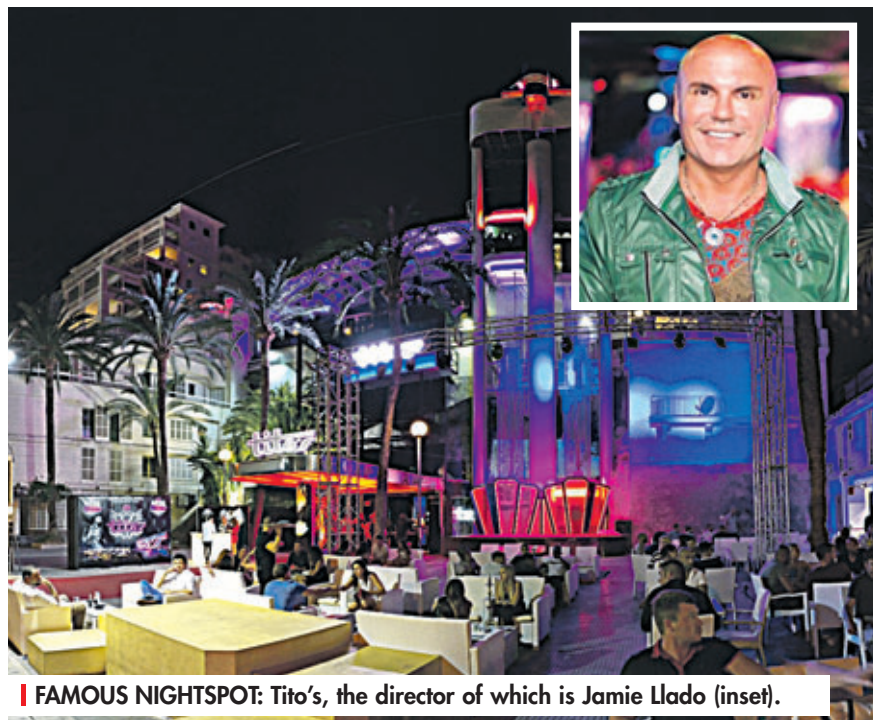
NATIONAL POLICE officers have arrested Jamie Llado, director of Mallorca's most famous nightspot Tito's, in the ongoing Cursach Group case.

As reported in the *Euro Weekly News* last week, group supremo Tolo Cursach is suspected of heading a web of corruption involving local businessmen and police chiefs, and he remains in custody alongside his wingman Tolo Sbert.

Cursach, whose clubs include Pacha in Palma, BCM in Calcia and the Megapark complex in addition to Tito's, has thus far been accused of 15 offences, including one murder charge.

Meanwhile, Palma's former Local Police Chief Joan Mut denied all charges during his testimony on Wednesday, March 15. He is on trial for allegedly displaying favourable behaviour towards Cursach's enterprises.

The case continues.



FAMOUS NIGHTSPOT: Tito's, the director of which is Jamie Llado (inset).

Win a Car!

YOU CAN STILL BE THE WINNER OF A CAR! SEE PAGES 8 - 9

See us on page 24

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LOCAL NEWS

Fools' errand

A TRIO of female shoplifters have been barred from every Mercadona supermarket on the island for a year after they snaffled a trolley containing products worth €1,322 from the Coll d'en Rabassa store. One of them distracted an employee while the other two sprinted away with the loot, but they were apprehended just 120 metres into their escape.

Bird of passage

A FEMALE osprey by the name of Ingrid has returned to Mallorca after overwintering in northern Morocco, with her movements tracked by a GPS unit fitted in 2014. She is now expected to return to her usual nesting site in the Sierra de Tramuntana after crossing the Straits of Gibraltar and completing her 1,600 kilometre journey.

Screw loose

A MAN has been sentenced to two years behind bars for robbing a Palma bar during the night and threatening to stab two witnesses with a screwdriver as he fled. He made off with €300 in cash after smashing the metal shutter and glass door of the establishment, but bumped into the father and son upon exiting.

Exclusive shop for Palma

THE historic Royal Enfield has opened Mallorca's first exclusive showroom in Palma.

The motorbike manufacturer is the oldest in the world dating back to 1893. The originally British company has classic designs and an array of accessories available at the new showroom.

The space has high quality apparel to accompany their many motorcycles, including the new model of the Royal Enfield Bullet. The bullet is the longest-lived motorcycle design in history.

The Palma store is the fourth to open in Spain since the first in 2015. The brand is committed to providing a unique shopping experience to their customers. Palma's shop represents the essence of Royal Enfield's heritage and philosophy of 'pure motorcycling.' The space has been designed not only as a point of sale but as a meeting place for enthusiasts and admirers to meet and discuss motorcycles.



ROYAL ENFIELD: The Indian Motorcycle company opens a shop in Palma.



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Heavy rains fill water reserves

THE minister of Environment and Agriculture Vince Vidal announced the water reserves across the Balearic Islands are again stable with the help of heavy rain from the beginning of this year.

The reserves are at 75 per cent capacity which leaves Mallorca with a 28 per cent surplus. December and January's rainfall was equivalent to 60 per cent of an average year's rainfall.

Vidal also assured the community that we "cannot lower our guard," and that the government "must continue to make policies that minimise the dependence of water on the climate."

Falling window injures a dozen

TWELVE people including a baby and child were injured after a window fell from the 12th floor of an Inca building. The glass hit the ground with such force that glass shattered reaching a great distance. Six of the 12 injured had to receive stitches, although none suffered more serious injuries.

The accident coincided with an International Woman's Day march which was why a large number of people were in the area. Local Police roped off the area while the injured were treated on site by ambulance crews.

Taxi drivers postpone signing

THE taxi driver association has yet again postponed signing the agreement between the ministry of Land, Energy and Transport.

The original agreement was due to be signed on March 6, but was postponed one week after minor modifications lead to taxi drivers needing time to consult legal advice. The second signing date, March 13, was also postponed at the last minute. The conflict between the taxi sector and the government is caused by disagreements over new bus routes from Palma airport to tourist destinations.

Squatter wins over owner

WHEN a squatter left her new house in Son Gotleu, the owner took the opportunity to place a padlock on the door so the woman could not return. Local Police officers arrived at the scene shortly after the woman returned to the house she was squatting in for three days. They were called by multiple neighbours reporting a man wielding a knife in the streets.

The squatter told police the house was hers and the padlock was placed there illegally. The owner of the house was then arrested for trespassing and burglary after police found the woman's belongings inside the house. The 45-year-old knife wielding friend of the home owner identified as Diego SA was arrested for threatening the squatter with a weapon.

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...5

Father's Day in Spain is celebrated on St Joseph's Day, which this year falls on Sunday March 19. This Catholic feast day celebrates the life of Mary's husband Joseph, whose role within the Holy Family is seen as the epitome of what a good husband and father should be.



Honouring dear old dad

FATHER'S DAY:
Originated in the USA.

FATHER'S DAY (Dia del Padre) started in the United States in 1910, when Sonora Smart Dodd, a 27-year-old woman from Spokane Washington, proposed a male equivalent to Mother's Day.

After pushing for local support, she convinced the state governor to establish an official celebration on July 19, 1910.

Fifteen years later, President Calvin Coolidge turned the fledgling Father's Day into a national event, before

Richard Nixon confirmed it as a federal holiday in 1972.

In Spain, the first Father's Day took place in 1948 after Manuela Vicente Ferrero, a teacher and author in Madrid, was approached by disgruntled fathers jealous of the annual Mother's Day celebrations.

The celebration featured a mass, gifts handmade from materials recovered from a nearby landfill by girls from Manuela's school, and a children's festival with poetry, dancing and theatre.

Papa particulars

- Father's Day was until recently a national holiday in Spain.
- Although most countries celebrate Father's Day in June, fathers are honoured on March 19 in Bolivia, Honduras, Italy, Equatorial Guinea, Lichtenstein, Andorra and Portugal as well as Spain.
- The word 'padre' is derived from the Latin 'pater,' itself originating from Ancient Greek.
- Since 2009, the number of Spanish fathers reporting wives for gender violence has increased 223 per cent,

according to the International Institute of Family Studies.

- There are currently more than 1.5 billion fathers worldwide.
- Feodor Vassilyev, a Russian peasant who died in 1782, had 69 children, the most ever officially recorded, after his wife gave birth to 16 pairs of twins, seven sets of triplets and four sets of quadruplets.

SUPER DAD: Russian, Feodor Vassilyev, fathered 69 children.



Calvia aid for at-risk families

CALVIA mayor Alfonso Rodriguez Badal has signed two agreements with Margalida Puigserver, president of social affairs of the Mallorcan institute, which will aid at-risk families.

Around €149,500 will be used for financial aid and psychological support. For the first time, a psychologist will be added to the town's social services team to work

on prevention with at risk children and teens, and interventions with families in crisis. The addition will also assist children returning to their families after temporary separations.

Parking ban

THE parking area in Cala Varques will soon be restored and parking will no longer be permitted. Minister of Environment and Agriculture Vince Vidal said this was in re-

sponse to citizen's deputy Olfa Ballester questioning the action plan regarding the misuse of the natural area. Public transportation will increase to make up for the lack of parking on the road to the east coast beach town.

Butane increase

BUTANE bottles will rise in price by 5 per cent to €13.52 on March 21. The bottles have risen 20 per cent since July 2015. Currently the prices are up for revision four times a year with a maximum increase of 5 per cent at a time.

INSIDE VIEW

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Postscript to ponder

1.9 million

Small-to-medium-size businesses are estimated to have closed in Spain since the start of the economic crisis in 2008.

Dramatic rescue for hikers

TWELVE hikers, including four minors, lost on the Peñalara peak in the Sierra de Guadarrama National Park (Madrid) had to be rescued by a Guardia Civil air rescue team.

A helicopter had to make several flights through a narrow pass due to poor weather to rescue the hikers who were then driven from Valsain to Cotos where they had left their vehicles.

Something fishy!

TWO tonnes of live eels, €540,000 cash and several gold ingots were seized by Guardia Civil officers when they arrested eight people from Sevilla, Tarragona and Valencia, including two Chinese allegedly for obtaining illicit funds from Hong Kong to pay for the fish. The operation also saw nine additional arrests in Greece.



Postcard from LEON



A FAMED stop on the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage trail, Leon like many settlements in the north was founded during the reign of Julius Caesar by Octavian, who later became the Emperor Augustus.

The original simple encampment grew as retired Roman legionaries settled and by 910 it was the capital of the Kingdom of Leon. After being conquered it later became a kingdom again until the 19th century.

The present-day city with a 120,000 population contains spectacular classical buildings including the nation's only true Gothic cathedral plus a private building - the Casa de los Botines - designed by architect Antoni Gaudi and said to be the inspiration for the famous Disney Castle.

Like many Spanish cities, Leon has an unusual procession. Named the 'Burial of Genarin,' it is in memory of an alcoholic beggar believed to have been run over in 1929 by the first local motorised rubbish cart. Many nowadays treat the event as an excuse to get drunk.

With good air, rail and road links, Leon is popular for visits.

Cocaine alert

A CARTEL thought to have shipped almost 400 kilos of cocaine into Europe using Las Palmas as a staging post for drug trafficking and money laundering led to 12 arrests when 10 properties were raided by Guardia Civil officers in the Canaries. Items seized included two speed boats, €500,000 in cash and documentary evidence.

State visit

FORCED to cancel state visits when there was no elected government, King Felipe and Queen Letícia are now rearranging official trips including one to the UK where they will meet the Queen and the king will address parliament.

Terror find

A HIDEOUT possibly used by the ETA terrorist group in Irun, Basque Country, and containing seven drums of explosives has been discovered, although there is no evidence of recent activity according to the Home Office.

Birthdays

• **Jimmy Nail, Singer/Actor, March 16, 63** English actor best known as playing the character 'Oz' in the British hit TV show *Auf Wiedersehen, Pet*. His acting career also included films such as *Evita*, alongside Madonna, and he co-wrote and featured in his own TV show *Spender*. He also had a singing career with hits including *Ain't No Doubt* and *Crocodile Shoes*.

• **Alex Jones, TV Presenter, March 18, 40** The popular Welsh presenter is best known as the co-host of BBC's *The One Show*. She also presents *Close Calls: On Camera*, co-hosts *Shop Well for Less?* and in 2011 she came fifth in *Strictly Come Dancing*. In January she gave birth to her first child, Edward Alun Burrell Thomson.

• **Ursula Andress, Actress, March 19, 81** Born in Switzerland the actress starred in the first James Bond movie when she played the first Bond girl Honey Ryder in *Dr No*, which featured the famous scene of her walking out of the ocean wearing the iconic white bikini. She has starred in many films including *Fun in Acapulco* and *4 for Texas* and has posed naked seven times for *Playboy* magazine.

• **Steve McFadden, Actor, March 20, 58** English soap opera actor who has featured as Phil Mitchell in *EastEnders* since 1990. In 2001 the role won him a British Soap Award for Villain of the Year. He has also appeared in *The Bill*, *Minder* and *Bergerac* as well as in the films *Buster* and *Kevin and Perry Go Large*.

• **James Patterson, Writer, March 22, 70** American author of the fictional psychological thrillers and mysteries novels including the *Women's Murder Club* and *Alex Cross* series. Some of his work, *Kiss The Girls* and *Along Came A Spider*, has been made into films which have featured actor Morgan Freeman who portrayed the psychologist Alex Cross.



IT ALL ADDS UP

€14.883 million

Was collected last year by the Tax Agency collected in its ongoing fight against fraud, showing a 5 per cent fall on the previous year's record collection.

€100,000

The fine imposed on Endesa by the Competition Commission for falsifying five electricity contracts following consumer complaints.

16,000

The number of refugees and asylum seekers who were provided with direct assistance by the Spanish Red Cross last year.

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Many pleased with Soller tunnel update

MINISTER of mobility Marc Pons has reiterated how pleased he is with the updating of the Soller tunnel. He defends that removing the toll fee is in the general interest and that, "for the first time in Mallorca after 20 years there are no barriers to go from one place to another, therefore solving a historical problem.

As of September 1, the tunnel will be free to use for residents and tourists alike. Many applaud the government's modernisation, while few argue the decision is a mistake and will lead to heavy road traffic and larger crowds on the other side of the tunnel.

The Popular Party is concerned about the possible consequences of the free tunnel, focusing on aspects related to traffic and lack of parking and signage. The party has accused Mayor Jaume Servera of not preparing the town for the looming new situation.

Merchants and retailers in the Soller area seem the most optimistic, but still



SOLLER TUNNEL: There are no barriers to go from one place to another.

have fears such as the lack of parking available. The Popular Party has pointed out that when the Sa Mola tunnel

opened, the port town built two large car parks to accommodate the increase in traffic.

Public pool is still closed

PEGUERA'S public heated pool has been closed for over a month, leaving residents upset with the delayed reopening after a boiler broke down.

Hotels in the area are also frustrated, as some have low season deals allowing hotel guests to use the public pool. Athletes staying in local hotels were promised the use of the pool for training, but have

been unable to due to the unexpectedly long closure.

Originally the town hall was aiming to repair the broken piece of the boiler with a replacement part coming from abroad. After the part's lengthy delivery time, it was found the boiler was unrepairable.

The town hall is now in the process of replacing the boiler entirely. There is no date of reopening yet.



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Growth after 16 years

THE economy in the Balearic Islands grew more last year than in the previous 16 years.

According to a report by the minister of labour Iago Negueruela and director of employment and economics Llorenc Pou, the economy grew over 4 per cent last year, and is expected to almost reach that number in 2017.

Tourism and construction sectors were two of the largest sectors of growth according to the report.

Negueruela and Pou also stated that Brexit is not having an appreciable negative impact on the economy nor is it expected to be noticeable during 2017.



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Alcudia hopes to modernise balnearios



Photo by xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

ALCUDIA: Fills up with tourists every summer.

THE mayor of Alcudia, Antoni Mir along with three councillors met with the national environment ministry in Madrid to discuss the modernising of the town's beach bars. The permanent bars are known as balnearios and have been on Alcudia's beach since the beginning of the 1980s.

The town hall proposes that the ministry extends the concession of the bars to the town hall who

would manage the balnearios for another 25 years.

The town hall hope to have new renters of the bars for a period of 10 years instead of the current four year contracts. The new tenants would be responsible for updating the bars to a cleaner uniformed look, but with the longer leases renters would have more time to gain their investment back.

OUR VIEW

The weaker sex

ONE thing that has been reinforced by International Women's Day is the depth of feeling in Spain about domestic violence and its dreadful consequences.

Women across the country (in most cases supported by men) stood up and called for a sea change in the attitude towards them which has steadily been getting better over the past 30 plus years.

Unfortunately, there are still too many cases of violence and murder throughout Spain, caused in part perhaps by the inherited machismo of some Spanish men but as the older generations pass away, so it is to be hoped that the young of today will take note of those who want to see equality.

There is absolutely no reason why women who undertake the same job as a man should be paid a single cent less than the male and there are very few jobs nowadays that can't be undertaken by a woman and done just as well as their male counterpart.

The ridiculous comments by a ludicrous Polish MEP that as women are less intelligent and smaller than men that they shouldn't be paid the same amount was soon shot down by a feisty female Spanish MEP who was doing a great job for those who had elected her.

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Arrest made in army assault

NATIONAL POLICE arrested two men suspected of attacking an army officer in central Palma. The 50-year-old officer was kicked and punched multiple times with no reasonable reason found.

The victim was assigned to the General Command of the Royal Palace of La Almodaina, when the suspects began taking photos of and taunting the uniformed officer.

The officer questioned

the men's intentions and told the two men he would call the police, which is when they began punching the officer until he fell to the ground where they continued to kick him. When the assailants fled, the officer was able to get up and follow them, watching which building they entered.

After being treated at a medical centre and it was decided that there was no serious injuries, the victim filed a report at the police station. The National Police arrested the suspects and are still investigating the cause of the attack.

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Q & A

Gender

- Female
- Male

How old are you?

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

Status

- Single
- Married
- Separated/Divorced
- Widowed

Which other local newspapers do you read?

.....

How often do you eat out?

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

How long have you been reading the EWN?

.....

Do you have private health insurance?

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

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

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

Is your telephone

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

Is your mobile

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

What kind of mobile telephone do you use?

- Android
- iPhone
- Windows
- Other (specify)

Is your internet

- Fibre Optic
- ADSL
- Other (specify)

How often do you use the internet?

- Regularly
- Rarely
- Never

Which social media sites do you use?

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- Other (specify)

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Fill in this simple survey which will help us make decisions about the content and structure of the EWN in the future.

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

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

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Second Scottish Referendum could now be on the cards



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

PRIOR to the UK Parliament meeting to consider the Lords amendments to the proposed Article 50 White Paper, the general consensus of opinion (which proved correct) was that the Commons would reject the two amendments and then the Lords would capitulate.

Anticipation of this, and therefore the imminent triggering of Article 50, prompted Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon to confirm that she intends to request a second Independence Referendum for Scotland within a week.

It would follow that the Scottish Parliament would approve such a re-



Photo Credit: Number 10 flickr Crown Copyright Tom Evans

LEADING LADIES: Theresa May and Nicola Sturgeon.

quest as the Greens have already indicated that they would support the SNP over such a request which then means that Scotland would send what is known as a Section 30 order to Westminster.

In such a scenario, it may be politi-

cally difficult for the Conservative government to reject the request but a huge amount will rest on the timing of such a referendum with the SNP wanting it to take place prior to Brexit and the British government more likely to argue it could only reasonably

take place after the UK leaves the EU.

Leader Sturgeon believes that she and her advisors have found a way for an Independent Scotland to remain within the single market whilst Prime Minister May could well argue that she has enough to do to negotiate a workable agreement without the additional problem of Scotland getting in the way.

It doesn't appear that the Scots expect to achieve immediate membership of the EU, but would effectively continue to enjoy a number of the economic benefits if it could remain in the single market.

In the event that Scotland does get its right to a second referendum based on the fact that such a large percentage of voters wanted to remain part of the Union, there could well be further protests from those who didn't wish to leave or have changed their mind, plus politicians in Northern Ireland could well call for union with the Republic.

The next week may be very interesting for all concerned.

Approval of Article 50

TO steal from TS Eliot, the peers Brexit revolt ended "not with a bang but with a whimper" and those expecting some drama before the inevitable agreement to the passing of the Article 50 White Paper were left disappointed.

Earlier on Monday March 13, the House of Commons had rejected the amendments sent back from the Lords with very few objections from tory backbenchers and 'ping ponged' it back to the Lords who, after a little deliberation (perhaps including some on their own future), decided to pass it without the amendments.

This means that the bill will receive Royal Assent very shortly and the government has indicated that it will stick to the original timetable of triggering Article 50 at the end of this month.

Those UK passport holders living in Spain and other European Union countries will now hope to obtain positive information concerning their future once negotiations commence rather than current unsubstantiated promises of protection.



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NEWS EXTRA**Crash victim**

TWO cars were in a road accident near Costa d'en Blanes. A 62-year-old German driver died after suffering cardiac arrest and suffering severe brain trauma. The other driver had minor injuries.

Airport drugs

NATIONAL POLICE have arrested a woman at the Palma airport after smuggling a kilo and a half of cocaine in her hand luggage on a flight from Madrid. The woman has been charged with drug trafficking.

Palma's Borrás del Barrio dies

FORMER president of the Football Federation of the Balearic Islands (FFIB) Antonio Borrás del Barrio has died at the age of 76. The former president was a former member on the Board of Directors of the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) and a division one referee.

Suicide prevention and resources for the Balearics

THE president of the government, Francina Armengol, announced on Tuesday in the plenary session of the Parliament the Strategic Plan for Mental Health of the Balearic Islands 2016-2020. The plan is being prepared by the regional government with the par-

ticipation of 160 professionals and will include a suicide prevention plan and the creation of a lookout against suicides that 'will be a pioneer' throughout Spain.

Suicide rates are above the national average at 8.8 per cent.

Deputy Monserrat Seijas has said she is very aware that "they have been doing nothing for many years in mental health and, more specifically, in relation to the subject of suicide." She pointed out that "some of these cases cannot wait," and it is necessary to give

those in need an immediate response.

