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INSIDE! PAGES 53 - 84 **PULL OUT**

All at sea

Battle over floating restaurant

By Jack Troughton

A replica of the historic Santissima Trinidad, a Spanish warship lost during the Battle of Trafalgar, has sailed into a new battle.

Moored in Alicante harbour, the floating restaurant and bar has hit a reef of safety regulations and the port authority is refusing to renew her licence.

The replica, modelled on a ship once the pride of Spain, has been tied up at Alicante since 2011 when it was towed from Malaga.

However, its licence has been revoked by the Port Authority of Alicante after the ship failed a safety inspection and must undergo dry dock repairs.

The concession ended last December and was being renewed on a monthly basis; the authority initially agreed to extend the licence until 2018 as long as the replica passed an underwater check.

Owners Santissima Trinidad SL planned to carry out work and convert the ship into a gastrobar to show off the best of local food and produce.

Company spokesman Rafael Ibanez complained: "They do not



PRIDE OF SPAIN: The replica of the Santissima Trinidad.

give us time for anything... we were willing to talk to the hotels and to the port authority if the problem was noise."

The original Santissima Trinidad was built in Cuba and launched in 1769 as a 112-gun

three-deck 'first rate' ship of the line. In 1796 her forecandle and quarterdeck were joined to create a fourth gun deck and she is fitted with 130 cannon, becoming the most heavily armed ship in the world.

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Currencies Direct

The solution to great currency savings is on page 47

NEWS EXTRA

Brutish brothers

FOUR brothers stand accused of robbing a Murcia card playing club with balaclavas, knives and axes. They stole betting pots, wallets and mobile phones from terrified players.

Easter joy

BRIGHT and sunny weather is set to continue over the Easter weekend with maximum temperatures of around 24-25 degrees by the coast and pleasant evenings with lows between 12 and 15 degrees.

Gypsy jam

WHILE the Semana Santa processions rage on, Elche's Roma population celebrated International Romani Day with proud Gypsy anthems and flags, paying tribute to the thousands who perished under Nazism.

Great escape

ANYONE who is looking to snap up a last minute Easter escape can take advantage of the 190,000 seats available on high speed trains from Alicante to Madrid and Barcelona and special deals which will last until Monday April 17.

Businessman's health boost of €30 million

By Matthew Elliott

SPAIN's richest man is set to help put the Costa Blanca at the forefront of cancer treatment and research; the Amancio Ortega Foundation is to contribute €30 million for doctors, oncological research and equipment in an unprecedented collaboration between the charity and public sector.

“ Each year there are roughly 200,000 new cases of cancer registered in Spain.

Amancio Ortega is a reclusive billionaire, once fleetingly the richest man in the world ahead of Bill Gates, he began his business empire with clothing giant Zara and is a renowned philanthropist.

The Foundation's agreement with the Valencian Health Service will dramatically improve radiology units in hospitals from Torrevieja to Eche, Alicante and Orihuela. The therapeutic capability of cancer

units across the region will be improved gradually until 2020, when they will be among the best in Europe.

Advanced technology will offer more precise treatment, enhance quality of life and increase survival chances. Research will also be conducted into possible cures and prevention strategies.

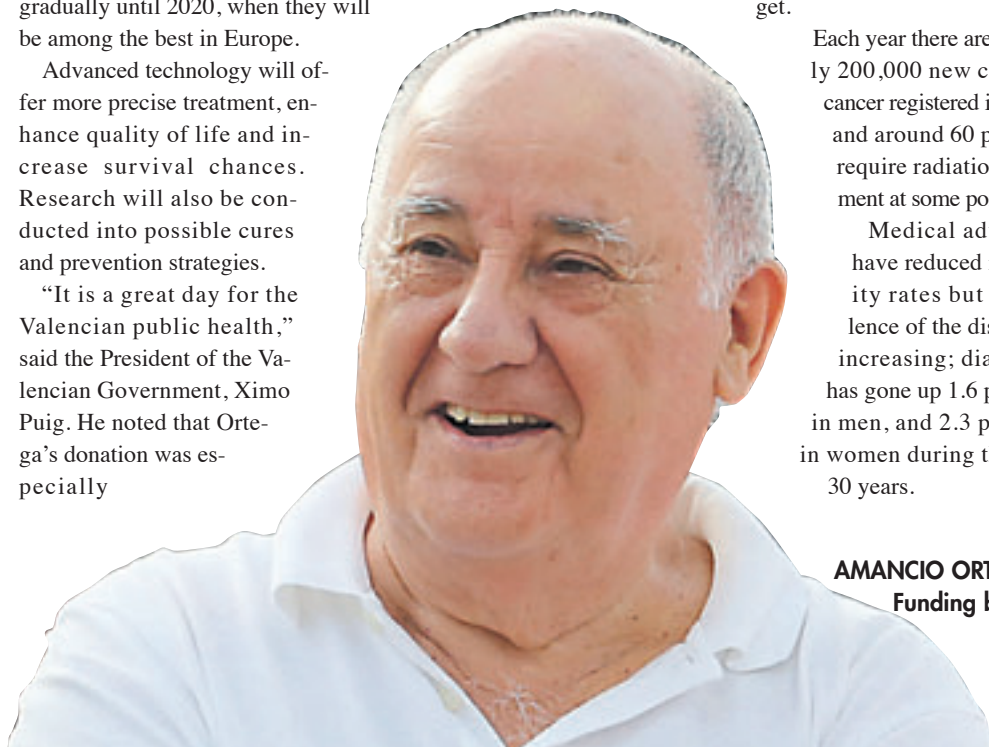
“It is a great day for the Valencian public health,” said the President of the Valencian Government, Ximo Puig. He noted that Ortega's donation was especially

timely given cuts to the state budget.

Each year there are roughly 200,000 new cases of cancer registered in Spain and around 60 per cent require radiation treatment at some point.

Medical advances have reduced mortality rates but prevalence of the disease is increasing; diagnosis has gone up 1.6 per cent in men, and 2.3 per cent in women during the past 30 years.

AMANCIO ORTEGA: Funding boost.



THE National Police have arrested 10 people aged between 23 and 55 in Santa Pola, Alicante.

The group is allegedly involved in the theft of homes and vehicles, employing the use of high-tech electronic de-

Busted burglars

vices which captured security codes and left no trace of the thieves.

Officers have so far linked 22 robberies across Andalucia, including

Malaga, to the detainees.

The investigation began in September 2016 and ar-

rests were carried out in two phases, firstly seven people of Russian and Ukrainian origin, and finished at the end of March with three men who committed crimes in Alicante and Murcia.

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Chemical crackdown

AFTER a two-year investigation, officers of the National Police have arrested 25 people and recovered half a ton of cocaine, 20 vehicles and €200,000 in a number of raids around Spain.

Having satisfied themselves that an operation was importing massive amounts of cocaine into Spain from Colombia and Mexico, officers were alerted to the movement of a number of senior members of the gang within Spain and undertook co-ordinated raids on 28 properties in different parts of the country, including Alicante.

In Madrid, they discovered sitting in a warehouse a huge volume of hollow bricks and using drills and sledge hammers broke them open and discovered the cocaine stored inside.

After the arrests, officers were able to verify that this gang was connected to the 62 kilos of cocaine which appeared last January on the beaches of Denia and Javea.

No mercy for wife killer

A DRUNKEN killer who savagely beat his wife to death will not be shown leniency for his confession or for being intoxicated at the time.

State prosecutors argue the ferocity of the attack at their house in Elche's El Altet means the Romanian defendant deserves a minimum of 18 years in prison.

The victim was also a Romanian national. She was said to have resorted to prostitution on the streets of the Costa Blanca.

One evening, her partner came home drunk and launched an unprovoked attack on her using his fists, a wooden board with a nail, and a wrench.

One neighbour reported seeing him later trying to seek help after the prolonged attack, screaming on the street that his wife was dying.

Feline furore

PUZZLED opposition politicians in Cartagena have voiced their con-

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...9

TAKE OFF AND LANDING... With more than 230 million passengers in 2016, Spanish airports are booming, and record-breaking numbers of tourists are expected to fly to or from the mainland and islands this year.



SPANISH AIRPORTS: Registered 2m flights last year.

Spain's jet set

A RECORD number of international visitors flew into Spain during 2016, and more than 80 per cent touched down at one of operator AENA's 46 airports.

Last year 75.6 million tourists visited the country, with 60.6 million travelling by plane.

Spain remains among the world's top holiday destinations for UK travellers, as more than 17.8 million holidaymakers arrived last year, with 11.4 million from France and 11.2 million from Germany comprising the three key markets.

Spanish airports registered two million flights last year, a 7.5 per cent rise on 2015, and the total volume of passengers increased by 11 per cent compared to the previous 12 months.

Madrid and Barcelona, historically Spain's rival cities, remain the busiest airports and intercontinental hubs. Adolfo Suarez Madrid-Barajas and Barcelona-El Prat airports are ranked fifth and sixth in the EU in terms of passenger numbers, behind London's Heathrow, Charles de Gaulle in Paris, Schiphol in Amsterdam, and Germany's Frankfurt Airport.

In Spain, airports serving popular holiday destinations make up the remainder of the 'Top 10' of the country's busiest commercial airfields, including Palma de Mallorca, Malaga, Alicante, Gran Canaria, Tenerife South, Ibiza, Lanzarote and Valencia.

Ghost in the airport machine

BUDGET carrier Ryanair came to the rescue of much-maligned Castellon Airport when it began flying from Stansted and Bristol to the Valencian destination in September 2015.

Officially opened four years earlier, the facility cost more than €150 million to build. Until scheduled Ryanair flights arrived, Castellon's runways were used only by flights chartered by football team Villarreal to travel to away matches.

Ciudad Real airport, located 235km south of Madrid, cost more than €1 billion to build and was designed to process 2.5 million passengers a year.



CASTELLON AIRPORT: It is hoped a sale comes to fruition.

Seen as a white elephant, it opened in 2008 but its independent operator went bust and it shut down in 2012. Spanish budget carrier Vueling was the

last airline to use the runway and it is hoped a potential €56 million sale, approved almost a year ago, eventually comes to fruition.

cerns regarding 'serious deficiencies' and alleged 'anomalies' in a council campaign to reduce the number of feral cats in the city.

The initial plan was to target individuals bearing injuries or illness, but according to the dissenters, the council has only been collecting animals 'from an area controlled by a local animal charity on an arbitrary basis,' without checking on the health or status of other colonies.

Lorry ban

MURCIA has banned all vehicles weighing more than 3,500kg from the city centre following the lorry attack in Stockholm when four people were killed.

The city is following the example set by Madrid, which frequently bans heavy goods vehicles during major public spectacles, in a bid to thwart a terrorist attack.

Murcia will also increase police inspections of all large vehicles as part of raised security for Semana Santa.

Flying dust

EXASPERATED parents decided to cut the day short and take their children home after a cloud of noxious dust descended on the Benalua school near Alicante Port.

A container ship that had been loading sodium carbonate for the previous two days was blamed for the thick mass of white particles after port authorities expressed their embarrassment.

Rancid 'environmental attack'

A SMELL emanating from the banks of the river Vinalopo is so foul that it has been described as an 'environmental attack.'

Socialist councillor, Fulgencio Cerdan, pulled no punches in his assessment of the problem.

He claims that neighbours first alerted him to the stench, near the Bulilla industrial estate, seven months ago. Yet the council, which even has Green party members, has done nothing to locate its cause or clean the

riverbed.

Cerdan went to investigate himself and believes that it is chemical leakage. The PSOE member fears that, with rising temperatures, the smell will only grow worse.

A wild and wet winter naturally cleaned the river, but locals can now expect heat and drought.

Just weeks ago the council organised a special day out to highlight the need to safeguard the river's ecosystems, a move now being perceived as rank hypocrisy given its

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Postscript to ponder

25.61 million

The number of vehicles recorded on Spain's 166,003-kilometre road network last year, which includes 17,021 kms of motorways.

Dead cub

A BEAR cub found dead without visible injuries by walkers in Somiedo Natural Park, Asturias, is thought to have suffered from shock after falling down a wooded slope.

Down to earth

A SMALL plane with engine trouble landed safely on a service station slip road of the AP7 at Cardedeu, shortly after taking off near Barcelona, without injuries to drivers or the pilot.

True cost

PIPELINE repair work could cost €7 million following the theft by illegal drilling - which heightened the risk of explosion and pollution - of 200,000 litres of fuel over the last two years in Huelva, Cadiz, Sevilla and Valencia.

Heaven's above!

WEAPONS and explosives from the Spanish Civil War have been found in a ceiling by workmen undertaking renovation of the Convent of Santa Teresa de Vic, Catalonia.

Tweet terror

CASSANDRA VERA, a 21-year-old student who recently sent 13 tweets showing contempt and mockery of



Postcard from TOLEDO



KNOWN as the 'City of Three Cultures' due to the co-existence of Christians, Muslims and Jews, Toledo is likened to an open air museum.

Once one of the main seats of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, Toledo as the capital of Castile-La Mancha was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986.

Tracing its roots to Roman times, it overlooks the River Tagus with visitors able to walk along its banks partly following the route of Don Quixote while witnessing some of the famous windmills.

Blades made from Toledo steel have become world famous although they are now offered more as touristic items alongside pottery and other artisan work in the old quarter.

After visiting any of the numerous museums and historical buildings, the area's gastronomic delights include partridge, pork and rabbit along with marzipan deserts.

A wide choice of modern hotels include some in historic buildings, but visitors need to consider that while summer temperatures can be very high, those in winter can drop to near freezing.

terrorism victims over the 1970's assassination of Spanish Prime Minister Luis Carrero Blanco has been sentenced by a Madrid court to one year, though she will not need to spend time in jail.

Gang held

FOUR gang members including a Bulgarian and his wife have been arrested suspected of stealing mainly cash and jewellery plus a gun in burglaries in Pamplona, Valencia and Zaragoza.

On menu

A SUITCASE left by a traveller from Malabo Equatorial Guinea while en-route from Madrid to Bilbao was found to include a dead monkey and two pangolins which were ready to cook.

Valencian assistance

A MERCADONA supermarket in Valencia is to donate enough food to the Sant Joan de Déu Serveis Socials organisation for cooks to prepare 100 meals each day. Last year the store and its customers donated more than 300 tons of food for the needy.

Shop blast

AN explosion in a Granada butcher's shop injured 10 people including a child who was cycling by.

Birthdays

• **Al Green, Singer, April 13, 71**
American R & B singer who had a string of soul hits such as Let's Stay Together, Tired of Being Alone and Take Me to the River. He is ranked at number 65 on the Rolling Stone list of the 100 Greatest Artists of All Time.

• **Robert Carlyle, Actor, April 14, 56**
Scottish actor who has featured in various TV shows such as Hamish Macbeth and Cracker. He has also starred in many hit films including Trainspotting, The Full Monty and Angela's Ashes. He used to work as a painter and decorator after leaving school without any qualifications at the age of 16.

• **Jeffrey Archer, Politician/Author, April 15, 77**

Former English politician who twice had to end his career in politics as a result of a scandal. The first was a financial scandal in the 70's which left him almost bankrupt and in 2001 he ended up in jail for perjury and perverting the course of justice. He is also a best-selling author whose books have sold around 330 million copies worldwide.

• **Pope Benedict XVI, April 16, 90**

Elected Pope following the death of Pope John Paul II. He reigned from 2005 until 2013 when he resigned as he felt he lacked "strength of mind and body" because of his age. He was the first Pope to resign from the position since Pope Gregory XII in 1415.

• **Victoria Beckham, Singer/Fashion Designer, April 17, 43**

Otherwise known as Posh Spice she is a former member of the hugely successful Spice Girls who married the equally famous English footballer David Beckham. She has also been a model and is now a successful businesswoman and fashion designer.

• **Jeff Dunham, Ventriloquist/Comedian, April 18, 55**

Comedian who is one of the most successful stand-up acts in America. He is also well-known for his ventriloquist act for which he uses a variety of characters including Walter, the grumpy old man, and Achmed the Dead Terrorist.



Numbers that add up to local life

1,237 refugees

have officially moved to Spain as part of the EU resettlement programme initiated last year.

380

projection rooms have closed since VAT tax increases on cinema films was introduced in 2012.

170 experts

from 20 countries are to meet in Granada to discuss the Solar Orbiter Mission planned next year to study the sun.

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OUR VIEW

ETA finally disarms for all

WHILE Britain suffered the attacks of the IRA, around 800 deaths in Spain have been caused by Basque terrorist group ETA.

Over a period of 40 years the organisation was also believed to have injured thousands of people and whilst it initially attacked politicians and police officers, it soon transferred its attacks to areas where tourists flocked.

In the same way that Tunisia and Turkey have lost thousands of visitors due to recent Daesh activity, Spain saw similar losses when the ETA attacks were at their height.

The past few years have seen a major softening of the position of ETA, brought about in part by the success that French and Spanish police have had in arresting militant members. In 2011, it declared a permanent truce with Spain, but the group still maintained its arms.

However, the group has now publicly confirmed that it has 'disarmed,' so at least there is one piece of positive news in what continues to be a world still suffering from conflict between groups with differing ideals and aims.

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Drunken Brits cause mayhem

TWO boozy Britons allegedly tried to mow down bouncers and partygoers outside a Costa Blanca nightclub after they were kicked out.

Terrified witnesses watched the men, yet to be named, drive at high speed towards the security enclosure of Velice Discoteca, in Torrevieja.

The car mounted the pavement, narrowly missing clubbers before racing away from the scene.

They were arrested by Guardia Civil officers following an early hours' manhunt across the city as dawn broke on Sunday April 9.

Fortunately, no one was believed to have suffered injuries; though possible victims may still come forward to testify.

Clubbers immediately called police. Soon, both Guardia Civil and Local Police units joined the hunt across Torrevieja for the suspects.

And when the car was later pulled over by Guardia Civil officers, the driver was found to be almost four times over the legal limit, with a test reaching 0.95 milligrams per litre.

It was claimed the pair had even switched seats in the car to try and throw the police off the scent, but the scam failed.

It is unclear what sparked the drama outside the nightspot but the suspects were said to have been furious over being thrown out.

The pair has appeared before a Spanish court and more details on the men including whether they are residents or tourists are expected soon. Full charges against the defendants have yet to be released.

A popular nightclub with some of Costa Blanca's best DJs, Velice is a new club a huge capacity, making it a minor miracle that nobody was killed or injured.

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Courts refuse religious release

JUDGES have denied requests from priests to release two prisoners as a gesture of forgiveness during Holy Week; the second year running that courts have intervened to stop a traditional rite of mercy.

Courts in Alicante and Elche rejected amnesty for two prisoners, both serving time for drugs offences.

In the Elche case the prosecutor's office argued against pardoning a man who had already been given two suspended sentences before finally being jailed.

Judges found that he had showed little regret, or made any substantial efforts to get clean. It would be against the best interests of the

Costa Blanca community to release him they argued.

Evidence was presented in this year's ruling related to an individual who, pardoned in 2013, had gone on to commit more crimes.

The Brotherhood of the Christ of Forgiveness, which performs important social work in the region's prisons said it was disappointed but remained undeterred.

It pledged to try again next year, in both cities in the hope of a change of heart. For 27 years, requested pardons were successful, but in recent years, judges focused more on public opinion and rule of law than religious custom, so justice has been done.

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Firefighters join up



Photo by Javea Town Hall

FIRE EXTINCTION: Firefighters during Javea's September fires.

By Linda Hall

THE Alicante Province Consortium of Fire Brigades is to receive an additional 94 firefighters.

The Consortium, which is attached to the provincial government, controls all the province's fire brigades; with the exception of Alicante City which has its own firefighting force.

The recruits will cover shortages caused by the decision tak-

en by all the province's brigades to no longer work overtime. They took the step in protest at the current lack of personnel and the failure of talks to find a solution to the problem.

The government admits firefighter's claims are justified, but says more time is needed to solve the shortages. A situation, firefighters have warned, that compromises the safety of the service they offer; which is

not helped by progressive ageing of staff, as more than 40 per cent are over 50.

Thirty-seven of the new intake will sit the selection process to become established staff while the remainder will be engaged on an interim basis.

Although the province's brigades have the minimum of operatives, the government insisted that both safety and the services firefighters provide are fully guaranteed.

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A slap in the face

ANGER has greeted the decision to award the Costa Blanca South leg of the heavily-hyped Mediterranean Corridor high speed rail just €2 million from a total €715 million investment.

Intended chiefly for heavy freight trains carrying valuable agricultural cargo, the completion of the super railway is expected to bring Mediterranean Spain billions in income as it gains quicker access to the European market.

Regions like the southern Costa Blanca are increasing-

ly beginning to rely on the project's success. But Valencia and Barcelona, both also on the route, are enjoying the lion's share of investment. In 2017 almost €1 billion will be spent on the corridor, which aims to connect Atlantic Cadiz with France, but a paltry €2 million is destined for the stretch between Almeria and Alicante.

The decision has further antagonised south Costa Blanca politicians who already feel that Madrid and Barcelona are putting their interests first and leaving the Costas behind.

Arsonist attempts wildfire

POLICE are hunting for an arsonist who torched a pine forest reserve forcing firefighters to prevent an environmental catastrophe. The blaze was set at precisely the same point as another fire which targeted the reserve, near Torrevieja's La Mata beach.

Fortunately, wreckage from the previous fire stopped the flames from spreading to the rest of the park. It provided an essential barrier that ultimately protected the 20 hectares of prime pine trees, dunes, artificial lagoons and a restaurant which make up the natural park.

A passing neighbour immediately called emergency services upon seeing the blaze. Police and firefighters found matches and two bottles of flammable liquid dumped at the site.



LA MATA: Gorgeous natural park threatened by arsonists.

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Easter security is on high alert

ANTI-TERRORISM patrols across the Costa Blanca South are at their highest levels in history as they help protect residents from potential threats during the Easter festivities.

All of the main processions in Murcia, Elche, Torrevieja, Orihuela and Alicante will have heavily armed officers

deployed along the routes.

More than 4,000 specially trained anti-terrorist agents will patrol streets across the province. In Alicante alone there will be 1,500. They will remain in place and on guard until Easter Sunday April 16.

Although there have been no specific threats against the Costa Blanca, or any oth-

er Spanish region, the police are prepared for the worst.

Armed police will escort an estimated 30 processions and may divert traffic without prior notice. Residents can expect temporary obstacles to be placed around streets, enhanced drug and alcohol check points, and major delays until the party is over.

Rise of the singletons

THERE are now more single people living in the Costa Blanca South than there are couples with children; as major demographic changes are exposed by the latest release from Spain's National Institute of Statistics.

Across the greater province there are 517,000 singletons living alone, compared to some 330,000 families with young children.

Sociologist Raul Ruiz Callado from the University of Alicante attributes the change to rising life ex-

pectancy, more childless couples, and more independent pensioners.

“ Longer lives mean loneliness without family.

Traditionally, widowed parents would move in with their adult children. Today more and more prefer to maintain their own house; while there are many who simply can not move in with

adult children who have no proper home of their own or who live far away.

Researchers believe this is connected to greater incidences of loneliness as communities are fragmented into single-resident homes.

Divorce is also an issue as Spain veers towards British and American levels of legal separation; young couples are also delaying having children, putting careers first, and wanting to save enough money to get on the property ladder.

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NEWS EXTRA

Slim drink

RESEARCHERS at Elche Hospital are exploring the possibility that obesity is largely caused by particular intestinal microflora and might therefore be reversed by a designer probiotic drink.

Gym show

THOUSANDS of young athletes performed gymnastics routines for the 10th Classic Olympics of the Vega Baja while perfectly choreographed parades carried the Olympic torch around Catral sports centre.

Tram trouble

TROUBLED tram drivers have voted to go on strike. The Murcia men want more family-friendly hours and will strike on weekends and holidays to protest, possibly as early as Easter Sunday April 16.

Cross to bear

THE number of British expat volunteers has fallen so much that a religious effigy in one of the biggest Easter processions on the Costa Blanca has to use wheels to support its manpower.

A reduction in expat numbers means a spectacular Torrevieja Easter parade simply no longer has the 85 men needed to support the cross.

Since 2004 the Holy Monday and Good Friday parade conducted primarily by local British traders, chiefly Anglican, has been one of the defining sights of the Costa Blanca's Easter celebration.

In previous years the showcase of the Costa's melting pot society could count on at least 85 men to carry the cross. But this year only 50 were available. President of the brotherhood, Jesus Sanchez, has blamed old age and emigration for the dwindled numbers.

Many of the religious Brits are in their 80's while others have unfortunately passed on. The financial crisis has also left a serious impact in Torrevieja. The number of registered British residents is now just above 5,000, down from more

than 12,000 in 2007.

As a result the procession will now use wheels to assist the 50 costaleros, who will no longer be able to raise the throne above their shoulders. The declining influence of religious tradition in younger generations makes it unlikely that numbers will increase much by next year.



Photo by Keith Williamson, Flickr

DEVOTED: Torrevieja's International Cofradia carry the effigy.

Even more delays on the roads

FED up local residents can expect even more delays as one of the Costa Blanca South's most important roads once again becomes a topic of political satire.

Plans to expand the busy N-332, doubling its breadth to reach motorway size, have hit another snag.

Mayor of Torrevieja, Jose Manuel Dolon, was forced to admit that there simply was not space to properly expand the road. His revelation comes on the eve of repair works, which have been needed for over a decade.

A notorious blackspot, the highway is used by over 30,000 cars a day during summer, with slow traffic because of single lanes in both directions

Funding the road's expansion is a saga unto itself, with arguments between Torrevieja, Alicante provincial government and Madrid over who should bear the brunt of the cost.



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The UK government's Spring Budget introduced the 'Overseas Transfer Charge' – an immediate tax on certain transfers to offshore pension schemes.

Previously, expatriates could move UK pension funds into a Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme (QROPS) without paying UK tax. This applied regardless of residency or where your QROPS was based, unless your total funds exceeded the lifetime pension allowance (currently £1 million). Since 9th March, however, under certain circumstances the UK taxman can automatically claim 25% of funds being transferred – of any value.

Who will this affect?

The good news is that most expatriates in Spain will be unaffected. You will not be liable if both you and your QROPS are in the European Economic Area (EEA), or you are both based in the same country.

Currently, the EEA includes all 28 EU member states (incorporating Gibraltar) plus Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein. So generally only those moving UK pensions to excluded jurisdictions in which they are not resident – like Switzerland, Guernsey or Monaco – face liability.

The five-year liability trap

Transferred UK pension funds

Don't lose a quarter of your pension pot to the UK taxman



By **Robert Croizat**,
Senior Partner,
Blevins Franks

remain taxable by HMRC for five full tax years. So if your circumstances change to bring you in line for the transfer tax, you could still face a 25% tax bill on the transferred value. This could happen, for example, if you become tax resident in a non-EEA area within five tax years of transferring.

It could also apply if you move funds from a QROPS to another scheme (an

'onward transfer') that does not meet the criteria for tax-free transfers. Other than being based outside the EEA, a pension scheme could invite tax penalties for allowing members to access their funds under the UK age limit of 55.

Note that the five-year clock starts ticking from 5th April following the transfer date. This means that the liability period can actually be closer to six years for transfers made on or just after 6th April in any given year.

Why consider a QROPS?

Expatriates transferring to a QROPS can potentially enjoy significant tax advantages and flexibility over UK pensions.

Funds in a QROPS are sheltered from UK taxation on income and gains. Also, they will no longer count towards your lifetime pension allowance (LTA), enabling unlimited growth without attracting the 55%

or 25% LTA tax penalties.

Another advantage concerns estate planning. While many UK pensions are payable only to your spouse on death, QROPS offers flexibility to include other heirs and roll across generations.

QROPS may also provide greater investment diversification compared to UK pension schemes, and more freedom to vary your income and hold savings in multiple currencies. This can potentially insulate pension income from volatility in the Pound and the Euro – especially important during current Brexit uncertainty.

While your pension income may still be taxed in Spain, with good planning you can usually set up your QROPS to be highly tax-efficient.

However, transferring a UK pension is not suitable for everyone and differences between QROPS providers and jurisdictions could affect the tax benefits. There may be alternative

investment structures offering expatriates the same, if not better, benefits to a QROPS.

In any case, it is important to take regulated, personalised advice to protect your pension savings from scams and unsuitable investments. Carefully explore your options and consider acting now – before Brexit triggers further changes – to secure the retirement lifestyle of your choice in Spain.

Summarised tax information is based upon our understanding of current laws and practices which may change. This article is general in nature and should not be construed as providing any personalised taxation and/or investment advice. Individuals should seek personalised advice.

Keep up to date on the financial issues that may affect you on the Blevins Franks news page at www.blevinsfranks.com.

“I have a final salary pension. Should I take advantage of the current transfer values and cash it in?”

Talk to the people who know.

Many companies are currently offering larger than usual transfer values on defined benefit pension schemes. Properly managed, pay-outs could provide a retirement income that well exceeds the original scheme annual payment.

You should however take regulated advice to see if this would be the right move for you. At Blevins Franks we get to know your unique situation before reviewing how every pension option would work for you, from a tax and financial security point of view.

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STEPFORD BABIES: Perfect babies could be the future.

The advanced IVF

A REVOLUTIONARY new health technique promises hope to people with serious hereditary diseases who wish to have children, but raises complex ethical questions.

The new technology was the subject of intense debate at the Elche hospital, which is a leading centre for reproductive medicine, regarding the creation of 'designer babies.'

At present there are 100 diseases which are considered so dangerous that Spanish doctors are permitted to discard embryos which might carry the faulty gene. Some 6,000 fertility treatments take place each year, carefully selecting embryos for IVF treatment.

The new technology, however, goes further.

It enables deeper gene editing of embryos and can be used to treat all manner of hereditary imperfections.

The Elche debate looked beyond the prevention of rare diseases, and doctors were concerned it could be used to select different physical traits, a process raising moral questions.

The debate looked at whether such technology should be allowed in Spain, which has very strict laws on the use of embryos.

However, doctors and experts from the Spanish Fertility Society agreed that if and when the technique is permitted, it would radically transform society's perception of parenthood.

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ARTICLE I

Things to bear in mind when writing your Will in Spain

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Family of Leo the Lion plan return to Spain

BRAVE cancer-fighter four-year-old Leo Bermejo from Almeria is more than half way through his 31 sessions of proton beam therapy in Oklahoma.

The proton treatment in the States follows Leo's

fourth brain tumour operation in the Alder Hey Children's Hospital in the UK.

The sessions, which are given Monday to Friday, have gone to plan and mum, Karen, has announced the family has booked flights to

leave Oklahoma on April 27.

Speaking exclusively to the *Euro Weekly News* from the States, mum Karen said: "Leo finishes treatment on the April 21 but we need to go a few days later in case he has complications."

She also revealed that the family received a generous donation specifically to take the children on a holiday after Leo's treatment has finished in Oklahoma.

The family has booked to go to Toronto where most of Karen's family live for five days before returning to Spain in early May.

Then Leo will begin oral chemotherapy before having a crucial MRI scan back at Alder Hey Children's Hospital on Merseyside.

You can follow Leo's journey on the fund's new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/leothelionsfight/>

To give your support to the ongoing Leo the Lion fundraising campaign here is how you can donate:



LEO THE LION: Is undergoing proton beam therapy.

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 Spanish account: Bank: Banco Sabadell
 Account Name: Leo James Bermejo
 Account Number: ES69
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 Swift: BSAB ESBB
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 Account Name: Alda Keefe
 Account Number: 17485819
 Sort Code: 16-24-06

NEWS EXTRA

Star crab

A LOBSTER weighing six kilos became an unlikely Facebook star. The sea 'monster' was brought fresh to Santa Pola fish market by beaming, selfie-taking fishermen.

New record

MECHANICAL engineers from Elche set a new record by constructing a three kilogram mini-bridge that could carry 788kg of weight, even more than the walkway to the RMS Titanic could handle.

Fish dish

A WHEELCHAIR-bound pensioner scooped Elche's Super Senior Chef award. Manuela Clava won €1,200 for her cod porridge dish, beating competition from 30 other seniors, each cooking traditional dishes.

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Cruise control



Photo by Wikipedia

DOCKING IN MAY: Royal Caribbean's Jewel of the Seas.

FOUR cruise ships are scheduled to dock in the Port of Alicante in a single day next month, a record for the harbour.

The liners will bring around 12,000 passengers and crew to the city on Thursday May 4; the visitors expected to spend around €700,000.

And the cruise terminal at Alicante is already gearing up for what is described as a 'historic event' and expects to

have 40 coaches available to take people to see the sights of both the city and further into the province.

Francesco Balbi, Director of Operations at the terminal, said "it would be a welcome boost for the economy; a passenger spends an average of €65 a day in port and a crew member some €25 while ashore.

"We are talking about a historic opportunity for the city because it is proven that pas-

sengers who disembark at a destination, like to return on vacation," he said.

"We are preparing it all ahead with the city council so that everything goes well."

Over 2017 the cruise terminal of the Port of Alicante has confirmed that a total of 52 ships will visit, carrying more than 100,000 passengers. Mr Balbi added: "Alicante is specialising in welcoming bigger boats."

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NEWS EXTRA

Stop smacking

A NEW campaign hopes to end physical punishment of children. Hands Up has seen huge success across Europe and is now targeting Costa Blanca parents with thousands of posters.

Flood fears

COMBATING future floods on Orihuela Costa could cost up to €20m according to an alarming report from Hidraqua which identified multiple weak links in the region's storm defences.

Nordic gold

ADDING an IKEA to Alicante could generate €800,000 in taxes alone according to city treasurers. The mayor is being urged to put aside differences and immediately sign up with the Swedish giant.

Road gridlocked after lorry spills lemon load

TRAFFIC was held up for more than four hours after a lorry loaded with lemons overturned on the A-31.

The driver was able to leave the cabin without assistance but the scattered cargo obstructed both Alicante-bound lanes and the lorry's fuel tank was damaged.

Firefighters from the Villena brigade had to seal off the leak after disconnecting the batteries and scattering sepiolite - the same mineral used as cat litter - to soak up the fuel.

The incident occurred on the same day that the mayors of El-

da, Petrer and Villena complained about the national government's neglect of the motorway that connects Alicante Province with Madrid.

The Vinalopo mayors expressed disappointment that the 2017 Budget has not allocated "even €1" to much-needed improvements for the N-31.

It is one of the busiest motorways in Spain and is used by 60,000 vehicles each day, of which 6,500 are lorries.

The overturned fruit lorry was yet another of many mishaps on the motorway where many accidents occur.

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Dumping pollutes river



Photo by Shutterstock

RIVER SEGURA: Seen as it flows through Murcia.

ILLEGAL dumping continues to poison the Segura river as it runs through the Vega Baja, triggering an environment group's scathing attack on the authorities' lack of action.

Friends of the Sierra Escalona (ASE) claims that Pilar de la Horadada council has done nothing to stem the tide of illegal waste being thrown into the river in biblical proportions.

The allegation is refuted

by the council, which claims to have reported the matter to the Segura Hydrographic Conference in February.

But, as *EWN* reported last week, the hydrographic board itself is under heavy criticism for its perceived inaction over pollution. The paper also noted that Vega Baja residents were being forced to clean up spillage and muck themselves.

Now ASE is considering

taking legal action to force the local government to take immediate and practical measures to stop illegal dumping.

The area around the Sierra Escalona, just on the border with Murcia, is being flagged up as future protected national park. ASE simply want Pilar de la Horadada and other councils to start treating the area, and the Segura, as though they were already protected landscapes.

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CRIMINAL CAUGHT: The Guardia Civil were aided by a brave young girl.

Hands-on therapist

A 36-YEAR-OLD personal trainer has been taken into custody in Alicante, accused of six counts of sexual abuse.

His alleged victims are all female, three of which are minors aged 13, 15 and 17. The detainee, of Spanish nationality, groomed his victims at a gym in Busot, offering them personal training sessions.

He then convinced the girls to meet him at his house, where he recommended they receive a 20-minute sports massage before taking the opportunity to abuse them.

In one case, a 26-year-old woman was lured to his home on the promise of a job with an alleged friend. When he tried to give her one of his massages, she put up a fight and left.

The 13-year-old victim said that the man tried anything to keep seeing her, even making friends with her parents, and added that she had to block him from her phone due to his persistence.

The Guardia Civil has revealed that he was finally arrested after a 17-year-old girl 'bravely came forward.'

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ANDURA ABROAD
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AFTER months spent in a coma and going through incredibly painful rehabilitation, a young man from Elche met his footballing idol Cristiano Ronaldo during a special trip to Madrid.

Aaron Soler was a promising young footballer when, just over a year ago, he suffered a catastrophic heart attack in the middle of a game. It was touch and go whether the 19-year-

old would even survive, let alone walk again.

He fell into a coma and spent months in intensive care at Vinolopo hospital. Doctors there, performed surgery to give him an implantable defibrillator after thousands of people signed a petition asking that he be kept closer to

home instead of going to Alicante.

It took six months of intensive physical therapy and neuropsychology for him to learn how to talk and walk again. Now fresh out of the hospital, he was given a spectacular reward for his hard work.

A sister-in-law, who works for Barcelona, Real Madrid's arch rival, contacted the Madrid team asking for a message of support for Aaron. He quickly received 11 signed shirts and a personal invitation to meet all the players.

It was a dream come true for the youngster, who continues to defy the odds in his quest to make a full recovery.

Dream come true

Action demands unity

LOCAL business leaders and politicians from Alicante and Elche plan to present a united front in a demand for more cash and a bigger voice from national and regional government.

Elche's train station was bigger and had more frequent services in 1987 when the population was just 23,000, roughly a 10th of what it is today. It was just one of the anomalies on the table at the meeting.

“ This could be a successful tale of two cities combined.

Mayors Echavarri of Alicante and Gonzalez of Elche, conclude they are stronger together and pledged to join forces in demanding more money from Madrid and Valencia.

They met with the Costa Blanca's confederation of small and medium businesses and other citizen platforms which is calling for the creation of a giant 'conurbation' that includes both cities.

The move has been talked about for more than 30 years but never acted upon. Now, with both cities facing substantial budget cuts as their populations sky-rocket, a new thrust for change has emerged.

If combined, the population of Alicante, Elche and satellite towns, including Torrevieja and Orihuela, would be around one million and together, could grant the wider region a substantially stronger voice in national affairs.

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Furthermore as the company's advertising director, I have found the EWN fully accessible at all times and very helpful in planning with us our marketing adventures throughout Spain. They work not just as another newspaper title but as part of our team.

Operating global marketing as we continue to expand our portfolio, I can hand-on-heart state that the service, professionalism and most importantly return on investment has been the finest in Spain.

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My advice to any business not advertising in their titles is simple: Just do it. It will grow your business to the levels you desire.

Adam Hughes - Marketing Director - Oak Land Furniture

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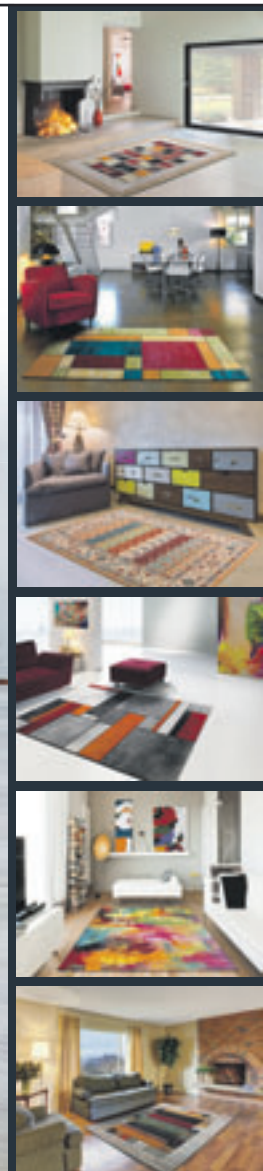
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CHASING PIGEONS: Is now punishable by a fine.

Penalties facing park life

SCARING pigeons is now punishable by a fine with parents facing the penalty for allowing children to amuse themselves by terrifying pigeons - or any other animals - around Alicante's many parks and squares.

Following the example of Barcelona and Valencia, Alicante hopes to protect trees, plants, and native wildlife by

outlawing anything which may harm them.

This includes vandalism, feeding invasive species such as parrots or tortoises, and scaring the wits out of pigeons; liable to make a mess everywhere.

The fine of €210 will also hit anyone caught fishing in city ponds or lakes, anyone

and anyone feeding ducks. Pet owners who don't clean up after their animals face a straight €300 sanction.

Mischief such as tree climbing, bark peeling, building tree houses and swings, and playing ball games could all incur a fine for the parents of any child caught. Even picnics are banned if they are considered to upset delicate ecosystems.

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NEWS EXTRA

Tipsy tower

A CASTLE tower in Elche is on the verge of tipping over like the drunken brother of the leaning tower of Pisa after a €500,000 investment to shore up the fortress appears to have been mispent.



Safer streets

SEVEN eastern European gangsters were nabbed in Santa Pola, and one in Torrevieja. They were suspected of masterminding a car theft and several violent home robberies. Two guns were also seized.



DISGRACE: Photos taken by councillor Carmen Gomez.

Fake goods

FAKE diagnostic equipment for cars was seized at Alicante-Elche airport with an estimated value of €133,000. An Algerian trio were selling the fake goods to mechanics across the Costa Blanca.

Florist fire

A FLORIST fire erupted in Benahadux, forcing several neighbours to evacuate their homes while firefighters dealt with badly wilted daffodils and roasted roses.

Red-faced resort

AN angry councillor has claimed that tourists arriving on the Costa Blanca are being greeted with filthy, vomit-covered streets. Carmen Gomez has demanded that Torrevieja initiate a shock cleaning programme to clean the city.

The Popular Party member tried to embarrass Torrevieja mayor Jose Manuel Dolon with a series of photographs showing overflow-

ing rubbish bins, vomit, and cat colonies feeding on the mess.

He claims it is absurd to pray for rains to wash the rubbish away, especially in a region that relies so heavily on the tourist economy.

“An urgent and comprehensive cleaning campaign is needed to restore Torrevieja to its former glory to give residents the streets they deserve,” said Gomez.

Health threat at old hotel

THE abandoned Arenales del Sol hotel in Elche has been exposed as a hotbed of asbestos forcing the council to plan an extended safety zone around the building while they rethink its already planned demolition.

Work was said to be too dangerous with throngs of tourists meandering around the popu-

lar seaside resort for Semana Santa.

The asbestos, which is linked to 20,000 serious illnesses per year in the EU, was found in the pillars of the building, making demolition essential but extremely complicated.

The hotel has been closed since 1979, but there were moves to reopen it this summer.

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ANGER over Spain's latest budget is so great that the Costa Blanca South may soon find itself part of a different country as furious politicians across Valencia Region call for civil rebellion against Madrid and raising the spectre of an independence referendum.

Prime minister Mariano Rajoy recently announced the regional infrastructure budgets for 2017. Valencia, which includes Alicante Province and

A Valencia referendum

much of the Costa Blanca, has been dealt a devastating hand.

Investment amounts to just €119 per resident, a stark contrast to the €342 in Galicia and loftier figures in Madrid and Catalonia.

Broken down by region, the data is even worse for the southern Costa

Blanca. Alicante Province will receive a paltry €96 per head, a total of €163 million less than last year.

Compromis leader in the Alicante Congress Ignasi Candela said Rajoy was hellbent on marginalising the province and breaking it financially.

The decision comes amid height-

ened unrest over broken promises to invest in the Mediterranean Corridor, an essential trade route that runs from Andalusia to Catalonia. High speed rail links between Almeria, Murcia, and Alicante with Barcelona have repeatedly been put on the backburner; now appearing set for 2025, if at all.

Local activists are calling for demonstrations in Costa Blanca towns and cities against latest budget 'humiliation.'

NEWS EXTRA

Athlete's foot

MORE than 500 runners raced seven kilometres across La Murada, Orihuela, in a new sports event organised by Club Atletico Oriol. The winner was Mohamed Khatabi in 22 minutes 32 seconds.

Lethal lady

POLICE have arrested 85 people at Alicante-Elche airport in 2017. Fake passports make up the bulk of suspects. A 72-year-old woman arriving from Moscow turned out to be a Russian mobster.

Less rifles

THE number of licensed firearms across Elche, Crevillent and Santa Pola has more than halved to just 13,000. Before the crisis there were almost 30,000 legal hunting rifles in the region.

Scenic city

YOUNG nature lovers are being sought to take their best photos of scenic Orihuela for submission to a contest selecting the best images for World Environment Day on June 5. Top prize is €500.

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Photo by Facebook

OFFICER SANCHEZ: Means business in Petrer.

One woman army

A ONE-WOMAN police unit will lead the fight against gender violence in a small south Costa Blanca town; Rebeca Sanchez will combat domestic abuse and establish help networks for vulnerable women in Petrer, Elda.

She has eight years of training and experience dealing with domestic violence. On her beat

alone in 2017, police have intervened in 153 cases of abuse and violence, a startlingly high number given the low population.

Sanchez will also help women reduced to begging and addicted to drugs and alcohol as councils across the Costa Blanca step up the fight against social exclusion.



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Father for justice



JUSTICE FOR JASMIN:
Protest attracts supporters.

A MAN has gone on hunger strike to demand better access to his young daughter. Carlos Montesinos of Torrevieja has spent almost a week without food protesting in front of the city's Court of Justice.

The devoted father has attracted hundreds of supporters to his cause. The campaign is named Justice for Jasmin, after the seven-year-old daughter he hasn't seen since summer.

Jasmin lives with her mother in Cantabria in the north of Spain and Carlos is embroiled in a bitter legal custody battle demanding better weekend and holiday visitation rights.

His protest camp outside the court consists



BITTER BATTLE: Carlos is fighting for access.

of a hammock, two chairs and a large poster imprinted with a photograph of him and his daughter. A calendar clocks the number of days he has been on hunger strike and there is a petition ledger with hundreds of signatures of support.

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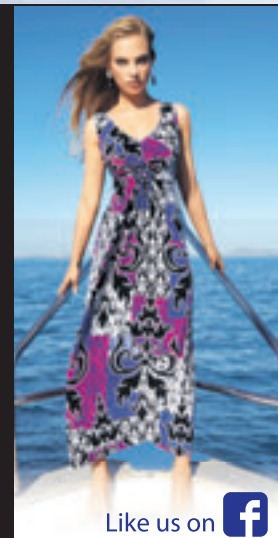
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NEWS EXTRA

Itchy feet

MOSQUITOES are buzzing around in record numbers across the Costa Blanca South thanks to heavy rains over winter. Pest control units are using helicopters to spray ponds, lakes, and rivers.

Mini heroes

LOCAL children might be saving lives on Costa Blanca beaches this summer. Thousands have been given proper first aid training to help with heart attacks, drownings, faints, falls and burns.

Skype nurses

VIDEO calls are being used by nurses in Torrevieja and Vinalopo hospitals to communicate with chronically-ill patients in need of constant care and advice.

Fascist name t

WIDESPREAD revulsion has greeted a judicial decision to rename two Costa Blanca streets after fascist heroes.

The protest comes just weeks after an Alicante square was once again named after the Blue Division, a group of 40,000 Spanish soldiers who fought with Hitler.

A bitter court battle has seen judges reverse groundbreaking moves by Costa Blanca South politicians from Orihuela to Los Montesinos to rid the region of fascist street names and statues.

With a courageous and bloody history of revolt, the southern Costa Blanca was one of Spain's first regions to question historical memory laws aimed at forgetting, rather than confronting, the country's dark past. But now it look as though it will be the last region to see any actual change.

Legal action from the conservative PP has stopped Alicante from changing street names, confounding Google Maps and causing furore among the millions of victims of fascism.



FASCISTS: Square named after

Local activist Luis Pesquera of the Historical Memory Commission said that it was bizarre that there was a square in Alicante dedicated to Nazis, comparing it to the shock of naming a Berlin square after the SS. It

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tribute scandal



notorious Blue Division in Alicante.

was unimaginable and a disgrace to the Costa Blanca he argued.

In Los Montesinos the council has rejected calls from opposition politicians to fly the Republican flag in honour of the

southern Costa Blanca's many victims of fascism. Mayor Jose Manuel Butron said it is illegal to fly the flag; despite it often accompanying Gay Pride marches or political demonstrations.

Bus soothes market muddle

A SPECIAL bus service will connect the popular Friday flea market of Torrevieja with the town centre; the vehicle will have a low floor with space for disabled users, shopping trolleys and 90 seats.

After Easter, the service will run every 40 minutes on Fridays from 7.30am until 2pm. The route to the market begins at Las Salinas and runs past the Hotel Fontana on Ramon Gallud, and along Avenida de las Cortes Valencianas until reaching Avenida de Delfina Viudes, the new home of the market.

The new site has vastly more space and is easier to access from outside of Torrevieja. But the decision makes life harder for loyal customers living near the coast who are accustomed to reaching the market on foot.





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Tourism targets Ireland

COSTA BLANCA tourist chiefs visited the Emerald Isle to shore up support for the region as a choice destination amongst potential Irish holidaymakers.

The Spanish delegation attended events on each side of the border, in both Belfast and Dublin, aimed at promoting Alicante. With 'Destination Costa Blanca' as a special theme, the party met with top tour operators and travel agencies.

At present the Costa Blanca is a popular choice for Irish holidaymakers. But the Canaries, Costa del Sol and Catalonia still take in the lion's share of the lucrative tourist revenue.

That may soon change with better cheap flight connections from Alicante to Dublin, Shannon, Cork, Kerry and Knock.

With Belfast's two airports also in the mix there will be an estimated 284,000 seats sold from the island to the Costa Blanca this sum-

Murcia's nautical fair makes a fine

THE seventh edition of one of the Costa Blanca's most spectacular nautical fairs is now underway and dozens of top exhibitors have arrived from across Europe to showcase the latest innovations in the exciting sporting sector.

“Entrance is free and sea lovers will find everything they need.”

Held in Las Salinas Marina, Murcia's nautical fair is considered one of the finest in the country. This year Port San Pedro del Pinatar is celebrating a special Easter edition amid the gorgeous wetlands of the Las Salinas Natural Park.

Entrance is free and sea



LAS SALINAS: Excellent place

lovers will find everything from beautiful boats to fishing equipment, accessories, jet skis, clothes, windsurfing and kitesurfing gear, engines, elec-

The lucky winner

THE March word search competition that was featured in Edition 1652 of the *Euro Weekly News* has been won by Norma from Los Montesinos.

Norma correctly identified that 'Rose' was the winning answer to pick up the €20 cash prize plus a free introductory one hour therapeutic massage from cognitive behavioural therapist Carl Regan.

Well done Norma, we hope you enjoy your massage and spending your cash!



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NEWS EXTRA

Fleshy feast

FRESHLY squeezed orange juice is now available in all Mercadona supermarkets across the Costa Blanca south after the popular outfit invested €20 million in self-service machines.

Sixth sense

SNIFFER dogs tracked down 1.1 kilos of hashish hidden in a suitcase at Alicante bus station. Its surprised Moroccan owner had just arrived from Malaga and was heading to Ibiza.

Design flaw

CARDBOARD caught fire at a graphic arts institute in Elche where the situation quickly spiralled out of control before dozens of firefighters came to save the day.

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Camper van king

A NEW motorhome park near a prime Costa Blanca beach will have space for hundreds of vehicles and become a top tourist attraction for the region.

The rest area, which spans more than 5,000 square metres, will be just across from San Juan beach

and open in time for summer.

It will offer water, electricity, toilets, showers and other basic amenities. Camper vans and motorhomes will be allowed to park there for a maximum of 48 hours, allowing families to reboot, refuel, and, if the

works, spend lots of money in local shops.

Expected to be popular in summer, the park will be open year round and help attract this particular breed of travelling tourist to the Costa Blanca South during off-season. There has been high demand from motorhome as-



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sociations, both domestic and international for a proper motorhome park.

For years campers, and local residents, have complained about motorhomes haphazardly parking near various fields, streets and beaches without a permit or proper cleaning facilities.



JUST RELAX: Southern Costa Blanca is the perfect place for a camper van.

Ultraviolet artichokes

SCIENTISTS from Cartagena have discovered that they can powerfully enhance the looks and nutritional value of artichokes by beaming radioactive ultraviolet rays at them.

The discovery could reap millions of euros in profit for the region's agricultural industry, which has long been flummoxed by the hardy veg's resistance to export.

Fresh artichokes have a sweet spot soon after they've been harvested which quickly disappears when they are

packed into trucks. Not the most appealing vegetable, Costa Blanca farmers have found it hard to access niche organic markets in European cities.

By beaming ultraviolet short-wave rays at artichokes, researchers at the University of Cartagena kept them in perfect condition for longer.

It's great news for local farmers facing competition from China, which is developing mass industrial-scale greenhouses to export cheap fruit and veg to the west.

Eurochange opens new office

CURRENCY exchange specialist Eurochange has opened a new office at the popular La Zenia resort; its second branch in the city. The new branch is located on the first floor of Los Dolses Shopping Centre, by the 'boat roundabout,' and close to La Zenia Boulevard Shopping Centre.

Eurochange now runs a network of 23 offices, stretching from Alicante, through Murcia and Almeria, to Malaga. La Zenia II welcomes clients between 10am and 6pm Monday to Friday, and between 10am and 2pm on Saturdays.

The new fully licensed branch offers the same convenient services clients have come to expect from Eurochange: customers can buy and sell more than 30 currencies; collect online reservations and purchases; enjoy commission free transactions; and use a card payment service. For more information call 966 733 417 or visit www.eurochange.es.

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Fruit machine thieves caught

NATIONAL POLICE officers have detained eight people accused of 13 robberies across Spain.

According to the Spanish Home Office, those arrested were part of a roaming

criminal group specialising in robbing vending and fruit machines.

The group were most prolific in Malaga, Barcelona, Leon, Murcia, Valencia, A Coruña and Lugo.

Organised and structured, the members distributed functions amongst themselves. Some were in charge of logistics for travel and lodging, others had the mission to collect stolen effects

and transfer them to Madrid, others sold stolen items and some committed the thefts.

The network also used third parties separate to their organisation to rent vehicles and homes on their behalf, thus avoiding potential identification.

the robbery and selling of vending and entertainment machines, breaking into commercial vehicles and taking money, cigarettes, and anything else being transported.

From that moment on, officers collected evidence against members of the group, until December 2016 when the leader was identified and arrested in Malaga.

The organisation had made €45,000 in cash from their illicit activities. Subsequently, the remaining members were identified and detained between February and April.

The investigation was carried out by police across the country, involving officers in Benalmadena, Murcia and Getafe.

“ The gang specialised in the robbery and selling of vending and entertainment machines.

The investigation has been ongoing since July 2016, when police detected a group of criminals in Malaga who specialised in

NEWS EXTRA

Mystery man had drowned

A POST MORTEM performed on the body of a man found floating naked in the Port of Alicante at the end of March has found he died by drowning. His identity is still a mystery.

Bad crossing

A BUS struck a pedestrian in the centre of Alicante. The victim, a 50-year-old man, was trying to cross the road at the time. He remains in critical condition in hospital.

Senior win

VETERANS at the Torre Vieja Tennis Club won the Sixth Championship of the Valencian Community with a revenge victory over their Benissa rivals. The over-60's team defeated Orcelis and Almoradi on their path to the final.

Homes sold

THE biggest real estate market on the Costa Blanca is Torrevieja. A total of 5,291 homes were sold last year, an increase of 21.4 per cent on 2015. In Orihuela, 3,839 properties changed hands.

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JACKPOT: Police have identified and arrested the entire group.

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Concert for 12 people

CLARO has been campaigning for years for a centrally located cultural centre for Orihuela Costa. It is a priority, just like the Emergency Services Centre which is an abandoned building 10 years after the foundation stone was laid.

Without a proper cultural centre capable of seating at least 400 people, the community will have no significant cultural life on the coast, no music, theatre or cinema and no room for associations to meet and pursue their leisure and social activities.

Without a cultural centre, the community gets virtually nothing from the €1 million annual cultural budget which provides lavish cultural activities year round in Orihuela City.



STAGE FRIGHT: No support for Miguel.

Miguel Hernandez.

The so-called concert was held in the open air on a cold windy night. There was no proper stage and no chairs for the audience. It was badly publicised and only 12 people attended, principally the coordinating councillor for the Coast, her paid assistants and followers.

Days later the councillor for Culture organised a concert in Orihuela for a nationally known singer with proper stage, lighting and effects. The contrast could not have been greater.

Orihuela Costa is treated as the poor relation in culture while providing, from our taxes, the main part of Orihuela's €1 million a year cultural budget.

“ Orihuela Costa feels let down by the lack of a cultural centre.

Like the budget in general, the annual cultural budget is financed out of the 60 per cent revenue coming from Orihuela Costa taxpayers.

The need for a cultural centre in Orihuela Costa was dramatically highlighted by the town hall's attempt last week to arrange a concert in Playa Famenca, with a musical tribute to the Orihuela born poet

Starling crucifixion, suffering must end

ANIMAL rights activists are protesting against the inclusion of birds and other creatures in the ongoing Semana Santa celebrations. In Elche the anti-cruelty group AACME launched an official complaint against a local religious brotherhood urging them to stop one particular practice.

ence by starlings tied to the trees. As an alternative, the group has offered to organise workshops ahead of next year's

Easter celebrations showing children how to make origami starlings so priests can spare the real birds.

“ Activists protest against cruelty to starlings.

This involves binding delicate starlings to the branches of a palm tree during a quaint garden procession, popular during Easter Week. The colourful, fist-sized birds are strapped to the trees purely as a ceremonial and traditional gesture.

AACME points to veterinarian reports which document the tremendous suffering experi-

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Blithe Spirit

THE Actors Community Theatre Society, will return with their first production of 2017.

After two successful productions at Benjofar Cultural Centre, and donating €5000 to The Benjofar Crisis Appeal, ACTS are currently rehearsing for Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward, directed by Ian Vallender.

Charles Condomine (Tony Goddard) an author whose first wife Elvira (Robin Smith) has been dead for seven years has been reasonably happy with his second wife Ruth (Dianne Scott). To collect material for his book he invites the quirky Madame Arcati, (Eileen Hamilton) a local medium, to conduct a séance at their home. Supernatural hilarity and anarchy are unleashed as Elvira returns.

Noel Coward's Blithe Spirit has been entertaining audiences for over 60 years. Tickets are €8 and are available by contacting *tick*



SPIRITUAL: The actors looking rather tense and afraid in their performance of the seance.

“ Noel Coward's play has been performed for over 60 years.

ets.acts@gmail.com or telephone 646 277 724.

Tickets are also available from various local outlets, including Restaurante Catorce, Benjofar who are

offering an early bird dinner before the show and are only a five-minute walk from the theatre. For more information please contact Catorce on 966 849 030.

The performances are on Thursday May 18, Friday May 19 and Saturday May 20, with curtain up at 7.30pm sharp at Benjofar Cultural Centre. All profits from this show will go towards the Benjofar Crisis Appeal.

Torre Vieja Stroke Support

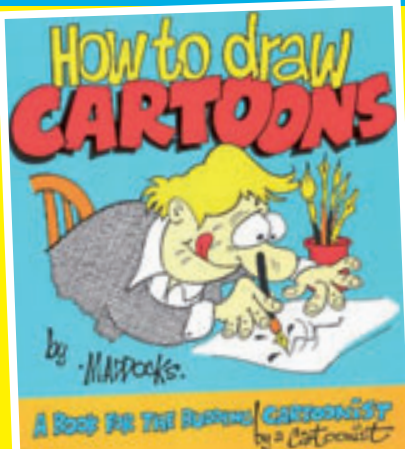
THE latest fundraiser for Torre Vieja Stroke Support took place at Restaurante El Alto La Dolores.

A fantastic €1,012 was raised for the charity. The money is to be spent on purchasing much needed physiotherapy equip-

ment which will include a wheelchair.

The organisers of the event, Joan Rampton and Marlene Brown, presented a cheque for the amount to Pat and Paul Owen from Torre Vieja Stroke Support.


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Link for Peter's books:
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Possible return of the blue passport by 2019



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

THE current contract to print British passports expires in 2019 and many hope that the new tender will require a return to a blue cover.

Reports suggest that it could cost up to £500 million (€575 million) to redesign the passport, but it is more likely that this will be the anticipated total cost of the production of up to six million passports a year during the life of the 10-year contract.

On the side of the Brexiteers, MP Andrew Rosindell MP is quoted as saying "The humiliation of having a

pink European Union passport will now soon be over," whilst Jeremy Corbyn suggested that "The real source of humiliation is a government worrying about the colour of our passports while a social care and NHS crisis rages."

Knowing of the need to produce new passports, design magazine *Dezeen* sponsored an unofficial competition to design a new version and from hundreds of entries, a short list of nine has been produced from which one will be chosen as winner.

None of the chosen designs are likely to appeal to those who are looking for a return to the old style, but in fairness they may well be somewhat tongue in cheek, especially the FUK-D version.

One side effect of membership however is that under EU rules, any tender of this type has to be advertised within the European

Union and a situation could arise that the return to the traditional blue passport could see the contract going to a security printer possibly based in France, Holland or Spain.

Whatever the decision, it

seems unlikely however that holders of the red passport which carries the wording European Union on the cover will have to trade them in until they expire.



Photo by Dezeen

SHORTLISTED:
Passport designs.

Proposed restriction on migration

A PRO-BREXIT group supported by many Tory back-benchers wants to heavily restrict entry to Britain for five years.

A report from Leave Means Leave and written by independent MEP Steven Woolfe who left UKIP because of a physical clash with a colleague calls for the restriction to be aimed at unskilled migrants.

His concept is that by reducing immigration from 273,000 to 50,000 per year and accepting mainly those who had been offered a job with a minimum £35,000 (€40,000) salary, had passed an English language test, signed a five-year private health insurance contract and had savings in the bank would strengthen the economy.

He would however allow a certain number of unskilled workers into Britain on a temporary basis to fill the numerous roles that still have to be undertaken in different areas of the economy.