Seijas referred to a 36-year-old woman in Ciutadella, Menorca, who 'after six frustrated attempts,' committed suicide. "This makes us realise that we are not working on this serious problem," stated Seijas.



HUNDREDS GATHER: Secondary school students took part in the strike.

Students protest

By Gillian Keller

HUNDREDS of secondary school students protested in Palma against the national government's law for the improvement of educational quality, LOMCE.

The day of the protest around 13,500 students across

Mallorca in their last two years of secondary school took part in the strike and took the day off, 42 per cent of the student population. Students and teachers are demanding more investment and focus into education by updating LOMCE.

The controversial law was introduced by the popular par-

ty in 2013 and received no support from other political parties. Many feel LOMCE is too 'centralist' and needs a major update. The law is more controversial in Mallorca where it is perceived as threatening to the Catalan language.

The government dismissed the protests as irresponsible.

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Aggressive prison inmate denounced

PALMA prison denounced an aggressive and brutal inmate after he attacked four guards, sending two to the prison infirmary and the other two to the hospital.

The inmate called in officers to his cell, claiming he was prepared and waiting to take on whoever came inside.

Officers tried to calm him down and understand the reasoning for his outrage, but the inmate had made a defensive barrier out of belongings and his mattress.

As guards and officials

drew closer, the inmate threw a television at them, then kicked and punch his way through the guards. He has a history of attacking officials and inmates alike and also set fire to his cell last year.

The prison noted this is not an isolated event; in the last year attacks on guards and officials tripled due to reclassification of inmates. The union of officials and guards, CSIF, maintain a new prison policy is necessary to find solutions for the safety of officials and inmates a like.

Council improving year round tourism

THE Mallorca Council is working towards making Mallorca an all year round destination.

President of the council Miquel Ensenyat, minister of economy and finance Cosme Bonet, and director of tourism, economic development and crafts Paula Ginard presented the first step, the Ramon Llull Route, at the international tourism fair ITB in Berlin. The route will encourage tourists to visit essential and historic places connected to philosopher and author Ramon Llull, while also being presented with idyllic landscapes of Mallorca.

"We have learned that Mallorca is much more than sun and beach. So betting for cultural tourism that will allow us to remove pressure in the high season and reach more sustainable and environmentally friendly tourism," explained Ensenyat at the presentation.

Next month the council will present the Ramon Llull Route to the officials of the European institute of cultural routes.

In 1987 the Council of Europe launched



FIRST STEP: Was presented by Ensenyat, Ginard and Bonet.

official cultural routes to demonstrate how heritage and culture across time contributes to a living cultural heritage. They act as channels for intercultural dialogue and promote a better knowledge and understanding of European history.

Lull was a 13th century Mallorcan medieval writer and philosopher, credited with writing the first major work in Catalan literature, the romance novel *Blanquerna*. He was also honoured as a martyr and beatified by Pope Pius IX.

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Inca theatre remodel in sight

THE main theatre of Inca has received a grant of €3.1 million to begin construction on reformations and updates.

The theatre, which dates back to 1912, has been

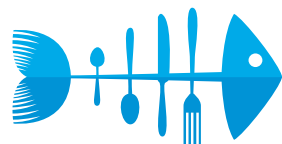
closed since 2000 due to a decline in activity and upkeep.

The grant will fund half the expected costs to update the main theatre and add an

independent hall with capacity for 154 audience members. Work is set to begin soon now that funding is in place.

President of the Balearic

Island government Francina Armengol expressed her satisfaction and stressed "the importance of institutional collaboration to implement the reform."



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Advertising Feature

Winning week for the euro

Commentary by Moneycorp

EUR weekly currency update

The euro went into last weekend on a high note and it is looking perky again as this one approaches. From Monday morning until Thursday lunchtime it was not looking so clever though, at least against the dollar. That was the point at which the European Central Bank president held his press conference. Whilst he said nothing to suggest an imminent tightening of monetary policy, Mario Draghi conveyed the impression that such a thing might be under consideration sooner than investors had been bargaining for. The result was a winning week for the euro, which strengthened by 1.6% against sterling and by half that much against the dollar.

The few UK ecostats did nothing for the pound: services sector companies were less upbeat about activity and the CBI reported slowing retail sales. Nor did the dollar get any help from the Federal Reserve chairperson's confirmation that a rate increase on Wednesday is almost a done deal.

USD weekly currency update

When the Federal Reserve chairperson Janet Yellen made a speech last Friday she was expected to join her colleagues in raising expectations of an interest rate increase next Wednesday. When she did exactly that the dollar took an unexpected step backwards: investors had already

discounted the certainty of a rise so her words came as an anticlimax. The only US ecostat to have any appreciable effect on the dollar was ADP's employment change figure on Wednesday, which was much stronger than expected and pointed to a robust US jobs numbers this Friday.

The euro fared better than the dollar, helped by a more hawkish monetary tone from the European Central Bank. Sterling fared worse, hindered by disappointing UK data for services sector activity and retail sales. Overall the dollar took a cent off the pound and it lost four fifths of a cent to the euro.

CAD weekly currency update

The Loonie and the pound both had a mediocre week which left them unchanged against one another. Economic data from Canada was tolerable rather than scintillating. June's trade surplus was marginally wider than forecast, as was housing starts and building permits, but the Ivey purchasing managers' index pointed to a less vibrant private sector after it had been seasonally adjusted. The UK ecostats were no better: services sector activity appeared less robust and the CBI reported retail sales falling in February compared with the same month last year.

The only US figure of any consequence was ADP's employment change figure. It was stronger than expected, pointing to a solid figure

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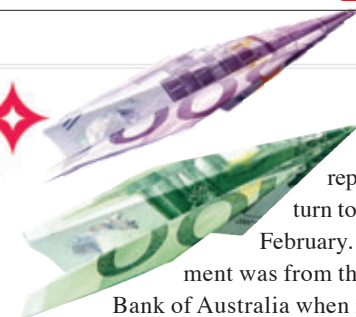
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this Friday for nonfarm payrolls. Investors took it as further confirmation that the Federal Reserve will indeed raise its benchmark Funds rate next Wednesday. As a result the Loonie weakened by two thirds of a US cent over the week.

AUD weekly currency update

Two broad moves took the Australian dollar higher against sterling in the first half of the week and lower in the second. The net result was a gain of half a cent for the Aussie against the pound and a loss of a third of a cent to the US dollar. Two ecostats and one statement accounted for most of the Aussie's success. Retail sales increased in January and the construction industry



reported a return to growth in February. The statement was from the Reserve Bank of Australia when it kept the benchmark interest rate unchanged at 1.5%: its upbeat tone dispelled any thoughts of a rate cut.

The US dollar's advantage over the Aussie was the near certainty that the Federal Reserve will raise its own benchmark rate on Wednesday. The pound's disadvantage was weak ecostats: services sector firms reported less vibrant activity and the CBI reported falling retail sales.

NZD weekly currency update

Having strengthened against sterling during most of February the NZ dollar has lost ground since the beginning of this month. For the second week in succession it was the weakest performer among the major currencies, losing one and a quarter US cents and falling by a cent and three quarters against sterling. The Kiwi's decline is at least partly due to the lingering effect of comments by Graeme Wheeler, the governor of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, a week ago and more: For one thing, he anticipates no upward move for interest rates anytime soon and, for another, he thinks the Kiwi is overvalued.

NZ economic data did nothing to improve investors' opinion of the currency. Building permits rebounded only slightly after falling sharply the previous month, the GDT index of milk prices was down by -6.3% and manufacturing sales declined by -1.8% in the fourth quarter of 2016.



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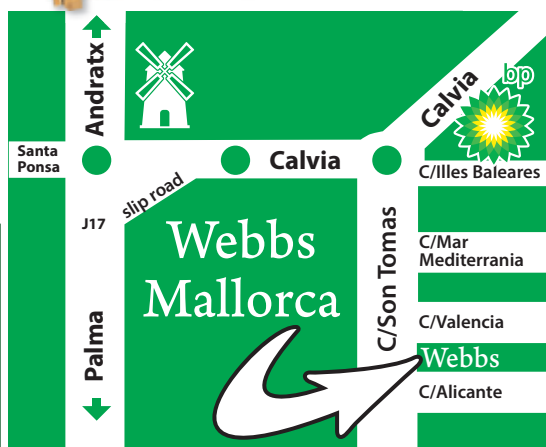
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Calvia treats ongoing caterpillar growth

THE town of Calvia has finally treated the growing processionary caterpillar infestation.

Residents have noticed more caterpillars than usual this season due to the lack of action taken in 2016.

The town hall realised their mistake after floods of complaints early this year. Not treating and controlling the insects for over a year lead to an unprecedented growth in their population.

Processionary caterpillars have few natural predators and even birds rarely eat

them because of their toxic and unpleasant tasting hairs. The hairs can make people react in many ways, from rash and irritation to swelling and vomiting.

The caterpillars can also be dangerous to animals and pets, especially dogs.

The Calvia City Council

announced residents and businesses can acquire traps for the summer months from the town.

The traps control a radius of one hectare and should be set outside late June or early July. The council recommends removing the traps around early October but to reuse them for several summer seasons.



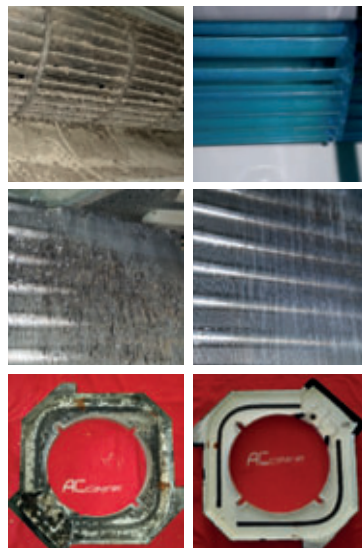
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Spanish State Visit to the UK

THE Spanish State Visit will celebrate close ties between our two countries and our two peoples, said British Ambassador to Spain, Simon Manley, who has welcomed the announcement of a State Visit to the United Kingdom from June 6 to 8.

"In this Sapphire Jubilee celebration year for Her Majesty the Queen, I am delighted that Their Majesties King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia of Spain have accepted her invitation to visit the UK," said Mr

Manley.

"This State Visit will celebrate not only the long and deep royal and historic ties between our two countries, but also our strong relationship as partners bilaterally, within Europe and on the global stage. We enjoy close connections in terms of culture, commerce, education, science and innovation. This is an opportunity to celebrate and deepen those links."

The Ambassador was speaking from Santander, where he is touring the

north of Spain to promote education, tourism and investment in the UK.

Today, the United Kingdom and Spain are close partners in NATO and the United Nations, among numerous international organisations. We also continue to cooperate in the European Union, and once we leave the EU we want to strengthen our strong and constructive bilateral relationship with Spain.

The two countries are also major partners in trade, with £40 billion (€45.6 billion) of trade in 2015, including British goods and services worth almost £15 billion (€17.1 billion) exported to Spain, and imports from Spain to the UK worth £25 billion (€28.5 billion).

Nearly 300,000 Britons are registered as residents in Spain and 18 million visitors came from the UK last year, whilst more than 132,000 Spaniards are resident in the UK and two million visited in 2015.

On top of that, we share close educational connections, with nearly 11,000 Spanish students studying at UK universities and 50,000 students attending British schools in Spain.

This is the first State Visit by King Felipe and



AMBASSADOR SIMON MANLEY: Is delighted about the State Visit.

Photo Credit: UK in Spain flickr

Queen Letizia to the UK and they will stay at Buckingham Palace. The programme will be announced in due course.

“The UK and Spain are close partners in NATO and the UN.

The last State Visit was when King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia visited in 1986. HM Queen Elizabeth II and The Duke of Edin-

burgh returned with a State Visit to Spain in 1988.

Since then the Spanish and British royal families have paid a number of formal visits to each other's countries.

In 2002, King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia attended the annual Order of the Garter Ceremony at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, including a dinner at Windsor Castle given by The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

In 2011, The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall paid a three-day

official visit to Spain that was hosted by Prince Felipe and Princess Letizia. A few weeks later Queen Sofia, Prince Felipe and Princess Letizia attended the wedding in London of Prince William to Catherine Middleton.

The British and Spanish Royal Families are directly related through the marriage of Alfonso XIII of Spain to Princess Victoria Eugenia, known as Ena, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, in 1906. Victoria Eugenia is the great-grandmother of King Felipe.

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DENMARK

Leading lego

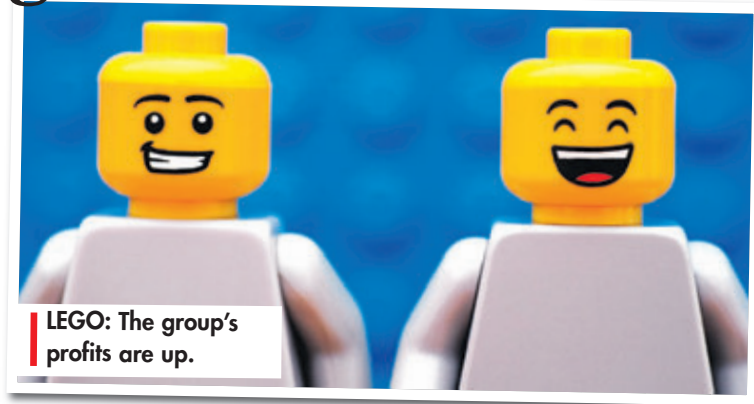
LEGO has announced record revenues for 2016, increasing by 6 per cent last year compared to 2015, to 37.9 billion kroner (€5 billion).

Rail delays

RAIL passengers face delays and cancellations as the Danish national railway provider has pulled all IC4 trains from service until it determines what caused a hydraulic pump to fall from two IC4 trains last week.

Royal visit

PRINCESS Benedikte, the Queen's



sister, was the guest of honour at the opening of Copenhagen International School's new campus. The campus is eco-friendly and aims to educate youngsters about sustainable living.

Forgotten gun

A PARLIAMENT security guard is being investigated for gross negligence and carelessness after leaving his gun, with 12 live rounds, in the toilet at the Parliament building.

GERMANY

Stop now

ANGELA MERKEL has said that Turkish claims of 'Nazi-style practices' "must stop." There were complaints that Germany cancelled rallies in support of a referendum next month in Turkey on constitutional reform.

Fake Gosling

GERMAN prank duo Joko and Klaas arranged for a fake Ryan Gosling to at-

tend the glamorous Goldene Kamera screen awards. Posing as PR agents they told organisers he would attend if the La La Land star was picked as a winner.

Women marches

US President Trump's treatment of women was a common theme during marches across Germany to mark International Women's Day. The marches

coincided with the 'Day Without a Woman' rallies across the USA.

Worst airport

TRAVEL website eDreams has named Berlin's Schonefeld airport the worst in the world, based on traveller reviews of more than 65,000 opinions submitted, taking into account things such as waiting areas, shopping and restaurants.

FRANCE

More jobs

MORE jobs were created by French companies in 2016 since the start of the financial crisis, showing better prospects for the country just weeks before the elections.

Paris exit

A SURVEY has revealed that 80 per cent of the higher earners in Paris want to leave with 54 per cent saying they would be happy to take a pay cut if it helped them move out of the city.

Salary protest

WOMEN are being encouraged to leave work at exactly 4.34pm on November 7 to highlight the salary gap between male and female staff. It is after this time that women are essentially working for free for the rest of the year.

BELGIUM

Pay gap

BELGIUM'S pay gap between men and women is reducing more rapidly than in any other country according to a new report. In Belgium the average monthly salary for men is 3.3 per cent higher than for women, compared to 13.7 per cent in France.

Taser testing

FIFTEEN local police zones will test special taser guns during a six-month period and a special report compiled after the trials.

Building costs

BRUSSELS has been named the 12th most expensive city in the world to build in, blamed in part on its complex regulations and permissions that increase construction costs. New York is the most expensive.

NETHERLANDS

Student debt

STUDENT debt is rising with the average student owing more than €14,000. Student debt in the Netherlands has now reached a new high of €17.6 billion.

Criminal emails

DETECTIVES are analysing 3.6 million encrypted emails sent by criminal gangs. It will be used by the public prosecution department providing evidence for criminal cases, including murder, armed robbery, drugs and money laundering.

Steep rise

SOME local councils are increasing council tax well above the 2 per cent government limits. The average rise is 1.88 per cent, but Limburg has raised it 21 per cent and Eindhoven and Hilvarenbeek has increased it around 15 per cent.

Sprite gone

COCA-COLA is pulling Sprite from the Dutch market following objections that the popular drink is a 'sugar bomb.' It could also be pulled from 100 other countries.

NORWAY

Longer life

THE life expectancy of Norwegian men has increased by a quarter of a year to 80.6 years. The average life expectancy of women remains 84.2.

Whale complaints

ANIMAL rights groups say they are angered at a documentary which showed that a large majority of whales harpooned each year in Norway are pregnant. Norway and Iceland are the only countries that allow commercial whaling.

Short ban

THE International Ski Federation (FIS) has said a 13-month doping ban against Norwegian champion cross-country skier Therese Johaug, is too short and at the lower end of sanctions that are imposed for doping.

Viking theme

A NEW Viking-themed theme park aims to offer visitors a great day out but also educate them about Vikings and Viking history. Investors are currently being sought for the project.

SWEDEN

Fake expert

AUTHORITIES have denied that a man who appeared on a Fox News segment in the USA as a 'Swedish national defence and security adviser' actually works for the government.

Deportation order

AN appeals court has ruled that five teenagers convicted of raping a boy, are to be deported back to Afghanistan after they have served their punishment in a young offenders institute.

Singing women

FLASH mobs of mass sing-a-longs took place in some of the country's biggest cities to mark International Women's Day.

Top country

SWEDEN was ranked the best place in the world for women according to a US News and World report. It was based on 9,000 respondents' opinions on 80 countries and noted Sweden for its gender equality.

Car manufacturers agree takeover

By John Smith

IT has been confirmed that the discussions between GM, owners of Opel and Vauxhall, and PSA, owners of Citroen and Peugeot, have been finalised and as expected PSA will take over the entire European operation.

Currently there are 24 factories in the group which are situated in Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland and the UK employing 34,800 workers of whom 4,500 are in Britain and 5,000 in Spain,

€2.19 billion

is the amount that the PSA Group has agreed to pay American company GM in order to take over its European Opel/Vauxhall business.

with the majority being employed in Germany.

Portuguese CEO of PSA, Carlos Tavares has indicated that there are no immediate plans to close plants, but there will be an expect-

tation that workers will assist in making the factories more efficient and therefore more profitable.

With this takeover, which appears likely to be approved by

state governments as well as the European Union, PSA will become the second largest vehicle manufacturer in Europe after the Volkswagen group but in order to maintain its position and expand, it is looking to make savings of €1.73 billion per year.

One telling fact is that under GM ownership, the group had never made a profit, although it was on target to break even in 2016 had it not been for the drop in the value of sterling following the referendum vote.

Reprieve for disgraced Rato

DESPITE the fact that disgraced former minister, head of the IMF and head of Bankia, Rodrigo Rato was found guilty of misusing funds and sentenced to four years and six months imprisonment, he is currently walking free.

As he is expected to file an appeal against the conviction and the sentence, it has been decided that his impeccable behaviour during the trial meant that he could be trusted and should remain free until such time as the appeal is held.

Many consider this to be inappropriate considering the suffering caused to many who believed the prospectus and invested in Bankia shares.

Quote of the Week

The concern of the constitution is that flows of benefit to presidents from foreign sovereigns will distort their judgment, and trademarks are certainly capable of that." Norman Eisen on Donald Trump brand names in China



Little girl versus Wall Street's bull statue



Photo by @ajplus Twitter

LITTLE GIRL: Stares down the charging bull.

By John Smith

AS a reminder of the concepts behind International Women's Day advertising agency McCann, on behalf of Boston based State Street Global Advisors, has placed a statue of a young girl directly in front of the charging bull, a symbol of Wall Street.

According to the investment company, this is supposed to represent a plea to Wall Street to in-

crease the number of female financial advisors from its current almost derisory 15 per cent and to recognise the importance that women can play in commerce.

This new piece of the school-age girl received temporary permission to be placed opposite the bull in Manhattan from the city council and it is hoped that it will be allowed to stay as a reminder of the importance that women play in society.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Bank success

AN international survey by financial publication *Euromoney* declared CaixaBank the best private bank in Spain for the third year. CaixaBank not only fought off all opposition but has a recent record of significant growth in the retail area, particularly after it acquired Barclays Bank in Spain.

On trial

THE trial of the vice-chairman of the Samsung Group Lee Jae-Yong, accused of corruption, bribery and embezzlement, has begun in South Korea. He will deny all charges through his lawyer, but the scandal has rocked the country and led to the impeachment of President Park Geun-hye, said to have favoured the company.

Co-op losses

FOR the fifth year in succession, the Co-op Bank, which promotes its ethical standing, has lost money. The loss of £477 million (€548 million) is down on the previous year but it does not bode well for the planned sale of the bank announced last month.

Spanish protectionism

THE European Commission has given the Spanish government until April 9 to explain why it limits the percentage of equity that individuals and corporate investors can purchase in two companies involved in the transfer of energy, otherwise it may be taken

to court.

Enagás and Red Eléctrica, involved in gas and electricity respectively, are protected under Spanish law so that no shareholder (other than the government) can take control and possibly affect the movement of energy.