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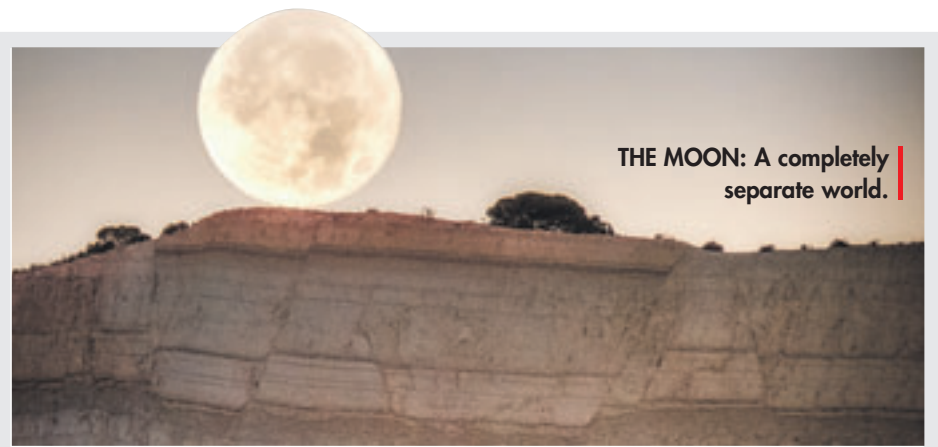
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THE MOON: A completely separate world.

Moonwatch

INTERESTED in Astronomy? Come to Moonwatch. You may remember that in October we invited people to come and view the Moon through our telescopes.

Unfortunately, this date coincided with a thunderstorm. We are now inviting everyone to view the Moon again. We are all familiar with the appearance of the Moon up there in the sky, but we usually forget what it is: a completely separate world, orbiting Earth, out there in

space. The Moon is a celestial object that never fails to impress when seen through a telescope. It's our nearest neighbour in space: big, bright and beautifully bleak and just a quarter of a million miles away.

When observed through binoculars or a telescope, the terminator (the line that separates sunlight and shadow) makes the lunar landscape stand out in stark relief.

Mountains, craters and valleys look especially steep

and rugged because the low sun makes every hill cast a long dramatic shadow.

The event will take place on Punta Prima Promenade, just up from the Nautilus Restaurant on April 20 from 9pm - 10pm. Contact Vega Baja Astronomy Group at email vegabaja.astronomygroup@gmail.com.

The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm at Casa Tom on Avenida Jaca, San Luis.

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Special treat for Welsh expats



WELSH expats living on the Costa Blanca will be treated to an evening of nostalgia on May 6 when the internationally-renowned Pontarddulais Male Choir take to the stage at the Auditori Teulada-Moraira.

The local Costa Blanca Male Voice Choir (CBMVC) and Dolce Divas will also be appearing in the programme.

The Welsh choir will be 80-strong and the local CBMVC boys should provide another 40 voices, providing a rousing finale when both choirs sing together.

The Pontarddulais Male Choir has

achieved prominence through a record 16 first places at the Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales and two first places at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. They have undertaken 13 overseas tours including Canada, United States of America and several European countries.

The Welsh choir is in constant demand for concerts the length and breadth of the UK, as well as television and radio work and during the 55 years of its existence the choir has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for charity.

CBMVC: Treating the audience to an evening of nostalgia.

CBMVC's Publicity Officer Vernon Pearce said, "This is a rare opportunity to see one of the leading Welsh male choirs. It's a privilege for us to host them here in Teulada in such a wonderful auditorium and to be asked to join them on stage in the second half. We are looking forward very much to raising the roof and I would urge people to book their seats quickly, as this promises to be an unforgettable evening!"

Tickets for this prestigious concert cost €12 and are available online now at *stanticket.es*, from Teulada Town Hall front desks, the town hall office at Espai La Senieta Theatre in Moraira and the Teulada Auditorio box office. Donations from tickets sales will be made to Teulada-Moraira Proteccion Civil, the Alzheimer Centre and Make A Smile and local firms Hamiltons of London and Telitec are sponsoring the evening.

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Helping the homeless and needy

DO you have time on your hands? Want to help a worthwhile charity? If so then Reach Out is looking for you.

Reach Out is a charity that helps the poor and homeless in the area and it is looking for volunteers to help at its premises at Calle Bella Antonia 1 in Torrevieja.

If you are interested please go along to the premises on Monday April 24 at 2pm for a

tea/coffee afternoon and take a guided tour to see exactly what Reach Out is all about.

This will give would-be volunteers a chance to assess the workings of Reach Out and hopefully encourage new people to go along and help this charity go from strength to strength.

If you need further information please do not hesitate to call 965 713 063 or email *reachouttorrevieja.com*.

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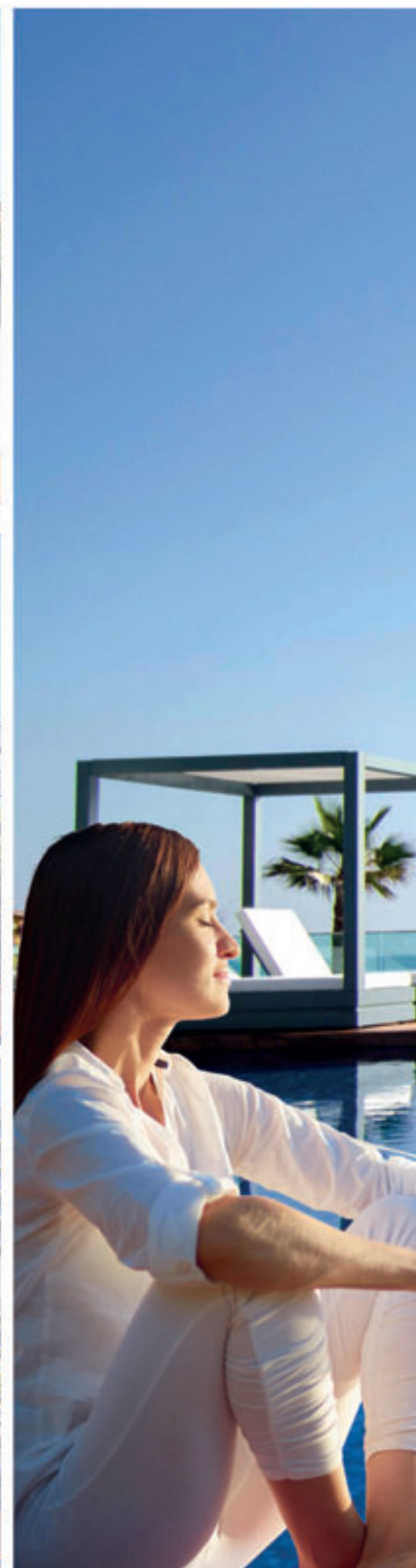
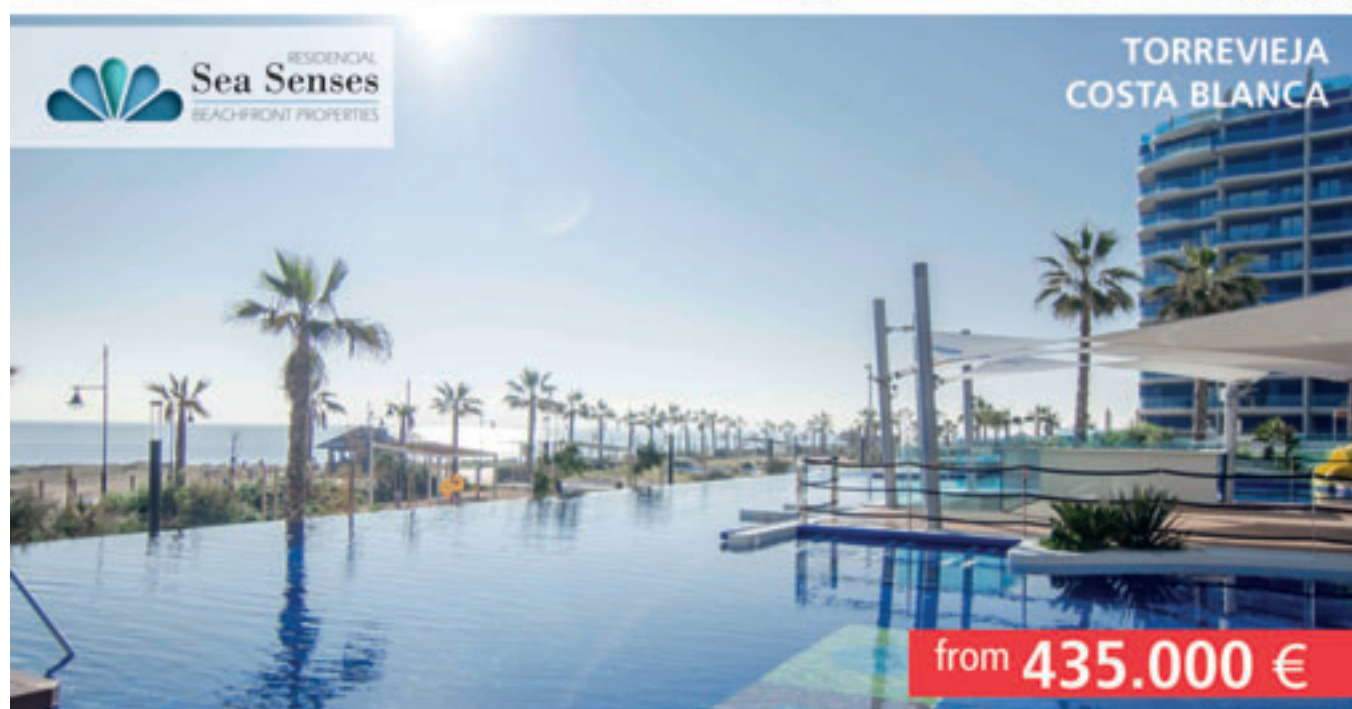
<p>€POA</p> <p>UK, RHD</p> <p>AUTOCRUISE PIONEER DARWIN 2005 2.2 LTR DIESEL FIXED REAR BED, 2 BERTH MOTORHOME...MOTORHOME</p>	<p>€POA</p> <p>UK, RHD</p> <p>ELDDIS SUNSEEKER 180 2009 2.2 LTR DIESEL 6 BERTH 21,500 MILES MOTORHOME...MOTORHOME</p>	<p>€8,495</p> <p>FORD FOCUS 2011 1.6 LTR DIESEL FSH</p>	<p>€2,250</p> <p>PEUGEOT 206 2001 1.4 LTR PETROL</p>	<p>€6,495</p> <p>FIAT PUNTO 2001 1.4 LTR PETROL</p>	<p>€2,995</p> <p>SEAT IBIZA 2002 1.4 LTR PETROL</p>
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April Fool's Day is no joke for Red Cross



RED CROSS: Held a quiz to raise funds for Local Families in Need.

THE Red Cross is seeing many people in very challenging situations every day, and it was a pleasure to see community spirit in action to help those less fortunate and in crisis last Saturday.

As Brits most of us know what April Fool's means but the overwhelming support experienced at Monroes Pedreguer for Red Cross's April Fool's Day quiz to raise funds for Local Families in Need was no joke.

The fun evening, organised by Sandy Ts-

likidis with Andre Le Maseurier as the quiz-master, was a huge success. A fantastic €738 was raised on the night and Candy Wright of Help Denia announced that she would make up the difference to make it an even more fantastic €1,000.

There were lots of lovely raffle prizes and the new restaurant on the Arenal La Bambula donated 30 breakfasts for the raffle along with many other businesses more than happy to support the Red Cross.



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Paying up on crime increases aid

By John Smith

INVISIBLE earnings from prostitution and drug trafficking that help make up the National Income of the UK are to provide an aid boost to Third World nations.

The news is likely to annoy tens of thousands of British pensioners who claim - in Spain and throughout the world - that their hard earned taxes are being wasted whilst they fear that their pensions may be frozen after Brexit.

David Cameron promised that Britain would commit 0.7 per cent of

£1.19 trillion
(€1.39 trillion)
is the total Gross National Income figure for Britain in 2016 on which percentage is calculated.

its national budget on foreign aid and with estimated illegal income added to the 2016 figures due to an instruction from the European Union, the amount

has increased accordingly.

A number of MPs including conservative Andrew Rosindell are calling for the promise to be ignored as they

believe that the money should be spent in the UK on social services and the NHS along with other important causes.

According to the MP, whilst Britain has a duty to help those overseas in genuine need, there is little public support for a system which simply hands out money based on an imaginary national income.

Committing £13.3 billion (€15.5 billion) on foreign aid based on 2016 figures, Britain is one of the few countries in the world which meets or exceeds international aid targets.

Possible tax refund on way

AT least 20,000 British residents in Spain may be due a mortgage refund.

This is the estimated number of people who took mortgages which included a 'ground clause' fixing the rate of interest regardless of how the bank rate moved.

This was beneficial when interest rates were high, but when they dropped many paid far more interest than was considered fair and banks have been instructed by government to compensate those involved.

The UK Treasury said refunds may be liable to taxation.

Quote of the Week

"This is a great victory for European consumers," Miapetra Kumpula, European Parliament spokesperson, on removal of mobile phone roaming charges within the EU from June 15.



Down to earth Brexit view



Photo by Ferrovia

RAFAEL DEL PINO: No UK opportunities at present.

By John Smith

FERROVIAL, the Spanish company that runs Heathrow Airport in London, is not to seek further investments in the UK until after the Brexit process has been completed.

The company reported very solid results at its annual shareholders meeting in Madrid and acknowledged that the UK was an important market but they were uncertain of the future.

Chairman of the group which runs Heathrow as well as other UK airports, Rafael del Pino said that the company was conserva-

tive in nature and saw no opportunities in the UK at present.

Having secured part of the High Speed Rail contract in the UK and with the public consultation on the third runway at Heathrow finishing in May, the company which earns 30 per cent of its income from the UK doesn't however rule out significant new investment within the next five years.

Having expanded its international reach through takeovers, the company has increased turnover to €10.759 billion and increased dividend by 2.3 per cent over 2015.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Match fixing

POLICE arrested five officials from a Spanish football club on suspicion of match fixing after they lost 12-0.

Investigations are being undertaken by both the police and Spanish Football Federation after third division side Eldense were beaten by Barcelona B amidst accusations of a deliberate attempt to benefit from placing bets on the result.

Unicaja shares

UNICAJA BANK will issue an additional €625 million in share capital later this month if stockholders agree.

The Bank will then apply to be the first Malaga-based company on the Bolsa de Madrid (stock exchange) and if successful will then repay government bail-out loans.

More jobs

UNEMPLOYMENT will drop to 16.6 per cent this year as the economy improves, the Spanish government predicts.

Much of the new employment will occur in the government sector including health care, education and social services.

Switching their fortunes

RUSSIAN investors in Spain who once were said to focus mainly on buying residential properties now concentrate more on commercial buildings.

A report by Russian property group Tranio, says Spain is likely to be one of the most attractive targets

for investors looking for long term rental income of well-sited commercial property during 2017.

Smaller Russian investors who used to purchase holiday homes are now more sophisticatedly looking for rental income.

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Safer €50 banknote issued

By Karl Smallman

THE European Central Bank (ECB) has released a new version of the €50 bank note with more security measures that will help prevent counterfeiting.

The new bank note that came into circulation on April 4 is a slightly different colour and has been manufactured on a firmer and more resistant paper and incorporates a hologram. And when you turn it, the silver band on the right shows the value of the note and the euro symbol (€).

It is very easy to check a real euro bank note by using the simple FEEL, LOOK and TILT method.

A special printing process gives the banknotes their unique FEEL.

LOOK at the banknote against the light. The portrait window and watermark as well as the security thread become visible.

TILT the banknote. The silvery stripe reveals a portrait of Europa in a transparent window and the emerald number displays an effect of the light that moves up and down.



Photo by European Central Bank

NEW NOTE: Has been manufactured on more resistant paper and incorporates a hologram.

The new design, designed by the German Reinhold Gerstetter, follows the line of new five, 10 and 20 euro banknotes that have been introduced over the last three years.

In addition, the new bank note includes countries that have joined the European Union since 2002.

And the acronym of the issuer, the ECB, appears in nine linguistic variants, instead of the initial five.

The €50 is the most used bank note in the euro zone, where there are more than 8,000 million, which represents 45 per cent of the total bank notes in circulation.

This change is welcomed by many as the existing €50 note is the most regularly counterfeited and a regular miscreant in Girona has just been arrested with material from which fake notes with a face value of €450,000 could have been made.

Increase in tourist spending

A REPORT issued by Spanish tourist organisation Exceltur confirms that tourism income has grown in the first quarter of 2017.

The bulk of the growth is driven by visitors from overseas and the Brexit result doesn't appear to have discouraged British visitors nor is it likely to this year.

Numbers of foreign visitors have increased and hotel demand has also increased allowing for owners to increase prices and profits.

Whilst the strength of the external market has grown, Spanish holidaymakers are flying internally less often and are also spending less in hotels whilst looking more to make bookings in rental properties.

It is forecast however that the situation will improve in the second quarter as bookings for Holy Week (Semana Santa) were very strong and the most popular areas for the major increase in tourism generally are considered to be Andalucia, the Canaries and Madrid.

Spain facing costly EU fines

THE Spanish government knows it has a very short time before it will be fined by the EU for not passing the 'Stevedore law.'

Minister of Public Works, Íñigo de la Serna has now presented a new plan which whilst not totally in accordance with government expectation may save it from an immediate €23 million fine plus a daily penalty of €134,000.

The European Union decreed that the stevedores were operating a 'closed shop' within Spanish ports and the government tried to agree new terms with the various unions and other political parties as it proposed major changes in employment status.

It was over this draft law that the government lost its first major vote when opposition parties voted against it and political partner Ciudadanos decided to abstain.

In a press conference held in Barcelona, the minister made it clear that the compromise law had to be pushed through parliament quickly or else these penalties would be enacted.

Having escaped an even larger fine for missing budget targets, the government wants to ensure that it is complying with EU regulations over this particular matter which if allowed to continue unresolved could cost the nation €4 million each month.

Shopping centres proving to be attractive investments

By John Smith

IT is not only the Russians who are looking to invest in commercial property in Spain but shopping centres are now back to being big news.

Malls and centres around the world are attracting big investors as well as major retailers and of course shoppers to facilities which are often out of town, but also in such prime areas as Barcelona and Madrid.

One of the main attractions of a shopping centre is that it can often be built on 'virgin' land with plenty of easy access and parking and the very large players such as Inditex, Mango and El Corte Ingles can actually dictate the size and position of their favoured stores.

Once the 'big boys' are confirmed then other smaller operators will be attracted as they know that there will be a cap-



Photo by Kiev,Victor Shuterstock

BIG NEWS: Shopping centres such as Las Arenas in Barcelona.

tive audience visiting so footfall will be significant.

Latest beneficiary to the return of major investment is

Malaga City where the Malaga Plaza has been sold to the New Winds Group and they plan to expand the centre in order to

bring in an even better range of offerings to visitors.

This year will see the opening of 21 new shopping centres in Spain together with the expansion of six existing facilities and with nearly 20 per cent of all of these centres, estates and malls in Spain being based in Andalucia it is clear that they play an important part in the local economy.

A new centre will bring employment for a range of construction workers and decorators followed by large numbers of shop assistants, general finance staff and a relatively prosperous management structure.

The amount of income tax and IVA that is collected from the 106 outlets in Andalucia is a regular and welcome addition to the local and national economy especially as much of the spend comes from foreign tourists.



Photo by Banco Santander

AGM: Ana Botín explained that 2016 had brought new challenges for the economy.

Greater dividends for all Santander shareholders

By John Smith

THE executive chairman of Spanish bank Santander, Ana Botín has told shareholders that the board wishes to increase annual dividend.

Speaking at the Bank's Annual General Meeting held in Santander she explained that 2016 had brought new challenges for the economy and for the banking sector but the group had performed very well.

It wants to ensure that its 190,000 staff, 125 million

“ The 2017 dividend will be increased by 5 per cent per share.

customers and four million shareholders all benefit from the strength and the success of the bank which has reported a profit of €6.2 billion for 2016.

Thanks to this performance achieved despite financial

problems in China, Brexit uncertainty in the UK, elections in Spain and the USA and political turmoil in Brazil, profits were up by 4 per cent and if it had not been for currency fluctuations the true profit would have been even greater.

As a reward to shareholders therefore and with their approval, the 2017 dividend will be increased by 5 per cent per share to 22 cents and the board expects this positive financial situation to continue into 2018.

Spain tops world tourism report

SPAIN tops a tourism competitiveness report ahead of its European neighbours.

The recently published World Economic Forum's Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report 2017 shows that the top three destinations are Spain, France and Germany with Japan rising to fourth place.

With tourism accounting for 10 per cent of both global GDP and global employment it is one of the most important growth areas in the world today and contributes huge amounts of money, directly and indirectly to almost all economies.

The bulk of the most successful destinations are those with advanced economies, whilst Asia in general is becoming increasingly more important not just as a destination

but also as more of its inhabitants travel further afield and India has experienced a huge growth in popularity.

Even though world trade has slowed down due to protectionism, this doesn't appear to have had any negative affect on tourism and indeed the enjoyment people have from travelling to new countries and cultures has led to a continued and steady growth.

The World Economic Forum produced the report in collaboration with its data partners Bloom Consulting, Deloitte, the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the UNWTO and the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) so findings are likely to be viewed as being accurate.

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Give us all a well-deserved break

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT**



I AM not, never have been, and hopefully never will be, a racist. I challenge one reader to show me a single example of any writing or column comment to disprove this statement.

Well, I'll save you the trouble. You won't find one. Sometimes I feel like Enoch Powell. David Frost once asked this much maligned brilliant politician, why he didn't like black people? Powell then asked him to name one example or occasion he had made such a statement. Frost of course could not.

Powell was merely anti immigrant, stating that our infrastructure, culture and resources would not be able to cope if vast numbers of immigrants were continually allowed to enter the UK unchecked. The fact that most

immigrants of the day happened to be black, was totally irrelevant. Frost was subsequently humiliated and his credibility sorely dented.

Well far from me to compare myself with such a great exponent of prescience as Mr Powell, but I am of exactly the same ilk. I may have strong anti views to certain cults, attitudes or religious interpretations, but I don't personally care what colour, creed or nationality anyone aspires to.

In any event, as a Spiritualist, I believe we have to manifest in anything from five to eight hundred lifetimes, so we will have to experience all the lessons of the human spirit anyway, ie the next reincarnation could find me emerging as a deprived black child during an African drought!

So not only do I object to being regarded a racist, I consider it a personal affront of my beliefs to be even considered as

“ I may have strong anti views, but I don't personally care what colour, creed or nationality anyone aspires to.

one. In my experience 'racism,' a term that I personally had never even heard of until the early 60's, is generally shouted the loudest by the biggest racists of all, and is fast becoming the greatest threat to free speech that exists in the world today. Psst 'wanna stifle a losing argument'? Call the other guy a racist! For sanity's sake, give us all a well-deserved break.

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

**Enoch Powell
(1912-1998)**



Photo Credit Wikimedia

Advertising feature

Sevilla / Cordoba / Ecija

THE region of Andalucia exudes the very spirit of the Spanish culture. This is where bronze skinned girls, with soft brown eyes and long black hair and dressed in colourful flamenco dresses, sway to the guttural sounds of the flamenco singers and the insistent strumming of the Spanish guitar.

Where proud young men wearing wide brimmed hats, and the tightest of trousers and jackets effortlessly steer their magnificent Andalusian horses through the crowds. Where bullfighters bravely turn their back on the bewildered bull and strut arrogantly away from it, trailing their red cloak behind them.

This is the very heart of traditional Spain.

Sevilla is the capital of this fabulous region. This city has one of the largest and wealthiest cathedrals in the world. Allegedly the remains of Christopher Columbus lie here.

Horses and carriages wait in the cathedral square to carry you round the sights of the city; the ancient narrow cobbled streets of the Santa Cruz district, the Triana district (traditionally home to the gypsy population), the Alcazar (which originated as a Moorish stronghold and later held by the Christians), the beautiful Maria Luisa park named after the amorous wife of Carlos IV, then down by the banks of the river Guadalquivir. Take a mini cruise down the river, visit the famous Maenstranza



THREE CITIES: Sevilla, the capital of the region, Cordoba with its stupendous cathedral and lesser-known Ecija.

bullring and bullfighting museum.

Just over an hour away visit Cordoba. The highlight of this town is the stupendous cathedral come mosque around which the town is built. Known as the Mezquita, you can almost feel the presence of the Calif, the sultans and their concubines amongst

the hundreds of horseshoe shaped arches. Within the same building, you are suddenly amongst the knights and kings of Christian Spain! Out in the daylight hundreds of people stroll across the old Roman bridge which again straddles the river Guadalquivir. Colourful flower displays add to the charms of the city's many patios. Cordoba also has an Alcazar (a sort of fortified palace) with grounds which are reminiscent of the larger gardens in Granada's Alhambra Palaces.

Between these two cities sits the much lesser known, but none the less just as charming, town of Ecija. Built on the site of one of the largest Roman populations ever found, this city revels in its towers and spires. Twenty-six in total and almost all displaying baroque architecture.

These three cities delight all who visit and can be visited at an incredibly good value for money price with David's Coachtrips SL. Using a 3 country hotel on a half board basis and with all three city visits included. This is on offer for only 209€. Next date is four days May 15 - 18 (with further dates in June, September, October and November). To reserve your place today visit our web site www.coachtripsonline.com or call (0034) 966 785 910.*

BBC one

7:00am	Breakfast
10:15am	Animal Park Easter Special
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	The Sheriffs are Coming
12:45pm	Fake Britain
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News at One
2:30pm	BBC London News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	The Code
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	Money for Nothing
5:30pm	Flog It!
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News at Six
7:30pm	BBC London News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	EastEnders
9:00pm	MasterChef
10:00pm	Galapagos
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten
11:30pm	BBC London News
11:45pm	Bronx to Bradford: Friars on a Mission
12:45am	Child of Our Time
1:45am	Weather for the Week Ahead
1:50am	BBC News

BBC TWO

7:00am	Flog It! Trade Secrets
7:30am	The Sheriffs are Coming
8:15am	Money for Nothing
9:00am	Gardeners' World
9:30am	Great British Railway Journeys Goes to Ireland
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	Cycling
3:45pm	Holiday of My Lifetime with Len Goodman
4:15pm	Who Do You Think You Are?
5:15pm	Attenborough: 60 Years in the Wild
6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	The Repair Shop
8:00pm	Mary Berry's Easter Feast
9:00pm	The World According to Kids
10:00pm	The Last Kingdom
11:00pm	Match of the Day
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:15am	Second Chance
1:15am	Summer: Tuscany
1:15am	Versailles
2:10am	Versailles
3:00am	MasterChef

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	100 Days
8:30pm	Top of the Pops
9:00pm	The Bridge: Fifty Years across the Forth <i>Documentary celebrating the 50th anniversary of one of Scotland's great landmarks, the Forth Road Bridge.</i>
10:00pm	Blazes and Brigades: The Story of the Fire Service <i>Timeshift looks back on nearly two centuries of British firefighting, exploring how major incidents and the evolution of technology from manual pumps to motorised fire engines have helped forge the modern fire service.</i>
11:00pm	Bucket
11:30pm	Yellowstone
12:30am	The Silk Road
1:30am	Top of the Pops
2:05am	Depeche Mode 101
4:05am	Bucket

CHANNEL 4

7:00am	Countdown
7:45am	King of Queens
8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:05am	Frasier
11:05am	Undercover Boss USA
12:05pm	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Vet on the Hill
2:05pm	Posh Pawn
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	Fifteen to One
5:00pm	French Collection
6:00pm	Couples Come Dine with Me
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	Great British Buildings
10:00pm	Three Wives, One Husband
11:00pm	The Super Orgasm
12:05am	24 Hours in A and E
1:05am	My Online Nightmare
2:05am	Tuning 2 You: Lost Musicians of India
3:10am	The Secret Life of the Zoo
4:05am	Building the Dream

CHANNEL 5

8:25am	Shimmer and Shine
8:35am	Noddy: Toyland Detective
8:50am	Paw Patrol
9:05am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am	Digby Dragon
9:30am	Peppa Pig
9:50am	Wissper
10:00am	Toot the Tiny Tugboat
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	GP's: Behind Closed Doors
1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm	Police Interceptors
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:20pm	NCIS
4:15pm	Independence
6:00pm	5 News at 5
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News Tonight
8:00pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
9:00pm	On Benefits
10:00pm	Rich House, Poor House
11:00pm	Fritz! What Happened Next
12:05am	When Kids Kill: Bullied to Death

4

7:00am	Hollyoaks
7:30am	Coach Trip
7:55am	Baby Daddy
8:55am	Rules of Engagement
9:55am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
11:00am	Melissa and Joey
11:30am	Melissa and Joey
12:00pm	Baby Daddy
1:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
2:00pm	The Goldbergs
2:30pm	The Goldbergs
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
4:30pm	How I Met Your Mother
5:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
5:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm	The Goldbergs
6:30pm	The Goldbergs
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	The Goldbergs
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm	Gap Year
11:00pm	The Inbetweeners
11:30pm	The Inbetweeners
12:00am	The Big Bang Theory
12:30am	The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

10:00am	Barclays Premier League World
10:30am	Premier League 100 Club
11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Premier League Legends
12:30pm	Premier League Legends
1:00pm	Football's Greatest Moments
2:00pm	Great Sporting Moments
3:00pm	Premier League Legends
4:00pm	Spanish Football Gold
4:30pm	Football Gold
5:00pm	Football's Greatest Moments
5:30pm	Barclays Premier League World
6:00pm	Burns Night Again
6:15pm	Ricky Burns: My Greatest Night
6:45pm	Football Gold
7:00pm	The Fantasy Football Club
8:00pm	Live Premier League Darts
11:00pm	Premier League Match Pack
11:30pm	Burns Night Again
11:45pm	Ricky Burns: My Greatest Night
12:15am	La Liga Show

itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
2:55pm	ITV News London
3:00pm	Judge Rinder
4:00pm	Chopping Block
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	ITV News London
7:25pm	Party Election Broadcast by the UK Independence Party
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Help Stop Me Ageing! Tonight
9:00pm	Emmerdale
9:30pm	Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule
10:00pm	The Detectives
11:00pm	The Nightly Show with Jason Manford
11:30pm	ITV News
12:00am	ITV News London
12:15am	UEFA Europa League Highlights

itv2

7:00am	Planet's Funniest Animals
7:10am	You've Been Framed!
7:35am	Below Deck
8:20am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
9:30am	Coronation Street
10:00am	You've Been Framed!
10:30am	Below Deck
11:25am	The Hot Desk
11:35am	Bean
12:35pm	FYI Daily
12:40pm	Bean
1:25pm	Emmerdale
1:55pm	Coronation Street
2:30pm	You've Been Framed!
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	Funniest Ever You've Been Framed! Gold
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	Mom
10:30pm	Mom
11:00pm	Family Guy
11:30pm	Celebrity Juice
12:20am	Family Guy
12:45am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	You're Only Young Twice
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:25am	Where the Heart is
9:25am	The Royal
10:25am	Judge Judy
10:55am	Judge Judy
11:25am	Judge Judy
11:50am	Road to Avonlea
12:55pm	The Darling Buds of May
2:00pm	Heartbeat
3:05pm	The Royal <i>Drama series, a spin-off from Heartbeat, centring on a small 1960s hospital and featuring the sounds and fashions of the era.</i>
4:05pm	Where the Heart is
5:10pm	You're Only Young Twice
5:45pm	You're Only Young Twice
6:20pm	On the Buses
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Heartbeat
10:00pm	The Bletchley Circle
11:00pm	A Touch of Frost
1:10am	A Touch of Frost
3:10am	ITV3 Nightscreen

itv4

7:00am	The Sweeney
7:50am	Hogan's Heroes
8:15am	Hogan's Heroes
8:45am	The Professionals
9:45am	Ironsides
10:50am	The Sweeney
11:50am	The Chase
12:50pm	Cash Cowboys
1:50pm	Pawn Stars
2:20pm	Pawn Stars
2:50pm	Hogan's Heroes
3:25pm	Hogan's Heroes
3:55pm	Ironsides
4:55pm	The Professionals <i>Action-packed drama series about criminal-intelligence agents Bodie and Doyle.</i>
6:00pm	The Sweeney
7:05pm	Cash Cowboys
8:00pm	Pawn Stars
8:30pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	The Big Fish Off
10:00pm	River Monsters
11:05pm	Rambo III
12:05am	FYI Daily
12:10am	Rambo III
1:10am	The Sweeney
2:15am	The Professionals
3:15am	Hogan's Heroes
3:40am	ITV4 Nightscreen
4:00am	Teleshopping

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

11:50am	Avengers Confidential: Black Widow and Punisher
1:20pm	Spy
3:35pm	The Patriot
6:25pm	Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen
9:00pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War
11:00pm	Spy
1:15am	Self/Less

sky CINEMA COMEDY

6:10am	The Pink Panther
8:10am	The War of the Roses
10:10am	Ghost Town
12:00pm	The Top Ten Show 2017
12:15pm	Police Academy 7: Mission to Moscow
1:45pm	The Intern
3:50pm	Four Weddings and a Funeral
5:50pm	Hot Shots!
7:25pm	Hot Shots! Part Deux
9:00pm	The Intern
11:05pm	Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
1:05am	Brüno
2:35am	Rush Hour 2

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am	Wild Oats
8:35am	Pete's Dragon
10:25am	Date and Switch
12:00pm	The Conjuring 2
2:20pm	Wild Oats <i>Breezy comedy about two best friends who decide to take full advantage of a life insurance mix-up.</i>
4:00pm	Summer Camp <i>The spread of a rage-inducing virus causes all hell to break loose when a group of Americans pitch up to work at a remote Spanish summer camp</i>
5:35pm	Dirty 30
7:10pm	Pete's Dragon
9:00pm	The Conjuring 2 <i>Paranormal investigators Vera Farmiga and Patrick Wilson battle dark supernatural forces in London</i>
11:20pm	Summer Camp
12:50am	The Brand New Testament
2:50am	K-Shop

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	WWE SmackDown!
9:00am	Sky Sports Years
10:00am	Cricket's Greatest
10:30am	Cricket's Greatest
11:00am	Great Sporting Moments
11:15am	Great Sporting Moments
11:30am	Indian Premier League
4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League
8:30pm	Live Super League
11:30pm	Hsbic Rugby Sevens Highlights
12:00am	Sporting Triumphs
12:15am	Sporting Triumphs
12:30am	Sporting Triumphs
12:45am	Sporting Triumphs
1:00am	Super League Highlights
1:15am	Super League Gold
1:30am	Super League Gold
1:45am	Super League Gold
2:00am	Cricket World Cup Classics
3:00am	Super League Highlights
3:15am	Super League Gold
3:30am	Sporting Rivalries
4:00am	Cricket Classics
5:00am	Super League

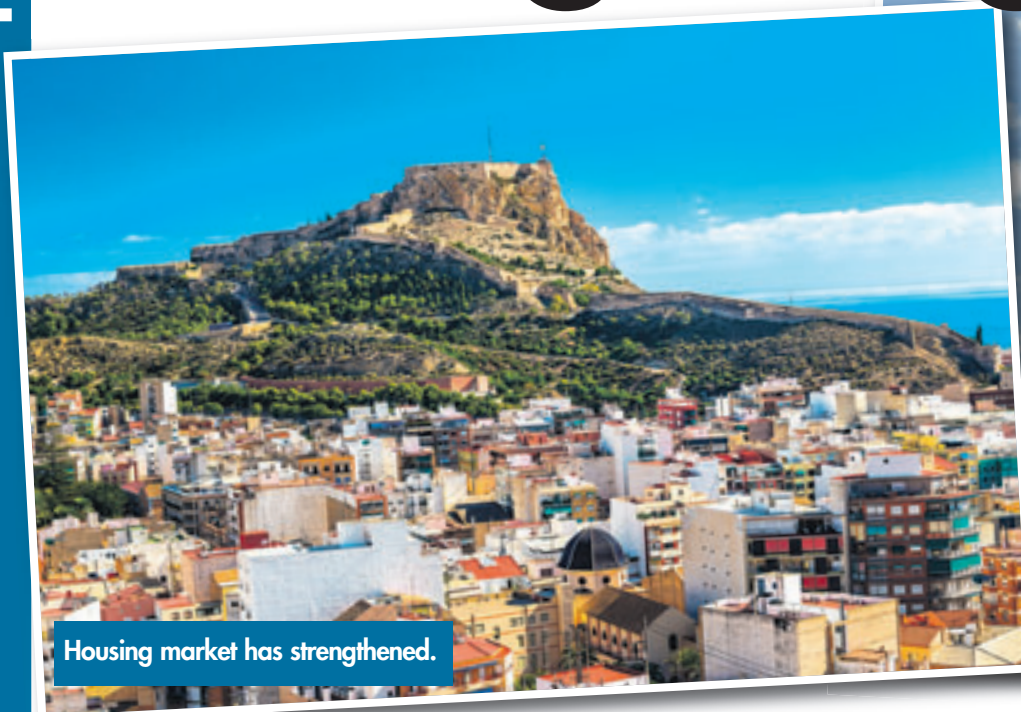
COSTA BLANCA SOUTH SUCCESS

PULL OUT

“It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them.”

Leonardo da Vinci

Still going strong



Housing market has strengthened.



Something for everyone to enjoy.

By Matthew Elliott

WHEN the financial crisis hit in 2008, everybody thought that Spain was out for the count. Newspapers and leaders all over Europe said that the dream was over, but they forgot to account for the sheer tenacity of the people and businesses still making their living in the sunshine.

The success of the Costa Blanca comes from its people, traditions, gastronomy and amazing potential. These factors didn't suddenly fade away when recession hit, people kept the faith and are now reaping the benefits again.

The Spanish housing market has gone from strength to strength with each passing year,

and 2017 is no exception. Latest figures from the Land Registry show that sales on the Costa Blanca are already up 17 per cent on this time last year.

This continued success just goes to show that Spain is continuing its recovery, and all despite the current political uncertainties in Europe following Brexit.

Thousands flock to the Costa Blanca every year to enjoy the climate and lifestyle that makes it such an attractive holiday destination. There is something for everyone to enjoy, from the traditional Spanish villages packed with whitewashed houses, to the golden sands and crystal clear waters of the beaches.

With average temperatures of around 18 degrees and over 2,800

hours of sunshine per year, it is no surprise that the coast continues to be a hit amongst tourists and residents alike.

The expat population is high and there are fantastic communities comprised of different nationalities throughout the Costa Blanca. The relatively small coastal towns like Orihuela are the perfect location for a second home in the sun, providing the perfect balance of traditional charm and tourist activities.

It's not just the promise of sun, sea, and sand that keeps people coming back to the Costa Blanca. The region is full of history and rich tradition, boasting some of the best cuisine that Spain has to offer. Everyone talks about the benefits of eating like a Spaniard.

“

There are hidden gems to be discovered throughout the Costa Blanca.

With a large amount of Spain's fruit and vegetables grown in Murcia, and the Mediterranean Sea on their doorstep, it makes sense that the region is a Mecca for great food.

Sun-soaked vineyards and tranquil olive groves produce two of the region's most fantastic products, wine and olive oil. The

cultivation of olives is synonymous with Spain, and this 'liquid gold' is at the heart of many dishes on the Costa Blanca.

The Mediterranean coast is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. This remains the case even after years of economic hardships and social ambiguity. There are hidden gems waiting to be discovered throughout the Costa Blanca, from hidden waterfalls in Alicante, to secluded islands off the coast at Torre Vieja, the regions offer a different and unique experience every time you visit.

The success of a destination hinges on community support, so support your local businesses, keep the wheels turning, and wave to those who thought we would never make it.



Failure is the condiment that gives success its flavour.

Truman Capote

VINCENT REAL ESTATE

Almost 20 decades of real estate services

VINCENT'S possess one of the most experienced teams on the Costa Blanca

WITH only 18 months to go until Vincent Real Estates' 20th anniversary the company has taken the opportunity to reflect on the past, the present and the future of this popular real estate business, and how this benefits both buyers and sellers here on the Costa Blanca.

From a husband and wife team in 1999 cutting their teeth in the 'good old days' Vincent Real Estate enjoyed the benefits of a strong real estate market. But they were also prepared to take on the tough times from 2008 defying all odds and coming out of the property recession with a strong, experienced team ready to build the business to what it has become today.

Winning international awards along the way and becoming one of the first members of the AIPP (Association of International Property Professionals) in the area, Vincent's has grown to a multiple office business with over 20 staff offering over 3,000 resale and new build proper-



VINCENT'S: Their modern and professional offices in Benijofar and Orihuela Costa.



Working extremely smart through the good times as well as the bad and keeping up with evolution, keeping family values, passion, having a desire for success and having an extremely hard working team that really becomes family."

ties to a cross section of European and Scandinavian buyers.

Today, Vincent's possess one of the most experienced teams on the Costa Blanca offering their knowledge and advice to not only home owners looking to sell but also the next generation of buyers looking to invest in their own piece of sunshine here on the Costa Blanca.

What does the future hold for Vincent Real Estate? With plans to break into new markets both nationally and internationally, attend exclusive property events across Europe and an ever increasing number of enquiries Vincent Properties Group SL are looking to expand their team and al-

low a small number of exceptional people to join their family.

So if you have telesales and/or sales experience (not necessarily in real estate) and speak English and at least one other language, enjoy working in a fast paced environment with like-minded people then Vincent Properties Group would like to talk to you (full training will be given).

If you want the opportunity to become part of the Vincent family, in the first instance please send a CV to info@vincent-realestate.com.

Make the right decision today and help them to help the owners and buyers of the future. Call 966 712 440.

Spanish stars' success in Hollywood

By Francesca Souter

IT is no secret that over the years Hollywood has had an issue with diversity. Last year saw the #OscarsSoWhite campaign which criticised the lack of representation for African American, Latino and Asian actors during the awards seasons.

This year, with the likes of Moonlight cleaning up at both the Golden Globes and the Oscars, it would seem that Hollywood is slowly learning its lesson.

Although we are still a long way from the equal recognition that many of these impressive actors deserve, many great Spanish born actors have paved the way for future generations to take advantage of the changing tide. The likes of dynamic husband and wife duo

Javier Bardem and Penelope Cruz are a prime example. Bardem became the first Spaniard to win an Oscar, winning Best Supporting Actor in 2007 for his role as the psychopathic assassin in No Country for Old Men.

He has made a name for himself as one of the most versatile actors of his generation and has received critical acclaim for his roles in both Spanish, and Hollywood films such as Boca a Boca and Skyfall.

Similarly, in 2008 Cruz became the first Spanish actress to win an Academy Award for her role as volatile painter Maria Elena in Vicky Cristina Barcelona.

Like her husband, she has enjoyed roles in big budget Hollywood films, such as Zoolander 2 in 2016, but she has concentrated much of her

career on the Spanish film scene, teaming up on numerous occasions with acclaimed director Pedro Almodovar.

These Hollywood heavyweights have set the bar for a new crop of up and coming Spaniards, such as Alex Gonzalez. Madrid born Gonzalez has directed much of his efforts so far on Spanish film and television, but he too has had a taste of Hollywood, making waves on the west coast whilst playing mutant 'Riptide' in 2011 film X-Men First Class.

It is clear that the opportunities are out there for young, Spanish actors to have a shot at the big time, with real support for them in the lively and acclaimed film scene found here, it just may take them a little more time to really crack Hollywood.



SPANISH BORN: Husband and wife duo Javier Bardem and Penelope Cruz.



Vincent

Real Estate

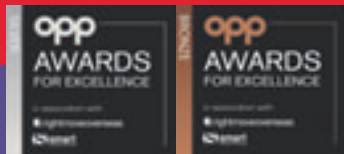
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Ref
OC 1294

LA FLORIDA €99,000

2 bed town house located in this popular area near to the local shopping centre, only 15 mins walk to beach



The worst part of success is trying to find someone who is happy for you.

Bette Midler

GOLD RUSH

Lottery coming to Gold Rush

GOLD RUSH is a company born of love and enthusiasm

WHEN Gold Rush first started in 2012, their slogan was 'you are not dreaming, it is real' as people were always shocked and impressed at the amount of genuine watches and diamonds in the store. Having developed and grown over the last few years, their slogan is now 'we buy, we sell, we share' better encompassing the values and ideals of the company.

Gold Rush, at the Zenia Boulevard shopping centre is run and owned by businessman Cesar Ripanu and it is so much more than a pawn shop. It is a company born of love and enthusiasm for gold, diamonds and precious stones. It is set in luxurious and elegant surroundings, making every customer feel like they are the only customer. But Cesar's customer service is outweighed by his expertise.

As a jewellery expert he often gets customers asking for advice about pieces and collectors' items, with Cesar happy to share his knowledge. The shop has the best microscope for jewellery analysis on the market, another reason why they are so popular:



GOLD RUSH: Home to unique pieces in Zenia Boulevard.

"We share information and I explain to them the process and value and answer any questions, it is not a secret code. It is about building up that bond and relationship of trust and many customers return time and again."

The secret to their success is no secret at all, they operate an honest and professional service and will value a whole jewellery item for people wanting to sell, not just the gold as Cesar explains that other companies

will ignore antique and unique pieces of jewellery and their precious stones and simply go on the weight of the gold: "This is criminal in my opinion and we will keep unique pieces for our own shop."



My service and dedication. It is an art and I am passionate about it.

New for 2017, Gold Rush are also pleased to announce they are currently in the process of arranging a lottery style draw giving customers the chance to enter to win an exclusive piece from the store.

So to buy or sell jewellery and gold pieces, or for repairs or a bespoke design service, visit Gold Rush. Tel 966 793 952.

Great Spanish inventions

THE British have the postage stamp, the television and the tank. The Americans have dental floss, microwaves and the internet.

The Irish have Guinness and the submarine. Every nation has had its own contributions to the world we live in today, but what inventions has Spain brought forth?

It's not all paella and siestas, our Spanish friends are responsible for many ingenious products which make our lives better. Let's take a look at a few:

We wouldn't have started floating around in space had it not been for Spaniard Emilio Herrera Linares, inventor of the first ever space suit in 1935. One small leap for man, one giant leap for Spain!

Nowadays guitars come in all shapes, sizes and colours, but around nine centuries ago, there were just two variations being

plucked across medieval Spain. They were eventually lost to a new design, la vinhuela, the first guitar to use six strings, in the 15th century. Little changed again until the 19th century when Antonio Torres Jurado, a Sevillano, made alterations to give us the guitar of today.

In 1949, Spanish teacher,

writer and inventor Angela Ruiz Robles had the idea to lighten the weight of the books carried by her students. Robles came up with a device she named 'the Mechanical Encyclopaedia,' which was the first electronic book. She was awarded a patent for her invention.

The favourite Christmas

tipple of everyone's grandmother, Sherry originated in the Spanish town of Jerez and has been one of Spain's largest exports for hundreds of years.

Finally, we all know that Spanish gastronomy is some of the best you can find. Chorizo, paella and Spanish omelette have all become favourites across the globe, but did you know that it was the Spanish who pioneered modern day hot chocolate?

Chocolate was first drunk in South America, where they drank it bitter and sometimes flavoured with spices. When the Spanish conquistadors landed on the continent, they did not take to the original mix, instead opting to create their own version sweetened with sugar.

For years they kept their prized chocolate a closely guarded secret, but fortunately for us they eventually chose to share it with the royal courts of Europe.



DRINKING CHOCOLATE: A closely guarded secret.

Self-made on Social Media

THE last few years have seen a big change in the way we use social media. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have all come home to the rise of the social media star.

Budding models, fitness freaks and lifestyle gurus have all been gifted with a platform from which to launch their own brands, to great success. The likes of Joe Wicks the body coach, Deliciously Ella and Hemsley & Hemsley have all shot to viral success through their savvy use of social media, amassing over six million followers worldwide between them.

For each one of them this has led to untold successes, with book deals and restaurants generating brands worth millions of pounds.

With countless people following this example and harnessing the power of likes, shares, hashtags and the potential to 'go viral' at any second, there is no doubting we have now entered a new age of self-made success.



GOLD RUSH

We buy, We sell, We share

Animal Attraction



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Never was anything great achieved without danger.

Niccolo Machiavelli

INMO INVESTMENTS

The driving force of real estate

INMO INVESTMENTS is the perfect partner for you

ESTABLISHED in 2003, Inmo Investments are the driving force of real estate on the Costa Blanca. Considering the ever growing number of real estate companies, why should a prospective home owner choose Inmo Investments to market their property?

With years of experience in the Orihuela Costa property market, locally based offices in La Zenia, and a multilingual, friendly and most of all, accessible professional team; they should be your first choice. You will feel in safe hands with this experienced and knowledgeable reputable estate agency.

Inmo Investments know that as a home owner, first impressions count and the correct marketing of your home is paramount. They represent your property to its best with outstanding photography with a keen eye for detail (there is nothing more frustrating than seeing a beautiful home ruined with awkward and ugly shots), quality promotional material, and most importantly a website optimised for global reach as a base to

showcase your home.

The first step for many clients looking to buy a home abroad is without doubt online and Inmo Investments spare no expense in utilising extensive online marketing, via a large number of renowned country specific portals throughout Europe, comprehensive social media coverage, monthly newsletters and of course more specific marketing including local print media, magazines, newspapers, in-house marketing and not forgetting direct marketing at dedicated property exhibitions across Europe.

With many years of experience both individually and combined, the Inmo Investments team can assist home owners in marketing their Spanish home, and can make the process of selling (or buying) a painless and stress free process. From advice on perfect pricing to ensure attracting offers from the right type of buyer and maximum exposure to European markets, to assisting in the legal process with their dedi-

cated in-house legal team, Inmo Investments offer a comprehensive package from start to finish.

If you have been considering putting your home on the Spanish

property market now is the ideal time to sell, and Inmo Investments is the perfect partner for you. For every buyer deterred by the recent political turmoil in the UK, there is another searching for their place in the sun.

Of course, Spain is a diverse community consisting of many nationalities which our multilingual sales

“Our personal commitment to our clients and the level of customer service we offer goes above and beyond and we work to stay leaders in the property industry.”

team are ready to assist.

The continued success of Inmo Investments speaks volumes, with a host of satisfied home owners and buyers. Contact them today on 966 919 917, visit the offices in La Zenia, or go to their website at www.inmoinvestments.com and see how they can work for you.



INMO INVESTMENTS: Leaders in marketing your property in the highest possible way.

Plan B?

STUDIES have shown that people who have a back-up plan are less likely to achieve success. Many of our goals in life are daunting, and the insurance of a back-up plan is a comfort, however, a plan B could reduce motivation and harm your chances of succeeding.

Fail to succeed

WHAT do Bill Gates, Walt Disney and Mark Zuckerberg have in common? They all experienced failures and setbacks before succeeding. How did they get to where they are today? They got up, dusted themselves off and came up with the new million dollar idea.

Branson on success

WRITING on his LinkedIn page, self-made billionaire Richard Branson says that “too many people measure how successful they are by how much money they make or the people that they associate with. In my opinion, true success should be measured by how happy you are.”

Spanish avocado exports

SPAIN is fast becoming a success story when it comes to the production and exportation of avocados. Fifty million kilos of the fruit are harvested each year and the sector is worth over €200 million.

The main growers are situated in the heart of Axarquia in Velez-Malaga, an area known for its microclimate and tropical produce.

The harvesting of the avocados is a little curious. Once the fruit has ripened, it can remain on the tree for up to six months before it is plucked. In Spanish crops, this tends to happen between December and May and TROPS, the company behind it all, claim that customer loyalty is high and demand is increasing.

TROPS export to 25 different countries, mainly in Europe, commanding a 15 to 20 per cent increase in value compared to avocados which come onto the continent

from South America. This is down to detriment caused by the time taken to transport from the likes of Mexico and Peru, making Spanish avocados the tastier option for the consumer.

Taking advantage of recent political tensions, TROPS are now considering expanding their reach even further with more business in the United States. The main supplier of avocados to the US is Mexico, which exports and supplies them with 700 million kilos of the fruit, but the rocky relationship between the two countries' presidents could leave a small gap in the market.

With Americans consuming a whopping one billion avocados per year, demand is high and unwavering and for the Spanish, this could be an incredibly lucrative market to crack.



AVOCADOS: Demand is high and unwavering.

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“Curious that we spend more time congratulating people who have succeeded than encouraging people who have not.”

Neil deGrasse Tyso

AA FREE ENGLISH TV

Reliable TV at modest prices

PROVIDING UK television services

AA FREE ENGLISH TV has been providing English television services for over 15 years in Spain on the Costa Blanca, Costa Calida and now worldwide.

The company fully understands the need of expats to have affordable and reliable television which AA Free English TV can provide on many different platforms including all premium channels from many countries.

They have a wealth of knowledge that they can draw on and will happily advise you on the best system for your needs and requirements and they boast they will not be beaten on price or service.

Their main specialisation is installing satellite systems mostly for European clients and they have dealt with many happy clients

from Holland, Spain, France, German, Scandinavia, Portugal, India and more.

Installer Stuart is a fully trained Sky engineer who has been in Spain for over 15 years and works with Pete, who set up the company in response to his own frustrations at not being able to get a decent reliable platform to watch British channels.

Satellites were once the main and only way to pick up British TV and are still very popular with AA Free English TV clients. Free to air systems start from as little as a €295 one-off payment.

Other options available to customers are IPTV internet protocol television. These work without a dish and just require an internet connection. They offer a full Sky package catch up TV service with



AA TV: Pete is ready to install your television system.

“I won't sell you Android boxes or IPTV if your internet connection is not good enough, others will. We try to work an honest and professional service, advising customers what is best for them.”

over 7,000 movies and 850 box sets series included, from only €299 including the receiver.

Android Smart TV receivers are available complete from only

€150 including 1,800 channels, movies, sports, ITV, BBC and all your other favourites. Pete believes these are the future of television as the infrastructure for the internet gets better and better.

All the systems are considerably cheaper than the monthly payments you pay to the re-broadcasting companies making them the sensible choice in making real monetary savings in the long term whilst still enjoying an ever widening range of programme choices.

AA Free English TV have also

installed brand new community systems plus upgraded and repaired many other community systems, so call now to ask for a free quotation for your community and you will be pleasantly surprised.

You can also see the systems working before you purchase from us. They are always at the end of the phone and nine times out of 10 we can get to our clients within 24 working hours.

AA Free English TV
Tel: 606 297 825

Visit: www.aafreeenglishstv.com/ or www.facebook.com/aafreeenglishstv/

Barcelona: A model for success in modern football

By Francesca Souter

MARCH saw two decisive matches in the Champions League, as Arsenal looked to recover their 5-1 aggregate deficit and Barcelona looked to put at least five goals past PSG.

Both seemed highly implausible, the two games requiring one team to perform a phenomenal turnaround, and only one managed to execute that. The difference between those two matches? Barcelona FC.

Few could have predicted Barcelona's spectacular comeback against PSG.

Losing 4-0 on aggregate, knowing that just one away goal from PSG could spell complete disaster, they would have to become the first team in European history to overcome the deficit they faced.

They became that team. Taking it all the way to the limits of extra time, this was a performance to stun all football fans, regardless of allegiance. Barcelona proved yet again in the space of 96 minutes that they are the ultimate success story.

There is no doubt that money and sponsorship have a major part to play for the success of any team, and each breeds the other.

More success attracts more money, and this can be seen throughout each sporting leagues all over the world. However, to gain success in the first place there is one vital element a club needs - a fantastic youth academy. This is where Barcelona has an edge over many of their rivals.

In the Premier League, we have seen world class players come through the ranks at clubs like Man-

chester United, Chelsea and more recently Tottenham (Harry Kane made his start there), but no academy is as world renowned as La Masia de Can Planes. Clubs the world throughout have tried to emulate their winning formula. It was this youth academy which produced the likes of Guardiola, Iniesta, Fabregas and most notably, Lionel Messi. At one time, Barcelona was able to field an entire team of La Masia players.

It was with the Guardiola era that real achievement came, as he brought his own La Masia training to Barcelona's game with great success, winning trophy after trophy, and promoting talented players to the first team. Many of these players became the foundations of the team for the years to follow, and the likes of Iniesta and Messi remain steadfast today,

playing key roles in the shaping of the Barcelona team.

However, as we move forwards, it is obvious that things are ever changing and developing in football. Although Barcelona does now seem to be moving away from their previous style of play, incorporating fewer academy players into the team, their historical win against PSG proved that the winning formula is ever present at the Camp Nou.



LIONEL MESSI:
Plays a key role in the team.



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“There will be times when you succeed and there will be times when you fail, and both are equally important.”

Ellen DeGeneres

CAMPOAMOR MARINE CENTRE

The customer always comes first at CMC

CMC through quality work and recommendations are truly going from strength to strength

CAMPOAMOR MARINE CENTRE (CMC) has, in just over two years, established itself as the indispensable go-to business for boat owners at the marina and further afield with boat owners now coming to CMC from Guardamar, Torre Vieja, Torre de la Horadada and San Pedro del Pinatar. Through quality work, conscientious customer care and plenty of recommendations CMC are truly going from strength to strength.

Many people realise the benefits of CMC being a one-stop shop for anything and everything boat related. They can guide and advise you on everything you need to know to get you out on the open water, from helping you purchase the right boat, to servicing, insuring and repairing it.

At the helm of this professional and friendly team is Lynden a qualified engineer with over 25 years experience, specialising in marine engines since 2007.

His team include Darren also with over 16 years marine experience and



CMC TEAM: Your passion is our purpose (from left) Darren, Andy and Lynden.

Andy who has 22 years as a surface finish technician.

As well as his love of getting down and dirty with marine engines Lynden and his team offer reliable electrical and mechanical repairs, diag-

nostics, boat registration, International Yacht Training and insurance services.

They offer full mechanical and electrical repairs, investigating and diagnosing the problem, making sure

the customer is kept informed on findings and cost, before repairing, supplying and fitting parts. It sounds straightforward, but it's the years of experience and skill that gets the job done and back out on the water.

“CMC's success is due to its team members, their knowledge, hard work and willingness to be better for all our customers. Your passion is our purpose.”

Anti-fouling treatments are also carried out, an essential process for continued performance of your boat.

Campoamor Marine Centre now offers a full diagnostic service and engine history. For just €60 they can provide you with valuable information about your marine engine. They also offer a pre-sale service which includes a printed comprehensive diagnostic report. It is all part of the service where the customer comes first.

For more information visit the CMC team.

Tel: 603 213 019

www.campoamor-marine-centre.com

Early bird

RESEARCH has shown that, when it comes to success and productivity, the early bird really does get the worm. A Harvard study has shown that physiology can play a role in our performance, and morning people have the edge, showing themselves to be more proactive, productive and alert.

Slow fast food

DID you know that the famous Colonel Sanders' recipe for his KFC took a grand total of nine years to perfect? He later went on to licence the recipe and received five cents per chicken. Another nine years later, he sold KFC for \$2 million.

Don't compare

THEODORE ROOSEVELT once said that "comparison is the thief of joy." There will always be someone who is, or seems, ahead of you, but life is a marathon, not a sprint. You don't need the recognition from others to affirm your accomplishments.

Business as (un)usual

By Francesca Souter

FOR every fantastic and innovative business idea, there is another of a little more dubious nature. In business, success can often be about having the perfect unique selling point. Here are a few successful businesses with some seriously unique ideas.

■ Rent-a-Mourner

Based in Essex, Rent-a-Mourner do exactly what you would expect. They are available for funerals and wakes by appointment.

Typically invited to help increase visitors to funerals, if your loved one has a slight issue in popularity, they're the people to call. They describe themselves on their website as 'extremely professional and very discreet' and charge around £50

per appearance.

■ Potato Parcel

Unperturbed by people criticising his seemingly stupid idea, Texas entrepreneur Alex Craig launched Potato Parcel in 2015 and was soon making \$10,000 per month. The premise is simple. For less than \$14, you can send someone a message up to 130 characters on the back of a potato. Craig describes the service as a 'quirky and hilarious alternative to the traditional card' and has recently gone international, with Potato Parcel now operating in Canada, Australia, the UK and the rest of Europe.

■ Cuddle Party

This American company describes itself as a movement, a workshop and a social event. Run by 'trained and certified

Cuddle Party Facilitators,' they teach communication and boundary skills before opening up for 'free style cuddling.'

Cuddle Parties are for people who want to meet new people, enjoy amazing conversations and have fun, 'in a structured safe place for exploration and enjoyment' or, of course, if you just want a cuddle. These events are happening all over the US, as well as in Australia, Canada, Denmark, England, Sweden and South Africa and you can even become a Cuddle Party facilitator yourself through a weekend workshop.

■ Box Cycle

Box Cycle is a marketplace for used cardboard boxes. The brains behind the company claim that while you may be tempted to say: "I'll just recycle," you're actually only reduc-

ing your environmental impact by a little bit. Through Box Cycle, you are facilitating local reuse, completely eliminating environmental impact and making a real difference.

■ Hangover Helpers

We all know that the worst part of a party is cleaning up the morning after, and when you've had a big night, it can be even harder to face. Based in Perth and Melbourne, Australia, Hangover Helpers will come to your home prepared to make the place look like the party never even happened. The staff will clean up your mess, serve you a choice of either a greasy or a green breakfast and help you get back on your feet, all with a smile on their faces! Prices start at \$200, with some testimonials stating that it was the best money they've spent in years!

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1998 Bowrider

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- Affordable Family Fun
- Suzuki 4 Stroke Outboard Incl.

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Virgil

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We're always with you, share your passion and are 100 per cent focused and committed to providing the best customer service possible."

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From school drop-out to billionaire

IF you were going to ask anyone on how to become a success, Richard Branson is one of the first people to spring to mind. With a net worth of around \$5 billion, he is most well-known for his airline Virgin Atlantic, but the man is much more than a few planes.

Fifty years after he started his first business, Branson now has over 400 companies under his direction.

The business mogul has been very vocal on what he believes constitutes success, employing a very no-nonsense approach. Quoted as saying things like "screw it, just get on and do it," and "a good leader doesn't get stuck behind a desk," Branson took a much more unexpected route into

business. Having started so many businesses and ventures for which he was nowhere near qualified, he managed to go from a 16-year-old drop out selling a magazine out of a crypt in a local church, to a well-liked and respected multi-billionaire who owns his own private island.

There is no doubt that this transformation took a lot of hard work and probably a little luck, but the Richard Branson story proves that we all start in the same place, with no money, no resources, few contacts and little experience.

If you wish to be a success in any aspect of life, you have to pick yourself up, have a little hope and get started regardless.



UNCONVENTIONAL: Branson pioneers the hands-on approach to business.

The feel-good album of success

WHEN we think of an album, we often relate this to a collection of songs by an artist. The list of songs may cover all manner of topics from broken hearts to feeling good.