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LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES MARCH 13

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,183.25	42.75	3.75	16,144.04
Associated British Foods	2,632.00	1.00	0.04	20,824.99
Admiral Group	1,903.50	-0.50	-0.03	5,441.08
Ashtead Group	1,691.00	13.00	0.77	8,289.64
Antofagasta	770.75	22.75	3.04	7,425.97
Aviva	539.75	-1.25	-0.23	22,086.72
AstraZeneca	4,785.25	25.75	0.54	60,252.55
BAE Systems	640.50	3.50	0.55	20,400.41
Babcock International Group	898.25	4.25	0.48	4,549.11
Barclays	231.05	-0.80	-0.35	39,342.92
British American Tobacco	5,110.00	2.00	0.04	94,794.09
Barratt Developments	540.00	3.00	0.56	5,384.69
British Land Co	614.00	1.50	0.24	6,412.84
BHP Billiton	1,273.25	28.75	2.31	26,386.11
Bunzl	2,308.50	1.50	0.07	7,616.64
BP	466.08	-4.62	-0.98	88,430.63
Burberry Group	1,810.00	6.00	0.33	7,830.24
BT Group	342.70	0.25	0.07	32,810.71
Coca-Cola HBC	1,958.00	10.00	0.51	7,080.50
Carnival	4,552.00	-9.00	-0.20	9,669.32
Centrica	222.70	-0.10	-0.04	12,273.05
Compass Group	1,516.00	6.00	0.40	24,673.27
Capita Group (The)	549.50	5.00	0.92	3,624.24
Croda International	3,645.50	2.50	0.07	4,792.51
CRH	2,888.50	4.50	0.16	23,828.24
Convatec Group	256.05	-0.35	-0.14	5,012.36
Dixons Carphone	305.10	0.30	0.10	3,513.78
DCC	7,020.00	20.00	0.29	6,224.81
Diageo	2,275.75	6.75	0.30	56,708.92
Direct Line Insurance Group	345.70	0.70	0.20	4,677.06
Experian	1,634.00	8.00	0.49	15,266.33
easyJet	985.50	8.50	0.87	3,881.72
Fresnillo	1,385.00	25.00	1.84	9,948.06
GKN	371.10	-0.40	-0.11	6,378.88
Glencore	318.68	8.13	2.62	44,289.74
GlaxoSmithKline	1,672.25	-0.25	-0.01	82,165.62
Hikma Pharmaceuticals	2,147.50	8.50	0.40	5,072.99
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,321.50	2.50	0.19	6,249.15
Hammerson	583.75	2.75	0.47	4,677.83
HSBC Holdings	677.60	10.90	1.63	132,649.15
International Consoltd Airs Gr	567.75	1.25	0.22	12,166.18
InterContinental Hotels Grp	3,856.00	6.00	0.16	7,619.23
3i Group	726.75	1.75	0.24	7,052.75
Imperial Brands	3,841.25	-6.25	-0.16	36,601.66
Informa	647.25	1.25	0.19	5,391.05
Intu Properties	278.45	0.95	0.34	3,821.21
Intertek Group	3,869.00	14.00	0.36	6,127.05
ITV	208.30	0.60	0.29	8,348.70
Johnson Matthey	2,922.00	11.00	0.38	5,687.95
Kingfisher	336.85	1.35	0.40	7,538.42

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Land Securities Group	1,045.50	5.50	0.53	8,322.58
Legal & General Group	249.10	0.30	0.12	14,854.24
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	68.64	-0.12	-0.17	48,841.05
London Stock Exchange Grp	3,078.00	18.00	0.59	10,778.93
Micro Focus International	2,182.50	7.50	0.34	4,954.81
Mediclinic International	747.50	2.50	0.34	5,442.70
Merlin Entertainments	496.10	-0.80	-0.16	5,008.45
Marks & Spencer Group	340.25	1.45	0.43	5,505.39
Mondi	1,886.50	7.50	0.40	9,048.30
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	233.55	-0.65	-0.28	5,363.56
National Grid	981.75	3.05	0.31	36,703.96
Next	3,977.00	11.00	0.28	5,852.12
Old Mutual Group	224.25	0.45	0.20	11,117.01
Provident Financial	2,959.50	0.50	0.02	4,399.94
Paddy Power Betfair	8,832.50	17.50	0.20	7,223.64
Prudential	1,646.00	2.50	0.15	42,467.92
Persimmon	2,122.50	14.50	0.69	6,523.88
Pearson	672.25	-4.25	-0.63	5,587.40
Reckitt Benckiser Group	7,321.50	0.50	0.01	51,102.49
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	243.75	-1.25	-0.51	28,600.29
Royal Dutch Shell	2,110.75	-2.75	-0.13	91,758.03
Royal Dutch Shell	2,205.25	-4.25	-0.19	81,220.88
RELX	1,536.00	1.00	0.07	16,716.79
Rio Tinto	3,272.75	94.25	2.97	44,001.36
Royal Mail	407.45	1.95	0.48	4,047.00
Rolls-Royce Group	756.50	2.00	0.27	13,777.33
Randgold Resources	7,005.00	160.00	2.34	6,480.61
RSA Insurance Group	591.00	-1.00	-0.17	6,110.01
Sainsbury (J)	265.90	-0.50	-0.19	5,737.24
Schroders	3,132.00	4.00	0.13	7,077.89
Sage Group (The)	648.00	2.00	0.31	7,056.73
Shire	4,949.75	59.25	1.21	43,904.97
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,198.00	-2.00	-0.09	5,180.92
Sky	992.00	-1.00	-0.10	17,142.90
Standard Life	377.60	-2.40	-0.63	7,547.04
Smiths Group	1,537.00	5.00	0.33	6,079.92
Smith & Nephew	1,241.00	2.00	0.16	10,814.78
SSE	1,506.00	3.00	0.20	15,398.74
Standard Chartered	743.40	2.10	0.28	24,196.43
St James's Place	1,086.00	3.00	0.28	5,710.22
Severn Trent	2,337.50	3.50	0.15	5,507.35
Tesco	188.45	-0.35	-0.19	15,203.55
TUI AG	1,149.00	-1.00	-0.09	6,765.62
Taylor Wimpey	193.55	1.05	0.55	6,265.81
Unilever	4,027.50	-8.00	-0.20	51,338.38
United Utilities Group	972.50	0.50	0.05	6,694.44
Vodafone Group	203.68	-0.17	-0.08	54,129.57
Wolseley	5,025.00	31.00	0.62	12,576.30
Worldpay Group	288.35	-0.15	-0.05	5,733.00
WPP Group	1,697.00	-4.00	-0.24	22,139.57
Whitbread	3,893.50	2.50	0.06	7,072.91

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CLOSING PRICES MARCH 13

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	191,210	+0.69%	1,310	113M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	79,3800	+0.10%	0,0800	71M
APPLE	139,140	+0.33%	0,460	730M
BOEING CO	178,700	-1.04%	-1,870	109M
CATERPILLAR	92,310	+1.01%	0,920	54M
CHEVRON	110,61	+0.52%	0,57	208M
CISCO SYSTEMS	34,260	+0.56%	0,190	171M
COCA-COLA	42,29	+0.62%	0,26	181M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	80,8600	+0.47%	0,3800	69M
EXXON MOBIL	81,61	-0.07%	-0,06	338M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	30,2800	+2.09%	0,6200	264M
GOLDMAN SACHS	248,38	-0.72%	-1,80	98M
HOME DEPOT	146,8500	+0.16%	0,2300	178M
IBM	177,83	+0.37%	0,65	167M
INTEL CORP	35,9100	+0.25%	0,0900	170M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	91,2800	-0.32%	-0,2900	326M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	126,2100	+0.21%	0,2600	342M
MC DONALD'S CORP	127,9800	-0.12%	-0,1600	104M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	65,60	-0.44%	-0,29	180M
MICROSOFT	64,930	+0.31%	0,200	502M
NIKE	56,43	+0.12%	0,07	74M
PFIZER	34,1100	+0.18%	0,0600	203M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	91,070	+0.81%	0,730	232M
TRAVELERS CIES	122,83	+0.76%	0,93	34M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	112,14	+0.19%	0,21	90M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	169,98	+1.17%	1,97	161M
VERIZON COMMS	49,35	+0.14%	0,07	200M
VISA	89,73	+0.70%	0,62	166M
WAL-MART STORES	70,1000	+0.34%	0,2400	215M
WALT DISNEY CO	110,9200	-0.10%	-0,1100	175M

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES MARCH 13

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
Catabasis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 2.04	0.71 ▲ 53.38%
China TechFaith Wireless Com Tech Lim	\$ 2.11	0.50 ▲ 31.06%
Willdan Group, Inc.	\$ 33.30	5.42 ▲ 19.44%
Internap Corporation	\$ 3.08	0.45 ▲ 17.11%
Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc.	\$ 2.20	0.30 ▲ 15.79%
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 9.23	1.22 ▲ 15.23%
Tetraphase Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 6.95	0.87 ▲ 14.31%
CytomX Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 15.09	1.78 ▲ 13.37%
Zogenix, Inc.	\$ 10.80	1.25 ▲ 13.09%
Citi Trends, Inc.	\$ 18.85	2.18 ▲ 13.08%
MYR Group, Inc.	\$ 41.94	4.85 ▲ 13.08%
Most Declined		
Finisar Corporation	\$ 26.98	7.92 ▼ 22.69%
Inseego Corp.	\$ 2.39	0.46 ▼ 16.14%
HTG Molecular Diagnostics, Inc.	\$ 2.276	0.434 ▼ 16.01%
Roka Bioscience, Inc.	\$ 4.26	0.61 ▼ 12.53%
Zumiez Inc.	\$ 18.40	2.60 ▼ 12.38%
Federated National Holding Company	\$ 18.11	2.24 ▼ 11.01%
Karyopharm Therapeutics Inc.	\$ 10.55	1.21 ▼ 10.29%
CECO Environmental Corp.	\$ 10.57	1.18 ▼ 10.04%
Surgery Partners, Inc.	\$ 18.85	2.10 ▼ 10.02%
Acacia Research Corporation	\$ 5.20	0.55 ▼ 9.57%
Cara Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 15.84	1.65 ▼ 9.43%

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Multi Asset Balanced B EUR
Multi Asset Growth B GBP
Multi Asset Growth B EUR

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€1.0794..... **-€0.0003**
£1.2888..... **£0.0023**
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Carrefour to expand business

By John Smith

WHEN the Carrefour Group decides to open a new hypermarket, it invariably obtains a site with sufficient space to allow it to create a mini-mall or retail park where other independent companies can offer a range of different products to visitors.

This is a symbiotic relationship whereby the tenants have access to the Carrefour shoppers and the fact that there is a range of generally non-competing products under the same roof often aids in the decision making process as to which supermarket consumers will visit.

Up until now, the management of the shopping centres and in some cases retail parks adjacent to the Carrefour stores has been undertaken by two separate real estate companies, Carmila and Cardety, but it has been announced (subject to shareholder approval) that Cardety will take over Carmila in a three for one share exchange.

It is planned that the combined operation will take the Carmila name and will be floated on the French Stock Exchange with an expected worth of some €3 billion but interest-



CARREFOUR: A number of new retail parks centred around the store are planned.

ingly, Carrefour has significant shareholdings in both companies and will participate heavily in the newly merged one.

Although initially a French company, Carrefour has expanded signifi-

cantly into Spain and Italy as well as other countries around the world fuelling its expansion through takeover of companies, development and recently, the absorption of several Eroski super-stores throughout Spain.

The new group plans a number of new retail parks centred around Carrefour stores as part of a new five year plan which will also see significant development in the area of online shopping.

Sterling loses 3.5 per cent against euro

AFTER significant losses following the Brexit result, the pound started to recover against the euro in particular returning to a level of around €1.19 which was maintained for several months.

Suddenly however it has taken a slow but sure backwards step dropping down to €1.145 at the time of writing this article and the reasons are not totally clear.

Different analysts expound different reasons, one being that the Lords amendments to the Article 50 White Paper are to blame, whilst others suggest that the pound is undervalued against the dollar but is simply finding its correct level against the euro, especially as the Eurozone appears to be relatively sound at the moment.

Those of us who receive pensions and investment payment in sterling are less interested in the reason and more interested in seeing it stronger.

AirBnB at the crossroads

REGULARLY in the news in Spain because councils in many areas, especially Barcelona, Madrid and Mallorca believe that San Francisco based home rental company AirBnB continually encourages those renting properties to flout the laws, the company has just raised another \$1 billion (€940 million).

Only launched in 2008 by Brian Chesky and Joe Gebbia, the company charges letters 3 per cent of the value of the let and between 6 and 12 per cent to those renting and is now valued at \$31 billion (€29 billion) with operations hitting 65,000 cities worldwide.

Whilst the concept is very clever, there is no doubt that the company is managing to make enemies in very large cities which enjoy huge numbers of tourist visitors. Hotels are up in arms over the way in which the company takes business away from them and it is being blamed for the difficulty that many renters are having in finding long-term accommodation in London.

So worried was the British government about this situation, that the matter has been raised in parliament and the company has agreed to stop renters from letting their properties out for more than 90 days in a year unless they are registered with local councils.

Spain recently introduced some relatively draconian restrictions on short term letters requiring registration, air conditioning, free wifi and a number of other regulations in order to both support their tourist industry and to ensure that those letters actually pay tax on what they earn.



AIR BNB: Brian Chesky the founder with letters in San Francisco.

The Barcelona City Council believes that rentals via AirBnB do not recognise the laws in place and has levelled significant fines on the company which have been appealed, but fines have also been levied on property managers in New York City for using the company to advertise entire apartments for rent.

This highly successful company has gone from strength to strength and has received investment

from the founder of Amazon as well as celebrities and movie stars, but doesn't appear ready as yet to float on the stock market especially as its high development and expansion costs have finally taken it into significant profit.

The company is at the crossroads, facing continued growth in the market and profit or being shut down due to alleged multiple breaches of laws around the world.

JD Sports new Iberian deal

JUST one day before it is due to open its new store in Cordoba, JD Sports has announced that it intends to enter into a partnership through its Sprinter brand with Portuguese retailer Sport Zone owned by the Sonae group.

This new joint venture to be known as the Iberian Sports Retail Group will manage and operate more than 250 stores in Portugal and Spain with an annual expected turnover of €450 million, although the British group has been expanding steadily within Spain and currently sells goods to the value of €40 million.

The agreement appears to give JD Sports a 50 per cent ownership of the new company whilst its Spanish division Sprinter will have 20 per cent and Sonae are to take 30 per cent. If this deal is finalised, then the new group will become one of the largest sporting goods retailers in Spain and Portugal, competing directly with French-owned Decathlon.

Not content with expansion in Europe, JD Sports is also expanding its business in Australia and despite regular negative media coverage, appears to continue to enlarge and discover new outlets for its goods.

The UK's spring budget and Spain



PHILIP HAMMOND: Leaving 11 Downing Street.

By John Smith

CHANCELLOR Philip Hammond presented his first budget on March 8 and whilst a great deal of it won't have any effect on British passport holders living in Spain, there are a few developments which will be of interest.

It was unfortunate that Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn tweeted just prior to the budget, exhorting supporters to "Sign the petition against Osborne's cuts" and although technically correct, it gave ammunition to certain parts of the media to suggest that he didn't know that Osborne had been replaced.

In general terms, Hammond took a fairly upbeat position with regards to the economy and the fact that Britain needs to borrow less money than originally forecast although growth is expected to slow down over the next few years until expanding in 2021.

He allocated more money to adult social care over the next three years with £2 billion (€2.3 billion) put to one side and did not introduce a retroac-

tive claw back of monies spent on social care from inheritances which came as a relief to many.

The NHS didn't fare so well and despite the 'promises' (or were they just suggestions?) that many pro-Brexit campaigners - many of whom are now Cabinet Ministers - gave concerning massive monthly payments to the NHS, he was only able to find £425 million (€489 million) over three years for the country's health.

“ Britain needs to borrow less money than originally forecast.

The chancellor did however find around £1 billion (€1.15 billion) for education and the creation of even more selective schools as well as granting poor 11 to 15 year olds free transport to their schools as long as they are eligible for free school dinners.

Investors can earn 2.2 per cent on a new Investment Bond but tax-free dividend allowance

will be reduced from £5,000 (€5,750) to £2,000 (€2,300) from April 2018.

The area that has caused the largest furore concerns National Insurance contributions for the self-employed which, according to detractors, marks a direct U-turn from pre-election promises that there would be no new taxes with the government explaining that that wasn't quite what they meant really and was down to a matter of interpretation.

There should be a few more pubs left open for visitors to the UK as they will receive some rate relief for one year. Those living in Spain however can congratulate themselves on the fact that they are in a country where drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes is still considerably cheaper than in the UK.

Finally, only a cynic would complain about the £5 million (€5.75 million) found on International Women's Day to celebrate the Centenary of the Representation of the People Act which in 1918 led to the eventual granting of votes to women.

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Keep that mail coming always

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



ONE of the bonuses I glean from writing this column is the mail I receive. The reason many go unpublished is because a large number have attachments, or are a tad too long. I do of course read them all.

The feedback I gain is invaluable and I thank all who take the trouble to put their ideas and suggestion in the perusal pipeline. Some of the suggestions are of course unprintable. Others are actually a physical impossibility! However, as long as they contain even a smidgen of constructive criticism, all are welcome.

I do still of course get the occasional missive that wishes me harm. Don't worry I've been 'poisoned' by the very best. I find those particular communications a bit sad really. Some years ago the office did receive a letter addressed to me with the word 'bomb' inscribed in the top corner.

After a bit of 'pass the parcel' one brave EWN staff member deemed to open it. Inside was a card with a Second World War bomb depicted on its front. Not too funny really.



FEEDBACK: Some of the suggestions are unprintable.

“ I do still get the occasional missive that wishes me harm, which is a bit sad really.

I've also received my fair share of mooners. If anyone feels this way inclined in the future, could you make sure you're female? I'm afraid I've never been into male posteriors (no pun intended!).

I did receive a funny one this week. A lady wrote to tell me she had stopped reading the EWN because of me. This was of course not true because she went on to say she was reading this particular issue in the lavatory!

Whether she had carried it in with her, considering those particular surroundings gave it more atmosphere, or whether she intended to put it to more practical use I have no idea. Hope not. All the print comes off love. Still it would give hubby the opportunity to read it in bed! And on that low note (geddit!?) I'll wish you all au revoir for another week.

Keep that mail coming and always.

Keep the faith

Love Leapy

leapylee2002@gmail.com



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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1
16 MARCH	7:00pm BBC News at Six	6:15pm Bargain Hunt	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	7:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	7:30pm BBC London News	7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm NHS: Crisis on the Frontline? Tonight	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	7:30pm Premier League Legends
	8:00pm The One Show	7:30pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	9:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	8:00pm Live Premier League Darts
	8:30pm EastEnders	8:00pm Antiques Road Trip	9:30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule	8:55pm The Political Slot	9:00pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door	11:00pm Premier League Match Pack
	9:00pm Shop Well for Less	9:00pm The Great Pottery Throw Down	10:00pm Prime Suspect 1973	9:00pm The Supervet	10:00pm The Great British Benefits Handout	11:30pm La Liga Show
	10:00pm Britain on the Fiddle	10:00pm The Last Kingdom	11:00pm The Nightly Show with Davina McCall	10:00pm A Very British Hotel	11:00pm Celebrity Sex Pod	12:00am Barclays Premier League World
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm Match of the Day	11:30pm ITV News	11:00pm Extremely British Muslims: The Rules	12:05am 100% Hotter!	
	11:30pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight	12:00am ITV News London	12:05am Mystery of the Man on the Moor	1:00am Super Casino	
	11:45pm Question Time	12:15am Top Gear				
	12:45am This Week					
FRIDAY 17 MARCH	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	4:20pm Patient Killer	4:00pm Spanish Football Gold
	8:30pm A Question of Sport	7:30pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm 5 News at 5	4:15pm Spanish Football Gold
	9:00pm EastEnders	8:00pm Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours	4:30pm Football Gold
	9:30pm Room 101	9:00pm Gardeners' World	9:00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories	8:30pm Unreported World	7:00pm Home and Away	5:00pm Football's Greatest
	10:00pm EastEnders	9:30pm Only Connect	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Scruffs: Britain's Favourite Dog	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	6:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	10:30pm Tracey Ullman's Show	10:00pm Wild Ireland	10:00pm Lethal Weapon	10:00pm Gogglebox	8:00pm The Gadget Show	6:30pm Premier League Match Pack
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm QI	11:00pm The Nightly Show with Davina McCall	11:00pm The Last Leg	9:00pm Tony Robinson's Coast to Coast	7:00pm The Fantasy Football Club
	11:25pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight	11:30pm ITV News	12:05am 8 Out of 10 Cats	10:00pm When TV Goes Horribly Wrong	8:00pm Football
	11:35pm Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest	12:05am Robot Wars	12:00am ITV News London	12:55am How'd You Get So Rich?	1:00am Super Casino	11:00pm Live Nxtgen Boxing
	1:55am The Real Marigold Hotel					1:00am Premier League 100 Club
SATURDAY 18 MARCH	6:55pm Weather	5:30pm Final Score	1:20pm ITV News and Weather	5:30pm Location, Location, Location	5:15pm The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door	10:45am Soccer A.M.
	7:00pm Pointless	6:30pm Flog It!	1:30pm Carry on Matron	6:35pm Grand Designs	6:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	12:30pm Football
	7:45pm Let's Sing and Dance for Comic Relief	7:30pm Wild Ireland	3:15pm Off Their Rockers	7:30pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm NCIS: Los Angeles	1:30pm Football
	9:00pm Who Dares Wins	8:30pm Britain at War	3:45pm The Voice UK	8:00pm Escape to the Chateau	9:00pm NCIS	4:00pm Gillette Soccer Saturday
	9:40pm Casualty	9:30pm Dad's Army	5:00pm Six Nations Rugby Union	9:00pm Penelope Keith at Her Majesty's Service	9:55pm 5 News	6:15pm Football
	10:30pm Mrs. Brown's Boys	10:00pm Dame Vera Lynn: Happy 100th Birthday	8:30pm Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway	10:00pm Lucy	10:00pm Football on 5	9:00pm EFL Goals
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm QI XL	9:30pm The Voice UK	11:45pm RoboCop	11:30pm The True Story	9:30pm Nissan Game of the Day
	11:18pm Weather	11:45pm True Grit: A Further Adventure	11:30pm ITV News and Weather	1:55am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	12:30am Criminals Caught on Camera	11:30pm Nissan Match Choice
	11:20pm Match of the Day	1:30am Ash Wednesday	11:45pm Lethal Weapon			12:30am Football
	12:45am This Country		12:35am Rambo III			
SUNDAY 19 MARCH	6:50pm Regional News	4:30pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble	7:00pm Local News and Weather	3:55pm Rio	4:05pm Zathura: A Space Adventure	3:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	6:55pm Weather	5:30pm Skiing	7:10pm ITV News and Weather	5:45pm Johnny English Reborn	6:00pm Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2	5:00pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	7:00pm The Big Painting Challenge	7:00pm Six Nations Rugby Special	7:30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule	7:35pm Channel 4 News	7:50pm 5 News	8:00pm ATP Masters 1000-Indian Wells
	8:00pm Countryside	8:00pm Robot Wars	8:00pm Five Gold Rings	8:00pm Dave's Guide to Spending Money	7:55pm Left Behind	9:00pm Live ATP Masters
	9:00pm Antiques Roadshow	9:00pm Top Gear	9:00pm Vera	9:00pm Rivers with Jeremy Paxman	10:00pm 5 News	10:00pm 1000-Indian Wells
	10:00pm SS-GB	10:00pm Down the Mighty River with Steve Backshall	11:00pm ITV News and Weather	10:00pm Homeland	12:10am Dark Skies	11:30pm PI Match Highlights
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm While We're Young	11:20pm The Nightly Show Best Bits	11:00pm Gogglebox	1:55am Greatest Sci-Fi Movies	12:00am Goals on Sunday
	11:20pm Regional News	12:40am Women's Six Nations Highlights	11:45pm Peston on Sunday	12:00am 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown		1:00am PI Match Highlights
	11:25pm Weather		12:45am Rugby			
	11:30pm Match of the Day 2					
12:40am American High School						
MONDAY 20 MARCH	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	6:00pm The Chase	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:00pm 5 News	7:40pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
	8:30pm Inside Out	7:30pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours	8:10pm Football
	9:00pm EastEnders	8:00pm Top Gear	7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away	10:45pm Scottish Football Round Up
	9:30pm Panorama	9:00pm University Challenge	8:00pm Emmerdale	8:55pm The Political Slot	7:30pm 5 News	11:00pm Revista de la Liga
	10:00pm Crimewatch	9:30pm Mary Berry Everyday	8:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Dispatches	8:00pm The Cars That Made Britain Great	11:30pm Scottish Football Round Up
	11:00pm BBC News	10:00pm Second Chance Summer: Tuscany	9:00pm The Kyle Files	9:30pm Travel Man	9:00pm Police Interceptors	11:45pm Great Sporting Moments
	11:30pm Regional News	11:00pm Cradle to Grave	10:00pm Coronation Street	10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E	10:00pm Inside King's Cross: The Railway	12:00am MLS Round Up Show 2017/18
	11:40pm Weather	11:30pm Newsnight	11:00pm Broadchurch	11:00pm How'd You Get So Rich?	11:00pm Traffic Cops	
	11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You	12:10am Weather	11:00pm The Nightly Show	11:50pm Tattoo Fixers	12:00am Homefront	
	12:30am Live at the Apollo		11:30pm ITV News	12:55am Gap Year		
TUESDAY 21 MARCH	8:30pm EastEnders	7:00pm Eggheads	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Couples Come Dine with Me	6:00pm 5 News	6:30pm Football Gold
	9:00pm Holby City	7:30pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	6:45pm Scottish Football Round Up
	10:00pm EastEnders	8:00pm The Best of British Takeaways	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	7:00pm Premier League Review
	10:30pm Would I Lie to You?	9:00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble	8:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Police Interceptors	8:00pm Crolla: The Million Dollar Story
	11:00pm BBC News	10:00pm American Justice	8:30pm Britain's Busiest Motorway	9:00pm The Secret Life of the Zoo	9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet	8:15pm Boxing
	11:30pm Regional News	11:00pm Inside No 9	9:00pm The Secret Chef	10:00pm Mutiny	10:00pm Yorkshire: A Year in the Wild	8:30pm Football
	11:40pm Weather	11:30pm Newsnight	10:00pm Play to the Whistle	11:00pm Catastrophe	1:05am Britain's Best Double Acts	11:00pm World Cup Qualifier
	11:45pm How Police Missed the Grindr Killer	12:10am Weather	11:00pm The Nightly Show	11:35pm This is Us	2:00am Super Casino	12:30am La Liga World
	12:35am The Scottish Bounty Hunter		11:30pm ITV News	12:30am Gogglebox		1:00am Premier League
	WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH	5:30pm Flog It!	6:15pm Bargain Hunt	4:00pm Chopping Block	6:00pm Couples Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours
6:15pm Pointless		7:00pm Eggheads	5:00pm Tipping Point	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	3:00pm Premier League Legends
7:00pm BBC News		7:30pm The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food	6:00pm The Chase	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News	3:30pm Premier League Legends
7:30pm Regional News		8:00pm Great Continental Railway Journeys	7:00pm Local News and Weather	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm America's Hidden Pyramid City	4:00pm Spanish Football Gold
8:00pm The One Show		9:00pm The House That £100k Built	7:15pm ITV Evening News	9:00pm Hidden Restaurants with Michel Roux Jr	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	4:30pm Football Gold
9:00pm The Sheriffs are Coming		10:00pm Incredible Medicine: Dr Weston's Casebook	7:45pm Emmerdale	10:00pm The Royal House of Windsor	10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	5:00pm Football's Greatest
10:00pm DIY SOS The Big Build		11:00pm Live at the Apollo	8:15pm International Football	11:00pm The Nightly Show	11:00pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	6:00pm Premier League 100 Club
11:00pm BBC News		11:30pm Newsnight	11:00pm The Nightly Show	11:30pm ITV News	12:05am Gypsy Kids: Our Secret World	7:00pm Live WGC - Dell Match Play
11:30pm Regional News			12:15am England Friendly Highlights	12:00am Lee Mack		1:00am La Liga World 2016
11:40pm Weather						
11:45pm Peter Kay's Car Share						
12:15am A Question of Sport						

We all need some child's play

Guest
Columnist



Today: Trudy Stewart

DURING the recent Carnival celebrations, I was lucky enough to have a front row seat for the festivities from my balcony which overlooks the main Plaza in town.

What caught my eye more than any of the elaborate costumes, was a group of children running around collecting long streamers fired from a cannon on one of the floats. They collected enough to make a large pile then played in it for the next few hours. The bright pile provided a soft landing as they jumped into it, pushed each other on to it and rode their bikes towards it toppling into the cushioned surface.

The overwhelming sound, above the cacophony of presenters and singers on the stage, was of the children's laughter.

For hours, they ignored the lure of candy floss and helium balloons of favourite characters, preferring instead to make their own amusement in their



GROWN UP:
But that doesn't mean there can't also be times for play and fun.

multi-purpose pile.

Watching them, I started thinking why is it that we have to grow up and stop finding fun in the simplest things?

For the first years of life we are encouraged to play. School begins with story time, modelling with clay, finger-painting, but is all too quickly replaced by times-tables and spelling tests.

“ It's not always such a bad thing to be childish.

Instead of being encouraged to keep playing and having fun, phrases like 'grow up' and 'act your age' begin to creep in. By our teenage years, embarrassment rears its ugly head and we are afraid to do anything that will cost us 'cool points' with our friends and peers. Bikes stop being horses or motor-bikes (or whatever else we were playing that day) and become either retired to the shed or used to get us to work or study. Fun is replaced by adult things like worrying about money or trying to find a partner.

However, for some of us, that childish need to play never goes away. From videogames to paintballing, we still feel that need to lose ourselves for a period of time and escape the adult worries of everyday life.

I definitely fall into this category and am unafraid to risk making a fool of myself in the pursuit of fun. I sometimes even find myself acting my shoe size and not my age! And why not? Life is short and we spend plenty of time being serious and stressed. We can all learn a lesson from watching the sheer, unadulterated joy of children at play.

Of course there are times when being a grown up is required but that doesn't mean there can't also be times for play and fun. It's not always such a bad thing to be childish - sometimes it's exactly what is needed!

This summer, you might spot me running in and out of the water fountains in the Plaza screaming and laughing along with the children. While I'm certain some will shake their heads at the sight of it, I also think there will be some who would like to join in the fun so come right in, the water's lovely!

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It's serious grumpy territory

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



WHAT is it with French air traffic control? Do they achieve anything by striking? Except for making sure that not one member of the travelling public has any sympathy for them. They have affected 35,000 flights since 2010, 34,999 of which didn't really catch my attention because... well, to be honest, I wasn't on them. But I was on Wednesday because I was flying to the UK.

The problem started two days before my flight because I knew I was meant to be landing at about 9pm which was fine because Hertz don't close till 11.30pm. Now this is where it starts to get into serious grumpy territory as I decided to give Hertz a call to check what provisions are in place if a punter is delayed because of the strike and land after 11.30pm. I decided to call them and ask.

Simple really you would think because they provide you with a number to call - albeit a premium one. So I call it. It all starts off fine. Welcome to Hertz blah, blah, blah. Press 1 for this, 2 for that, 3 for something else, 4 to speak to the local office where you are picking up the car. So 4 is pressed and off we go again. Press 1 for this, 2 for that, 3 for

I don't know, 4 to personally strangle the idiots that invented this frustrating no human response piece of annoying technology!!!!

Or hold to speak to an operator. So I hold and hold and hold and then I'm told after a good 15 minutes of paying for a premium charge call that nobody is available to take my call right now and could I please call back later and the line goes dead.

I am now verbally abusing someone who is not there and I mean abusing. Not someone to give up lightly I go online and find a number in the USA as I reckon they must be able to help me contact someone at Luton airport who won't answer their phone. 'Hello welcome to Hertz. Press 1 for this, 2 for that and 3 to speak to a very unnaturally happy operator who is going to tell me her name and ask me how can she help me today and when we finish wish me a wonderful rest of my day! At last it's a human and I explain my problem and she tells me not to worry as if my flight details are on the booking the Hertz staff have to wait for me.

This is great except my flight details aren't on my booking. Anyway she kindly adds them and sends me an email confirming what we've discussed. So over two hours later I finally get it sorted. My flight was delayed but the Hertz office was still open. So French air traffic control you can KMA!!

Email me at mikesenker@gmail.com.

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Car ban for cleaner air

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

OLDER CARS: To be banned on roads.



IN a recent meeting, Barcelona has agreed to ban all cars which are over 20 years old. When the rules come into force it means that old cars will be banned from driving on the road on working days in 40 municipalities.

The authorities said the move is aimed at reducing pollution as part of the government's strategy to reduce emissions. They want to reduce pollution by 10 per cent in the next five years and by 30 per cent within 15 years.

However, owners of old cars do not need to panic just yet as the restrictions will not

come into force until 2019. From this year, it means that cars registered before 1997 and vans before 1994, will not be allowed to drive on working days.

Between now and 2019, plans will be made for the implementation of the scheme. This will also include an awareness campaign on the restrictions and making improvements to public transport links, particularly in areas which it is considered to be deficient. It has been announced that the first stage of the plan will be presented before July this year.

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

Is the maintenance cost too high?

Q. OUR Community has several problems due to lack of maintenance. The buildings and outside areas like the garden and car park are looking quite shabby. At the imminent AGM a decision will be sought to spend around €50,000 to replace stair carpets with ceramic floor tiles. It is estimated we will all be asked to pay €90 per quarter extra

for the next three years. Some of us do not want to vote yes at the AGM.

My question is: What percentage of owners is necessary to allow this? Is it 51 per cent, or 3/5ths of all owners, or is it simply a majority vote of those few people actually attending the AGM together with proxy votes?

P.R. (Costa del Sol)

A. ON the Second Calling of the AGM, which routinely is half an hour after the First Calling, the majority of owners present or by proxy will carry the motion. As

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



you describe it, the issue is necessary maintenance, so

a simple majority vote should be sufficient. You feel that the new flooring is more expensive than it needs to be, but if the AGM votes to install it, you are bound by the decision.

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



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LETTERS

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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

Dear Leapy, we can disagree

WHILST normally enjoying your articles I must comment on your heading this week in the fine newspaper 'Euro Weekly.'

I believe we all have 'the right' to free speech. Obviously there should be an appropriate time and place for opinions being expressed that are likely to offend or inflame.

Yes, the Oscar presentations this year could have been better managed but your strong personal description of the 'stars' are surely over-exaggerated.

However, it is your 'right' as a columnist to print your views, as it is mine to disagree with you on this occasion.

Even if those stars concerned did think themselves a bottomless pit of valuable information, we don't have to admire their views, just their performance on celluloid.

C. Nelson

Mr Paine and Mr Peters

I JUST want to remind them that when we entered the European Market we were named the 'Poor Man of Europe' and rightly so. Now we are told our economy is doing well, so being in Europe must have helped Britain somewhat.

Are we grateful? Of course not. Fancy suggesting anything to that effect.

Stanley & Bea Denia

Dutch conman

JOHN SMITH, re the article on page 23 of the February 23 edition regarding fraud in Santa

Pola. The same thing happened to me last year in Los Palacios, Formentera.

He is very plausible, I would recognise him anywhere and he does the rounds according to neighbours.

He tried for me to give him cash for the same reasons. I didn't part with any money but I was taken in at first with his story. This guy needs catching.

Judith Formentera

Go home

OH how we love to move abroad and then try to change our new life to suit our narrow minds.

I am ashamed of how all Brit mags are filled with moaners trying to change Spain and its long held traditions.

Of course some things are hard to ignore but go home or join Spanish parliament!!!

M Watson

Time lapse

IS Spain behind the time?

In a week or so we will change our clocks to daylight-saving time, the wrong time.

The sun rises earlier in Germany than in the UK. Now most of Spain is west of the Prime Meridian, 0° that runs through Greenwich. So why is Spain on Central European Time, the same as Berlin? It was not always the case.

In 1942, the Fascist dictator General Franco moved Spain onto Central European Time to follow Nazi Germany.

It said that following the 'wrong clock' explains why Spaniards tend to eat, leave work and go to bed late.

Now seeing as both Franco and Hitler are less popular than they once were, isn't it time to put Spain back into the correct time zone?

Iain Robertson, Almanzora

COMMENTS from EWN Online

» Expat faces eviction

WELL, I'm sorry but whereas I accept the Spanish system can be seen as a shambles, I think in any country, I would be wary of having a house built when I was told it would be illegal.

I'm afraid I cannot be sympathetic as this person seemed to have had more money than sense, and blaming others when she obviously didn't carry out proper research is just plain stupid.

You wouldn't do so in the UK so why do it in Spain.

Steven

» Simon Manley

WHAT a load of old tosh! Trotting out the party line to keep his job. Would he like to explain how being on the Padron ensures continued health care? Continued health care is reliant on the UK continuing to guarantee payments to Spain's Treasury for pensioners' health care, or paying the pensioners enough of a pension so that they could afford to pay the monthly Social Security payment of the Convenio.

Josephine Stoll

» Katie Hopkins

SHE is just a silly girl trying to keep in the limelight by being controversial, she would declare black is white just to raise an argument in the public eye. In two to three years she will be history.

Steven Campbell

» Gay lights

AS a gay man I too find this a ridiculous waste of money. I DON'T however believe that it gives Roy Peters the right to refer to us as Q...S. Grow up, you can voice your opinion WITHOUT being offensive!!!!

Antony Brown

» Police inhibitor

THEIR spokesman is ill informed. Limited available frequencies have nothing to do with the strength of the signal being thrown out. I wonder what their reaction will be when a pedestrian is killed due to their blocker killing a vehicle control system which could incidentally be a bus or lorry? Will they be so laid back then when a negligence lawsuit hits them? Could they be done for manslaughter as they were perfectly aware prior to the incident?

Dave

» Rajoy skips question

AS "it's not the first time" the BBC reporter displayed a shameful, crass lack of sensitivity tantamount to a calculated insult. This is precisely the sort of doltish behaviour which will prejudice #Brexit and in particular the interests of expats.

Drew Edgar

» Dogs shot 'for fun'

I HOPE he goes to jail you can't go round shooting dogs?? And the person walking the dogs will be traumatised for ever.

Antony Gary Chandler

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

Many thanks EWN

I HAVE just returned from singing the Mozart Requiem in Granada with Coral Coraxalia and I am now relaxing reading the *Euro Weekly* with my feet up.

I have just seen the article about my art exhibition on page 13. Absolutely fantastic and I'm so delighted you have given over such a large space for it.

Also, the story for the Coral Coraxalia choir. So kind of you and the promotion must have worked because the concert was a sell out!

It was magnificent - four choirs performed three songs each before the joint choirs performed the Mozart. A music critic in the audience described it as a Susan Boyle moment when we performed our slot.

The mostly Spanish audience were



Crown Copyright Jay Allen

» CORAL CORAXALIA: What a wonderful choir.

probably not expecting the mostly retired international expats to be able to compete with the youngsters in the other choirs, but we excelled, judging by the cheers and what seemed endless standing ovation. We have worked so hard and our choir director, Eusebio Pita is still 'en las nubes' at our performance.

The hugs and kisses, and tears of emotion by both women, and men - even Eusebio - our 'Gareth Malone' of the Axarquia. What a wonderful choir we have, thanks to him. We are still inviting people to join us and they can find our more on: www.coralcoraxalia.com.

Margaret Riordan

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

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

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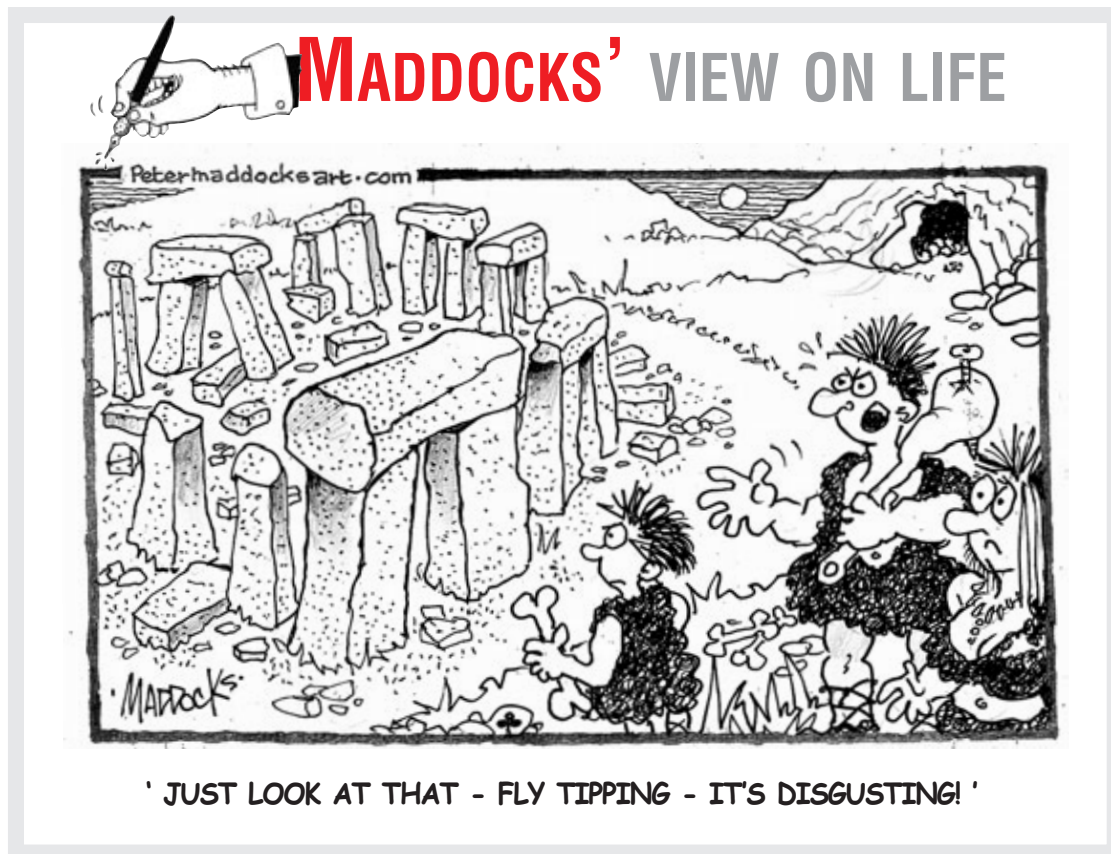
Kakuro

	5	33		23	16
11			7		
8			8		
	21				
	10				
20					14
4			14		
7			6		

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.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

15	9	21	7	3
1	4	3	5	2
4	3	6	2	1
	2	1		
20	6		4	1
4	5	2	3	1
6	1	5	2	3



Women's wit

The best way to get most husbands to do something is to suggest that perhaps they're too old to do it."



Shirley MacLaine

Famous quote

You can live to be 100 if you give up all the things that make you want to live to be 100."

Woody Allen, actor

World of English

Why does 'slow down' and 'slow up' mean the same thing?"

YOUR STARS FOR 7 DAYS

ARIES ♈ (March 21 - April 20)

Your efforts to get your message across might be best delayed for seven days. Fickle Venus and flighty Mercury will cross swords with other planets, so keep your ideas and emotions grounded. Take nothing for granted on Tuesday, and don't agree to anything without the facts.

TAURUS ♉ (April 21 - May 21)

Don't jump from one financial frying pan into another. Take it easy on all fronts, especially where your money, emotions and other people's moods are at odds with your ideas. There will be more than one good reason to compromise a little.

GEMINI ♊ (May 22 - June 21)

You will see the advantage of working towards a new location, or even a specific makeover for your domestic

PISCES ♋ (February 20 - March 20)

It's both a vertical and horizontal week. What goes right somewhere could easily go wrong elsewhere. Sensitive Venus conspires with touchy Mars to trigger tensions and

scene. Either way, wait for a further green light, especially where money's concerned. Monday and Thursday are delicate days, so play it cool.

CANCER ♋ (June 22 - July 23)

Refuse to be miffed by whatever disagreements or difficulties clutter your world. The sooner you get on with things, the better for your peace of mind. Even this week's affrays and dismays are simply passing clouds. Put yourself first, and things will start to change. There's no telling what might occur, especially if

troubles. If you're aware of where others are coming from, you'll be fine. You'll have fun, but don't let your spending splurges rule your head on Wednesday or Saturday.

you explore new options.

LEO ♌ (July 24 - August 23)

Move forward on this week's positive waves of optimism. Treat yourself, but don't over-indulge your temptations. The planets aren't dancing to all your wants and desires. If certain situations or individuals seem complicated, wait until the dust settles, then follow your hunches.

VIRGO ♍ (August 24 - September 23)

There's a saying that if it doesn't rain, it pours, so keep an umbrella of humour to hand. April is around the corner, and with it, a much happier trend for your workaday, social and financial prospects. Strive through this showery emotional week, and the sunshine will surely follow. Meanwhile, focus on the now.