Imagine an album of success, which would list all your achievements. Think of the character, Fletcher, an inmate in the comedy, Porridge. He thrives and prospers on success - which he likes to refer to as 'little victories,' when he has managed to get away with something he shouldn't.

Everyone has a personal view of what success is, and as the definition tells us - it is the accomplishment of an aim or a purpose. Naturally, each of us have different goals but the key to bringing about any kind of success, is the striving to reach a level of expertise in a chosen skill or even just carrying out a plan of action and seeing it right through to the end.

Make your own album and collect a list of your own achievements, for days that don't feel that successful. Find a moment in your day, and think about one of the songs on your album, then give yourself a pat on the back and say to yourself, 'well done.'



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"You must expect great things of yourself before you can do them."

Michael Jordan

SOFALAND

Choose comfort and style

SOFALAND will make sure you are happy with your new purchase

FOR comfort and choice then look no further than Sofaland in Quesada.

The Eastman family has been providing sofas and beds to thousands of families on the Costa Blanca in the last decade and has actually been making people more comfy in their homes since 1972, running their own furniture shops and warehouses in the UK. After moving to Spain 13 years ago, Sofaland was later established bringing their same skills, business expertise and quality service and products to the local expat market.

With literally hundreds of suites in the spacious showroom facility in the Lo Marabu area of Quesada, there is something for everyone, whether you are looking for a small practical piece or a sprawling corner unit giving room for the whole family to lounge on. There is perhaps the largest choice of suites on show in the Costa Blanca, with genuine leather sofas and chairs also available.

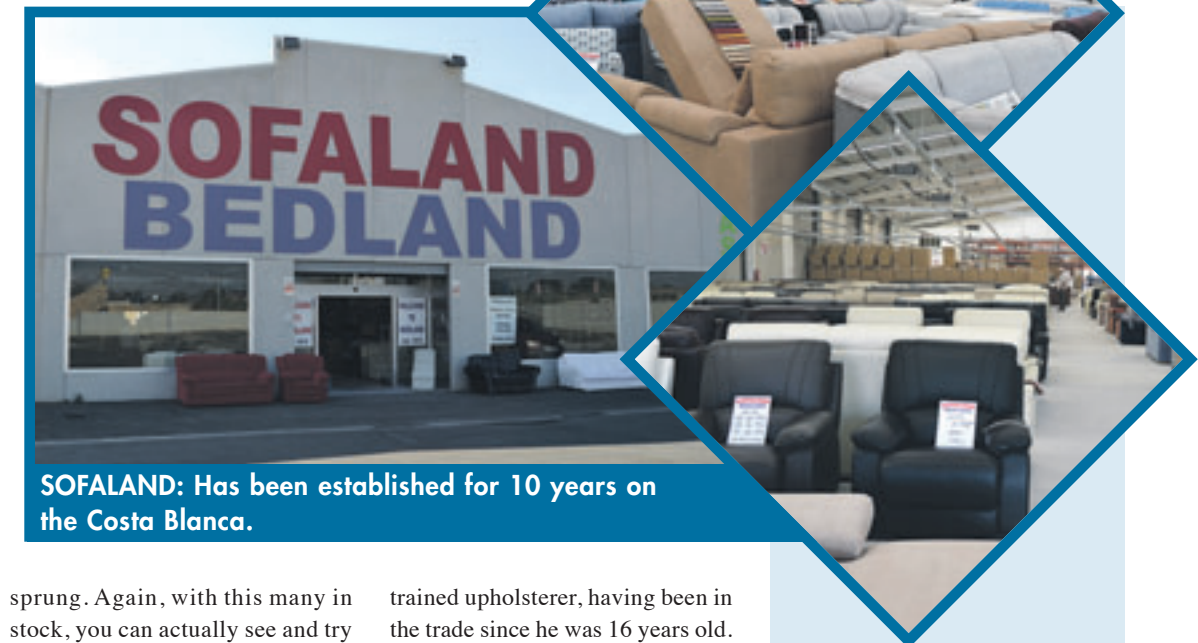
It means that customers can actually see the product they are buying

and do the all important sit test. For added comfort and space go for something with adjustable head and foot rests and stools housed in the arms. There really can be the perfect suite for you and if what you see isn't quite right, then the styles can be custom-made to your size with your choice of material and colour.

Many items can be bought straight from the shop floor and delivery is as quick and convenient to you as possible. The expert delivery team will come and take away your old sofa before positioning your new one, having total respect for being in your home, cleaning up after themselves and making sure you are happy with your new purchase.

Delivery is free within a 30km radius and all sofas come with a part exchange allowance of up to €500, making the already competitive prices even more affordable.

There is also a large range of mattresses and beds including orthopaedic, memory foam and pocket



SOFALAND: Has been established for 10 years on the Costa Blanca.

sprung. Again, with this many in stock, you can actually see and try what you will buy to ensure you have one that is just hard or soft enough for you to enjoy a good night's sleep all night every night.

All staff are on hand and able to assist and help you in any way they can and floor manager Paul is also a

trained upholsterer, having been in the trade since he was 16 years old. This means that should any problems arise with your new sofa, he can deal with them quickly and efficiently.

The showroom is open in Lo Marabu, close to Consum and Lidl, Monday to Friday from 9am-5pm and Saturdays from 9am-2pm.

*Sofaland
Lo Marabu,
Quesada
Tel: 966 843 916
Email:*

sofalandinternational@yahoo.co.uk

What is success?

THE problem with defining success is the multitude of people who cannot agree on its exact meaning.

To some people, success is earning a lot of money, and to others it can be health, happiness or family. Society itself seems to support the idea of the former group, that success can be measured by how much money a person earns and not what they have personally achieved.

For example, we may consider the CEO of a company to be a major success, whilst an 18-year-old who passed all his A Levels is just going through life's motions.

The reality is that both those people are successful. We cannot give success a blanket definition, because no one achievement is the same as another.

Success is a multifaceted and personal concept, and perhaps we should focus more on what makes us feel personally fulfilled rather than what others consider to be accomplishments.



BREAKFAST: Most important meal of the day.

Fuel up in the morning

THEY say breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so stay on the right track to success and make sure you fuel up in the morning.

According to *Success.com*, Marilyn Monroe ate two raw eggs whisked into cold milk and Muhammad Ali devoured two steaks and 12 eggs in the morning. But what about today's successful entrepreneurs, what do they eat?

Kevin Harrington, inventor of the infomercial and the 'As seen on TV' industry, said he starts the day with a vanilla protein milkshake, purified omega-3 fish oil, amino acids and glucosamine for joint health, along with a double espresso and mid-morning protein bar for later on.

Tai Lopez, an investor and advisor to many multimillion-dollar businesses, recommends a monthly blood test to detect nutrient deficiencies. He then eats food with whatever he is deficient in.

Jim Mathers, the CEO of North American Energy Advisory Inc, said for him it is about waking up excited to start the day, every day. This is followed by a protein shake and a latte with three shots of espresso.

Entrepreneur, business consultant and motivational speaker AJ Rivera believes it is best to keep a routine. He goes for a walk at 7am with his wife to their favourite coffee shop where he enjoys a black coffee and an oatmeal and banana cookie. This simple breakfast which is the same everyday frees up mental energy for making the bigger decisions whilst he also gets to spend quality time with his wife.



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Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."

Winston Churchill

EURO WEEKLY

Success comes with hard work

By John Smith

THE *Euro Weekly News* (EWN) is proud to bring you the Costa Blanca South Success supplement and modestly believes that the last 12 months have truly seen the emergence of an important new force in Spain, the EWN Media Group.

Starting from an initial base of six newspapers together with a tremendous website and Facebook presence packed full of stories and features backed by the hard work and dedication of its owners, the group is not ashamed to blow its own trumpet.

Now just 20 years on from what were quite small beginnings the EWN Media Group has just kept on growing despite the hostile financial environment that hit Spain from 2007 and the EWN family is proud to have seen their operation become the biggest and best English language news media group in Spain.

Indeed the family is growing and continues to march onwards and upwards after the acquisition of the second best expatriate title in Spain, the RTN as well as the *Sol Times*! Add to this the expansion of the RTN range to reach the Costa del Sol and a proposed Portuguese edition due later this year and it can be seen that this family is one that keeps on growing.

Guided by dynamic husband and wife team of Michel and Steven Euesden the energetic group is not content to sit back and wait for the business to come to it. Through the long period of recession, investment has been seen as the way forward. Investment in staff. Investment in technology. But most importantly, investment in time - the time to study and understand the needs and expectations of both clients and readers alike.

Each member of the EWN family, regardless of their duties is fiercely committed, not just to the newspapers and the website, but more importantly to the people that really matter - our clients and readers.

This commitment has been reciprocated by all that we work with. No other free English newspaper group in Spain can match the figures that the EWN can boast of.

They are figures that speak for themselves:

- Six editions: Costa Blanca North, Costa Blanca South, Costa del Sol, Axarquía, Almería and Mallorca.
- Each edition proves the group's superiority over free local rivals for the number of news stories, making our newspapers the best read out there.
- 134,000 copies distributed every week, 52 weeks a year. We never miss an edition and can substantiate our print run.
- More than 4,000 distribution points in expatriate hotspots, meaning you never have too far to go to pick up an issue.
- 10 offices across the Costas and Mallorca with another office opening soon and breaking into new territories means we are at the heart of the expatriate community in Spain.
- The best English language news website in Spain.
- The newest brightest and best business directory in Spain – EWNGetsit.com

Best Free Publication 2017



AEEPP AWARDS: Steven and Michel Euesden accept the award for Best Free Publication

eWN media group

Awarded Best FREE Newspaper in Spain 2017*
EuroWeekly
 Read by over half a million every week. News

rtN
 NEWSPAPER

THE SOLTIMES
 NEWSPAPER



Each member of the EWN family is fiercely committed.

Although we have offices in all of our print areas, a deliberate decision was made to base our head office in the heart of the Costa del Sol, within easy driving distance of any part of the area and because of its importance, we have a society journalist who knows the area intimately and regularly meets with those who count in the area.

In order to serve our readers and advertisers properly, we need to know what our readers want to see in the papers and for this reason, EWN raised the stakes with its latest readers' survey, offering a car as a prize and incentive, something that very few publishers would dream of doing, but if this tremendous growth is to continue then knowledge of our readers is something we need to have.

“It's fine to celebrate success but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure.”

Bill Gates

MEDIA GROUP

work and sacrifice

EWN online
in numbers...

948,473

Hits on the website this year
(267,421 more than last year
same period)

39.27%

increase

24.62%

of our readers use a tablet

19,560

likes on Facebook



Facebook's top
post was seen by

84,027

people!

10,262

Twitter followers



Bounce rate 2017

1.61%

44.77%

use their phone to check our site

30.59%

desktop



WORKING TOGETHER: With the community
for the community.

That was not just an exercise in curiosity. It shows the philosophy that has made the *EWN* so successful for more than 20 years. It shows our commitment and determination to do whatever is necessary in order to satisfy our readers and clients alike.

If we don't know who our readers are and what they want to read, then they will drift away as will our clients. Armed with the extensive results of our research we know we continue to produce a tremendous product that people do want to read.

The *EWN* is without doubt the most sought after free English newspaper in Spain and people often phone us to ask where it is, if for some reason delivery to any of our 4,000 distribution points is delayed for even as little as one hour.

This is also great news for our advertisers as they know that their adverts will receive the maximum exposure to an affluent and intelligent audience and they also know that we don't make up stories but actually research

them before rushing into print, especially if there is even a slight possibility of spreading negative misinformation about any of the areas that we and our advertisers are so close to.

EWN knows what it takes to be a success: hard work, a commitment to clients and readers, and knowing your market as well as the ability to sacrifice whatever is necessary to reach our goal.

4,000

distribution points
throughout Spain.

Success is something we strive for and one way of measuring that success is when readers and advertisers praise us, which happens far

more than one might expect, but the pinnacle of that success is when you are recognised by your peers and the *EWN Media Group* was delighted to be named Best Free Publication in the whole of Spain at the 2017 Spanish Periodical Association (AEEPP) Awards.

We are not however just in it for the money. The *EWN* has a social conscience which is why we are keen to report on as many charitable events as possible and where appropriate will also sponsor events on behalf of many cancer and animal charities as well as taking up the causes of several desperately ill children, especially in 2017 our campaign for youngster 'Leo the Lion' which helped to raise a six-figure sum in a matter of weeks towards specialist treatment in the USA.

We have been here for two decades and are proud to be recognised as part of not just the expatriate community but also a solid contributor to our host country Spain.

We pride ourselves on the fact that we work with the community for the community

and honestly believe that we publish the most informative and consistently accurate English language newspapers in Spain. Unlike others who rush to print on a rumour, our philosophy is to make sure that what we publish is correct.

One of the most pleasing aspects to the way in which we work is the fact that we receive so many requests for assistance with simple information as we are considered not just a media group, but a group of knowledgeable friends who are always ready to assist a reader or client who doesn't know where to turn.

EWN and its management care deeply about the expatriate community in Spain as well as our neighbours which makes all the difference and despite the Brexit result we continue to look forward to a future in which the group is firmly entrenched in its adoptive country.



The roughest roads often lead to the top."

Christina Aguilera

GRUPO INMOCOSTA

Become part of the Grupo Inmocosta family

GRUPO INMOCOSTA work hard at getting their clients their dream home by the sea

ESTABLISHED for 15 years, Grupo Inmocosta is a family-run business in the heart of Torrevieja.

Known for their high level of quality, efficiency and professionalism, they work hard at getting their clients their dream home by the sea.

Run by the Fuentes brothers, whose father was a popular constructor in the area, Torrevieja is in their blood and this passion and dedication for the city comes across in their business ethics.

Their corporate philosophy is based on offering a truthful and honest service, guiding clients the best they can under strictly professional criteria.

The team consists of experienced and accredited agents by the Official Agents College of Real Estate Agencies in Alicante and they are members of API, Asivega and CRS, the Council of Residential Specialists, so with Grupo Inmocosta you know you are dealing with a name you can trust.

With an extensive range of resale properties, both in Torrevieja and across the Vega Baja and down to the Orihuela Costa and Pilar de la Horada,



GRUPO INMOCOSTA: Renowned estate agents in the Costa Blanca.

da, their portfolio includes something for everyone from affordable apartment investments to luxury villas.

New builds are also available as Grupo Inmocosta use their constructing background and as well as being official agents for some of the best builders in the area, also offer their own builds. These highlight the skilled craftsmanship and quality finish Grupo

Inmocosta have and their attention to detail across all aspects of the construction and real estate industry.

They have recently built a small block of apartments in the Playa del Cura area of Torrevieja. With a fresh, modern finish, these apartments are ready to move into and this is indeed the case with one buyer receiving the keys just a week after deciding to buy

it. All two-bed apartments have been sold with just a one-bedroom property remaining, such is the popularity of Grupo Inmocosta's own builds.

For those looking to sell, the company will take every measure to try and ensure your property is sold within three months and with sellers taking the advice of the agents and allowing a bit of home staging to best present the



Being honest and open with our clients."

property, many are sold in less time. If not, a full market report will be carried out and discussions held with the owner to create a new marketing strategy.

Properties are advertised across international web portals and by being part of Asivega, they are able to work on a 'shared exclusive' basis meaning your property is being marketed by other reputed local agents, whilst still being under the control of Grupo Inmocosta. Home owners will receive monthly feedback and both buyers and sellers will be assisted fully in all aspects of buying and selling with information packs also available meaning that you can have a stress free experience and know more about what buying a property in Spain entails.

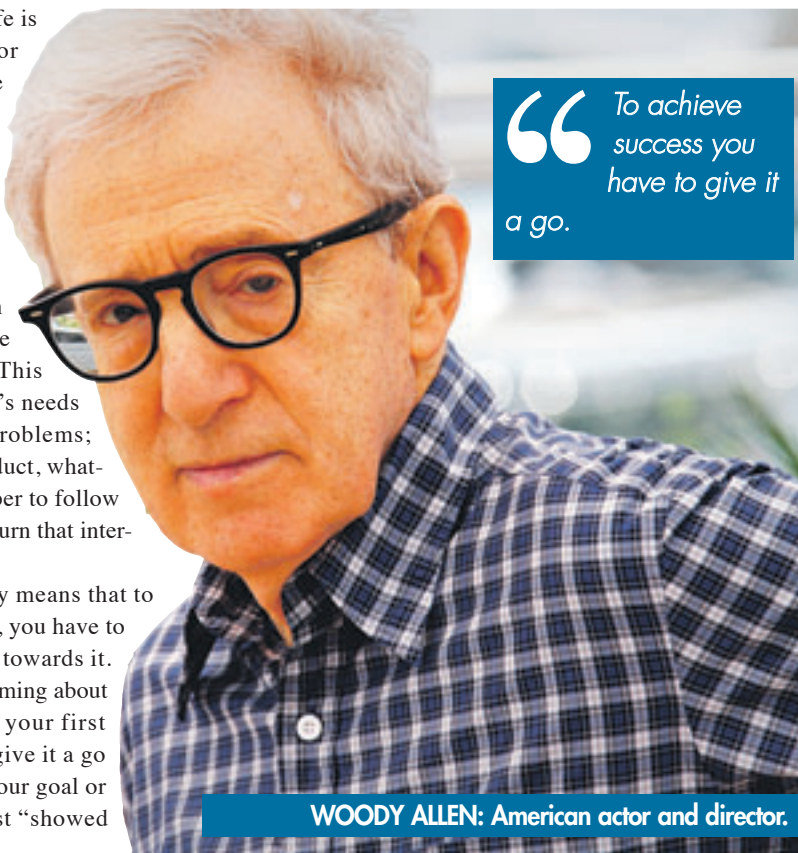
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Show up for success

"EIGHTY per cent of success in life is just showing up." American actor and director Woody Allen once made this now infamous quote, but how true is it? Do we really just have to show up to be on the path to success? Surely if this was true, and it was this easy, we'd all be much more successful.

Showing up should be more than just a physical appearance, it's more about intellectually showing up. This means listening to your customer's needs and creating a solution to their problems; thereby creating a marketable product, whatever that may be. But also remember to follow up on any leads to ensure you can turn that interest in to a sale.

But maybe Woody Allen simply means that to achieve success on whatever level, you have to give it a go and take the first step towards it. Rather than just sitting around dreaming about success and how you will spend your first million, take action and actually give it a go otherwise you will never realise your goal or what really could await if you just "showed up."



To achieve success you have to give it a go.

WOODY ALLEN: American actor and director.

Go digital to learn Spanish

WITH more people than ever looking to learn a new language, millions are turning to technology to get educated.

Over 1.2 billion people are currently learning a language, with many of them aiming to gain access to better opportunities.

A demographic shift in language learners has led to the rise of free apps and websites that teach users languages from the comfort of their own homes. English remains the most in-demand language, with the British Council estimating that by 2020, two billion people worldwide will be learning the language.

Duolingo, a well-designed and user friendly site, teaches

languages the way they would be taught in schools, through a mix of reading, writing, listening and speaking.

They analyse the way in which each individual user learns and finds the most effective educational system possible to help them achieve their learning goals.

With 28 languages available, it's no surprise that Duolingo dominates app download charts, continuing to grow and expand as the demand for language speakers grows.

The accessibility of language education now means that a higher percentage of potential learners will successfully accomplish their goals.



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3 bed, 1 bath



Playa del Cura 69,000€
2 bed, 1 bath



Act the way you'd like to be and soon you'll be the way you'd like to act."

Bob Dylan

QUESADA FITNESS GYM

What's new at the Quesada Fitness Gym for 2017?

QUESADA FITNESS GYM is much more than just a gym

THE Quesada Fitness Gym: Boxing and MMA Club, has had another great start to the year with 300 new registrations since January 2017. This brings the total to 2,400 since they opened on January 11, 2016, which is a staggering average of 5.6 registrations every day since the launch.

As new members flock to the gym to see for themselves the quality facilities and become part of the Quesada Fitness Gym family, new experts have also joined including:

Tyler Brumitt. The fabulous Olympic Team GB Rhythmic Gymnast Tyler Brumitt is now teaching in the dance studio on Saturdays from 9.15-11.15am for youngsters aged from three to 16. Call 865 774 577 for more information.

Clyde Casey Hair Salon. The fabulous Clyde Casey is now established on the upper floor. Vidal Sassoon trained and award-winner

in last year's Welsh Professional Hair Awards, Clyde is bringing style and professionalism to the area. He will be joined by Rachel, a professional nail technician and hopes to open a beauty room in the near future. Call 603 175 564 for an appointment.

Hypnotherapy. Everyone knows Belinda Bradley as the gym's pilates and aerobics teacher, but few know that she is a spiritual minister and healer and during 2016 Belinda studied to qualify as a hypnotherapist. If you are suffering mentally, emotionally or physically from the stresses and strains of life, call 865 774 577 for a private consultation.

Top Fixed Interest. Vivienne Shepherd was a qualified and FCA registered independent financial advisor with her own limited company in the UK for over 25 years.

Disappointed with the standards of financial products in Spain after



Our team have a huge diversification of talents and qualifications. No prima donnas, no jobsworth and no tantrums. Just a team of people who all want the best for the gym and its members and our passion is infectious."

testing out a simple investment with her own pension over the last three years, she has agreed to be a certified distributor for a fixed interest bond. This investment has no underlying reliance upon stock markets, high risk investments, indices or hidden terms and conditions. There are absolutely no hidden fees, charges or commissions that are taken from the clients' investment, so 100 per cent is invested and 100 per cent guarantee of

capital. This is a zero risk rated product. It is transparent and simple for clients to understand. Email viviennotopfixedinterest@gmail.com to arrange an appointment soon.

Sometimes the gym wonders if they are the Citizens Advice Bu-

reau. They do their best to provide answers, even if not gym related.

So for much more than just a gym, visit the Quesada Fitness Gym on Avenida del Aeropuerto, Quesada. Call 865 774 577 or visit www.quesadafitness.com.

QUESADA FITNESS:
The gym now has 2,400 members.

NEW TEAM: Clyde Casey is now within the salon at Quesada Fitness Gym.

Spain's fashionable mavericks

AFTER their successes at Mercedes Fashion Week in Moscow in March, Spanish designers proved yet again just why they have become some of the leading figures on the world fashion stage.

Spain is at the vanguard of fashion, with a fantastic mix of classic and kooky, but that hasn't always been the case. The Spanish style story happened almost overnight, with designers going from obscurity to walking the runway in fashion weeks around the world.

Today, Spain is probably best known for its high street kingdom of cool, with the likes of Zara, Pull & Bear and Mango opening stores up

on multiple continents. These brands all sell classic, effortless and chic clothing, with affordable pieces that pull in a younger buyer. Design teams pay close attention to the latest trends and it is the customer that really directs collections.

In fact, Zara produce only a very small number of pieces before the season starts. If a piece is seen to be doing well, the team will then create five similar items. As the brand is based in Spain and produces much of its clothing here, it is able to react to customer needs with lightning speed.

It is this type of business model which sets these Spanish high street brands apart from the plethora of other shops available.

However, as anyone who has ever paid attention to celebrity fashion on the red carpet knows, there is much more to the Spanish fashion scene than the high street. Manolo Blahnik, the high end shoe designer who has been producing his world

famous footwear for almost 50 years counts the likes of Beyonce and Madonna amongst his fans. Having revived the stiletto heel, Blahnik is an icon of not just Spanish, but worldwide fashion.

Straying a little from the clean style aesthetics we have come to expect from Spanish designers, Agatha Ruiz de la Prada has gained international recognition for her kooky brand, selling everything from clothing to ceramics. Always unexpected, her designs look more at home in a craft shop than a runway, but her clothing has been worn by the likes of Kate Middleton and Emma Stone.

With more than 43 Spanish fashion houses owning at least 100 stores in different countries, the Spanish model of business in the industry is undeniably effective and new designers can be encouraged by the potential to replicate the successes set out by these established innovators.



Spain is at the vanguard of fashion with a fantastic mix of classic and kooky.



QUESADA FITNESS GYM

MORE THAN JUST A GYM

SANTIAGO LOPEZ



THE MAIN MAN

THE PLACE TO MAKE FRIENDS



BODY CONDITIONING AND CAPOEIRA KING



JOSE JAVOLES

JASON SCAWTHORN



PREPARING SPIN ROOM REFURBISHMENT FOR SOME HOT CLASSES



**SERGI LOAYZA
HIP HOP CHAMPION**

KETTLEBELLS AND JUICE BAR QUEEN



JODI NORRIS

SARA PALOMBO



THE PERFECT PT AND PA AROUND

EVENING BOXING AND KICK BOXING WITH SANTIAGO LOPEZ



REGISTERED AND LICENSED FEDERATION DE BOXEO CLUB . FULLY QUALIFIED INSTRUCTION

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PILATES, AEROBICS, SPIRITUAL MINISTER AND QUALIFIED HYPNOTHERAPIST

ZUMBA AND ZUMBA GOLD



FUN WITH LEE MACREE



FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE KICKBOXING

CINTURÓN NEGRO



EL COMITÉ NACIONAL DE GRADOS acredita que:

D. SANTIAGO LÓPEZ SILVA

Se le expide título de **CINTURÓN NEGRO 1º GRADO de KICKBOXING**, tras reunir los requisitos exigidos para su acreditación, con fecha 12/11/2016.

Y para que conste se expide en Madrid el 13/11/2016.

Fdo. Secretario



Fdo. Presidente



TOP QUALIFICATIONS





What seems to us as bitter trials are often blessings in disguise."

Oscar Wilde

CLIMAZONE

Stay cool this summer with Climazone

CUSTOMERS can be assured they are dealing with professionals

CELEBRATING their 14th anniversary in May, Climazone has been keeping thousands of people cool in their homes and work places across the Costa Blanca and Costa Calida.

This father and son team know the air-conditioning business inside out and as well as installations, carry out breakdown services for domestic units and small bars and restaurants.

Steve has been working in the industry for 35 years. After previously working for both Spanish and British companies, he was frustrated with their practices and lack of after service and so decided to set up Climazone, focusing on a quality product and quality customer service.

City and Guild qualified he had all his UK qualifications transferred into the Spanish equivalent and his son James is now also fully qualified, going through Spanish training.

This means customers can be assured they are dealing with professionals and, should any problems arise, will deal with them quickly and efficiently. They also offer an installa-



CLIMAZONE: Customer service is at its heart.

tion guarantee as well as the manufacturer's guarantee.

Many people now simply go and buy an air-conditioning unit from a store themselves and find 'a man who can' to fit it. However, without being fitted by a qualified and registered engineer who can stamp the guarantee, the manufacturer's warranty can become invalid so in

the event of any problems, customers can find themselves with nowhere to turn.

Following a Climazone installation, any problems with the unit and Climazone will themselves speak to the manufacturers removing any hassle or potential language problems from the client.

They deal only in high range,

quality brands and for many years were the preferred installer for air-con for property companies such as Parador, Ambasun and Atlas during the boom.

Once a customer, Climazone believe you are always a customer and will be on hand to offer after sales service, maintenance and repairs. They will also help and ad-



Taking care of our customers and offering excellent customer service."

vice on achieving the best possible performance from the equipment you have invested in and are only a phone call away.

For more information on a quality and reliable installation and to prepare your home ready for the intense summer sun, call Climazone now on 965 465 068 or 607 337 104. Visit www.climazone.net or follow Climazone Elx on Facebook. Search YouTube and you can see the guys at work.

La Sala Group has major growth plans

WHEN you consider success on the Costa del Sol in particular, one group that has been in existence for less than 10 years immediately springs to mind and that is the now famous La Sala brand.

It is a professionally run business set up and managed by a number of like-minded individuals who want to create a brand that will continue to grow over the coming years and their success has seen them expand from their first venture, Buddha Beach which was opened in 2008.

Following the success of their first venture, they moved on to open La Sala Banus and the group benefited greatly from exposure in The Only Way is Essex and the fact that a number of names in the football world were attracted to the venue as individuals and whole teams.

As time passed, so they opened nightclub Aqwa Mist, La Sala Gibraltar, Oak Garden and Grill, rebranded Buddha Beach as La Sala by the Sea and have now announced a tie up with the famous Mahiki club in London to allow them to open Mahiki by La Sala in Marbella this coming May.

They also understand the need for publicity and their experiment last year with La Sala in the Sky which even attracted Mayor Bernal to the inaugural 'flight' ensured that the La Sala name was all over the media.

With 300 employees, a recently appointed Spanish CEO who understands the British mentality and 120,000 names on their data base, the La Sala outlets are the epitome of cool and their ongoing popularity demonstrates why they have been so successful.



They understand the need for publicity.

AN EXPERIMENT: The first flight of La Sala in the Sky.

Climazone

ELX SL

AIR CONDITIONING / AIRE ACONDICIONADO

Hisense



DAIKIN



Panasonic

**Qualified Engineers
Established 14 years
Servicing & breakdown**



965 465 068

607 337 104



FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTES

info@climazone.net



You will find the key to success under an alarm clock."

Benjamin Franklin

CASAS MANUEL

Casas Manuel are exceeding expectations

OFFERING a complete and comprehensive service

CASAS MANUEL is a popular family-run real estate business that has been successfully selling houses on the Costa Blanca for over a decade.

Run by the Rodriguez family, after years of being in the UK, it was time for the head of the household Manuel, to bring his family back to his home country and seeing the booming property market, they settled in the southern Costa Blanca and soon established Casas Manuel.

Based on true family values and a sense of wanting to make their clients feel like part of that family, they have helped hundreds of people ever since find their place in the sun.

Through their reliable and professional approach to business they have built up many strong relationships over the years throughout Spain, UK, France, Iceland, Sweden, Russia, Norway, Czech Republic and Holland. They pride themselves on offering a very personal and profes-

sional service to all clients, taking care of both the sellers and buyers.

Their ethos of offering an honest and reliable service saw them through the good times in the boom and also through the recession, remaining strong in a struggling market. They came out the other side busier than ever and now have a second office in La Zenia due to demand for more coastal properties and a stronger presence on the Orihuela Costa.

People often think buying and selling a property in Spain is a stressful process. It can be, but Casas Manuel believes it doesn't have to be and are there every step of the way. They offer a complete and comprehensive service, being able to put clients in touch with currency brokers, mortgage advisers, builders and alarm companies. They are proud to be able to provide a 'design and build' service.

The Casas Manuel family have been working closely with a team of architects,

designers, project managers and builders since they first started selling property in Spain with most of the work being renovations and building of swimming pools and kitchen and bathroom replacements. But as trends and the demands of industry change, more and more people are wanting to have their own unique dream home.

With the design and build concept, Casas Manuel help clients find a suitable plot of land before meeting with the architect and building contractor to get some ideas and pricing down on paper allowing you to truly get the house of your dreams.

Casas Manuel currently have a wide range of resale and new build properties for sale and are official agents for Solvia bank repossessions. So contact the team today in either Benijofar or La Zenia on 966 714 719. You can also follow the life of Casas Manuel currently on Channel Four's 'Sun, Sea and Selling Houses' weekdays at 5pm.



We have always stuck to our morals and values and are honest with buyers and sellers."



CASAS MANUEL: Have been successfully selling houses for over a decade.

It all started with a mouse

WHOEVER could have dreamed or imagined that a simple drawing of a mouse would have gone on to be arguably the most successful mouse and character in the world.