LIBRA ♎ (September 24 - October 23)

Scanning the rest of the star-signs, you'll see that you have many things in common this week: challenging influences at work and play, and during other clogging capers. Unexpected events, finances, or the usual everyday frustrations could pile on the pressure.

SCORPIO ♏ (October 24 - November 22)

You're not the only member of the zodiac who'll have to toughen up. It'll pay you to chill on Tuesday, be patient on Wednesday, and put your potent insights into orbit throughout the weekend. Although certain set arrangements are liable to veer off track, some discussions and shared commitments are slowly but firmly improving.

SAGITTARIUS ♐ (November 23 - December 21)

The full moon in your own sign is a powerful ally against this week's planetary fracas. Speak from the heart and reject any ambiguous emotional games. It's the only way to clear the air and truly know where you're heading.

CAPRICORN ♑ (December 22 - January 20)

There's a financial theme to many of your plans and ideas. Above all, spend with care and examine all offers carefully. Rely on your sixth sense, especially where close-to-you matters are concerned. Give more thought to what you hope to have achieved in 12 months from now. Be patient, especially over personal stresses and strains.

AQUARIUS ♒ (January 21 - February 19)

Your emotions, extra expenses and other domestic pressures are on the boil. Put off major decisions until next week. Meanwhile, loosen up, walk into some creative space, and if necessary, talk to someone who understands your ups and downs. There are good things waiting to happen, so refuse to lose your nerve.

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY



Saturday March 11

6 15
23 29
55 57

BONUS BALL
46

IRISH LOTTO



Saturday March 11

3 11
32 36
37 38

BONUS BALL
1

EURO MILLIONS



Tuesday March 7

6 37
41 48
50

LUCKY STARS
4 5

LA PRIMITIVA



Saturday March 11

1 22
28 37
39 43

REINTEGRO
44 0

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA



Sunday March 12

8 22
26 29
32

REINTEGRO
5

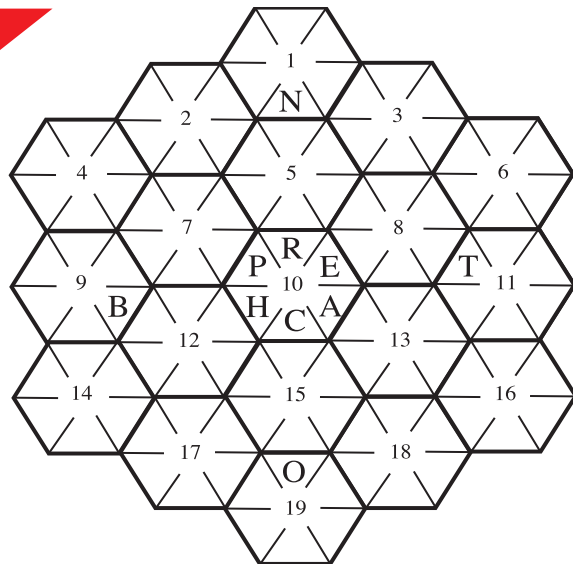
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Hexagram

- | | |
|-------------|--------|
| AROUSE | RABIES |
| AUNTIE | REPEAT |
| BEHIND | SCREEN |
| DELETE | SECANT |
| GENTRY | STASIS |
| IDEATE | STEREO |
| NOTICE | TEASEL |
| PETREL | TWENTY |
| PILLOW | WINTER |
| PREACH (10) | |



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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

- 1 Escape 2 Defeat 3 Pastor
- 4 Bypass 5 Confer 6 Teacup
- 7 Resent 8 Copied 9 Settle
- 10 Toddle 11 Helium
- 12 Treaty 13 Delete 14 Yogurt
- 15 Chalet 16 Cheesy
- 17 Smooth 18 Threat 19 Scarce

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



TARGET:

- Average: 8 • Good: 11
- Very good: 16 • Excellent: 19

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

cite cult cute deft diet duct duet edit feet felt fete flit left lift lite lute teed tide tied tile cited cleft cutie delft edict educt elect elite elute feted fetid filet fleet flute telic tilde tiled utile deceit defect delict dilute dulcet felted fluted futile leftie lifted deflect ductile DECEITFUL

This week in history

- 1813 – David Livingstone, legendary explorer and medical missionary, was born in Blantyre, Scotland.
- 1957 – British European Airways withdrew its fleet of Viscount 701s from service after one crashed at Manchester killing 22 people.
- 1966 – Football's World Cup was stolen whilst it was being exhibited at Central Hall in Westminster, London.
- 1974 – Ian Ball attempted to kidnap Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips from their chauffeur-driven Rolls-Royce on Pall Mall.
- 1976 – British Prime Minister Harold Wilson announced his resignation after eight years in office.
- 1984 – British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher came under attack as negotiations broke down at the European Economic Community common market summit over Britain's rebate from Europe.
- 1988 – Lone loyalist gunman, Michael Stone, opened fire at a funeral for IRA members shot dead in Gibraltar killing three mourners and injuring another 50.
- 1991 – Michael Heseltine, Environment Secretary, scrapped the controversial poll tax and replaced it with council tax.
- 1992 – Buckingham Palace announced the Duke and Duchess of York had separated and divorce proceedings were underway.
- 1993 – An IRA bomb blast in Warrington injured 56 people and killed two children, three-year-old Johnathan Ball and 12-year-old Tim Parry.
- 1995 – Ronnie Kray, notorious gangland killer who was serving a life sentence for murder, suffered a heart attack and died at the age of 61.
- 1999 – Comedian Ernie Wise died at the age of 73 two months after receiving a triple by-pass operation in Florida.
- 2002 – In a landmark ruling Dame Elizabeth Butler-Sloss granted Miss B, a woman paralysed from the neck down, the legal right to die by having her treatment withdrawn.

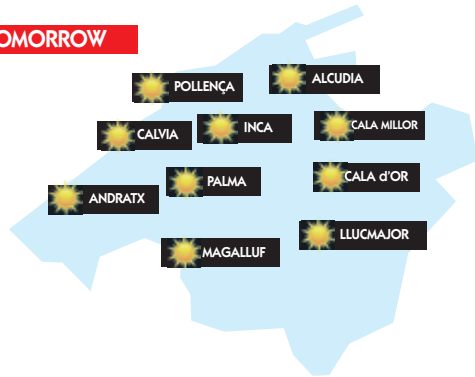
Mallorca

weather

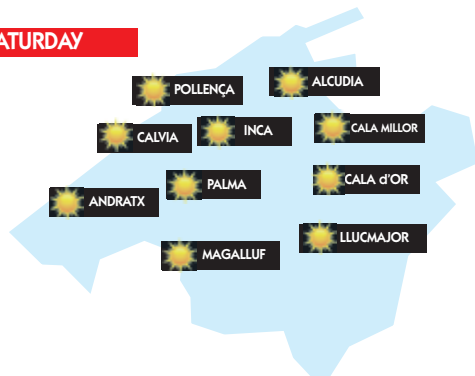
TODAY



TOMORROW



SATURDAY



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

Alicante

TODAY:	MAX 18, MIN 13 - C
Fri -	18 11 C
Sat -	19 11 C
Sun -	21 12 S
Mon -	22 13 C
Tues -	22 12 C
Wed -	18 11 C

Bilbao

TODAY:	MAX 21, MIN 9 - C
Fri -	19 8 C
Sat -	16 8 C
Sun -	18 9 C
Mon -	17 9 C
Tues -	14 7 Sh
Wed -	13 7 Sh

Almeria

TODAY:	MAX 19, MIN 11 - C
Fri -	19 11 C
Sat -	19 11 C
Sun -	21 12 C
Mon -	23 13 S
Tues -	22 13 C
Wed -	19 11 Sh

Madrid

TODAY:	MAX 18, MIN 6 - SH
Fri -	18 5 Sh
Sat -	21 5 S
Sun -	22 6 S
Mon -	21 6 C
Tues -	20 5 C
Wed -	16 3 C

Barcelona

TODAY:	MAX 17, MIN 8 - S
Fri -	17 8 S
Sat -	19 9 S
Sun -	19 10 S
Mon -	18 10 C
Tues -	17 10 Sh
Wed -	16 9 C

Malaga

TODAY:	MAX 16, MIN 11 - SH
Fri -	17 10 Sh
Sat -	19 9 C
Sun -	22 11 C
Mon -	24 12 S
Tues -	23 11 C
Wed -	20 9 C

Benidorm

TODAY:	MAX 17, MIN 12 - C
Fri -	17 12 Sh
Sat -	19 11 C
Sun -	20 12 S
Mon -	20 13 C
Tues -	21 12 C
Wed -	18 10 Sh

Mallorca

TODAY:	MAX 20, MIN 8 - S
Fri -	20 7 S
Sat -	20 7 S
Sun -	21 8 S
Mon -	20 10 C
Tues -	20 9 Sh
Wed -	19 9 Sh

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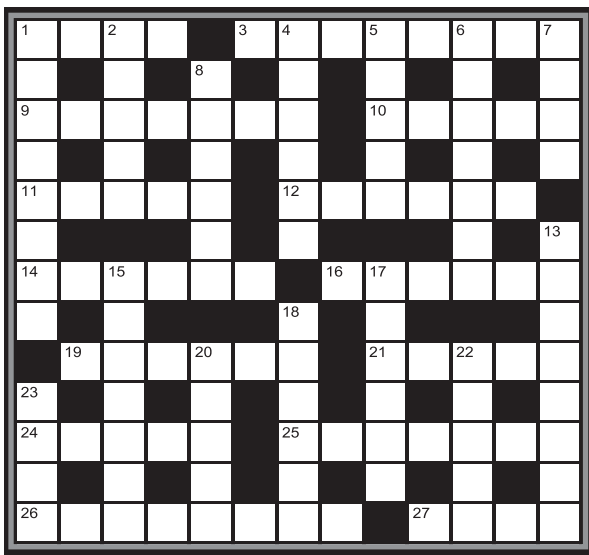
Crossword

page

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

Cryptic



Across

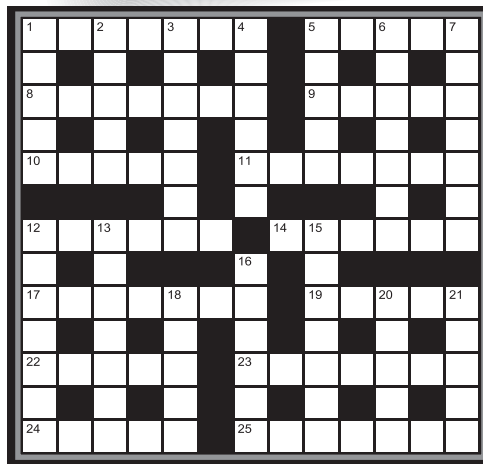
- 1 Plate from cupboard is hot (4)
- 3 Definite, horribly cruel act (5,3)
- 9 Los Angeles is less than clean (7)
- 10 Write to the church for money (5)
- 11 Enchanting Ullswater offers shelter for noisy seabirds (5)
- 12 In pain, chest moves slowly (6)
- 14 Coaches coaches (6)
- 16 Artist's work, say, exhibited outside university (6)
- 19 Save when secure, possibly (6)
- 21 The right fish and the means to catch them (5)
- 24 Left on the side of a shelf (5)
- 25 State song about most of region (7)
- 26 Cook said hers are root vegetables (8)
- 27 English monk brought everybody dinner early to begin with (4)

Down

- 1 Agent from England on stage during meeting (8)
- 2 A case for brains (5)
- 4 English poet not quite frolicking (6)
- 5 Delia's pickle contains jelly (5)
- 6 Religious residence with Spanish outlet (7)
- 7 Meet up at stream (4)
- 8 Team about to take on inventor (6)
- 13 Urge rude apes to mix (8)

- 15 Revised the last word and finally delighted editor (7)
- 17 Parched when free on hill (6)
- 18 Tell a story about the unpunctual (6)
- 20 Thinks about cold chops (5)
- 22 Call up the first girl outside, all right! (5)
- 23 It's a disgrace to speak indistinctly (4)

Quick



Across

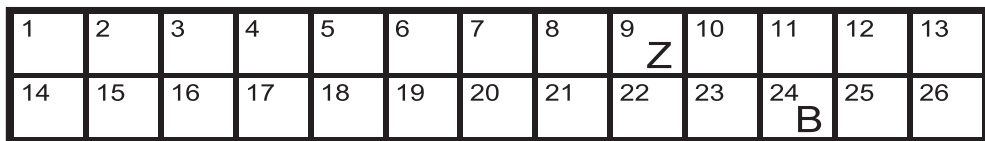
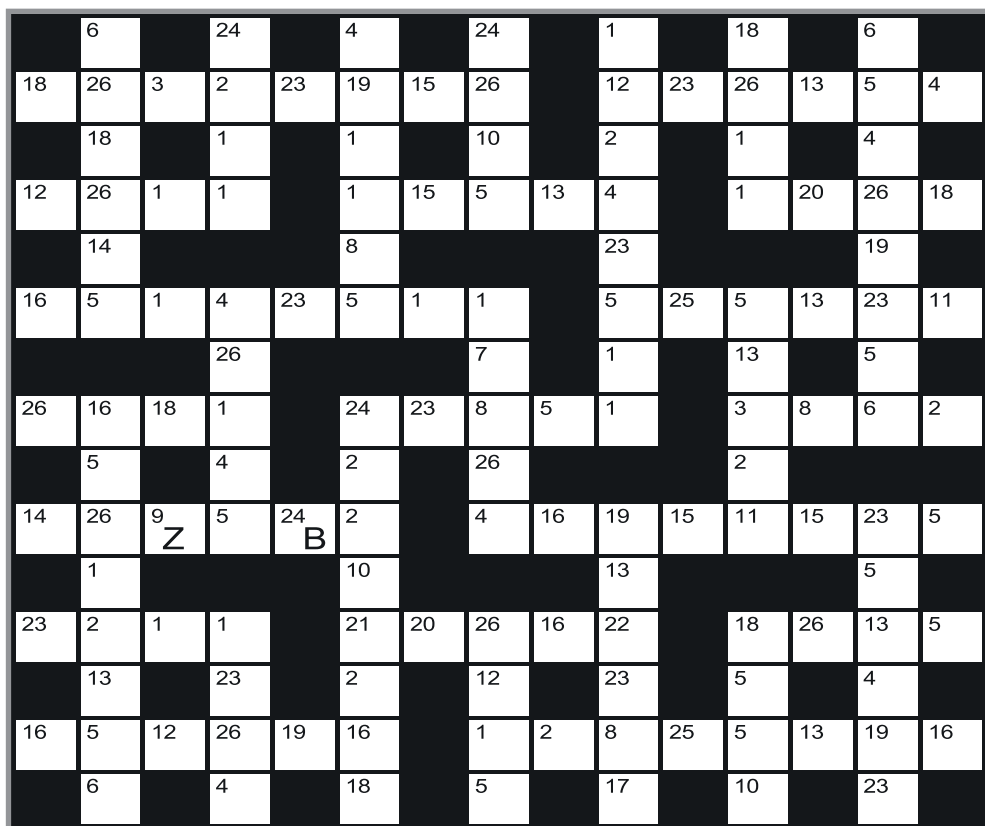
- 1 In a softened tone (7)
- 5 Tall towers on a farm used to store grain (5)
- 8 At fixed intervals (7)
- 9 South American transport animal of the camel family (5)
- 10 Squander (5)
- 11 Not any thing (7)
- 12 Former currency of Spain (6)
- 14 Short knife (6)
- 17 Person who serves in a coffee bar (7)
- 19 Skin that covers the top of the head (5)
- 22 Deduce (5)
- 23 Walk with great difficulty (7)
- 24 Austrian composer (5)
- 25 Keep out of sight (7)

Down

- 1 Small mouse like mammal with a long snout (5)
- 2 Fraudulent (5)
- 3 Most unattractive (7)
- 4 Throughout the time of (6)
- 5 Break in pieces (5)
- 6 Showing the way by going first (7)
- 7 Walk with a lofty proud gait (7)
- 12 Put into print (7)
- 13 Shabby and untidy (7)
- 16 Restrain oneself from doing or enjoying something (7)
- 17 Unit of astronomical length (6)
- 18 Loud, warning signal (5)
- 20 Discuss with reasoning (5)
- 21 State of danger involving risk (5)

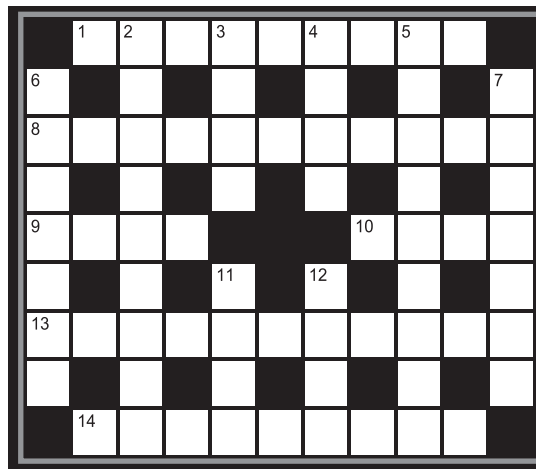
Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 9 represents Z and 24 represents B, so fill in Z every time the figure 9 appears and B every time the figure 24 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 Stars (in sky) (9)
- 8 Living room (4,2,5)
- 9 Cordero (4)
- 10 Cinturón (4)
- 13 Grasshopper (11)
- 14 Palillo de dientes (9)

Down

- 2 Sirloin steak (9)
- 3 Grosero (maleducado) (4)
- 4 To read (4)
- 5 Auténtico (9)
- 6 Inútil (inepto) (7)
- 7 Británico (7)
- 11 Esperar (4)
- 12 Jabón (4)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Settlement, 7 Catching, 8 Beer, 9 Ties, 10 Liberia, 12 Respectable, 14 Damaged, 16 Pool, 19 Camp, 20 Tsarinas, 21 Tenderness.

Down:

- 1 Scant, 2 Tickets, 3 Lair, 4 Magritte, 5 Noble, 6 Decide, 11 Detected, 12 Reagan, 13 Bromide, 15 Ample, 17 Leaps, 18 Fair.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Halibut, 5 Roots, 8 Dingo, 9 Release, 11 Vacation, 13 Secret, 15 Clinic, 18 Cardigan, 19 Pair, 22 Ocarina, 23 Rodeo, 24 Since, 25 Suburbs.

Down:

- 1 Hideous, 2 Lunge, 3/10 Blow over, 4 Turban, 5 Reliable, 6 Orator, 7 Stern, 12 Feminine, 14 Certain, 16 Curious, 17 Harass, 18 Cross, 20 Adder, 21 Crab.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Amargo, 4 Knit, 8 Araña, 9 Suiza, 10 Headlight, 13 Clavo, 14 Apodo, 15 Ojal, 16 Serrín.

Down:

- 1 Amar, 2 Ama de casa, 3 Grandson, 5 Neighbour, 6 Team, 7 Estimate, 11 Ocho, 12 Town.

CODE BREAKER



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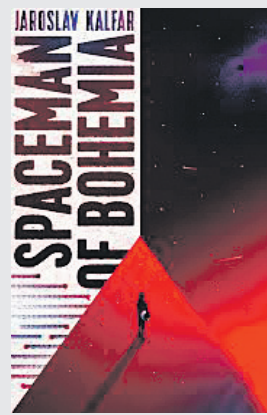
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BOOKS

Space-man of Bohemia



By Jaroslav Kalffar

Jakub Prochazka, the son of a Communist informer, was orphaned as a child and raised by his grandparents in the Czech countryside.

After becoming a scientist he is offered an opportunity to become the country's first astronaut on a solo mission to Venus. Despite the dangerous nature of the mission he sees it as an opportunity in which he can atone for his father's sins and leaves behind his beloved wife Lenka.

His journey into space is a solo mission and sees him befriend a giant alien spider, possible imaginary, with whom he forms an intense and emotional bond. Will this friendship be enough to see Jakub through as he clashes with Russian rivals and will he return safely to Earth?

books@euroweeklynews.com

TOP 10

Greatest sporting comebacks

LAST week's Champions League match between Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain is one that will go down in history. Despite Paris Saint-Germain going into the second leg with a four goal advantage, Barcelona managed to claw back an amazing victory after they scored three goals in the last eight minutes to win 6-1. Here we have a look at some other amazing sporting comebacks.

1. Dennis Taylor winning the World Snooker Championship

Dennis Taylor defied the odds to win the 1985 World Snooker Championship beating snooker heavyweight Steve Davis. The result came as a major shock, with Davis being the favourite, playing near-faultless snooker with an 8-0 lead. However, Taylor produced a determined comeback, winning the match on the final ball of the final frame and sealing his only world title.

2. Oracle Team USA's America's Cup win

In sailing, Britain's Sir Ben Ainslie became the hero of the hour at the 2013 America's Cup. The Americans were trailing 8-1 with Team New Zealand on match point when they recruited Ben to the team. In a dramatic turnaround the team managed to draw level after winning the next seven races and stole victory in the final race beating Team New Zealand by 44 seconds.

3. Henri Cochet's Wimbledon win

One of the most remarkable comebacks was by French tennis player Henri Cochet at the 1927 Wimbledon Championships. Amazingly in all of his finals matches he was two sets down against his opponents. Somehow he managed to dig deep and recover the deficit to win each match, defeating Frank Hunter in the quarter-final, Bill



DENNIS TAYLOR: Beat snooker favourite Steve Davis.

Tilden in the semi-final, and Frenchman Jean Borotra in the final to take the Wimbledon title.

4. Lasse Virén wins the 10,000m in Munich

At the 1972 Summer Olympics, Virén broke Ron Clarke's world record in the 10,000m, despite a fall during the 12th lap. In less than 150 metres, Viren caught up with the leading pack despite losing about 20 metres after the fall. With only 600 metres to go, Virén ran an unprecedented lap and a half which pushed him ahead of the pack.

5. Red Rum winning the Grand National

A champion, thoroughbred steeplechaser, Red Rum is probably the most famous racehorse ever. It was his win in the 1973 Grand National which produced one of the best performances in horse racing history. Crisp, a two mile champion

chaser, led the race for every stride except the last 10 where Red Rum overhauled Crisp right on the winning post.

6. England's 1981 Ashes Test

In the third Ashes Test of 1981, England were at Headingly and seemed to have lost all hope of winning, with odds slipping to 500-1. A galvanised Ian Botham defied those odds and led England to a stunning 18 run win as they went on to claim the fourth and fifth tests, drawing the final and taking the series 3-1.

7. Liverpool FC's Champions League win

Within the first minute of Liverpool's 2005 Champions League final against AC Milan, Paolo Maldini gave the Italian side a 1-0 lead. Outclassed in the first half, the Reds looked to be out of contention as they went into half time

3-0 down. However, in what would become one of the most stirring football comebacks in European football, Liverpool fought back in the second half, levelling the score and taking the match to extra time. A penalty shootout decided the championship. Liverpool won 3-2.

8. Europe's Ryder Cup 2012 win

The 2012 Ryder Cup is widely regarded as featuring one of the greatest sporting comebacks of all time. At the start of the final day's play, the US led 10-6 and required only 4½ points to win, whereas Europe required 8 points to retain the cup, and 8½ to win it outright. In possibly the greatest comeback in Ryder Cup history, Europe won 8 and tied 1 of the 12 singles matches, giving them the outright victory, 14½-13½.

9. France's Rugby World Cup semi-final win

The 1999 Rugby World Cup semi-final seemed as if it would be a walk in the park for pre-tournament favourites New Zealand. They led France 24-10 early in the second half and the All Blacks looked primed to make it to the final. This was all undone by Christophe Lemaison, who ended the match with 28 points, closing the gap to 24-22. France then capitalised on this momentum, going on to win 43-31.

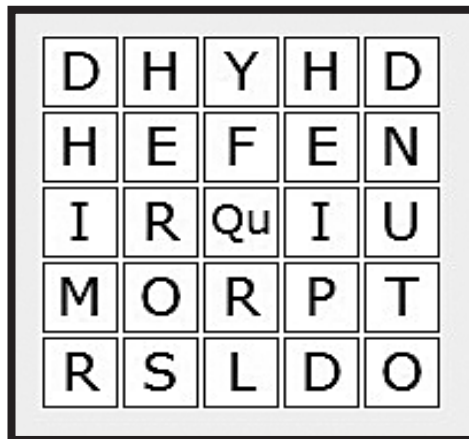
10. Charlton Athletic's win against Huddersfield Town in 1957

Playing the majority of the match with only 10 men when captain Derek Ufton was injured, Charlton Athletic pulled off an extraordinary six goal comeback in just 27 minutes. Huddersfield were leading 5-1 when Johnny Summers embarked on an extraordinary run of play during which he scored four goals and assisted in two others, resulting in a final score of 7-6.

Boggled

How many English words can you find in the Boggled grid, according to the following rules?

- The letters must be adjoining in a 'chain'. They can be adjacent horizontally, vertically or diagonally.
- Words must contain at least four letters and may include singular and plural or other derived forms.
- No letter may be used more than once within a single word, unless it appears twice.
- No vulgarities or proper nouns are permitted.



TARGET:

- Average: 16
- Good: 22
- Very good: 32
- Excellent: 41

SCORING:

- 4 letters: 1 point
- 5 letters: 2 points
- 6 letters: 3 points
- 7 letters: 5 points
- 8 or more letters: 11 points

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

reuse rest rests ruses ruse rush rust rusts mere merer meres merest midge user usher here hues hurt hair hairy seer sere sure surer suers shim shad shady said sadist staid stair stay stir stirrs sirs ahem astir adhere adieu airy airs dime dimer dash dais dairy dish dirt stash tree tress true truer trues truss tidy triad this thirst they rise riser risers ridge hiss

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.

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

Word Ladder

WELL

FARE

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

- FILE
- FARE
- WARE
- WIRE
- WILE
- WILL
- WELL

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Casual attitude to casual sex

NEW research reveals just 72 per cent of under-25's believe it is important to have regular sexual health screening if in casual relationships.

The Mintel research, which questioned nearly 2,000 internet users, indicates that young men are the most likely to adopt a relaxed attitude towards screening with just two thirds (67 per cent) of 18 to 24-year-old men agreeing

that it is important to have regular sexual health screening, compared to 81 per cent of Brits overall.

Further highlighting an 'act now and think later' approach, 41 per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds and 49 per cent of 18 to 24-

year-old men, agree that it is only necessary to see a doctor if they have symptoms following unprotected sex.

However, one in five (19 per cent) admit they would be too embarrassed to seek professional help if they had a Sexually Transmitted

Infection (STI).

Lucy Cornford, Head of Beauty and Personal Care, Household, Lifestyles and Brand Research at Mintel, said: "A lack of knowledge plagues the sexual health sector. Young adults, and young men in particular, display a worrying lack of concern over the dangers of unprotected sex and the consequences of not taking care of sexual health."

She added that the "rapid growth of free dating apps has facilitated a culture of casual sexual encounters, particularly amongst adults under-35." Mintel is the world's leading market intelligence agency.

DATING APPS: Have facilitated a culture of casual sexual encounters.



19

per cent would be too embarrassed to seek help if they had an STI.

Appeal for women to take better care of themselves

JUST 11 per cent of Spanish women spend more than a hour a day taking care of themselves, with most caring for others before looking after themselves.

Herbalife nutrition company conducted a study through its 12th Healthy Habits Pan-

el, in which 89 per cent of Spanish women admitted to not dedicating more than one hour a day to their own care.

Just 2 per cent said they were able to dedicate more than three hours to their own care. Work, family and home occupations

were primarily responsible, but this could have negative consequences on the health of women as not spending time on themselves eating correctly, exercising and getting enough sleep can trigger health problems.

Herbalife said they wanted to appeal to all Spanish women "to find time in their day to day life to dedicate to themselves" believing that "following a healthy and active lifestyle is the key to being better physically and mentally."

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Ask The
Doctor

Brought to you by



Understanding hay fever and how to treat it



| SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

WHAT is hay fever?

Hay fever, or allergic rhinitis, is an over-reaction of mucous membranes in the nose to certain particles such as dust, pollen and sometimes even the cold which mainly affect the nose and eyes.

What causes it?

Hay fever is caused by allergens that trigger the release of chemicals, such as histamines, which in turn cause the symptoms of an allergic reaction.

Is it worse at certain times of the day?

Depending on the type of allergy, symptoms might be worse at certain times of day. Pollen for example, is most abundant in the early morning, although the weather can also affect levels throughout the day.

What are the symptoms?

The allergic reaction may cause an itchy and

runny nose throughout the months when plants are in flower. Other symptoms include nasal congestion, headaches and in some cases dizziness similar to when one suffers from vertigo.

How is it treated?

There are different ways of treating hay fever.

Antihistamines, decongestants and corticoids are the most common as they help manage the symptoms. It is also advisable to avoid exposure to the substances which trigger the reaction when possible.

Are there other remedies?

A person can receive several vaccinations, known as immunotherapy, to help the body tolerate allergens and improve the symptoms; however this course of treatment must always be prescribed and managed by a qualified allergist.

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

Intense cycling could help ward off ageing

A QUICK, intense, four minutes of cycling could help stop the ageing process.

It could be the news everyone who hates long workouts has been waiting for, as a US study found that short bursts of intense exercise, such as spinning classes, which are fast cycling classes, can help reverse damage to cells which decline with age.

High-intensity interval training, or HIIT training, helps halt the damage to the cells which start the ageing process.

The Mayo Clinic in Minnesota signed up 72 men and women aged between 18 and 30 and 65 to 80 for HIIT exercises, resistance training using weights, and combined training with longer bouts of cycling and fewer weights sessions.

“**High-intensity interval training, or HIIT training, helps halt the damage to the cells which start the ageing process.**”

As well as helping cell ageing, they found that short bursts of exercise improved fitness, cut body fat and can help to prevent diabetes, but it was not so effective at improving muscle strength which declines with age.

The volunteers with the greatest improvement in reversing cell damage, carried out four minutes of intensive cycling, followed by three easier minutes, 12 times a week, along with another 90 minutes walking on a treadmill.

The researchers are using their findings to try and develop a drug that will mimic the effects of exercise in warding off old age.



YOUTHFUL SPIN: Short bursts of intense exercise helps slow down ageing.

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European Day of Early Music to be celebrated in Palma

ON Tuesday March 21 some 100 concerts will take place all over Europe for the fifth annual European Day of Early Music, a project supported by the European Union to celebrate the European musical heritage.

The Mallorca-based early music ensemble, The Archduke's Consort, will be representing Mallorca in the Day of Early Music by giving a concert in Palma at the Church of Sant Felip Neri at 8pm on March 21.

The concert is entitled La Graciosa Armonia and will feature baroque music from Germany and Italy performed by the British soprano Fiona Stuart-Wilson with her Spanish colleagues Guillermo Femenias (lute), Kepa Artetxe (violin) and Xisco Aguiló (violone da gamba).

Tickets are €15 on the door and advance seat reservations can be made by emailing contact@thearchdukesconsort.com or calling 681 648 528.



THE ARCHDUKE'S CONSORT: Will perform on March 21.

Jamie Anglada will rock the stage

MALLORCAN born singer, actor and TV presenter Jaime Anglada will be performing on March 23 at the concert cafe La Movida just outside Palma.

Anglada's first record album was released over 20 years ago by Virgin Records. He started as a rock and roll artist but eventually shifted his sound to a slower more acoustic theme.

In 2010 Anglada returned to his love of upbeat and fast-paced rock and roll.

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St Patrick's Day in Santa Ponsa

SANTA PONSA will host its St Patrick's Day celebrations on Sunday March 19. Over 100 market stalls are set to open

along the main beach with an afternoon parade strolling through the streets. Many Irish bands and singers will perform

throughout the day, including the Mallorcan based band the Raggles, formerly the Raggle Taggle Gypsies.

ABBA tribute show at the Palma Auditorium

THE ABBA show, known as the best ABBA tribute band in Europe, will perform at the Palma Auditorium on March 24.

The band has been performing ABBA tributes for 15 years with over 2,000 shows across Europe.

Dancing Queen is arguably one of AB-

BA's most popular songs. Released in August 1976, the single led the release of the band's fourth album titled Arrival. In 2011, *Rolling Stone* magazine listed the track as one of the greatest songs of all time.

Tickets are on sale now for the March 24 show that begins at 9pm.

Toy Story the musical goes live

TOY STORY, the musical will be performed live at the Trui theatre in Palma on Sunday March 19.

The story begins when Andy returns to his childhood home as an adult and encounters his old toys. Deciding not to be selfish, he donates his prized possessions to charity.

The musical is promised to be humorous to children and adults alike.

Tickets are on sale for both the 12pm showing and the 5pm showing.

Spain's Got Talent's Bruno Sotos to perform

BRUNO SOTOS, a contestant on Spain's Got Talent will perform at the concert cafe La Movida just outside Palma at 10pm on March 17. Sotos shot to fame recently after an emotional audition performance on the show which received praise from all four judges.

The artist's original song Hoy Duele, meaning today hurts, was written for his father who passed away two years ago from cancer. Sotos is still in the running to be a finalist in the popular talent show.

"I am self-taught, I work from the ear and I learned to play the guitar by looking at the hands of other musicians," said the 31-year-old Mallorcan artist.

Salt and Spice Fair

THE Salt and Spice fair was held this week in Colonia St Jordi featuring food exhibitions, an arts and crafts fair, live music and a children's area. The background of the fair is the famous Ses Salines, the main salt extracting area in Mallorca.

Fusion flamenco dance spectacle



EL YIYO: His sharp moves, genuine talent and unprecedented passion ensure it will be a great show.

EL YIYO will be performing at the Palma Auditorium for the first time on March 17.

The 18-year-old Catalan dancer is famous for his fusion flamenco dance style. El Yiyo has trained in contemporary and classical dance styles since a young child.

At just 18-years-old the Barcelona born

artist has been the main attraction at more than 20 festivals in Spain, France, Portugal and Taiwan.

El Yiyo has been covered in many papers and magazines, including *Vogue* Spain, and he is renowned for his charisma and expressiveness on stage.

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Ambitious or capricious?

**GOOD FOOD,
GOOD WINE AND
GOOD FRIENDS**
WITH
GARRY WAITE



I HAVE BEEN watching a three-part series called The Replacement. It's very good and tells the story of a woman architect who is pregnant and needs to find someone to take her place in the practice while she goes on maternity leave. In her absence it would appear that the replacement has eyes on her job, position and reputation within the practice.

Although not as dark and well scripted as this programme, I experienced something similar many years ago.

I was looking for an assistant food and beverage manager for the hotel where I was the Food and Beverage Manager. A colleague of mine was aware of my search and put me in touch with an experienced and ambitious young man.

This guy was a very personable chap and had the qualities I was looking for. I took him on. The General Manager liked him as did the area director and soon he proved himself to be a good addition to the team.

He was always volunteering to take on some of my load and in return for his enthusiasm I imparted as much knowledge of the business and the operation in particu-

lar as I could.

Months went by and I was due a holiday, I hadn't had one for over a year and I was looking forward to it. I knew the place would be in good hands so I went with the confidence that all would be well in my absence.

Unfortunately while away I contracted some sort of virus and on my return was not able to go back to work for a further 10 days. When I eventually said that I was free to come back, I was informed that in my absence they had reorganised the hotel's management structure and - you guessed it! - my position was no longer!! I had been replaced!!

I had turned him into a mini me, he had met my clients, was playing tennis with the boss and generally making himself indispensable. The pole to success can be slippery, in order to climb it, it pays to have the right gloves!! Perhaps boxing gloves?

The irony of this story is, I met up with my nemesis a couple of years later. I asked how things were going and he told me a familiar story. He had done with another exactly what I had done with him. Trusted him, encouraged and taught. Obviously too well. Had he learnt anything? "Yes," he said, "don't be generous with your knowledge and play everything close to your chest" - 'et tu Brute?' comes to mind!!



DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE SMILE - Look behind it!!

Did I learn anything from this? Yes, never go on holiday because if you do, when you get back, the chances are you'll find someone sitting at your desk!!

THOSE READERS FROM the west of England may well remember Thornbury Castle just outside of Bristol. The castle was built as a residence in 1511 for Edward Stafford the then 3rd Duke of Buckingham. However the Duke ran into a spot of bother with Henry VIII being accused of treason and so met his demise at the end of the executioner's axe. Henry confiscated the house and used it himself, staying there in 1535 for 10 days on his honeymoon with new bride Anne Boleyn.

Following the English Civil War, the castle fell into disrepair, but was renovated in 1824 by the Howard family. Between 1966 and 1986 the castle was operated as one of the UK's top restaurants by Kenneth Bell MBE with staff that included a soon to be food writer Nigel Slater and now a MasterChef New Zealand judge Simon Gault, honing their culinary craft.

I first met Kenneth in 1974. No one deserved to be lord of the manor more than him. He had an air of aristocracy about him and was a fine mine host. He also has a major claim to fame in as much as that during his reign the hotel restaurant gained one of the very few Michelin stars in Great Britain at the time.



THORNBURY: Famous Grade 1 listed castle and hotel.

Kenneth retired after he sold the property for an undisclosed sum and it was eventually owned and operated by Van Essen Hotels. In 2011, following the administration of Van Essen Hotels, the property was on the market for 7.5 million pounds and was bought by Luxury Family Hotels as part of a 30 million pound purchase of a seven strong portfolio.

The castle is now for sale again for offers in excess of 8.5 million pounds. Set in 14 acres of landscaped grounds this 28 bedroom Grade 1 listed building has a two rosette restaurant and conference and banqueting facilities. So if your back pocket is bulging and you fancy being 'King of the Castle' then it's being marketed by Savills. I'll just go and check my bank balance!!

IN THIS WEEK'S WINE CORNER I am introducing you to a wine from one of my favourite white wine growing areas of Spain. Galicia! Most enthusiastic consumers will immediately know Rias Baixas famous for Albariño, but not all of our readers will know the other areas of denomination, Montereiro, Ribeira Sacra, Ribeiro and Valdeorras.

Galicia is a typically complex wine region, it has a variety of climates (Atlantic to Continental) and soil (granite to slate).

One of the most interesting of these areas is Valdeorras, the easternmost wine region of Galicia, where the best vineyards are planted on terraces on the steep sides of the Sil river.

Like many other wine regions in Spain, the area is being rediscovered by a new, young generation of talented winemakers, willing to make elegant wine with a sense of place. The two best in Valdeorras are Telmo Rodriguez and Rafael Palacios.

Rafael grew up in a wine family and, having left the family estate in 2004, settled in the Val do Bibei part of Valdeorras, where he works with terraced plots of Godello grape which are locally known as 'sorte,' some of which are 720 metres high. All vineyard work and harvest is done by hand - crippling, but rewarding, work.

The wine I am writing about this week is As Sortes. Made from a selection of the older vines of each plot, some of which are almost 100 years old, this wine is a benchmark for Godello. Structure, complexity, intensity, character, freshness... it has it all. It bears a great resemblance to Burgundy and I

am sure on a blind tasting even the most competent taster will be surprised to find out it that it's Spanish!

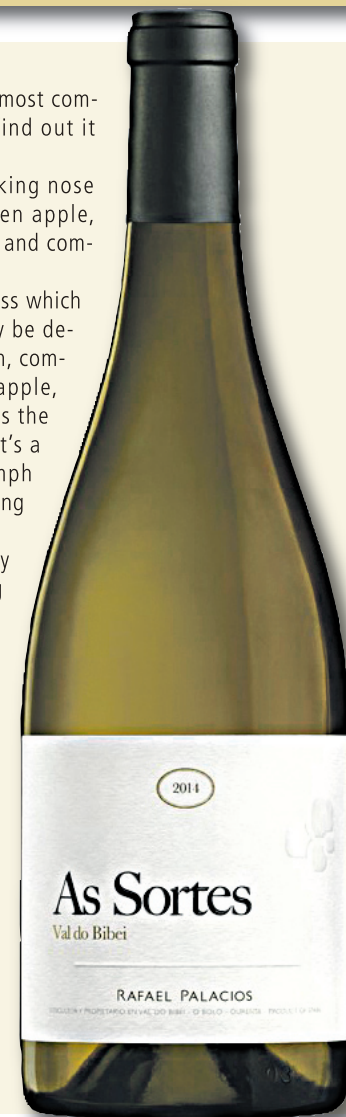
Tasting notes show it has a striking nose showing freshly podded peas, green apple, fresh pastry and toasty citrus - deep and complex but still fresh and inviting.

The palate has that pleasing oiliness which coats the mouth with what can only be described as an 'English garden' crunch, combining gooseberry, Granny Smith apple, and a mineral character that invokes the deep savoury flavour of black kale. It's a savoury, rich beauty that will triumph with food but is complex and satisfying enough to drink on its own.

It has some vintages, most notably 2014 which of course is still drinking well. Again it isn't cheap for a white wine, costing around 25/30€ a bottle.

I have said for a long time now that Spain is now producing astonishingly good wines to compete with some of the best in the world. It's hard to think that 30 odd years ago we seemed to be limited to Monopole, Marques de Caceres and Esmeralda. Having said that I do still try and avoid white Rioja!

**GALICIAN WINE:
With Burgundy
overtones.**



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.

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.

“ Success is born out of arrogance - but greatness comes from humility.
Marco Pierre White



OBSCURE OWNERS: Paid extra tax rather than reveal their identity.

Mystery owners raise eyebrows

By Matthew Elliott

THE cheapest property sold in the UK for a long time was a Birmingham house bought in January. The semi-detached with three bedrooms in Northfield sold for just £14,760 (€17,000). That's a far cry from the most expensive sale of 2017 so far, a Kensington detached mega-mansion that went for a startling £24.2 million (€28 million).

There are hundreds of super rich foreigners with homes valued at more

than €20 million in the UK capital. But, thanks to clever accounting, it's almost impossible to find out who they are.

In 2013 the government decided to put an end to the mystery and impose a huge tax on owners who masked themselves behind offshore companies and other smoke and mirror schemes. But most of the owners have elected to pay an extra €250,000 a year in tax rather than reveal their true identities.

Data from 2016 revealed that there

are 210 such properties in London alone, most sitting idle and empty while the mysterious owners stump up huge taxes. At anywhere from €20-120 million it is the property investment that counts, not pesky government charges.

Offshore companies now own almost all of London's most expensive properties. Police have investigated homes worth a combined €210 million for suspected involvement in money-laundering schemes.

Stronger than ever before

HOUSE prices in Spain saw their biggest annual rise since the bursting of the housing bubble in 2007. Complete data for 2016 is now in and makes for extremely optimistic reading.

Prices rose by a robust 4.7 per cent last year, well above the European average. It was the third consecutive year of growth and the best since 2007 when prices rose by 9.8 per cent. As recently as 2013 they had decreased by 13.7 per cent, which demonstrates the incredible improvements seen in the last three years.

New homes fared especially well last year, with prices rising by 6.5 per cent. The figures may still be some way off those seen in the boom years, but are more sustainable by virtue of their moderation.

At the end of the year the average value per square

metre stood at €1,512. In 2008 it reached a peak of €2,101. It may take some time to hit those numbers again but the broader health and global appeal of the Spanish property market is stronger than ever.

“ It was the third consecutive year of growth and the best since 2007.”

The new year has already begun well. House prices clocked a 1.8 per cent year-on-year increase in February. Foreclosures also saw a dramatic drop, 30 per cent lower in 2016 than in 2015, which points to the broader favourability of financial conditions for property investors

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Real estate ramps up

IN a surefire sign that Spanish residential real estate is set for some profitable times ahead, Bilbao-based construction company Neinor Homes plans to float 60 per cent of its share capital on the Spanish stock exchange.

Vast amounts of foreign investment flowing into the country has inspired the move. It represents the first time a residential property developer has gone onto the stock exchange in 10 years.

A statement from Neinor, which specialises in acquiring prime land

for development, said that international investors had a powerful vision for the recovery of the Spanish real estate sector, which continues its strong recovery.

The firm counts hundreds of developments and more than 9,000 homes among its assets, valued at more than €1 billion. Residential home construction in Spain has been humming along nicely in recent years, encouraged by spectacular growth in the commercial real estate sector.

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Ever heard of Lluçmajor? 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, Lluçmajor, 280,000€

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Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€

Semi-detached house with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with American kitchen, garden and roof terrace. 75m² living area.