Mickey Mouse was the brainchild of Walter Elias 'Walt' Disney, born in December 1901 in Chicago, USA.

He had an early interest in drawing and was working as an illustrator at the age of 18 but at 22 was reported to have been fired from a newspaper where he was a cartoonist, for not being creative enough.

One of his earlier ventures also went bankrupt before he moved to California to set up the Disney Brothers Studio with his brother Roy, which later became The Walt Disney Company.

Walt developed the character Mickey Mouse in 1928, which was his first popular success.

During the golden age of animation in the 1930s and 40's, he wanted to move on from short cartoons and began work on a feature-length cartoon of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs



FUTURE PLANS: Walt never saw his EPCOT project come to fruition, but millions visit it each year.

which some in the industry at the time claimed would bankrupt the company. It was the first animated film in full

colour and sound and cost three times the budget, but the gamble paid off when it premiered in 1937.

By 1939 it had grossed of \$6.5 million, making it the most successful sound film of its time.



WALT DISNEY: Remains at the heart of Magic Kingdom in Walt Disney World.

In the 1950's, Disney expanded into the amusement park industry, and in 1955 opened Disneyland in Anaheim. He was also planning the Disney World theme park in Florida with the 'Magic Kingdom' and EPCOT.

Sadly Disney never got to see his dreams come to fruition as he passed away from lung cancer in December 1966.



CM4618 Benimar, Rojales

2 Bed / 1 Bath South Facing Villa. Similar properties Required!



CM5143 Montebello - Algorfa

Attractive semi-detached villa with private swimming pool, 3 Bed / 2 Bath, off-road parking, great outlook, mostly furnished.

PRICE: JUST €135,000!!



CM5203 Atalaya Park, Benijofar

Spacious detached villa on a 400sqm plot, 3 Bed / 2 Bath, off-road parking, Chill-out Zone with Jacuzzi, space for pool.

PRICE: JUST €199,950!!



CM5206 Ciudad Quesada (La Fiesta)

Stunning semi-detached villa, 2 Bed / 2 Bath, glazed naya, 255sqm corner plot, communal pool, sold part furnished.

PRICE: €160,000!! NOW €149,995



CM5254 Aguas Nuevas

2 Bed / 1 Bath South Facing Apartment Similar properties Required!



CM5258 Torreta Florida - Torrevieja

Well-presented S-Facing villa - 125sqm Build / 800sqm plot with heated pool, 3 Bed / 2 Bath, Salt lakes views.

PRICE: JUST €299,995!!



CM5310 Dehesa de Campoamor

South Facing Apartment with sea views! 1 Bed / 1 Bath, lift access, communal pool, walking distance to the beach!

PRICE: JUST €69,500!!

CASAS MANUEL
inmobiliaria
real estate
LA ZENIA + BENIJÓFAR
Nº1 IN LA ZONA THE AREA

Avda. Federico García Lorca • 96 671 4719 • casasmanuel.com



YOUR PROFESSIONAL FAMILY-RUN ESTATE AGENCY EST. 2001





The road to success is always under construction.

Arnold Palmer

TOLDOS GUARDAMAR

Leading the way for 35 years

WORKING hard on innovation and development of products

'MIGHTY oaks from little acorns grow.' A popular proverb that could have been created for Toldos Guardamar as from their small, humble beginnings over three decades ago, mighty oaks have grown as they are now the leading toldos and awnings company on the Costa Blanca celebrating their 35th anniversary.

This popular and successful company is the result of four generations of the Salvat family working hard on innovation and development of products within the industry.

Their story starts at the beginning of the 20th century, when an enterprising businessman, called Agustín Salvat Pros, got involved in the textile production in Barcelona. He was successful, and taught his family that the best way to succeed is to make useful products for their clients.

This creative momentum continued on to his first son, Pedro Salvat Obón, who achieved valuable innovations, some of which the company still uses nowadays. Now with Pedro



TOLDOS GUARDAMAR: Have gone from a small workshop to their 2,000sqm centre.

Junior at the helm, they have continued with this creativity and innovative ways. Along with his wife and sons and the great team of professionals that make up Toldos Guardamar, they carry on working

with the same passion and this year celebrate their 35th anniversary.

Over this time they have gone from activity in a small workshop to their 2,000 square metre production centre in the

Los Moras industrial estate, San Fulgencio. From here they use the latest technology in the manufacture of awnings and house a showroom exhibition area designed to make your visit a unique experience.



Our customer service means we get a lot of repeat customers who then also recommend us to their friends and family. Up to 40 per cent of our business comes from recommendations which is something we are very proud of. We also treat people as people and not just as customers and we have grown over a solid basis of trust, reliability and recommendation."

But Toldos Guardamar also counts their clients' trust as being a factor in allowing them to keep growing, in being able to choose innovation and the development of the best products to offer the best solution.

For more information contact them now on 966 726 258 or visit www.toldosguardamar.com.

The rhythm is gonna get you

KNOWN for their love of a good time, Spanish-speaking countries have long been producing some of the world's most influential musicians.

Carlos Santana, Enrique Iglesias, The Gypsy Kings, the list goes on. And try as we might, who could forget Los del Rio, creators of the Macarena?

But why is it Spain and South American countries are so well-known for their music?

Even before modern pop artists, these nations were renowned for dance and music, producing flamenco, the tango, salsa, samba and merengue.

On summer nights, many Andalusian squares host live performances. And even religious festi-

vals often include a musical lineup in their schedule.

Perhaps natives of Spanish-speaking countries possess particular rhythm?

Certainly the beats underlying popular songs by Jennifer Lopez or Ricky Martin have wide appeal; J Lo's eponymous best-selling album sold over 12 million copies worldwide.

When Colombian born Shakira released hit song 'Hips don't lie' in 2005, it quickly became one of the best-selling tunes of the 20th century.

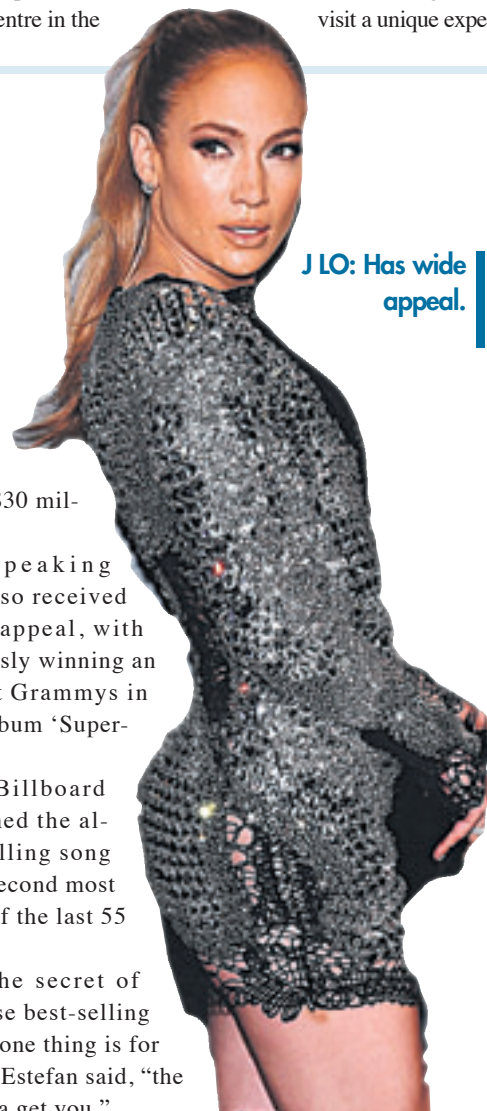
The singer now has an estimated personal wealth of \$220 million, far out-stripping rock legend, Rod Stewart, who has been performing for several decades

longer but is worth around \$30 million less.

Spanish-speaking artists have also received wide critical appeal, with Santana famously winning an amazing eight Grammys in 2000 for his album 'Supernatural.'

In 2013 Billboard magazine named the album's best-selling song 'Smooth' the second most popular song of the last 55 years.

Whatever the secret of success of these best-selling artists though, one thing is for sure; as Gloria Estefan said, "the rhythm is gonna get you."



J LO: Has wide appeal.

Talking your way to success

IN today's international markets, speaking a second language can become a real advantage in the world of business.

Around three quarters of British adults cannot speak a second language competently. In fact, in 2012, a study by the European Commission found that the UK has one of the lowest rates of linguistic acquisition in Europe, with just 39 per cent able to converse in a second language.

Brits may be missing a trick with their apathy. In the US, multiple studies have revealed that many business leaders believe employees with language skills to be significant assets within a company.

The lack of language skills in business can become an enormous barrier to expansion into overseas markets, so it is no surprise that language graduates and bilinguals are becoming increasingly desirable in the job market.

We cannot hide from globalisation, we must instead embrace it and adapt if we are going to continue to succeed.



ANIVERSARIO
1982 - 2017

TOLDOS GUARDAMAR

Leading the way for
35 years



An exhibition designed to make your visit a unique experience



C/Isla de Ibiza, 12-14. Pol. Ind. "Los Mora" - 966 726 258 - www.toldosguardamar.com



Success is finding satisfaction in giving a little more than you take."

Christopher Reeve

FALKEN TOURS

Setting sail with the cruise specialists

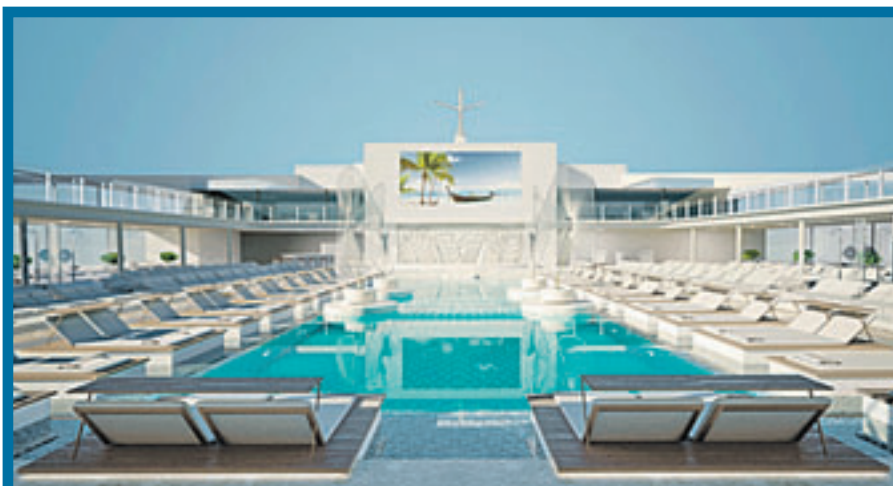
FALKEN TOURS have sourced some of the best cruises from the best companies

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

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

They work closely with MSC, drawn by their range of cruises and high class ships and facilities on board, making them a popular choice. The company is also preparing to launch the new Meraviglia ship which Falken Tours is offering with a Barcelona departure on October 6. Cruise expert Christopher Fischer, said this promises to deliver a cruising experience like never before.

The Meraviglia, or 'wonder' in English, is a true wonder. It is a new generation of ship with facilities and a modern, sleek style never seen before. There is first class entertain-



MSC MERAVIGLIA: Artist's impression of the new ship.

ment including a unique show from Cirque du Soleil and shopping like you would find on a city high street. Prices for this eight-day Mediterranean cruise start at €599 plus port tax, on a full board basis with an all inclusive drinks package available costing €26 per person per night.

Falken Tours are also proud to announce the spectacular Far Eastern cruise departing in March 2018. On board the MSC Splendida

cruisers will leave Dubai on a 28-night adventure visiting the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, Hong Kong, China and Japan. This unique cruise also involves several days at sea so you can truly benefit from the five star luxury and facilities you are surrounded with on board the Splendida.

Already cabins are being booked up so for the best prices, contact Falken Tours now. A



Offering a friendly and professional service working for our customers.

'Fantastica' cabin costs €4,338 including port tax for two people, or €4,698 per couple to include the 'cheers' drinks package with drinks during lunch and dinner. A 'Bella' cabin with balcony is €6,638 per couple including the drinks package.

The team at Falken Tours can also assist and advise on flights to Dubai and on obtaining the necessary visas required for some countries.

But for those looking to depart sooner or stay a little closer to home, there are still plenty of cruise choices available around the Mediterranean this summer.

Speak to the team now to find the right cruise for you. Enquire now and you could soon be setting sail into 2017 and 2018. Call 966 790 004 or 966 730 151.

How Spanish retailer became the most successful

THOSE hoping for success in business could do worse than look to Zara founder and owner, Amancio Ortega, for inspiration.

The Spaniard, who is Europe's richest man, and fourth richest in the world, has been named the planet's most successful retailer, with a personal worth of €72 billion.

The now 81-year-old epitomises the credos that hard work and talent can overcome the humblest of beginnings. Born in 1936 in Leon, Ortega's father was a railway worker. Not receiving much in the way of formal education, Ortega gained his passion for fashion at the age of 14, when he got a job at a local shirt maker and learned to make clothes.

Pursuing his love of tailoring, Ortega founded Zara with his then wife, Rosalia Mera, in 1975. Originally based in Spain, the label now has 2,123 stores in 93 countries. The famously fast-moving company has now

honed the art of up-to-the-minute style so well that clothing can be designed and on shelves in 25 days.

Now earning over €370 million a year, Ortega is still a humble man who regularly lunches with his employees in his office's cafeteria. Said to be a workaholic, he once went without a holiday for 25 years. He also stays out of the public glare, and has only ever given three interviews, saying, "in the street, I only want to be recognised by my family, my friends and the people I work with."

A firm philanthropist, the billionaire supports educational, social and cultural projects through the Amancio Ortega Foundation and recently donated €320 million to cancer research.

Anyone inspired by Ortega's success should note he credits "innovation and constant improvement" with his achievements and says "I'll keep working until the end."



ZARA: The label now has 2,123 stores in 93 countries.

1997 - 2017 20 YEARS

Falken Tours

REISEBÜRO TRAVEL AGENCY AGENCIA DE VIAJES

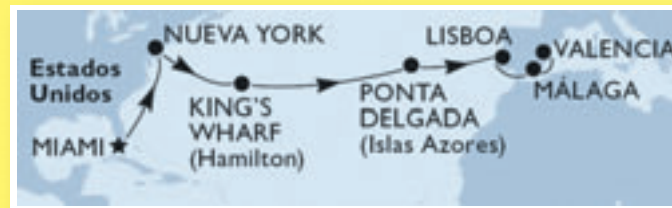
18.3.2018 - 12 day cruise Greek islands MSC Orchestra from Barcelona



Inside Bella 739€*

Balcony Bella 1,029€*

*Price per person in double cabin with full board + 210€ tax - Limited seats
*Bus transfer from La Zenia, Torrevieja, Quesada, La Marina and Elche included



08.03.2018 - 19 day transatlantic cruise with MSC Divina from Miami to Valencia

Date	Port	Arrival	Departure
08.03.18	Miami	-	20.00
11.03.18	New York	08:00	-
12.03.18	New York	-	18.00
14.03.18	King's Wharf, Bermuda	09.00	-
15.03.18	King's Wharf, Bermuda	-	18.00
20.03.18	Ponta Delgada, Portugal	08:00	-
21.03.18	Ponta Delgada, Portugal	-	13.00
23.03.18	Lisbon	09.00	23:59
24.03.18	Lisbon	00:01	06.00
25.03.18	Malaga	07.00	14.00
26.03.18	Valencia	09:00	-

Inside from 799 €* | Balcony from 1,279 €*

*Price per person in double cabin with full board + 250 € tax - flights not incl. - Limited seats.

*Bus transfer from Valencia to La Zenia, Torrevieja, Quesada, La Marina, Elche, Benidorm and Ondara inclusive.

8 days cruise with Costa Pacifica from Valencia



	27.09.17	04.10.17
Inside Classic	399€*	379€*
Outside Premium	519€*	479€*
Balcony Classic	629€*	579€*
Balcony Premium	699€*	639€*

*Price per person in double cabin with full board + 190 € tax - the tips you pay on board - Limited seats. *Bus transfer from Valencia to La Zenia, Torrevieja, Quesada, La Marina, Elche, Benidorm and Ondara inclusive.

31.03.18 - 29 day cruise MSC Splendida from Dubai to Yokohama



Inside Bella from 2,029€*

Balcony Bella from 3,069€*

*Price per person in double cabin with full board + 250€ tax - Limited seats
Incl. drink package "Cheers" during lunch and dinner
Incl. 3 excursions

Xmas cruises 2017

22.12.17



8 days Med cruise
MSC Meraviglia
from Barcelona

Inside Bella 589€*

Balcony Bella 919€*

*Price per person in double cabin with full board + 190€ tax - Limited seats.
*Bus transfer from La Zenia, Torrevieja, Quesada, La Marina and Elche included

19.12.17 - 12 day cruise Greek Islands MSC
Orchestra from Barcelona



Inside Bella 799€*

Balcony Bella 1,019€*

*Price per person in double cabin with full board + 210€ tax - Limited seats.
*Bus transfer from La Zenia, Torrevieja, Quesada, La Marina and Elche included

30.12.17 - 13 day cruise Canary/Madeira MSC
Orchestra from Barcelona



Inside Bella 1,189€*

Balcony Bella 1,579€*

*Price per person in double cabin with full board + 210€ tax - Limited seats.
*Bus transfer from La Zenia, Torrevieja, Quesada, La Marina and Elche included

Falken Tours

REISEBÜRO TRAVEL AGENCY AGENCIA DE VIAJES

Opening hours:

Monday - Friday 9.30 - 17.00
Saturday: 10.00 - 13.00

www.falkentours.co.uk

La Marina:

C/Mar Baltico 8 (between LIDL and ICELAND Supermarket)
Tel: 966 790 004

La Zenia:

Avda. de la Playa 1 (in front of Deutsche Bank)
Tel: 966 730 151



"I'd rather be a failure at something I love than a success at something I hate."

George Burns

PISCINAS ESCRIBANOS

Why not put your trust in the best?

PISCINAS ESCRIBANO are leaders in the spa world and are renowned for their signature built pools

WITH decades of experience in both spas and pools, last year they launched their new look as 'The Spa Superstore' in Torrevieja to mark their 40th anniversary, as well as a new website www.buyyourspa.com as a new easy to remember name along with their original www.piscinas.escribano.com.

Since then, they have continued providing quality spas and pools to customers on the Costa Blanca who are benefiting from their experience and knowledge of the last 40 years. This family-run business has worked hard and has provided thousands of clients with help and advice no matter how technical, dealing in several languages.

Whether you are thinking of building a pool or investing in your health by buying a new spa, you can rest assured that with Piscinas Escribano you are dealing with a company with very strong recommendations, a true lifetime of experience and professionalism, providing confidence when making that final decision.

Nichole Escribano said: "When thinking of making an investment in your property or your health you need to use the specialists and that is only gained through top quality standards, service and passion for the work done. All of this



SPA SUPERSTORE: For all your pool and spa needs in Torrevieja

put together builds the strength of the company which is an honour to be part of."

In today's market there are so many brands available but be warned, although many are from European countries some are shipped in from China for them, sometimes causing headaches finding spare or replacement parts. Piscinas Es-

cribano have always thought very strongly and worked hard to give their clients the 'Rolls Royce' of products at more competitive prices, having no hidden extras. Wellis Europe which is their main manufacturer for spas, produce in their warehouse more than 58,000 spas a year just for the European mar-



Over 40 years of experience and dedication to one industry leading to expert knowledge and service."

ket, exporting to all over the world.

They have also just released the 'Swimspa' pool and spa built into one; great for small gardens and people who want the best of both worlds.

Spas start from €4,995 including thermal cover, spa kit, maintenance free steps, transport, installation, crane and IVA.

To view spas or to discuss your pool requires or to purchase products, The Spa Superstore is open next to Iceland in Torrevieja Monday to Friday from 9.30am-2pm and Saturdays 10am-1.30pm.

Piscinas Escribano
Avenida Cortes Valencianas 11, Torrevieja
Tel. 965 711 136

Visit: www.buyyourspa.com or
www.piscinas.escribano.com

Worldwide success from East to West

THE phrase 'self-made man' has been used time and time again to describe success in business. This individualistic ideology puts emphasis on personal achievement, and has resulted in a strong competitive atmosphere in countries like the UK and US, where 'every man for himself' is often the order of the day.

The promotion of individual goals on the ladder to success is mainly attributed to countries in the West, with self reliance instilled in people from a young age. Success is often measured in achievement and wealth. For example, the higher the grades or the more advanced the technology, the more successful the nation. To struggle is to fail, and many work to make their lives more comfortable, often risking everything to better themselves.

In contrast, countries like China and India in the East often foster a

more collective attitude, instead striving to consider others in their work and success. Many take a more spiritual outlook on life, with struggle seen as an opportunity to learn from mistakes and develop as a person. More emphasis is placed on social responsibility and how actions are going to affect others.

These two very different ways of thinking have seen the rise of success stories on both sides of the world, with two very distinctive types of prosperity. Recent years have seen the rise of so called 'self-made billionaires' all over the world. In a recent list of the top 23 richest men, only five hailed from the East. A whopping 13 of the remaining men were American, confirming the theory that individualistic societies can easily create an environment in which one person can rise to untold riches.

The combined wealth of the 23 men listed tops \$1 trillion and includes other countries like the UK, Spain and Sweden.

In comparison, China, Japan and South Korea feature more prominently in Forbes Global 500, a list of the 500 most profitable businesses in the world, dominating the energy, technology, and car industries. This success could easily be traced back to the collectivist attitudes of the nations. In fact, figures show that of the top 10 largest employers, Eastern countries hold six of the places.

The idea that an ideology can affect a person's success is a relatively new consideration. Until recently, scientists had ignored the possibility that differing global mindsets could

affect business and success. Since 2010, multiple studies into attitudes and behaviour have shown that members of Western societies tended to value personal success over group achievement.

With businesses across the globe achieving untold success, it is impossible to claim that one ideology trumps the other, but perhaps the secret lies somewhere in the middle.



Success stories.

Fail to adapt, expect to fail

TIMES change, technology improves, and you have to adapt to survive. Businesses that don't get with the times risk being dethroned and replaced by a newer, more advanced version.

Take video rental pioneers Blockbusters as an example. At its peak, the company employed 60,000 people and boasted over 9,000 stores worldwide. However, a battle between the old school and the new began to rage in the late 2000s, when streaming heavyweights Netflix began their expansion outside of the US.

Although Blockbuster did attempt to revolutionise their business, rolling out a new streaming service, they didn't do it soon enough and in 2010 the group filed for bankruptcy. In this case, it was a question of speed.

Blockbuster showed willing to adapt, but were not quick enough in their execution. In today's fast paced world, business survival rests on the pinhead of innovation, and companies that drop the ball even for a second can end up fading into obscurity.

The Spa Superstore

by Piscinas Escribano

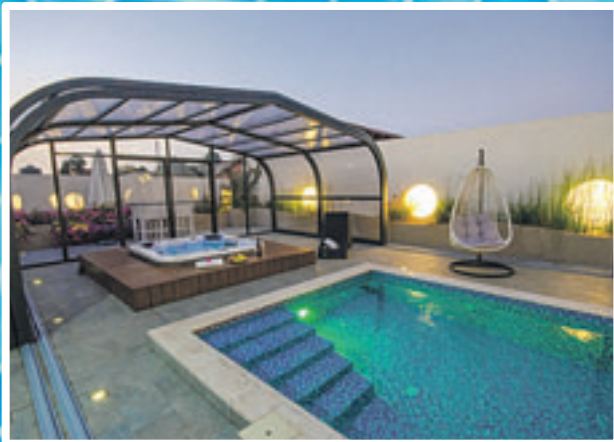
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Fame and success and titles stay with you, but they wear out eventually. In the end, all that you are left with is your character.

Ana Ivanovic

If at first you don't succeed...

THINK you're a failure? Career hasn't gone to plan? Business enterprise didn't make the millions you'd hoped? Well failure in one area doesn't mean you can't and won't succeed later on. Many people who are now household names and top of their fields struggled to get where they are today with many starting on a totally different path...

■ Oprah Winfrey

The American talk show host, actress, producer, and philanthropist had a rocky start to life. She was brought up in a low-income family and admitted once she was sexually abused. She became pregnant at the age of 14 but lost the baby and went to live with her father.

She was fired from her first job on a local television station, but has since gone on to become one of the most popular, influential and wealthiest women in media with television shows and even her own TV channel.

In 2013, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama. Forbes state her net wealth as around \$2.9 billion (€2.7 billion).

■ J K Rowling

The woman behind the most fa-

mous wizard of all time, Harry Potter, has said she believed she was a failure before penning the novels.

She was a single, divorced mother suffering from depression and struggling to make ends meet in Edinburgh. In 1995 all major publishers rejected the Harry Potter script. But a year later a small publishing house, Bloomsbury, accepted it and in 1997, the book was published but with only 1,000 copies. Today, Harry Potter is a multi-million franchise with books, films and even a West End show and J K Rowling is now considered to be the most successful female author in the UK. Her net worth is said to be around \$1.1 billion (€1.02 billion).

■ Henry Ford

Known for setting up the Ford Motor Company, one of the most successful automotive companies of all time, Ford is known to have failed twice before. His first foray into the motor industry was at the age of 36 with his first company, the Detroit Automobile Company.

That company went bankrupt. His second attempt was in 1901, when he formed the Henry Ford Company, which he ended up leaving with the rights to his name. It was with his

third try, with the Ford Motor Company, that finally became the success we all know today as he revolutionised the car industry. Ford died in 1947 but is reported that in today's money, he would be worth around \$200 billion (€187 billion).

■ Sir James Dyson

The Dyson is known around the world as the vacuum that doesn't lose suction, but it took the creator, James Dyson, years to finalise and invent the system using the concept of cyclonic separation. He wanted to create the world's first bag-less vacuum cleaner and it took over 5,000 failures to get it right. When he did, no UK distributor would take on the product so he hit the Japanese market and three years later he got his first US patent for it. However, he still struggled with manufacturers so Dyson formed his own company in 1993 to market the product. His net worth is reported to be \$4.2 billion (€3.9 billion) according to Forbes.



OPRAH WINFREY: Had a rocky start to life.

Marketing that missed the mark

THE general public is a fickle thing and can be incredibly difficult to predict. This has been the excuse pedalled out in the boardrooms of big companies across the world in the wake of serious marketing flops. A good advertising campaign can make or break a business, and even those established in their respective markets can take a big hit from a bad decision.

Just last week, Pepsi had to remove their newest advert from circulation on both television and their YouTube channel, after an unprecedented backlash from the public. The advert depicts popular celebrity supermodel Kendall Jenner, supposedly solving issues surrounding police brutality in the face of social activism, by handing a can of Pepsi to an officer.

The advert is reminiscent of Coca Cola's attempt in 1971 to suggest that a can of coke could unite the world in peace. Both

adverts are misguided in their endeavours to align themselves with activism for the sake of selling a product.

Another piece of marketing that fell flat was from Malaysia Airlines, who launched a competition in 2014 asking for travellers' 'ultimate bucket lists,' in a bid to distract from the flight MH17 and M H 3 7 0 tragedies. The company didn't seem to grasp that the idea of a 'bucket

MISSGUIDED:
Pepsi has apologised for making light of a serious issue.



list,' a list which usually includes things a person would like to do before they die, was perhaps a little ill advised in the aftermath of two disasters which cost the lives of hundreds.

None of these companies

have crumbled under the weight of such unfortunate mistakes, but these blunders do demonstrate the importance of a good marketing campaign in keeping customer support.

Some tips for a successful expat life

MOVING to a new country can be daunting, difficult, and daring. It can also be the start of an incredibly successful new life in completely new surroundings. If you want to reinvent yourself, start a new career, or break out of the mundane, it could be the best decision you make. Here are just a few tips to get the most out of the expat experience.

Learn the language, or at least try!

You may find that even a little knowledge of the local lingo will stand you in good stead. Never underestimate the effect it will have on the locals when you introduce yourself in their language, even if you don't get it spot on the first time. A language class could also be a great way to meet new people and learn a bit about the culture of your new home!

Be open

You've come this far, you might as well experience as much as possible! Say yes to plans with new friends, get out of the house and be brave. It can be a little overwhelming to start with, but contact with the outside world can help you to settle in.

Be positive!


It can be very easy to focus on even the smallest negatives of life in the unknown. The roads may be different, the public transport isn't the same, and you didn't understand a word the cashier said to you. A little positivity will see you through, and in no time those worries will melt away.



Heather Small

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BBC one

Table of program schedules for BBC one, including Breakfast, Fern Britton's Holy Land Journey, and various news programs.

BBC TWO

Table of program schedules for BBC two, including The Sheriffs are Coming, Money for Nothing, and Garden Rescue.

BBC FOUR

Table of program schedules for BBC four, including World News Today, Top of the Pops, and Music for Misfits.

CHANNEL 4

Table of program schedules for Channel 4, including Countdown, Everybody Loves Raymond, and The Big Bang Theory.

CHANNEL 5

Table of program schedules for Channel 5, including Thomas and Friends, Milkshake Monkey, and Peppa Pig.

4

Table of program schedules for Channel 4 (UK), including Hollyoaks, Coach Trip, and The Big Bang Theory.

sky SPORTS 1

Table of program schedules for Sky Sports 1, including Football Gold, Good Morning Sports Fans, and Barclays Premier League Preview.

itv

Table of program schedules for ITV, including Good Morning Britain, The Jeremy Kyle Show, and Judge Rinder.

itv2

Table of program schedules for ITV2, including Funniest Ever You've Been Framed!, Emmerdale, and Judge Rinder.

itv3

Table of program schedules for ITV3, including You're Only Young Twice, On the Buses, and Agatha Christie's Marple.

itv4

Table of program schedules for ITV4, including The Sweeney, Hogan's Heroes, and The Professionals.

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

Table of movie schedules for Sky Cinema Action & Adventure, including Camino, Deadpool, and Star Trek Beyond.

sky CINEMA COMEDY

Table of movie schedules for Sky Cinema Comedy, including Grease, My Big Fat Greek Wedding, and Ghostbusters.

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

Table of movie schedules for Sky Cinema Premiere, including Summer Camp, Wild Oats, and The Conjuring 2.

sky SPORTS 2

Table of program schedules for Sky Sports 2, including Cricket's Greatest, Indian Premier League, and Rugby Gold.

The schedules for the television programme pages are provided by an external company: we regret that any changes or errors are not the responsibility of Euro Weekly News.



MOUNTAIN VIEWS: Across to Africa.



SURFING PARADISE: For kite surfers.



LAID-BACK PORT: Has splendid architecture.

Travel

WILD, windy, raw and exotic, Cadiz was one of the first parts of Spain to welcome western civilisation as we know it, but today it stands firmly at the far edge of the tourist and travel experience. The province is sprawling with hot, dusty, coastal towns separated by pine forests and sublime beaches.

The skies are a deep, daily blue, which is why this is the Costa de la Luz. From the beaches and surrounding mountains you can easily see Africa. Yet it is the Arab and Gitano vibe which dominates through the splendid architecture and pulsating flamenco.

The laid-back port of Cadiz has some of the wildest carnivals in the world and a hip alternative community that makes a welcome change from the tourist magnets of Granada and Barcelona. There is an adventur-

Raw and unapologetic



FINE BEACHES: Are of world competition standard.

ous feel to the place, which first welcomed Roman and Phoenician armies thousands of years ago. Since then seafaring Spanish soldiers used Cadiz as a hub of empire and the archaic flavour of those forgotten

times lingers on today.