Ref 3030, Randa, 290,000€

Townhouse with 40m² courtyard. 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, toilet, lounge, kitchen/diner, garage, 230m² 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 80m².



Ref 2997, Lluçmajor, 175,000€

Charming little chalet with 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bathroom, garage. Electricity with solar panels. House 73m², plus 25m² garage, plus 25m² covered terrace plus 30 m² storerooms.



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





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11655 Luxury New Villa in Santa Ponsa



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1,500m²



4



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This newly built villa is located on a 1,500 sqm plot in Santa Ponsa. The spacious constructed area of 507 sqm is distributed as follows: a guest apartment with bedroom and sun terrace and the possibility of a kitchenette, the basement with garage and turntable for 2-3 cars, additional toilet, heating room, barrier-free access to the lift and two parking spaces. The ground floor with the main entrance offers access to the lift, a 60 sqm room, which can be used as a gym or guest studio and has a WC and the possibility to install a kitchen. On the first floor there is the bright living area with fully equipped designer kitchen, the dining room, a guest toilet, a storage room, a merchandise lift, access to the panoramic lift, as well as a 40 sqm sun terrace. The second floor offers the master bedroom with dressing room, en-suite bathroom and terrace as well as two double bedrooms with private bathrooms. The two lifts are also accessible from the second floor. On the spacious roof terrace of 100 sqm there is a spacious chillout area with infinity pool and jacuzzi, TV cabinet and pre-installation of an outside kitchen and access to the merchandise lift. All rooms offer a breathtaking view of the Bay of Santa Ponsa. Only high-quality materials were used for this luxury villa.



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Cassandra Nash*A weekly look*- and not entirely impartial reaction -
to the Spanish political scene

ONLY paid-up Podemos members have much time for the party's secretary general Pablo Iglesias.

Given the way the political parties are organised, they have the last word even though sidelined Iñigo Errejón is preferred by Podemos-inclined voters. Almost 43 per cent would have voted for Errejón had they participated in last month's party conference, Sigma Dos pollsters found, compared with almost 26 per cent backing Iglesias.

It's no different with the PSOE socialists' ex-secretary general Pedro Sanchez. Revered by the aptly-named militants, he is planning a comeback, presumably to lead the party to another worst-ever defeat.

Sigma Dos also found that PSOE voters prefer Errejón, hardly surprising as they have nothing to thank the Podemos supremo for. If Iglesias had backed the PSOE instead of manoeuvring for a second general election in March 2016 Pedro Sanchez would now be Spain's president.

On second thoughts, perhaps Iglesias' strategy did us a favour.

Matter of choice



PABLO IGLESIAS: Podemos' secretary general.

Vote-catcher

SOLEDAD BECERRIL, a UCD minister back in the mists of time, is now Spain's Ombudswoman. She has asked the government not to automatically strip those with 'mental incapacity' of the right to vote.

Becerril could have a point as it's doubtful that they could sway a general election.

And voters from opposing political parties routinely accuse all but fellow-travellers of being mad anyway.

Grateful for all donations

PEDRO SANCHEZ hopes to be re-elected as the PSOE's secretary general but needs money to campaign for next May's primaries.

He is resorting to crowd-funding and it will be interesting to see whether the people who turn out to hear his speeches are willing to put their money where Sanchez's mouth is.

Stating the unobvious

THE fundamentalist Catholic group Hazte Oir (make yourself heard) cannot trundle round Spain with a bus emblazoned with the information that girls have a vulva and boys have a penis.

They also proclaimed that if you are born a man, you stay a man. If you are born a woman you will always be a woman.

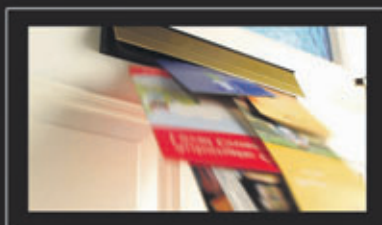
The bus has been banned as it could offend transsexuals although Hazte Oir will not surrender without a fight, they warn.

They claim that they are fighting for the right to educate their children according to their values, although no one appears to be stopping them.

Instead they have fallen into the classic Spanish trap of believing that what is not prohibited is compulsory.

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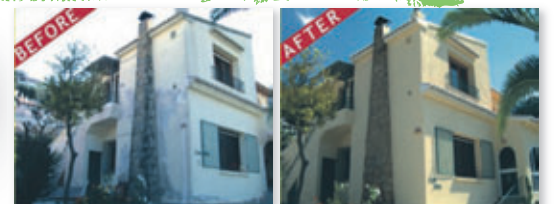
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Succession planting can show dividends

By Graeme Tyrrell

IT is time to start preparing the vegetable garden for the summer harvest. Planting earlier in spring than northern Europe gardens gives a great bonus when living in Spain.

The longer growing season allows for an extended period of harvest of tomatoes, capsicum, and a host of other popular and exotic vegetables. If you want to maximise production, the secret to a prolonged harvest is succession planting.

Succession planting is based on planting enough plants to produce what you need on a regular basis rather than the normal mass planting at the optimum time to fill the garden which creates a feast and famine harvest.

It does have some risks to plant early and late in the season with frosts or adverse weather affecting the production, but as only a small num-



CARROTS: Shown at different stages of growth.

ber are planted with each succession, it is a small risk to total production. Harvest is more useful when it is spread over a longer period and you can enjoy the fresh produce more regularly.

Succession planting can also be used to ensure your garden is always in production as

spent crops are replaced by the next seasonal crop.

I usually plant lettuce every month throughout autumn, winter and spring. I start planting tomatoes in March, usually just a few and plant more each month until August, changing the varieties from early to late in order to match planting

times. Some years it works well to have very early tomatoes, other years the first planting fails but the second is ready to start picking in just a few weeks. So I don't miss out on a harvest and always have as long a season as possible for the year.

It doesn't work with all vegetables to have monthly planting. I find cauliflower and broccoli tend to produce at the same time as those around them even if only young.

For these I don't plant too many and give a two to three month interval of planting.

The most successful monthly planting succession vegetables (when in season) are lettuce, beans, peas, corn, carrots, radish, onions, tomatoes, spinach, beets and other salad green.

It is best to add good compost and fertilise the soil between plantings of crops to maintain soil nutrition and

health of the ecology to maintain continuous production. It is also important to vary the succeeding crops so as not to

just have the same type of vegetable in the same garden beds by following the principles of crop rotation.

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Water an important feature

WHEN one visits a number of the properties built by the Moors in Spain, it becomes obvious that water played an incredibly important role in life at the time, with its catchment not only being a method of survival, but its very existence being a pleasure.

Whilst current properties do not allow for a modern riad and pool within the home, it is still perfectly possible to place a small water feature within an apartment or house and the sound of water can be both comforting and surprisingly pleasant.

If you have a garden, the options are much greater and a pond or fountain isn't just something to look at, but can add moisture to the air on a hot day and attract brightly coloured birds and dragonflies.



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Leo the Lion embarks on 'last chance' proton beam cancer therapy

BRAVE cancer fighter four-year-old Leo Bermejo from Almeria has begun his 31 sessions of proton beam therapy in Oklahoma.

It follows his recent brain tumour operation in the Alder Hey Children's Hospital in the UK.

Doctors at the ProCure clinic have decided that Leo needs full brain and spine proton therapy with a boost to the tumour bed.

The proton sessions, which will be given Monday to Friday, will involve approximately six weeks of treatment and, if all goes to plan, Leo could be back in Spain by the end of April.

Speaking exclusively to the *Euro Weekly News* from the States, mum Karen said: "His first treatment took just over an hour. He was quite groggy afterwards and was saying 'ouch' and pointing to his head. It is difficult to know if he was really in pain or

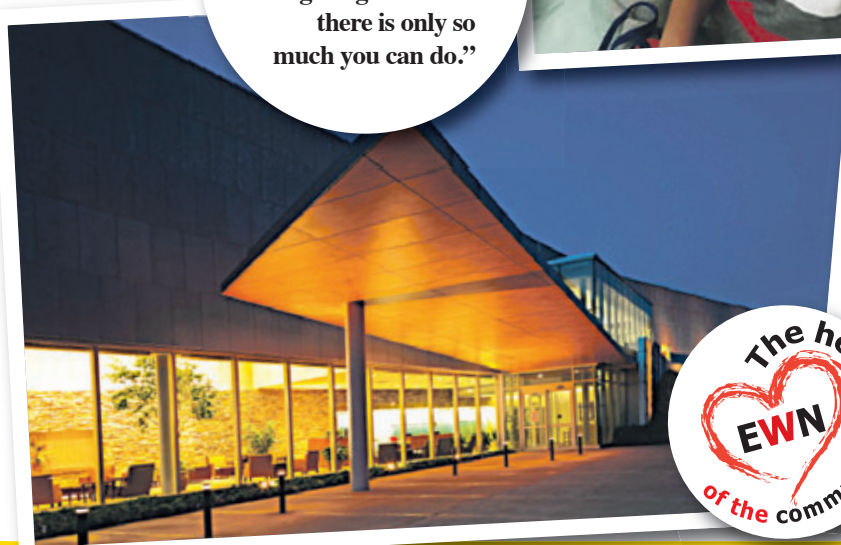
not, but he shouldn't be with the treatment."

She added: "There is a chance that Leo's tumour does not respond to radiation, nobody knows until they try.

"If this is the case then there are no more treatment options, except another possible trial in Florida for children that have got to that stage.

"I do not know if another tumour comes back if we continue fighting or what... there is only so much you can do."

BRAVE LEO: In Oklahoma.



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Stop press! Is Theresa May after a hard Brexit or soft crexit?

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

NEWS that Theresa May is giving up crisps for Lent - salt and vinegar variety, since you ask - made me wonder what else people are giving up.

Is Jeremy Corbyn giving up trying to lead the Labour Party, or is that just the impression he seems to give? And, as for Sir Philip Green, is he giving up £363 million to hang on to his knighthood? Reports that the retail billionaire had a scrabble down the back of the sofa on one of his many yachts to bail out the BHS pension scheme in a deal to salvage his reputation - and keep his gong - positively makes his the most expensive knighthood in history. (Will David Beckham be reaching for his chequebook now too?)

A knight of the realm who's already opened his chequebook is Sir James Dyson, a self-made billionaire who's putting billions back into the economy, innovating and creating thousands of new jobs. Unlike Sir Philip, also a self-made billion-

aire, but most of whose money has ended up in Monaco and not in the UK where thousands of people have lost their jobs. We could do with many more like Sir James and fewer like Sir Philip.

Someone else who seems to have given up something for Lent - in his case, common sense - is the Royle Family actor, Ricky Tomlinson, who's accused the 'most indiscreet'

late TV Countdown presenter, Richard Whiteley, of being an undercover agent for MI5, having helped jail him and other striking workers in the 70s (the jury having been 'swayed' by an ITV documentary featuring him, *Red Under the Bed*, fronted by Whiteley). A true Kremlin conundrum...

Finally, and back to Mrs May's crisps, if you take a packet and scrunch the contents to tiny bits (soft crexit?),

you'll have no problem giving them up - not just for Lent but for life. Ugh!

I find a far better way is to give yourself a 100 per cent chance of success and guaranteed bragging rights. Which is why I've decided to give up broccoli for Lent. I hate broccoli. Always have.

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



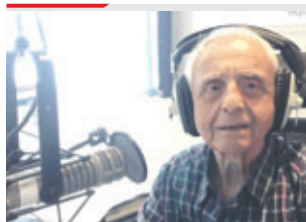
THERESA MAY: Giving up crisps for Lent.





TOP DOG: It has to be established which dog is the new leader of the pack.

Group hierarchy



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I HAD a call from a gentleman that informed me he had put his Dobermann to sleep due to illness, the dog was 12 years. Of course he was devastated. They have another four dogs.

A few nights later they were in bed when they heard terrible fighting going on downstairs.

The Cocker Spaniel had nearly bitten one dog's nose off and they were all injured. Reluctantly he took the Spaniel to the vet and put the dog to sleep. He explained that the Spaniel looked at him as if to say Dad why are you doing this? The man was in a terrible state and called me to ask if he had done the right thing.

I immediately said no. The pack hierarchy had changed and sometimes this causes fights. If dogs start fighting dogs it has to be established which dog is the new leader.

The new top dog is to be loved 10 times more and fed first. We keep using his name and touching and cuddling him as a favourite. We are showing this dog that he is a top dog.

The fighting then stops. However I would stress that

this does not work with fighting females. There is no known way to stop fighting and terrible injuries. Best to rehome one of them.

When a dog places his paws and chest on the hindquarters of another dog like mounting this is normal and common canine behaviour. In most cases, it is NOT a sexual behaviour unless the dog is thrusting. In young puppies, it is a play behaviour. In older dogs, it is a method of communication, the dog who is mounting the other dog is generally displaying dominance.

Quite often owners who have brought another dog into the family get upset when they see the younger dog mounting or biting the rear legs of the resident dog. It is best not to correct the behaviour, it is very normal.

No more docking

PARLIAMENT has passed approval of an amendment to a proposed loophole in Spain's adherence to the European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals which would have allowed tail docking to continue.

Approved in Strasbourg in 1987, the convention guarantees a basic animal welfare legislation for its member states and, while most countries joined it in the 1990s, the Spanish government was not only doing so 30 years late but also wanted to dodge the docking ban, Equo MP Juan Lopez de Uralde reported.

This is not to be, however, as all political parties except the Partido Popular have agreed that the PP's intention to pass on article 10 of the convention is unacceptable.

Speaking to parliament, the Equo MP argued that docking "is not an innocuous practice" for animals as it "causes them pain, chronic health problems, locomotion difficulties and even limits their capacity for communication."

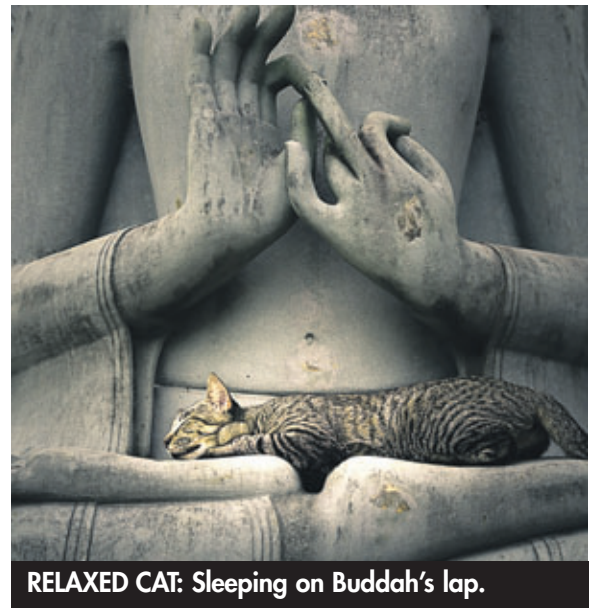
"Amputating dogs' tails for aesthetic reasons is a practice which should be eliminated as it has serious consequences for the animal," he added.

Funny Travel Photo Competition

FROM time to time we love you to share your funny animal or travel photos with us.

Our current competition requests that you share your funny travel photos with us and our newsletter readership. The photo must be one that you have taken so you own the copyright. Also it must have an animal featured in the picture somewhere, or an amusing scene you witnessed while travelling. Please name your location and tell us what you find funny about this picture. Then we'll let you know if we agree and add you to the competition entries!

To enter you'll need to email your picture to us at admin@housesitmatch.com and title your email 'ENTRY Funny Travel Photo Competition.' The best three will win a Free Premium HouseSitMatch annual membership either homeowner or housesitter - you choose. If you are already a member of



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Dog judge is slammed over no frills request

THE dog grooming world is up in arms over a ban on bows for shih tzus at Crufts dog show.

An experienced judge of the breed, Pat Maule, took to a Facebook group to ask those intending to show their dogs to use: "plain elastic band holding the topknot only please," inadvertently offending breeders all over the world.

The request was in accordance with UK Kennel Club regulations, which were changed in November 2016 to state: "it is strongly recommended that the hair on head is tied up without adornment."

Yet breeders in other countries, where bows and adornments are not frowned upon, harshly criticised the judge and questioned her abilities, lead-

ing her to make further statements to the press: "I'm supposedly unable to judge under a bow. I've been awarding certificates for 26 years and have more experience in the breed than most. In America the bow is used to hide faults from

judges and we don't want that in the UK," she told *Dog World* magazine.



TOPKNOT: But plain elastic band only please.



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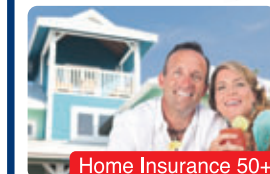
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Clarkson
Quote of the Week

“On the Corvette Z06 “As something to live with every day, I’d rather have bird flu.”

Some might say...



Motoring shorts

Aston’s new car models

ASTON MARTIN is designing a new mid-engined supercar to take on the McLaren 720S and Ferrari 488 GTB.

The car is earmarked to launch in 2021, two years after its first mid-engined model, the Valkyrie, hits the market in 2019.

It will be built in Gaydon, Warwickshire, alongside the DB11, the Vantage, due to be replaced by a sportier version later this year, and the Vanquish, which is scheduled to move into front-engined supercar territory in 2018.

Also in the pipeline is the DBX SUV, which will be constructed at the company’s new factory at St Athan in Wales.

In addition there will be two Lagonda models with a saloon due in 2020 and an SUV in 2022.

Concept and classics

By Matthew Elliott

SOME of the most outlandish concept cars seen in the 21st century made their debut as the 2017 Geneva Motor Show got into full swing.

Though most of the concepts will always be mere ideas rather than reality, they offer a fascinating glimpse into the future landscape of the motoring industry.

Among them were the Jaguar I-

Pace, the conceptual forerunner to the firm’s first fully electric vehicle.

From Mercedes was a new GT concept, an AMG powered by a 4.0 litre v8 twin-turbocharged engine with an electric motor. Theoretically it can hit 100kph in less than three seconds.

There was the Peugeot Instinct, which brings the ‘Internet of Things’ into the driver’s seat with a speech-enabled personal assistant and both au-

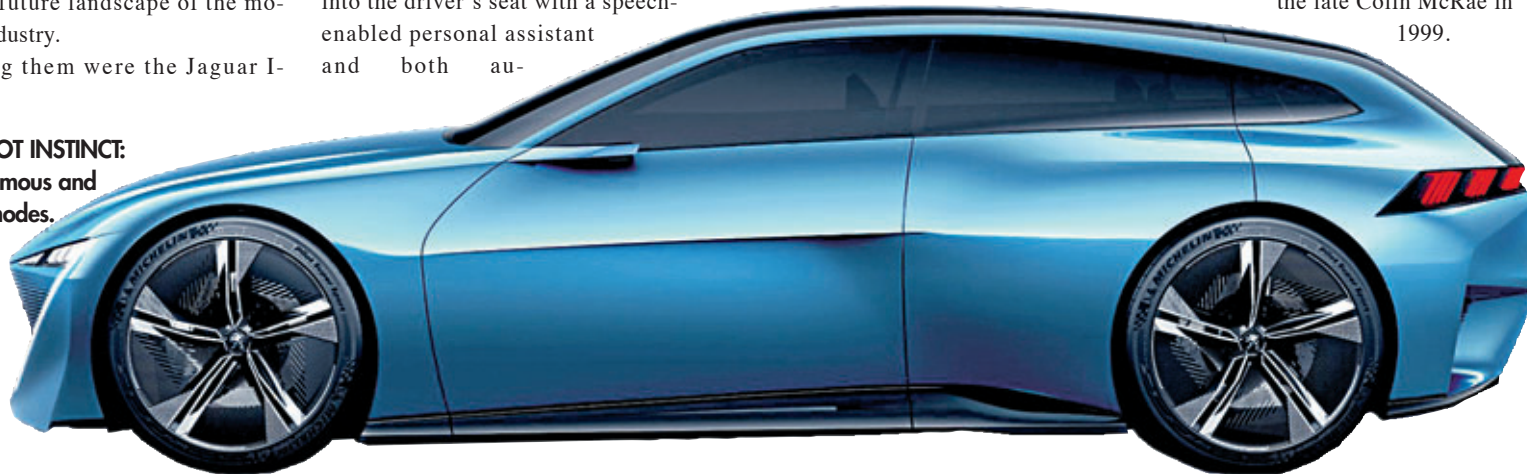
tonomous and drive modes. Renault raised eyebrows with a lightweight electric four-wheel drive made of carbon fibre and kevlar boasting Formula E standard controls.

But it wasn’t just the future being represented at the show. The retroverse was on full display too with a rollicking repertoire of Fords, Mon-

teverdis, Mercedes and Porsches reaching out to classic fans.

A 1968 Mercedes-Benz 280 SL Pagoda stood out with its fresh red paintwork. There was a 1963 Porsche 901, a Monteverdi High Speed 375 C, first unveiled in 1971 and now lingering in a Swiss museum, and a Ford Focus RS WRC originally built for the late Colin McRae in 1999.

PEUGEOT INSTINCT:
Autonomous and drive modes.



ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

The Subaru Outback off-roader

THE Subaru Outback is a formidable off-roader which is also very good to drive on the tarmac, making it ideal for those whose lifestyle mixes urban and rural activities.

It is quite refined to drive, is well equipped, looks smart and classy and Subaru has an excellent reputation for reliability so it ticks many boxes for potential buyers, with prices starting from €37,844 (£32,680).

While the 2.0 litre diesel will be the choice of many, those seeking sharper performance can have the 172 hp 2.5 litre petrol model which still offers 14.3 kpl, pretty good for such a large vehicle, and this version – the Outback entry-level model – was the one I tested.

It is labelled SE Lineartronic and has CVT auto transmission with all-wheel-drive, and delivers a top speed of 209 kph and a 0-100 kph time of 10.2 seconds – quick by class standards.

Underway, this engine pulls smoothly and quietly and the CVT box changes with minimal

fuss. With nicely-weighted steering too, everything combines to give a refined drive on smooth surfaces, though on heavily-potholed roads, you do feel the bumps. The Outback also feels quite nimble in town, easy to handle and park.

On the open road it corners well and while, as with most vehicles in this sector, there is an element of body roll, it is well-controlled with reassuring grip and the overall ride quality is very good.

The exterior of the Outback makes a strong and quite classy visual statement, and while the cabin is laid out for functionality rather than style, its understatement is no detriment to the overall good impression.

There is plenty of room for five occupants, and the boot space of 559 litres (expanding to 1,848 litres) is substantial.

This entry-level version comes with an extensive standard equipment list which includes alloy wheels, roof rails, powered tailgate, sunroof,

body-cladding, touchscreen infotainment system, Bluetooth, satnav, Starlink connectivity, adaptive cruise control, climate control, leather upholstery, auto

emergency braking, and engine stop-start. The Outback comes over as a well-built no-nonsense contender with plenty of standard kit and Subaru’s top repu-

tation for dependability.

Model tested is UK-specification and equipment levels and prices may vary in other markets.

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EWN hits the track with *SPV Racing*

By Matt Ford

EURO WEEKLY NEWS publisher Steven Euesden was able to fulfil a lifetime ambition on Sunday, March 12, as he took a Ligier JS P3 European Le Mans Series car for a spin around the Mike G Racing Circuit in Guadix, Granada.

Having been invited to try out the Ligier due to his close relationship with track owner Clive Greenhalgh, Steven certainly did not disappoint as he clocked some extremely fast times.

Also putting his pedal to the metal was champion freestyle skier and notorious petrolhead Jon Olsson, who will be one of the team's drivers in this year's Creventic Prototype Endurance Series after competing in several Gumball Rallies.

The Swede is currently sponsored by Red Bull, has picked up numerous medals in the Winter X Games and clearly relishes an adrenalin rush since he has owned a series of modified supercars, including a Lamborghini Murciélago LP 640 with a ski box strapped to the roof!

Having completed his warm-up laps in the 260 BHP Radical SR3 rs, a British-manufactured two-seater which competes in the International Automobile Federation's C3 class, a visibly tense Steven took his seat in the Ligier

“ SPV featured in both the European and Asian Le Mans Series in 2016 and this year will enter the Creventic Championship.

following detailed pep talks by SPV's Lars GV Linberg and Raul Garcia Isern.

The pre-heated tyres were fitted and the impressive 430 BHP Nissan-powered car, complete with *EWN* livery, was wheeled onto the track where Steven was finally able to fire up the incredible-sounding 5-litre V8 engine.

As an excited Team *EWN* watched on, he gradually reduced his lap times as his confidence increased, with the SPV pit crew clearly impressed by his skills behind the wheel after he and Jon posted very similar best laps.

As he stepped out of the car, a grinning and emotional Steven could only manage a single word: "Awesome!"

The Ligier is one of several owned by SPV Racing, a relatively new Spanish and Swedish team formed in 2015 through an alliance between Spirit Racing and SPV Motorsport.

SPV featured in both the European and Asian Le Mans Series' in 2016, and will this year enter the Creventic

Championship, a series of four 12-hour races in France, Belgium and Italy.

The team have also been running a Ford-sponsored Mustang in the NASCAR Whelen Euroseries, which last year was driven by former Toyota F1 test and reserve driver Borja Garcia.

Their ambition is to take the step up to LMP 2-series racing in 2018, before taking on the infamous 24 Hours of Le Mans in 2019.

Massive thanks from Steven, Michel and Team *EWN* to everyone at the Mike G Racing Circuit and SPV Racing for a brilliant day, and watch this space for more news about their progress in upcoming editions of the *Euro Weekly News*.



JON OLSSON: Skiing star and team driver with Steven.



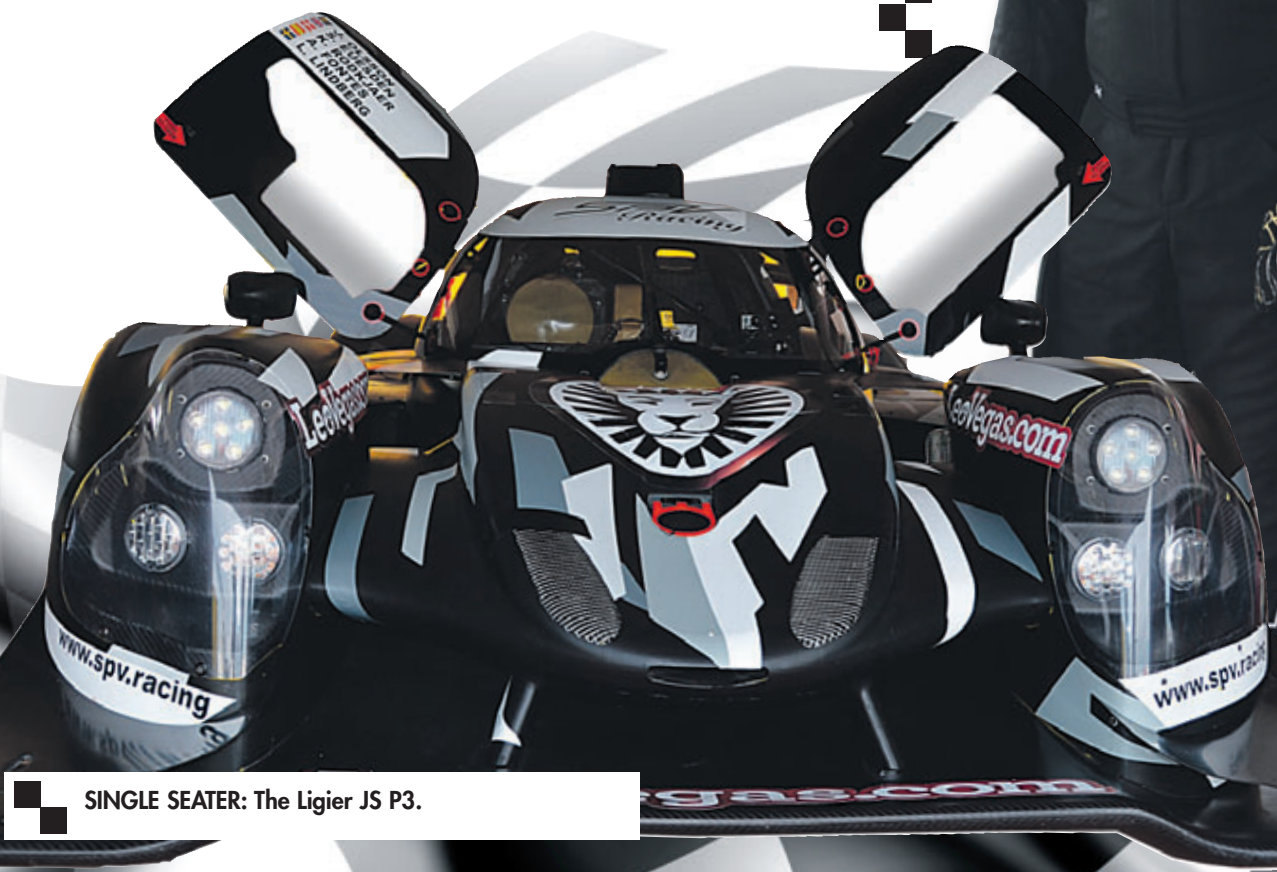
PENSIVE: A visibly tense Steven.



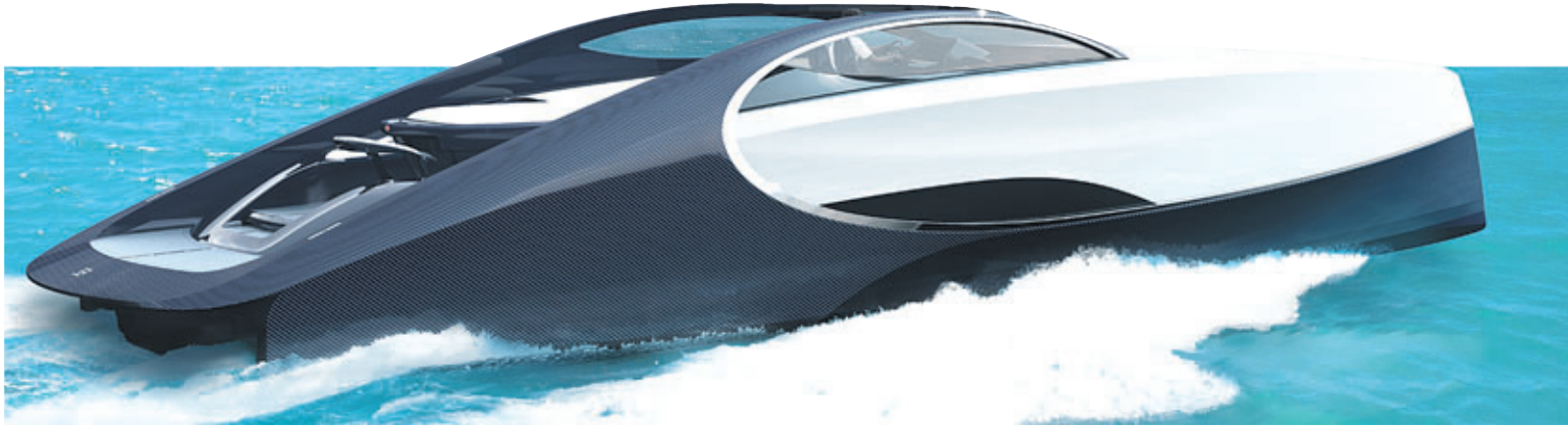
PEP TALK: Prior to taking his seat.



TEAM EWN: Provided support.



SINGLE SEATER: The Ligier JS P3.



BUGATTI NINIETTE 66: The first in a new series of yachts being launched.

Bugatti and Palma Johnson launch yacht to match Bugatti

THE makers of the world's fastest, most powerful, and luxurious production super sports car, Bugatti, and the one of world's most innovative motor yacht builder, Palmer Johnson, have announced the release of the Bugatti Niniette 66. This will be the first in a new series of yachts, ranging from 15 to 25 metres long.

The Bugatti Niniette 66 is designed to be a perfect match for the Bugatti Chiron which is also a limited edition with only 500 being built. The Chiron is the world's fastest production car, which, although electronically limited to 261 miles per hour it can reach 290 miles per hour without the limiter. Two 1,000-horsepower MAN V8-1000 engines are paired with Marine Jet Propulsion water jets to propel the Niniette to a maximum speed of 44 knots.

"The challenge was to create an experience and a persona as much as a yacht, from streamlined luxury, sophisticated style and unprecedented quality. For owners of tomorrow, Niniette will lift your expectations of life even higher," explains Timur Mohamed, CEO of Palmer Johnson.

Bugatti does have a boat-building heritage. Austrian Prince Carlo Maurizio Ruspoldi commissioned founder Ettore Bugatti to build a one-off speedboat in 1930. Bugatti

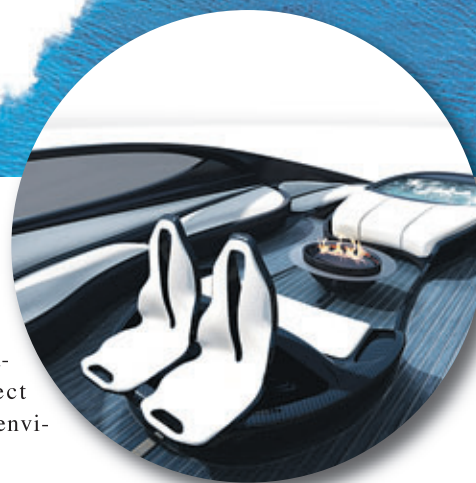


PERFECT YACHT: For speed in multiple environments.

named it Niniette after his youngest daughter's pet.

"The Niniette is a genuine member of the Bugatti family," explains Etienne Salome, design director at Bugatti. With its accentuated centre line and the duotone colour split of

the exterior, it encompasses key elements of Bugatti's heritage. The yacht is also built to cruise on shallow waters, making this the perfect yacht for speed in multiple environments.



Luxury yacht explodes in the Virgin Islands

LIMITLESS, a 30-metre Hargrave luxury yacht, was engulfed by fire off the island of Virgin Gorda, part of British Virgin Islands. The yacht was at the anchorage near the island, when the flames erupted from a short circuit of electrical appliances.

"It was very much an en-

gine room fire," said Carson Reddick, the first mate and son of captain Jim Reddick.

"My son grabbed his radio and said, 'Fire, fire, fire, engine room fire, fire.' That is exactly what you need to do," Jim Reddick said.

The flames engulfed the whole yacht, but the captain

and crew escaped safely by jumping into the rough waters of the Caribbean Sea. In total there were 10 people on board the yacht, all reportedly without injuries after abandoning the ship. Nearby boats came to the rescue of the overboard men.

From the moment the fire

was discovered to the moment the yacht blew up was only around four and half minutes. Quick thinking and years of experience led to captain demanding everyone abandon ship, which saved their lives.

"We all worked together. This is more of a story of

very good teamwork and camaraderie and leadership, good decision-making under pressure," Carson Reddick said.

The British Coast Guard called it a textbook evacuation. It is one of the largest boat fires in the history of the British Virgin Islands.

Boaty McBoatface on a mission

THE remotely operated underwater research vessel is preparing for its first research mission, an expedition into "some of the deepest and coldest abyssal ocean waters on earth."

Boaty McBoatface was the moniker that emerged in an online poll meant to name the newest research ship in the UK's Natural Environment Research Council fleet. The council opted to overrule the people's choice and named the ship the Royal Research Ship Sir David Attenborough instead.

As a consolation gesture, a smaller autonomous underwater vehicle was named Boaty McBoatface instead.

The RRS Sir David Attenborough is still under construction, but Boaty McBoatface is already in the waters. The British Antarctic Survey (BAS) explains that the submersible will be investigating "an abyssal current of Antarctic Bottom Water along the Orkney Passage," as part of an expedition that begins on March 17.

Boaty McBoatface will gather information on the intensity of turbulence in the Orkney Passage and provide information that could help improve climate change models. The Antarctic bottom water is dense and cold and contributes to ocean circulation worldwide according to the BAS.

"One of the most surprising features of the climate change that we are currently experiencing is that the abyssal waters of the world ocean have been warming steadily over the last few decades," according to professor Alberto Naveira Garabato. "Establishing the causes of this warming is important because the warming plays an important role in moderating the ongoing increases in atmospheric temperature and sea level around the globe."

Imps, Lions, Scotland and the Windies all got blown away!

Tony Matthews

International Sports

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

Costa de Almeria

FOOTBALL:

AFTER FAC semi-final and European last 16 action, which saw Arsenal hammer gutsy Lincoln City 5-0 in the former, having crashed 5-1 at home to Bayern Munich for a 10-2 aggregate Champions League defeat, Premiership fixtures return this weekend with Bournemouth v Swansea, Crystal Palace v Watford, Everton v Hull, Stoke v Chelsea, Sunderland v Burnley, WBA v Arsenal and West Ham v Leicester on Saturday, followed by Manchester City v Liverpool, Middlesbrough v Manchester United and Tottenham (fresh from a 6-0 FA Cup romp over Millwall) v Southampton on Sunday.

Tomorrow night, Bristol City play Huddersfield and

Sheffield Wednesday meet Reading in the Championship while on Saturday, promotion-chasing Newcastle visit Birmingham, Leeds play Brighton and Fulham entertain Wolves.

In FL1, Fleetwood play Wimbledon and Sheffield United (top) take on Charlton and FL2 leaders Doncaster visit Leyton Orient and Plymouth meet Morecambe.

SPL champions-elect Celtic travel to Dundee, Aberdeen play Hearts and Rangers (under new manager Pedro Caixinha) meet Hamilton.

We also have the second legs of the FA Vase semi-finals with Midlands clubs Bromsgrove Sporting and Coleshill Town sighting Wembley!

Earlier this week, Leicester (1-2 down) and Manchester City (5-3 up) played Sevilla and Monaco respectively in the return legs of their last 16 Champions League ties. Tonight Manchester United (level at 1-1) meet Rostov in their home Europa

League second leg encounter.

The Scottish Cup semi-finals will feature Celtic v Rangers (who drew 1-1 in the SPL last Sunday) and Aberdeen v Hibs while the FA Cup semi-finals (both at Wembley) will feature Arsenal against Manchester City and Chelsea against Tottenham Hotspur.

RUGBY:

On Saturday, we have the last three Six Nations matches of 2017: Scotland-Italy (1.30pm), France-Wales (3.45pm) and Ireland-England (6pm).

Last weekend, England, with seven tries, a Jonathan Joseph hat-trick and 26 points from Owen Farrell, crushed Scotland 61-21 in the Calcutta Cup to become the first country to claim back-to-back Six Nations titles. They also equalled New Zealand's record of 18 straight Test match wins and it was their biggest-ever over Scotland.

Twenty-four hours earlier, Wales beat Ireland 22-9 and France defeated Italy 40-18.

Wasps, Exeter and Saracens stand 1-2-3 in the Aviva PL, while in the Su-

per League, the top three are Wigan Warriors, Castleford Tigers and Hull.

HORSE RACING:

The Cheltenham Festival is underway. This annual event epitomises and encompasses everything that is great about NH racing, whilst delivering an unbelievable occasion as the best horses, jockeys and trainers battle it out for the highest racing honours.

On Tuesday, the big race was the Champion Hurdle (I fancied Petit Mouchoir); yesterday (Ladies Day) we had the Queen Mother Champion Chase and Coral Cup; today (St Patrick's Day) it's the stayers and novices hurdle races, followed tomorrow by the Gold Cup. Champagne West, trained by Henry De Bromhead and ridden (hopefully) by David Mullins, is my selection.

CYCLING:

Jess Varnish (26)

has stated she was the victim of a "cover-up... thrown under the bus" by GB Cycling.

Speaking for the first time since last April when she accused the governing body of sexism after being dropped from the elite programme, Varnish said she's now "relieved the truth is finally coming out." Former technical director Shane Sutton was said to have used 'sexist language' towards Varnish, but was cleared of eight of nine allegations against him.

CRICKET:

England 'white-washed' the West Indies 3-0 in the ODI series by winning the third game by 186 runs in Barbados. Alex Hales and Joe Root scored centuries as the Windies were simply blown away!

During his country's 259-run win over Bangladesh, Sri Lankan Rangana Herath became the most successful left-arm spinner

in Test cricket by taking his 366th wicket, overtaking New Zealand's Daniel Vettori's tally of 361. Only Pakistan's Wasim Akram (414) is ahead of Herath of all left-arm bowlers.

TENNIS:

Johanna Konta beat Heather Watson in the 'Battle of the Brits' in round two of the Indian Wells tennis tournament. However, GB's trio of Andy Murray, Kyle Edmund, Dan Evans all crashed out of the men's singles early on, Murray against qualifier Vasek Pospisil.

Five-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova will be unranked when she returns to action on April 26 in the Porsche Grand Prix in France after serving her suspension for testing positive for meldonium.

MOTORSPORT:

Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) was fastest in the final practice session before the F1 season starts later this month in Melbourne.

And sadly, John Surtees, one of the greatest participants in motor-sport and the only man to win both the F1 and MotoGP World titles, has died, aged 83. RIP.

ICE SKATING:

Scott Elise Christie won gold in the world 1,000m and 1,500m speed skating races in Rotterdam.

MARIA SHARAPOVA:
Returns unranked after suspension.

JONATHAN JOSEPH: His hat-trick of tries helped England beat Scotland.



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Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) was the fastest in the final practice session before the F1 season starts later this month in Melbourne.

TO READ MORE

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

El Toro RC win easy match against Menorca

EL TORO RC had an easy win over a depleted Menorca team who, although they only had 13 players, took the time to go across to Son Caliu for their return

Senior League match.

Injury unfortunately reduced Menorca's team to 10 so the match was cut short 10 minutes after the second half restart with a final score of 87 points to 0.

Shamrock RC had a tough match against an improved and more organised Bahia RC winning by 10 points to 20.

RC Ponent won easily in Es Figueral against bottom of the league Club Rugby Escolar.

Around 200 children, along with supporters, turned out for a day of rugby on a sunny spring Saturday in Son Caliu.

First up were the U14 teams and El Toro RC played their best match of the season winning against RC Ponent by 34 points to 29. In the other match

Babarians RC lost to Trepitjadors RC.

In the U12 games El Toro RC also

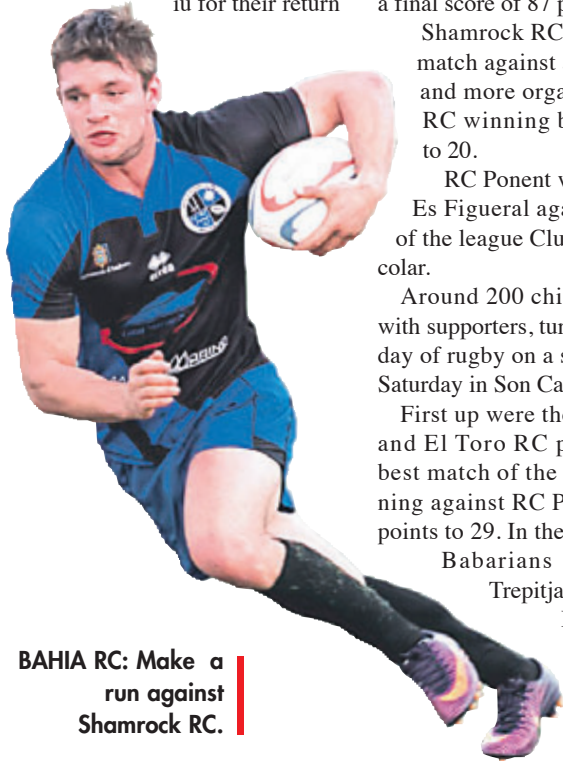
“ Injury unfortunately reduced Menorca's team to 10 so the match was cut short.

played well and won all their matches.

The Girls Seven's competition continued in Pollensa where El Toro RC girls were back on form winning both of their matches against Shamrock RC and Corsaris RC.

Matches coming up on Saturday in the Senior League will see El Toro RC away to Ibiza RC with kick off at 2pm and RC Ponent meet Menorca RC in Principes de España.

The Michel Rodier Trophy for the U16 and U18 teams continues in Son Caliu and the Balears U20 team play Madrid, also in Son Caliu. The girls teams play their next matches in the Seven's competition organised by Corsaris RC.



BAHIA RC: Make a run against Shamrock RC.



MENORCA TEAM: tackled from both sides by El Toro RC.



EL TORO RC: U12 team on form.

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