Trips to Cadiz are mainly based on three things. The beaches, food and isolation. From Tarifa to Vejer de la Frontera you will find some of Spain's finest virgin beaches, end-

lessly stretching around the craggy coastline. A renowned surfing paradise, beaches like Valdequeros are at world competition level standard but offer a spectacular reward for the non-surfer who just wants to

feel as though they are standing at the end of the world.

Fish of course is the prime dish at almost any restaurant. Across Cadiz you can be certain of enjoying local, freshly caught fish on demand, washed down with the region's acclaimed wines.

Unaccustomed to tourists to the same extent as other Spanish hotspots, you can't always expect good English or standard service. What you can expect is an excellent, hearty meal and an experience you won't soon forget.

Cadiz is easily accessible by car from Malaga Province, or by air from airports across both the UK and Spain. The nearest airport is Jerez, which Ryanair flies out of, and which is just over a half hour drive or one-hour train ride away from Cadiz city.

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Using only a select group of reputable insurance companies, Sunbay offers high quality and affordable car insurance, with a fully comprehensive premium starting from just €235 a year with basic cover from €135. International roadside assistance is included in policies as well as legal assistance and windscreens.

Funeral plans means you will not be leaving your loved ones with the heartache and financial burden of paying for your funeral after you have passed. With prices from just €76.23 per year, you can have cover of €7,350. Repatriation can also be included.

Monica said with the average cost of a funeral in this area being €4,400 this policy will even leave some cash left over to help with any other expenses. When choosing funeral insurance or a life insurance policy, it is also important to consider your budget and the needs



SUNBAY INSURANCE: Monica offers cover giving you the best products available.

of your loved ones, but Sunbay have made the process very simple and easy to understand. Simply email them your date of birth and they will send you all the information.

With the Brexit process now pending, many British expats are concerned about their medical care and feel in limbo over their future health cover with their SIP card, but Sunbay Insurance provides quality health plans, including co-payment plans, from just €29 a month.



House insurance is available as well as travel, business, boat, legal defence, mobile home and dog insurance.

The company you want to do business with are those that stand the test of time and Sunbay's insurers have been keeping promises to their customers since 1942 and all are fully Spanish registered. The insurer you select should offer a fair price and deliver the quality you require. Sunbay believes that each of their clients have unique needs when it comes to claims and there is 24hr English international assistance "because we know how difficult it is for our foreign customers to get instant help when needed if they have to do it in Spanish," said Monica, who has worked for one of the biggest brokers on the coast for over 10 years.

For more information or for a simple, free, non-obligation quote, call Monica at Sunbay now on 965 063 483 or pop into the office in Aguas Nuevas Monday to Friday from 9am-5pm.

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BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	4	sky SPORTS 1
12:00pm The Sheriffs are Coming	7:15am Flog It!	8:00pm 100 Days	7:00am Countdown	7:00am Milkshake!	7:00am Hollyoaks	7:00am Football Gold
12:45pm Claimed and Shamed	7:45am Bargain Hunt	8:30pm Timothy Spall: All at Sea	7:45am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:15am The Wright Stuff	7:30am Coach Trip	7:15am Football Gold
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	8:30am Money for Nothing	9:00pm Inside Chernobyl's Mega Tomb	8:10am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:30pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	8:00am Baby Daddy	7:30am Football Gold
2:00pm BBC News	9:15am Antiques Roadshow	10:00pm Empire of the Tsars: Romanov Russia with Lucy Worsley	8:35am The Big Bang Theory	1:25pm 5 News Lunchtime	8:30am Baby Daddy	7:45am Football Gold
2:15pm Regional News	10:15am Talking Snooker	11:00pm The Beginning and End of the Universe	9:00am The Big Bang Theory	1:30pm Fail Army	9:00am Brooklyn Nine-Nine	8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
2:20pm Weather	11:00am Snooker	12:00pm B is for Book	9:25am Postman Pat: The Movie	1:55pm Home and Away	9:30am Brooklyn Nine-Nine	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
2:25pm Doctors	1:15pm Super League Show	1:00am Everyday Miracles: The Genius of Sofas, Stockings and Scanners	11:00am We're Going on a Bear Hunt	2:25pm Neighbours	10:00am Melissa and Joey	10:00am Goals on Sunday
2:55pm The Code	2:00pm Snooker	2:00am The Ladybird Books Story: How Britain Got the Reading Bug	11:30am The Simpsons	2:55pm NCIS	10:30am Melissa and Joey	11:00am Football
3:40pm Escape to the Country	7:00pm Eggheads	3:00am Bright Lights, Brilliant Minds: A Tale of Three Cities	12:30pm The Simpsons	3:50pm Mrs Caldicot's Cabbage War	11:00pm Baby Daddy	11:30am Football
4:25pm Money for Nothing	7:30pm Debatable 2	4:00am Empire of the Tsars: Romanov Russia with Lucy Worsley	1:00pm The Question Jury	6:00pm Neighbours	11:30pm Baby Daddy	12:00pm Football
5:10pm Garden Rescue	8:00pm Top Gear		2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers	6:30pm Home and Away	12:00pm How I Met Your Mother	12:30pm Football
5:55pm Flog It!	9:00pm Nature's Weirdest Events		3:10pm Countdown	7:00pm Walt: The Man Behind the Myth	1:00pm The Goldbergs	1:00pm Football
6:45pm Pointless	10:00pm Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby		4:00pm Fifteen to One	9:00pm Police Interceptors	1:30pm The Goldbergs	3:30pm Football
7:30pm BBC News	11:00pm The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas		5:00pm French Collection	10:00pm Inside the Tube: Going Underground	2:00am Bridge to Terabithia	5:45pm Football
7:45pm Regional News	12:30am Snooker		6:00pm Couples Come Dine with Me	11:00pm All New Traffic Cops	4:00pm The Big Bang Theory	8:00pm Football
7:55pm Weather	1:20am Snooker		7:00pm The Simpsons	12:05am Football on 5 The Championship	5:00pm The Big Bang Theory	12:00am Scottish Football Round Up
8:00pm The One Show	3:20am Panorama		7:30pm Hollyoaks	1:05am Football on 5	5:30pm The Big Bang Theory	12:15am Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
8:30pm Would I Lie to You?	4:05am Shop Well for Less		8:00pm Channel 4 News	1:35am Comedy Bigmouths	6:00pm The Big Bang Theory	12:45am Scottish Football Round Up
9:00pm EastEnders	Consumer programme helping people to continue their lifestyle for less money.		8:30pm Travel Man	2:00am Super Casino	7:00pm The Big Bang Theory	1:00am Mnf Pre-Game Show
9:30pm Guardians of the Galaxy	5:00am This is BBC Two Highlights of programmes on BBC Two.		9:00pm Warship	Feeling lucky? Get the authentic, heart-thumping casino experience every night.	8:00pm Hollyoaks	2:00am Football
11:20pm BBC News			10:00pm Hunting the KGB Killers	Body of Proof	8:30pm Baby Daddy	2:30am Premier League Legends
11:40pm Regional News			11:30pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown		9:00pm The Big Bang Theory	3:00am The Premier League Years
11:45pm Weather			12:30am Three Wives, One Husband		9:30pm The Big Bang Theory	5:00am Sporting Heroes
11:50pm All Round to Mrs Brown's					10:00pm Made in Chelsea	
12:50am The Graham Norton Show					11:00pm Empire	
					12:00am The Big Bang Theory	
					12:30am The Big Bang Theory	
itv	itv2	itv3	itv4	sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE	sky CINEMA PREMIERE	sky SPORTS 2
7:00am Good Morning Britain	7:00am You've Been Framed!	7:00am In Loving Memory	7:00am Sporting Funnies	9:05am Ghost Rider	7:00am Dirty 30	7:00am Cricket Classics
9:30am Lorraine	7:25am You've Been Framed!	8:25am Carry on Dick	7:05am The Sweeney	11:05am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows	8:40am Kong: Skull Island Special	8:00am WWE Raw
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show	7:50am Britain's Got Talent	9:25am FYI Daily	8:00am The Professionals	1:05pm Armageddon	9:10am Finding Dory	9:00am Sky Sports Years
11:30am Columbo: Agenda for Murder	8:40am Emmerdale	9:30am Carry on Dick	8:55am Ironside	3:45pm Batman and Robin	11:00am Eskimo Tale	10:00am Cricket Classics
1:30pm Loose Women	9:15am Coronation Street	10:15am Carry on Abroad	9:55am The Sweeney	6:00pm John Wick	1:00pm The Shallows	11:00am Great Sporting Moments
2:25pm ITV Lunchtime News	9:45am Coronation Street	11:15am FYI Daily	11:00am Cash Cowboys	8:00pm Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows	2:40pm Star Trek Beyond	11:15am Great Sporting Moments
2:40pm All Star Family Fortunes	10:20am You've Been Framed!	11:20am Carry on Abroad	12:00pm Counting Cars	Pearl Harbour	Kirk and crew must fight back when a devastating ambush leaves them stranded on an alien planet.	11:30am Great Sporting Moments
3:25pm Judge Rinder	10:50am Grease Live	12:05pm Carry on Up the Khyber	12:30pm Counting Cars	1:15am RoboCop	The Top Ten Show 2017	11:45am Great Sporting Moments
4:25pm Culinary Genius	1:40pm Emmerdale	1:10pm FYI Daily	1:00pm Pawn Stars		5:10pm Finding Dory	12:00pm Racing News
5:25pm Tipping Point	2:10pm Coronation Street	1:15pm Carry on Up the Khyber	1:30pm Pawn Stars		Nemo and dad	12:30pm Great Sporting Moments
6:25pm The Chase	2:40pm Coronation Street	2:00pm Man About the House	1:55pm Hogan's Heroes		Marlin set out on a crazy underwater adventure to help their forgetful friend Dory find her mum and dad.	12:45pm Great Sporting Moments
7:25pm Local News and Weather	3:10pm Step Up 2: The Streets	3:00pm FYI Daily	2:30pm Hogan's Heroes			1:00pm Fight Night
7:45pm ITV Evening News	4:10pm FYI Daily	3:05pm Man About the House	3:00pm River Monsters			3:00pm Super League Gold
8:00pm Emmerdale	4:15pm Step Up 2: The Streets	3:50pm Rising Damp	4:05pm The Man From the Alamo			3:30pm Rugby League
8:30pm Coronation Street	5:10pm Happy Feet	4:50pm FYI Daily	5:05pm FYI Daily			8:30pm Spanish Football Gold
9:00pm Devon and Cornwall Cops	6:10pm FYI Daily	4:55pm Rising Damp	5:10pm The Man From the Alamo			8:40pm Football
9:30pm Coronation Street	6:15pm Happy Feet	5:55pm Are You Being Served?	5:50pm The Hanging Tree			10:40pm Spanish Football Gold
10:00pm Broadchurch	7:15pm The Amazing Spider-Man 2	6:55pm FYI Daily	6:50pm FYI Daily			11:00pm Super League Highlights
11:00pm The Nightly Show	8:15pm FYI Daily	7:00pm Are You Being Served?	6:55pm The Hanging Tree			11:30pm Dubai T20 Cricket Highlights
11:30pm ITV News	8:20pm The Amazing Spider-Man 2	7:55pm The Chase: Celebrity Special	8:00pm Pawn Stars			12:30am Sporting Mavericks
11:45pm Robson Green's Tales From the Coast	8:20pm The Amazing Spider-Man 2	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:30pm Pawn Stars			
12:50am The Nightly Show	10:00pm Family Guy	9:00pm Doc Martin	8:55pm The Chase: Celebrity Special			
1:15am Jackpot247	10:30pm The Great Indoors	10:00pm The Suspicions of Mr Whicher	10:00pm The Krays			
	11:00pm American Dad!	12:00pm Appropriate Adult	11:00pm FYI Daily			
	11:30pm American Dad!		11:05pm The Krays			
	12:00pm Family Guy		12:25am Bundesliga			
	12:30pm The Cleveland Show		1:25am Rugby			

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KIA CEED SW 1.6CRDi CONCEPT "2013"
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VOLVO XC90 2.4D SUMMUM AUTO 4x4 7 SEATS "2010"
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Coming Soon
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Coming Soon
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Advertising feature

Neater Heater, introducing the Adax Neo

SINCE discovering the benefits of Norwegian designed convector heaters seven years ago Richard and Tony have been striving to give their customers more choice by adding variety to their range of Neater Heaters.

“The choice we can now offer through our website’s online shop is quite staggering,” said Richard. “We can offer the cheaper basic Adax VP range, glass fronted heaters in a variety of colours, our original Beha panel heater, the contemporary Neo Heater with digital controls and the quirky Vigo heater. They all function using the same Norwegian technology (except the Turkish manufactured Vigo heater), but they offer a variety of style choices and can, in the case of the Neo, offer a whole lot more.”

“We have had Neos for a couple of years now and they have proved to be very popular,” Tony informed us. “First of all, they come with a choice of colours: White, silver, black, red, light blue and pink. They have a stylish contemporary modern look to them with a small digital LED display next to hidden, but easy-to-use, control buttons. Using these, you can pre-set the Neo heaters to turn on at certain times to your desired comfort temperature, and to then turn down to a set temperature when you expect to be asleep, or out of the house.



“This reduced temperature, the cutback temperature, could be a reduction to keep the chill off at night in a child’s bedroom, or you could reduce it to a temperature that effectively turns the heater off if you are out at work all day. The choices are yours. However, if the programmed temperature is not what you want, you can either temporarily override it for that specific period, or re-programme it, if you want a permanent change.”

NEATER HEATER DISTRIBUTORS: COSTA BLANCA SOUTH

- **BENIJOFAR:** Vincent Real Estate
Tel. 966 712 440
- **TORREVIEJA:** S J & A Digital
Tel. 966 319 253
- **BLUE LAGOON:** The Electrical Shop
(Euronic) Tel. 966 188 170
- **MURCIA PROVINCE:** Nigel & Anne home inspections
Tel. 660 893 861
- **TORREVIEJA:** For home inspections call
Edmund Tel. 966 765 552

Heaters also available for purchase at our online shop with free home delivery
WWW.NEATERHEATER.ES or Tel. 634 312 171

Neater Heaters are available as panel or skirting heaters. They can also all be supplied with feet to provide a stand-alone option.

There is now a network of agents and outlets throughout southern Spain. If your area is not covered, then the website’s online shop will allow you to select and pay for your heater, which if in stock will be delivered to you by courier free of charge within a couple of days of purchase.

SERRA DEL PORTS: A haven off the beaten track.



A worthy port of call

FROM crystal-clear rivers to stunning rocky outcrops, the little-known Serra del Ports is a haven for those wishing to get off the beaten track.

Located close to the River Ebro delta, the massif offers a dramatic, rugged landscape which covers around 60,000 hectares of the Catalonia, Valencia and Aragon regions.

The rivers Senia and Matarranya rise in the mountains and have carved

out spectacular limestone formations, with impressive cave and pothole systems and plenty of hidden pools where you can take a dip.

There is also a range of signposted hiking and cycling trails covering all types of ground, from ravines to streams, thick forest or high plains.

Wildlife includes Spanish ibex, wild boar, roe deer, badger, fox, wildcat, squirrel, and otter, plus numerous bird species including ea-

gles and an important griffon vulture colony, while there are over 1,000 species of flora and other vegetation.

The main access routes are at Horta de Sant Joan, where there is a small museum and information centre, Roquetes, and La Senia.

Accommodation, including camping, can be found around the villages of Valderrobres, Beceite and Arnes in addition to those mentioned above.

Advertising feature

Liberty Seguros are rewarding both existing and new customers



BETWEEN March 20 and June 26, 2017, existing customers of Liberty Seguros who take out a new home, car or life insurance policy, which is paid by direct debit, will be rewarded with 60€ Cashback directly to their bank account as long as it's in the SEPA zone.

Normally these Cashback offers have been exclusively for new customers but now, Liberty Seguros is rewarding loyalty to their own customers too with this 60€ Cashback.

However, new customers, taking out their first policy with the company, are not forgotten either. By taking out any of the aforementioned insurance covers they will get 40€ Cashback paid into their bank account in the SEPA zone, again if paid by direct debit!

These offers are not for renewals or replacements and some minimum premiums apply. For exam-



CASHBACK: Now being offered to existing customers as well as new customers.

ple, car insurance must be for fully comprehensive cover with an annual premium exceeding 400€;

Home insurance premiums for cover on the mainland and the Balearics must exceed 200€ or

150€ if the home is in the Canary Islands; and finally, Life Insurance premiums must have a value

greater than 150€.

One advantage in choosing Liberty Seguros is also the fact that you can discuss your requirements with a true professional agent or broker face-to-face (of which Liberty has over 300), in your own language, making the whole procedure much more personal than doing things over a telephone.

Liberty Seguros provides insurance not only for car, home, life, but also for pet, business and commercial, leisure like golf, marine, and personal injury; almost anything you may need to do with insurance from one leading company. That's why Liberty Seguros is considered the expat's number one choice.

For those who need the whereabouts of a Liberty broker or agent, they simply have to call 913 422 549 or visit www.libertyexpatriates.es.

Advertising feature

Staying cool this summer

WHY have window film installed on your home or office? There are numerous benefits from keeping heat out to reducing glare.

Here, professional fitters Cool Glass tinting gives seven top reasons why it can improve your property:

Decreases heat up to 75 per cent:

Today's solar control window films are highly efficient in reducing the amount of heat that passes through your windows into your home or office. Clear untreated glass blocks only 14 per cent of the sun's energy while solar screen films rejects 75 per cent, increasing the comfort of your property.

Protection from UV rays up to 99 per cent:

Solar control film blocks 99 per cent or more of UV rays while also significantly lowering solar heat gain. Reducing these two primary



WINDOW TINTING:
Range of benefits from installing window film.

causes of fading helps protect your valuable furnishings.

Reduce annoying glare up to 85 per cent:

Direct sunlight is not only annoying but can be dangerous if it obstructs your vision. Like

sunglasses, window film does an excellent job of reducing glare by up to 85 per cent.

Enjoy energy savings:

Solar control film can significantly reduce air conditioning bills as it keeps your house or

office cooler, saving you money on your electricity bills.

Increase privacy:

Stop prying eyes from seeing into your property through the day. With the mirror finish film you can see

out and no one can see in. They also have frosted film for glass balconies.

Enhance appearance:

Enhance your exterior of any home or office and get the look you desire with an

extensive range of solar control and decorative films. Cool Glass Tinting have a range of films available from clear to total blackout film.

Fast and easy:

At Cool Glass Tinting owner Mark Williams is fully qualified and trained with Ultimate Tinting in the UK before moving to Spain eight years ago. Mark operates a competitive pricing policy and offers free, no obligation quotations and unlimited advice on the type of tinting required.

Solar Screen film applied by Mark of Cool Glass Tinting is easy to clean, requires no special treatment and lasts for 10 years or more.

Cool Glass Tinting
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and Dutch
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www.coolglasstinting.com
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info@coolglasstinting.com

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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

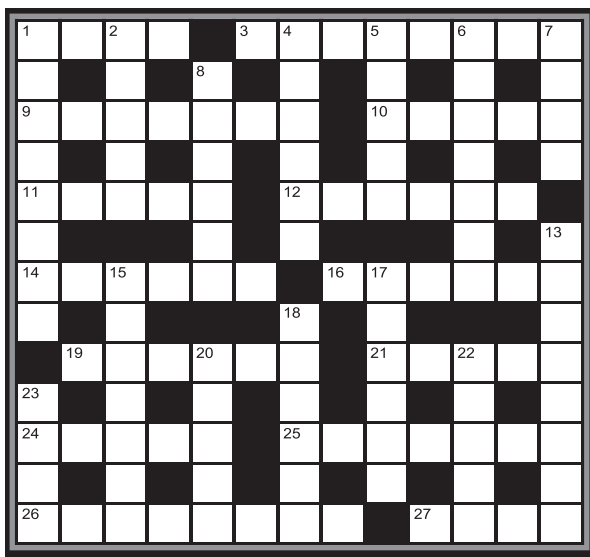
Cryptic

Across

- 1 German listener device? (4)
- 3 Virginia gets accountant into trouble on holiday (8)
- 9 Mob rage destroyed bar (7)
- 10 Appeal before first of team make crease (5)
- 11 A once wild body of water (5)
- 12 Canter off to get a fruit drink (6)
- 14 Plant in funny line around church (6)
- 16 Keep actors and the French (6)
- 19 Trouble held back plant (6)
- 21 Offend by using some cheap pale ale (5)
- 24 In pursuit of a later time (5)
- 25 Sell kit ingredients for a pan (7)
- 26 Buy a grip (8)
- 27 Employed some famous editors (4)

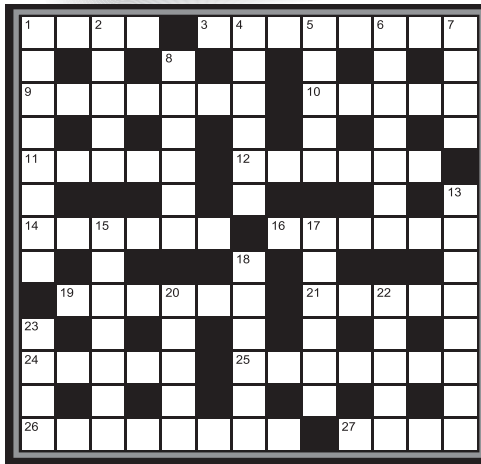
Down

- 1 Beer, long drunk in French city (8)
- 2 Blame design for promenade (5)
- 4 A party on the navy's decks (6)
- 5 Jelly snake, initially in charge (5)
- 6 Imprecise in former legislation (7)
- 7 Register the money (4)
- 8 Edge hoop in iron (6)
- 13 Flat indeed! (8)
- 15 Talk by many a milliner (7)



- 17 Slow passage of an American soldier through a party (6)
- 18 Dad employs brief rests (6)
- 20 Left bow in tree (5)
- 22 Votes for Europeans, by the sound of it (5)
- 23 Complain about freshwater fish (4)

Quick



Across

- 1 Not moving quickly (4)
- 3 Offer (8)
- 9 Talks idly (7)
- 10 Exchanges (5)
- 11 Japanese fish dish (5)
- 12 Winding sheet (6)
- 14 Join the military (6)
- 16 Skin disease (6)
- 19 Traditional Japanese system of unarmed combat (6)
- 21 Have in common (5)
- 24 Similar (5)
- 25 Become bigger (7)
- 26 United (8)
- 27 Charges (4)

Down

- 1 Indicating evil intent (8)
- 2 Sworn promises (5)
- 4 Strive against (6)
- 5 Baffling problem (5)
- 6 Act passed by a legislative body (7)
- 7 In smaller quantity (4)
- 8 Unusual mental ability (6)
- 13 Slapdash (8)
- 15 Showing the way by going first (7)
- 17 Expensive (6)
- 18 Remove or make invisible (6)
- 20 Completely skilled at or in (5)
- 22 Be in accord (5)
- 23 Lure (4)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Picks, 4 Iterate, 8 Ran,
- 9 Dreamboat, 10 Recital, 11 Total,
- 12 Yarrow, 14 Tender, 17 Sates,
- 18 Risking, 20 Grenadier, 22 Dye,
- 23 Returns, 24 Rests.

Down:

- 1 Portray, 2 Cynic, 3 Seditious,
- 4 Ideals, 5 Elm, 6 Adopted,
- 7 Extol, 11 Treasurer, 13 Retreat,
- 15 Regrets, 16 Orbits, 17 Sugar,
- 19 Indus, 21 Air.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Scared, 4 Depart, 9 Astound,
- 10 Vixen, 11 Cardigan, 13 Dour,
- 14 Wages, 17 Brisk, 20 Best,
- 21 Moussaka, 25 Scare,
- 26 Corrode, 27 Cancel, 28 Gentry.

Down:

- 1 Search, 2 After, 3 Elusive,
- 5 Envy, 6 Anxious, 7 Tenor, 8 Idea,
- 12 Nib, 15 Abstain, 16 Sum,
- 18 Reserve, 19 Lately, 20 Basic,
- 22 Once, 23 About, 24 Cede.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

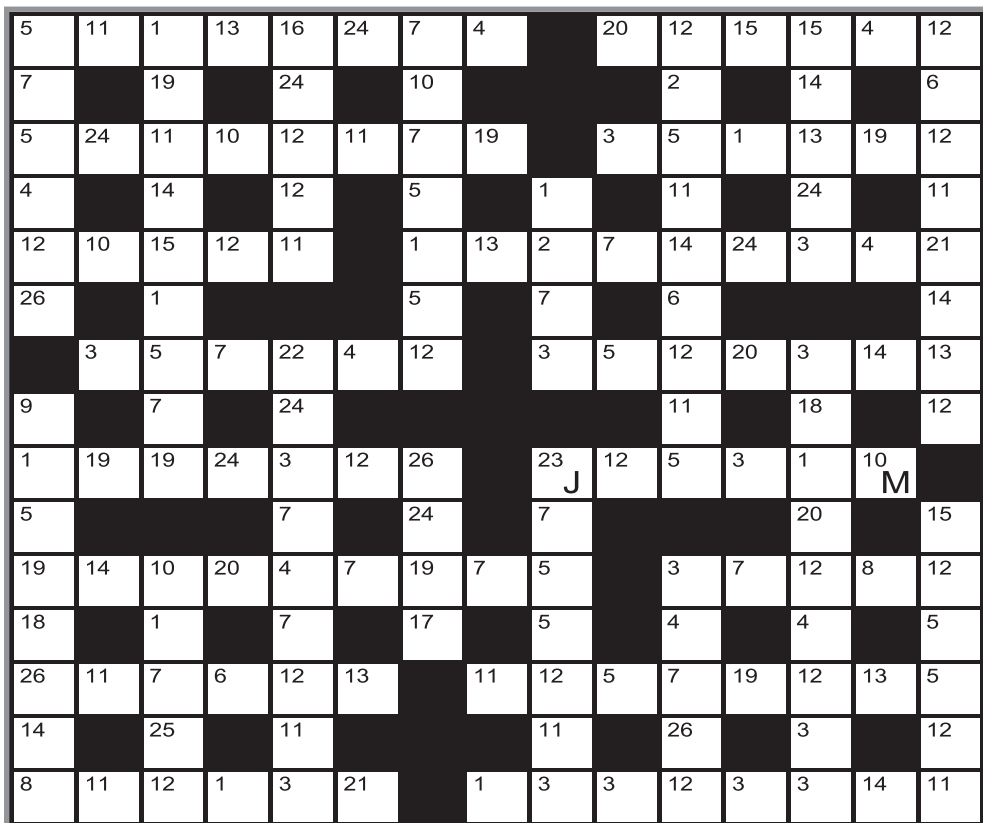
- 1 Once, 3 Caress,
- 8 Tartamudear, 9 Plata,
- 10 Ruler, 12 Saltamontes,
- 14 Signal, 15 Arms.

Down:

- 1 Octopuses, 2 Carta,
- 4 Acuarios, 5 Eye, 6 Surprises,
- 7 Calabaza, 11 Later, 13 Leg.

Code Breaker

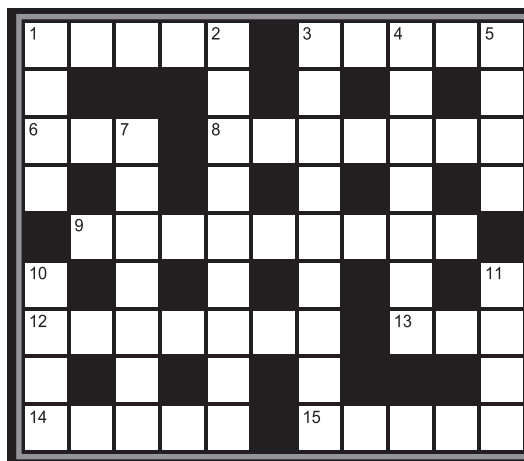
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 10 represents M and 23 represents J, so fill in M every time the figure 10 appears and J every time the figure 23 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters 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.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
									M			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
									J			

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Picadura (de abeja, avispa) (5)
- 3 Fear (5)
- 6 See 13
- 8 To direct (7)
- 9 Flash of lightning (9)
- 12 Ropa (7)
- 13/6 Día libre (3,3)
- 14 Escalón (5)
- 15 Sonrisa (5)

Down

- 1 Pronto (4)
- 2 Padrino (en bautizo) (9)
- 3 Butterflies (insects) (9)
- 4 Ocupado (7)
- 5 Other (4)
- 7 Mop (for floor) (7)
- 10 Helados (4)
- 11 Neumático (4)

CODE BREAKER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
C	Z	R	L	G	Y	E	D	N	F	I	W	H
14	K	P	T	V	J	O	M	Q	B	S	A	U



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Advertising feature

Get summer ready

SPRUCE up your home this spring and get it summer ready with Toldos 4 Sun providing awnings and toldos products for much-needed shade and protection.

Whether you are looking to keep the sun off your windows, make a sheltered area in the garden, or even need a car port, then Toldos 4 Sun, based in Urbanisation La Marina, can offer you every solution for your awning and toldos needs, which not only provide sun protection, but enhance the aesthetics and value of your property.

Owner Rafal Marciniak, has years of experience in the industry and offers exactly what he knows the customers want; cheap prices and high quality products. Together with his qualified and expert team, they have over 10 years of experience.

With hundreds of fabric colours to choose from, everything is on site with the products made below the showroom in the workshop. Only the best Teflon material is used in the finishing process which creates a barrier

which reinforces its water resistance and helps to prevent dirt stains.

All fabric is made in Spain and complies with the European Standard and protects against UV rays. There is a five year fabric diamond warranty and during that period you can rest assured that as long as you have maintained the product correctly, any physical or colour deterioration will be dealt with. Toldos 4 Sun, then also provide their own 10 year warranty on the actual structure.

The company offers a free on site quotation where you can speak to the friendly and knowledgeable team about what you are looking for and they can advise on the best product for you so that you will be protected from the harsh effects of the hot summer sun. Licences are not required for free-standing structures, so they make an easy addition to your home. Commercial premises can also be catered for and the company covers across the Costa Blanca and Costa Calida.

The showroom is situated in C C Monte Victoria, Calle Pedro Maria Unanue in Urbanisation La Marina, just a few metres down from the police station and tourist information office.

Now is the perfect time to get your property ready for the summer.



SUN PROTECTION: Stylish, practical awnings and toldos blinds.

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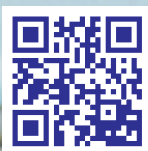
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Advertising feature

Call VP Advisers for help with filling out tax returns

NOW is the time all residents need to think about doing their tax returns. The 'Declaracion de la Renta' is a tax return that needs to be done for all those that are resident in Spain, or spend over 182 days in the country.

Some people are confused or concerned at filing a tax return in Spain, but with VP Advisers it is a straightforward procedure and they can assist you every step of the way and advise you to make sure you are required to do a 'Renta.'

The deadline is June, but already forms and paperwork are being filed and VP Advisers can do your return for just €30 per person, giving you complete legal peace of mind, for just a small fee.

Situated in La Mosca Commercial Centre in Playa Flamenca, VP Advisers are tax professionals. The company is formed by an expert team and is able to assist and advise in most instances, from tax management and business accountancy to conveyancing and wills. They now also offer traffic management services such as car transfers and traffic reports, all with the same low price policy as their other services.

The company has fully trained professional economists and lawyers covering all your legal needs and you will always speak directly with the professionals. It will be their expertise that assists you and they are continually keeping up-to-date with the ever changing laws, rules and regulations in Spain.



VP ADVISERS: In Playa Flamenca for all your fiscal and legal needs.

Their main form of business is conveyancing and accountancy, assisting you in setting up and running your own business or being a self-employed worker and doing your quarterly tax returns, all on a low price policy.

If you take the services of VP Advisers, there are no registration fees: "We started in the height of the economic crisis" said economist and owner David Valero: "So a lot of people were going through changes in their situation and our ethos was giving the correct legal advice for their situation and if they went on to use our services, we wanted to offer the best value possible."

For more information visit the office on the first floor of the La Mosca Commercial Centre open 10-2pm and from 3-6pm.

Tel: 965 327 714 or visit www.vpadvisers.com

Advertising feature



Your personal paradise

WHETHER you want to invest in your future or set up an idyllic retirement in sunny Spain then Savannah Park Resort is the place for you.

Savannah Park Resort is a brand new luxury mobile home park located five minutes from the beautiful picturesque town of Sorbas, Almeria. Sorbas has a variety of tapas bars, supermarkets, chemists, petrol stations, banks, a medical centre and a local daily bus service to Almeria City and Murcia. The resort is just a 30-minute drive from Almeria Airport and also 30 minutes drive from the beautiful beach resorts of Mojacar and Vera.

Savannah Park Resort offers luxury living mobile homes and lodge-style bungalows for sale, brand new or pre-loved at very affordable prices for you to enjoy all year round. All mobile homes are fully furnished so there's no stress of buying furniture once you are there. Just move in and start to enjoy the beautiful sunshine!

Savannah Park Resort boasts a huge selection of luxury mobile homes, static caravans, lodges and bungalows for you to choose from. If that all sounds like too much, then simply chat with the expert team on hand to help dis-



EXCELLENT FACILITIES: Include a sun terrace and lounge area.

cover which option suits you best.

Manufacturers featured include ABI, Willerby, Victory, Carnaby, Cosalt and Trigano. Unlike a lot of other holiday parks Savannah Park Resort have the mobile homes right on the park for you to go along and view. Please don't leave it too late as the plots are selling quickly!

Facilities include a clubhouse bar/restaurant and an outdoor swimming pool with sun terrace and lounge area with free Wi-Fi.

At Savannah Park Resort there's no skimping on space. Pitch sizes are up to 563m² and these are on a first come, first served basis to suit all

mobile homes, luxury lodges and motorhomes.

The grounds are kept immaculate year round with the lawns, shrubs and trees lovingly tended by professionals with a passion for beauty.

Having worked on various parks in the UK and France, the hand picked team at Savannah has over 20 years of holiday park experience and takes pride in making sure you are treated like family. The team always go the extra mile for customers and a member of staff is on site 24-hours.

The park is owned by two entrepreneurs who have a wealth of experience owning holiday parks and camping sites in the UK and Spain. They have built a reputation of understanding customer satisfaction is of paramount importance and never

Please contact Mags or Kevin in the sales department on either 00 34 950 387 823 or mobile number 00 34 658 258 218 or email them at sales@savannahparkresort.com for further information.

Feel free to pop in and visit them for a coffee and a chat to see what the team has to offer at Savannah Park Resort, Ctra.AI.4101 – De Sorbas, A Uleila Del Campo, Km.5.1, 04270, Sorbas, Almeria. They are open seven days a week from 10am – 7pm.

Visit them online at www.savannahparkresort.com

forget the customer always comes first. To understand their background and passion have a look online at www.savannahparkresort.com or SavannahParkResort Facebook page for all the latest news and updates.

What are you waiting for? Living in Spain and thinking of downsizing? On holiday dreaming of buying a holiday home in Spain? Looking for a second home for holiday purposes? At Savannah Park Resort there are also great facilities for motorhomes, tents and camping.

Prices start from €34,995 which includes your choice of plot, site fees for the first year, all your gas, water, electric connections and a new cement base. Site fees start from as little as €300 per month. Don't let this opportunity pass you by!

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

The Treaty of Rome

CARSTEN THORBOLD says there is nothing to celebrate but there is. If we go back 50 years to the original treaty we would see a trading agreement between the countries 'The Common Market.' If that agreement was still going there would have been no Brexit. The Common Market worked the current political behemoth of the EU, is the reason for Brexit. Perhaps Theresa May can negotiate something along the lines of the 1967 agreement.

Mike Priestley, Calahonda

Good old Leapy

LEAPY, it is the weekly anticipation of your column that gives me the energy to bend down each Thursday to pick up the paper. You haven't said much about Brexit recently so I wanted to run this past you.

I think that TM is playing a very clever double game here. By going down the Brexit road she satisfies all the Brexiteers but in the end if she can't get a good deal she will just say 'sorry chaps I tried but in the end we had to stay,' and everybody is happy ever after.

Do you remember the EWN front page a couple of weeks ago about the damage fruit growing is creating to the water supply? I wrote to 'have your say,' I agree with your headline 'Rivers at Risk.' It is an absolute disgrace river water is to be diverted from tourist and expat swimming pools and wasted on farmers growing food.'

It did not get printed... a bit too sarky perhaps?

Julien, Nerja

Dodgy walk

I HAVE just taken my first stroll along the beach board-

walk from Los Alamos towards Malaga with my son. On our way back, he chuckled as a bronzed naked man ran past us with a dog. Unfortunately we caught up with him by the beginning of the golf course and he was lying in the sand right next to the boardwalk, naked and very obviously masturbating for all to see.

Next was an old man urinating whilst standing on the boardwalk but clearly wanting people to see his member as they passed him. There were lots of people, young and old and families on bikes to witness this.

Perhaps your reporters should walk there some time and help put a stop to such lewd and obscene behaviour before more people are offended as I was this afternoon. Perhaps you should print a warning in your paper next week so people know what to expect. I most certainly will not be returning!

Helen, Malaga

Fly tipping

THIS may be a bit simplistic and I am probably stating the bleeding obvious, but, it seems to me, the reason 'Mr Smith' fly tips is because of the very high charges required in order to dispose of rubbish legally.

If charges were dropped there would be no need to fly tip and 'Mr Smith' could sleep easy in his bed at night.

Do the faceless ones who imposed these charges assume that if they discourage 'Mr Smith' from getting rid of his rubbish legally that a rubbish fairy will come along and magic it away?

By scrapping these charges, councils would save money by not spending large amounts clearing the countryside of rubbish which still has to be disposed of.

Ramble over, Keep the Faith.

C J Rushton, Alicante

COMMENTS from EWN Online

» IPTV

YOU are reporting on old news this was last year.

Sattv

NOT old! Saw it on *El Pais* national newspaper yesterday, happened this week.

James

» Secure bank notes

WALOB - Anything that is printed as much as the euro / pound or dollar has been is counterfeit, just what on earth are these idiots talking about. If there was no money there wouldn't be any problems in this world. IT'S ALL COUNTERFEIT!!!!

Richard Stevens

» Spanish incursion

THE Gibraltarian armed forces must get proactive on these provocations, the Spaniards are a nation of bullies and anything less will be taken as a sign of weakness.

David Harris

» Spaniards and Gibraltarians thrown off plane

WHY don't the GIBRALTERIANS [sic] have respect for Spain?

Deborah Kublin

WHY don't the GIBRALTERIANS [sic] have respect for Spain? Why should they? The Spanish don't deserve any respect, the Spanish don't have any respect for anybody but themselves... so selfish.

R Root

MAYBE, just maybe, it is because the Spanish have no respect for the sovereignty of Gibraltar and the people of Gibraltar. Works both ways you know.

Michael

» Police are racist according to Al-Thani

WHAT this proves is that the Local Police are disrespectful, there for corruption / money and buggar all else. It's high time they were replaced totally by the National Police and Guardia Civil. They are quite possibly the most non-respected organisation in Spain and it's about time people started complaining LOUDLY.

John Higgins

HOW does this prove anything? Have you spoken with the officers involved? They were doing their job and an idiot who has taken the p1ss with Malaga over the investment in Marbella, continually missing deadlines, wasting years and millions of euros on a project he is not going ahead with, felt he deserved special treatment? The road was closed to traffic. Which bit of that did he not understand?

Stuart

» Dog fighting ring toppled

THE dogs are not dangerous or aggressive, HUMANS are! Humans make them fight, for their own personal gain. It is sick to do this to any animal. Don't blame the breed, blame the deed.

Jennifer B

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

Caring for animals

“

REGARDING Mr Fresham's letter:

You obviously do not or cannot read a Spanish newspaper nor listen to the Spanish radio.

Spain's OK... Not in my book regarding animal welfare. Literally thousands of Galgos/hunting dogs in Spain, when the hunting season ends, are either hanged in the woods, thrown down wells or taken into the wilderness to die of hunger.

In Mallorca last year a man killed his horse - beating it over the head with an iron bar because it didn't win its trotting trace. I'm a volunteer for the Centro Canino Refuge in Mallorca and have experienced the rescue of injured animals. Times have changed and attitudes too with education and the awareness that all creatures know pain, anxiety, fear, as well as joy and well-being.

In the hospital grounds in Mallorca a dog was found living and sleeping there. They told me he'd followed the ambulance when his owner was brought in and then died. The dog would not leave.

Olivia, Calvia, Mallorca



Credit: Andrew Bowden flickr.

Greyfriars Bobby guarded owner's grave for 14 years.

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

Advertising feature

Is there another solution?

ALTERNATIVE treatments for diseases such as haemorrhoids and fissures are available to avoid the need for surgery, with many patients already seeing the benefits for themselves.

Many people arrive at the QUPA centre in Los Montesinos and Altea through the Clinica Mejorate Physiotherapy and Osteopathy Centre, with many questions and unsure of the actual difference between a haemorrhoid and anal fissure.

Haemorrhoids are swollen veins in the area of the anus, specifically in the 'haemorrhoidal plexus.' Symptoms include itching and pain and sometimes bleeding.

Haemorrhoids tend to be more common in patients with a family history and among pregnant women. However, the most common cause can be over exer-

tion when trying to make bowel movements when constipated.

As a centre specialised in eliminating haemorrhoids without surgery, QUPA recommend other methods such as rubber band ligation, injection (sclerotherapy) and electric probe cauterisation.

“ There’s no need to be afraid as there’s no surgery and no more need to suffer in silence.

To help prevent the appearance of haemorrhoids, drink lots of fluids and increase fibre intake to avoid constipation and limit coffee, salt, spices or too acidic foods.

Anal fissures can be classified according to their form of appearance or according to their origin.

In the first case, if the fissure had appeared less than six weeks ago and the patient had never presented this problem, it would be an acute pathology.

In contrast, if a person usually has anal fissures always in the same site or if they last more than six weeks, it is more likely to be a chronic case. As specialists, QUPA can identify your type of fissures, including if they are a secondary type as a result of another problem.

Fissures are a tear in the lining of the lower rectum, causing pain during bowel movements, but this pain can be controlled from the first session of treatment. QUPA believes the key is not wanting to fix everything in

one fell swoop, but gradually apply the treatment over several sessions, to overcome the disease completely giving a more sustainable long term result.

The effectiveness of these treatments is similar to that of surgery, but without the risks associated with surgery and without the risk of causing incontinence.

Haemorrhoids and fissures are often ignored by people believing it to be too embarrassing to address, but suffer in silence no more and contact Clinica Mejorate today for more information.

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Wine’s flavour is formed in the brain

A REPORT suggests that wine could give your brain a work out.

A leading neuroscientist believes that drinking a glass of wine sparks a reaction in the sensory and emotional parts of the brain and it is this brain activation that actually constructs the taste of the wine.

The neuroscientist also believes that flavour is impacted by the drinker’s emotional connection to the wine as it conjures up memories and emotions.

Factors such as gender, age and even the genetic make-up of saliva can impact how wine tastes, in a term called ‘neurogastronomy’ which describes how the brain creates the perception of flavour.

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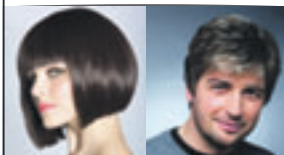
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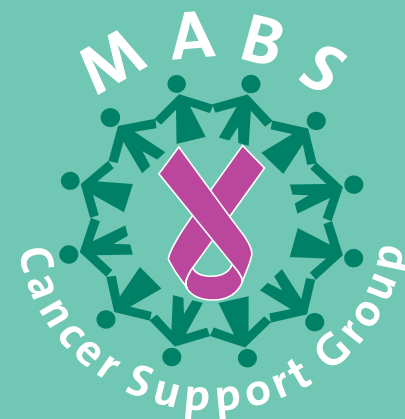
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ONE IN TEN: Men said they wanted less sex than their partner.

Are you in the mood?

A SEX survey has revealed that almost two-thirds of couples say sex is an important part of their relationship, yet one in three women admit their partner wants more sex than they do.

The findings were revealed from a survey of 5,000 people aged between 16 and 65 who were in a relationship. It was carried out by researchers from the Open University and Huddersfield University and found that

33 per cent of women agreed with the statement that their partners wanted more sex than they did. However, it also revealed that they accepted this difference as 'part and parcel' of a normal relationship.

Just one in 10 men said they wanted sex less than their partner.

The findings were presented to the British Sociological Association's annual conference in Manchester.



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A bittersweet tooth
- continuation of the previous article -

The ladies at the reception desk welcome me with a friendly smile and offer refreshments. My appointments are always on time, so unfortunately I have been unable to accept their kind offers.

I requested general anaesthesia for my treatment which makes it a lot more comfortable. The procedure is absolutely painless and on awakening I am relieved to find that I don't have to use the painkillers I am given.

At the end, when the Doctor fixes my new tooth in position it is difficult to believe there was ever a gap in my mouth at all!

With the flights and hotel, it does work out less than having the procedure done in Spain/Britain and I got a "free" holiday in an exciting city. As the number of teeth that need replacing increases, the savings go up. Someone needing an entire mouthful could have huge savings. I am very happy I made this decision.

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Type 2 diabetes



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

I'M a 50-year-old woman who has just been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. I'm a little overweight but have never eaten many sweets. Can I do anything to fix it or will I need insulin?

Diabetes is a chronic illness which overweight and obese people are more likely to develop, regardless of how many sweets or cakes they eat. Usually it can be kept under control with pills, daily exercise and diet. Insulin is kept for the most severe cases.

- So will I be on a diet for the rest of my life?

Yes, in that you will have to learn to follow a correct, balanced diet as this is an important part of treating diabetes.

- Will I have to stop drinking alcohol too?

You can drink without overdoing it. Two glasses of beer or wine (preferably red) are fine but stronger drinks should be left for special occasions.

- I've heard it's hereditary. Will my children get it too?

There is indeed an inherited genetic predisposition, yet weight is a more important factor. It's very rare for people who aren't overweight to develop this type of diabetes.

- I've heard diabetes can lead to other health problems. What are they and

how can I avoid them?

Type 2 diabetes is a chronic illness which can cause inflammation of the arteries. This can lead to eyesight problems, kidney problems, it affects nerves and increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes. The best way to reduce these risks is to keep up treatments, diet and exercise to keep your diabetes under control.

You should also stop smoking and keep an eye on your cholesterol and blood pressure levels.

A specialist in internal medicine can help you control all these factors.

- I didn't notice any symptoms before my diagnosis. Are there any warning signs?

Diabetes is tricky as there are often no symptoms initially. When they do appear they can range from a dry mouth, extreme tiredness, frequent urination and frequent infections to other complications such as a heart attack or stroke.

If you have any of these symptom, you should consult your specialist in internal medicine.

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

Food allergies are on the rise

FOOD allergies are increasing amongst the Spanish population and the country is not alone. According to the EACCI (European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology), it is estimated that by 2025, one in every two Europeans will suffer from some form of allergy.

President of the the Spanish Association of People with Food and Latex Allergies (AEPNAA), Angel Sanchez, said: 'The impact of food allergies on patients themselves, on the family and society is very important, since it seriously limits the social, school and work activities of those who suffer from them. Everyday activities become truly complicated for those affected.'

Food allergies, which occur when a person reacts to contact, ingestion or the inhalation of a food, may result from minor reactions such as a rash, hives, itching, cough, diarrhoea or vomiting, to more severe or serious reactions including respiratory distress, asthma, hypo-



NUTS: One of the most common allergies in Spaniards.

tension, palpitations or anaphylactic shock.

Hospital admissions in children due to anaphylactic shock have risen in recent years. Although the data varies accord-

ing to the age group or geographical area, in Spanish children, eggs and cow's milk are the most common allergies, followed by fish.

Some 1.3 million Spaniards

are affected by allergies of some sort with nuts and seafood the most common amongst the adult population.

The figures were released during World Allergy Week.

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Budget increases fo

THE Spanish Government is increasing its budget for health by 2.3 per cent.

The multi-million euro budget was delivered to the President of the Congress of Deputies, Ana Pastor, relating to healthy policies for 2017 within the Ministries of Health, Social Services and Equality.

€4m

is earmarked for the promotion of organ donation and transplantation.

Within the plans, a series of actions and endowments have been announced such as an amount of €4 million, which is earmarked for actions to tackle rare diseases and health strategies and to finance health programmes. Budgets have been announced for the prevention and control of AIDS and other STIs; as well as the improvement of Health Information Systems and the development of digital public systems.

The Spanish Agency for Medicines and Health Products has a budget of €46 million; €16 million for actions in food security within the Span-



SPANISH GOVERNMENT: Is increasing its b

ish Agency for Consumption and Food Safety and Nutrition and the National Transplant Organisation is to have a budget of €4 million to work on the promotion of organ donation and transplanta-

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For Spanish health



budget for health by 2.3 per cent.

tion. Money has been increased by 32.6 per cent, some €26 million, to the area of Social Services to help support families and children. This big budget increase is aimed at reducing and improving the situation of socially vulnerable families, in basic needs such as health, education, housing and employment.

Exercise - a load of hot water?

RESEARCH at the National Centre of Sport and Exercise Medicine at the University of Loughborough in the UK has concluded that soaking in a hot bath achieves similar health benefits to that of exercise, such as a 30-minute walk or jog.

Dr Steve Faulkner conducted the study in which 14 men cycled for one hour and then soaked in a 40°C bath for the same duration; both activities intended to raise participant's body temperature, allow-

ing the study team to monitor and compare the calories burned between the two tests.

Although cycling was shown to burn more calories, the hot bath burned as many calories as a 30-minute walk, which is around 140 calories.

Dr Faulkner told UK charity The Conversation that "Many cultures swear by the benefits of a hot bath, but only recently has science begun to understand how passive heating improves health."

Dangerous drinking

A DANGEROUS pesticide has been detected in drinking water in the USA.

The US Geological Survey collected water samples from streams across America and found traces of the common pesticides neonicotinoids in more than half of the sample. It was also detected in drinking water.

Neonicotinoids can attack cells in the human nervous system and have been found to cause serious harm to the bee population. The pesticides were introduced in the 1990's and were designed to be the most environmentally-friendly chemicals on the market.

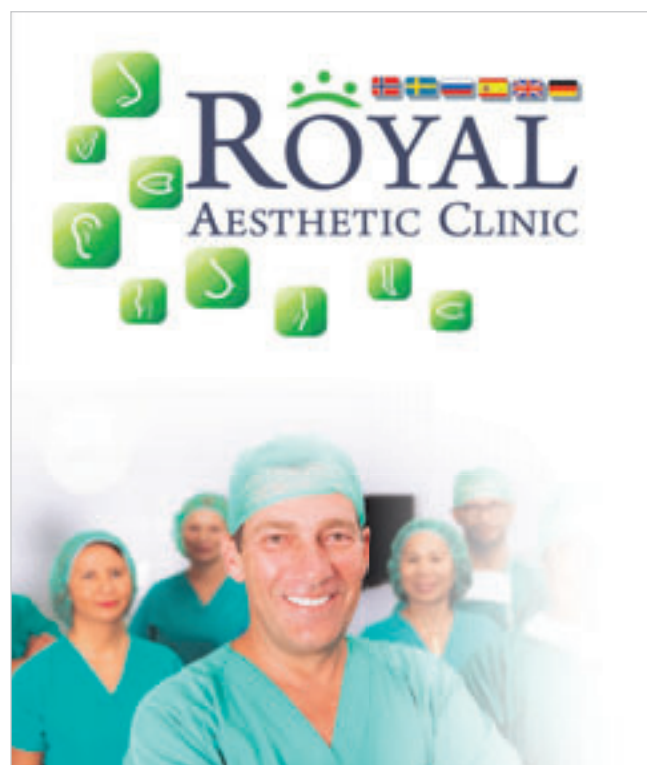


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SLEEP STUDY: Analysed data from nearly 300 Japanese men who took part.

Do you have the sleep gene?

ARE you one of the lucky ones who sleeps like a baby, or know someone who can 'sleep for England'? Well it could be in their genes.

Scientists claim that some people are born with a gene that helps them sleep better at night. The scientists at the Washington State University in the USA looked at how genes change during the sleep-wake cycle

“ **Scientists looked at how genes change during the sleep-wake cycle.** ”

and found one called FABP7 which changed over the day throughout the brain of mice. They looked at how the gene affects sleep and then analysed data from nearly 300 Japanese men who took part in a sleep study and DNA analysis.

Researchers found that those with a variant of the FABP7 gene tended to have irreg-

ular sleeping patterns. Whilst normally getting around the same amount of sleep as the others, they would often wake up regularly throughout the night.

Meanwhile, a study has suggested that sleeping less than five hours a night makes you twice as likely to develop prostate cancer.



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Discomfort, anxiety and panic attacks in the aircraft **Fear of Flying!**

Everyone who has to travel frequently but suffers from symptoms of panic or anxiety, should ask for professional help.

It is quite common to suffer from fear of flying (also known as aviophobia): About a quarter of the population suffers days before a flight, directly at the airport or during the flight so badly that an aviophobia must be ascertained. They interpret every airborne noise as a possible defect; the stressed-looking flight attendant is seen as the prelude to a misfortune etc.

The realisation that there is no way out of the situation nourishes the feeling of helplessness and leads so easily to a panic reaction, with the typical symptoms: Heart palpitations, tremors, nausea, sweaty hands, gastrointestinal symptoms, etc. Often the use of tablets and/or alcohol is an attempt to overcome the symptoms of flight anxiety and panic attacks on the plane. Unfortunately this is usually not successful. Without an appropriate psychological preparation, the person concerned cannot be soothed, experiences a very unpleasant situation and decides to never fly again. Home visits are cancelled, families and friends are not visited, anger and disappointment are programmed.

How is fear of flying to be treated?

Like most anxieties, the fear of flying is also treated with confrontation. The simulation of the flight experience helps to create the inappropriate

response and to recognise and analyse the occurring thinking patterns. In doing so, recurring false beliefs are revealed, questioned and finally replaced by rational thoughts. The repetition of this process and a deepening analysis leads to a change in the automatic perception of the situation and a normal acceptance of the flight situation can be achieved. The suffering has an end and air travel is no longer a deterrent event.

The number of necessary sessions is patient-dependent, but usually remains within a manageable framework. Also, the learned relaxation techniques and self-analysis knowledge help the affected person in other everyday situations. Inquire about this or other psychological topics at the CENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE ATENCION PSICOLOGICA, close to you and in your language.

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Antic Auto is back in town

CLASSIC, antique and vintage cars, motorbikes and collectors items will be on full display at the Costa Blanca's biggest and best Motor Show. From April 22-23 a fantastic display of exceptional vehicles, private collections, unique items, rare collectables and toys comes to Alicante for the Antic Auto Fair.

Held at the city's IFA (Institution Ferial Alicantina) fair-ground, the Classic and Antique Motor Show, is considered one of the finest in Spain and is an absolute must for car and bike enthusiasts both young and old.

A huge variety of fun activities accompanies the show, which runs on a sunny weekend. Collectors, clubs, specialist dealers and motorheads from across the country will be making the trip for the Antic Auto Fair's 14th edition, sure to be its busiest and best yet.

There will also be maga-

zines, rare items, custom clothes, models and other motoring gems for the avid collector. Trucks, motorcycles and the brilliant historical flavour make this a motor show like no other.

Antic Auto is a two-day affair running on Saturday April 22 and Sunday April 23. On the Saturday the gates open from 10am until 8.30pm. On the Sunday it is 10am until 7pm. The IFA is easily accessible by car or public transport and is located just next to Alicante-Elche airport.

Tickets cost just €8 for the general public, or €6 for pensioners, those under 30 or with a discount card. A ticket can be had for just €5 if booked in advance online at the IFA website. Members of official motoring clubs and associations also pay €5 upon presentation of their membership card. Children under 12 get in free of charge.

Mack and Mabel starts soon

TICKETS are now available and selling fast for the summer production of 'Mack and Mabel' from Studio32, a wonderful theatre group based in Benijofar and Los Montesinos. It tells the epic true story of Frank, an errand boy at a silent film studio with ambitious dreams of becoming a screenwriter and who has fallen deeply

in love with leading lady Mabel.

Spanning from 1911 to 1938 during the Golden era of silent Hollywood movies, Mack and Mabel is a terrific tale that has to be seen to be believed.

The original production ran to spectacular acclaim on Broadway in the 1970s. A later production ran for 270 shows in London's West End.

Studio32's production stars Nick Morgan as

Frank. An accomplished dancer with a strong background in British musical theatre, Morgan proved a

huge hit with his first few shows with Studio32.

Show performances are from Wednesday May 31 until Saturday June 3 at the Cardenal Belluga Theatre in San

Fulgencio. All performances start at 7.30pm with doors opening at 7pm.

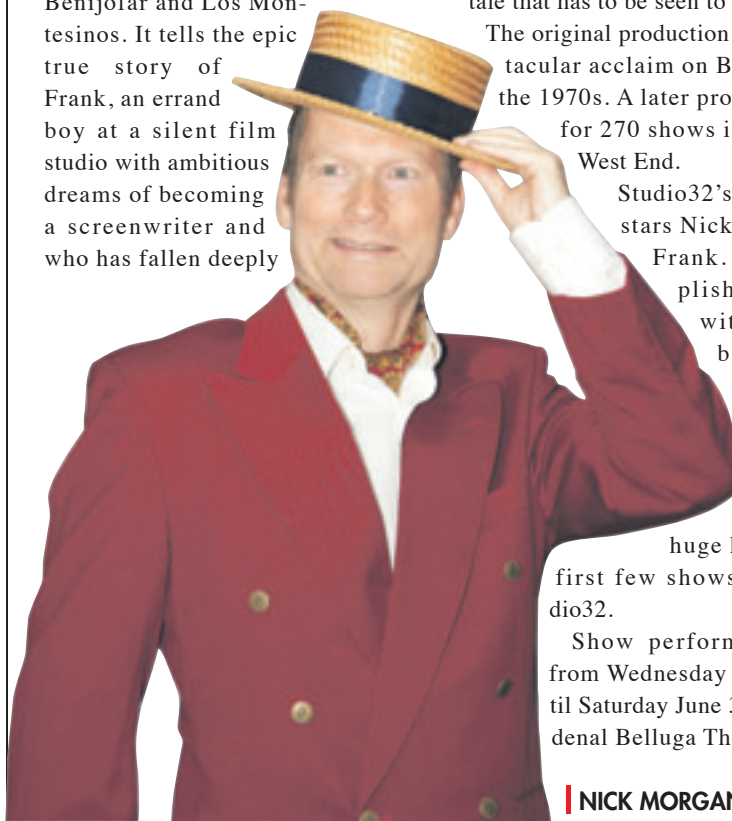
Reserved seating tickets are now on sale, for €9, and can be purchased by calling Philip on 602 454 033, or by emailing tickets@studiothirtytwo.org.

A seating plan is available on their website www.studiothirtytwo.org, along with lots of information about the company and past shows.

Tickets are also available from: News 4 U, La Marina 966 790 531; Cards & More, La Marina 966 790 954; The Card Place, Benijofar 966 713 266; Kennedy Supermarket, Los Montesinos 966 720 006.

Studio32 are continuing to support the San Fulgencio Alzheimer's Association and local charities with this show.

Past shows have raised significant sums of money and the company hope to repeat that with sell-out performances again. Seats for their previous productions have sold out quickly so make sure to book your tickets early.



NICK MORGAN: Is Frank in Mack and Mabel by Studio32.

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Tickets on sale

GET your tickets now for Al McKay's Earth, Wind and Fire Experience, featuring the legends of the 1970's and 80's live in concert. This once-in-a-lifetime show is at Eras de la Sal, Torrevieja on Sunday July 30. Call the hotline on 629 056 720 to get your tickets today!

Artsy day out for Easter

A CATALOGUE of paintings, sketches, ceramics and photographs are now on display at the fabulous Modern Art Museum of Cartagena. The works are all related to Semana Santa and the Easter processions of the southern Costa Blanca.

Having opened on April 11, the exhibition is on display until early July and is entirely free of charge.

It is entitled the Guest Exhibition and reflects the unique art of the region, an excellent option for a cultural day out.

Advertising feature

Punjabi Palace

PUNJABI PALACE is ready and waiting for another busy and successful summer season.

All three restaurants, in Los Montesinos, La Marquesa and La Murada, are open daily and welcome holidaymakers year after year, with many now as frequent as their regular diners and it is no wonder why they return.

This award-winning restaurant has been recognised in local food awards for its Indian cuisine as well as its front of house team, making it the perfect choice for a night out or lunch time visit.

The Los Montesinos restaurant is the original Punjabi Palace and recently marked its ninth anniversary with a special fun-filled night of top quality cuisine, DJ and karaoke and Bollywood dancers. The restaurant also recently received a bit of a facelift and fresh new look ahead of their anniversary, so it is now ready for its next decade of business.

Its light and spacious premises mean that Punjabi Palace is the



PARTY PLACE: Diners enjoy a night out.

perfect place to host a family reunion, celebration or party as they are able to cater for large numbers and welcome group bookings.

For those looking to enjoy a nice meal in the day, the award-winning Punjabi Palace continues with its popular €8.95 menu del dia served from 12-3pm including poppadoms, any chicken

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ce is the place to be



ight out at Punjabi Palace.

restaurants are family friendly and welcoming for younger diners. Punjabi Palace also continues to receive five star ratings on TripAdvisor so why not make it your next choice when looking for a quality meal and choose the best, authentic Indian restaurants in the area. Whether you are a regu-

lar or a new customer, you will be guaranteed of a warm welcome and a wonderful meal.

Punjabi Palace
 Los Montesinos
 Tel: 966 720 383
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 Tel: 966 714 963
 La Murada
 Tel: 966 779 169



or lamb dish with rice or naan bread and dessert or coffee. There is also a complimentary glass of wine, beer or soft drink.

A children's menu is available as all Punjabi Palace

PUNJABI PALACE:
 Recognised for its Indian cuisine.

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 Restaurants at
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Advertising feature

New arrivals on the terrace at Laurel's

FROZEN cocktails and delicious milkshakes are not the only newcomers to Laurel's sunshine terrace this spring, as you will also find a fresh new look adding colour and style to this popular venue, ready for the warmer evenings and sunny afternoons.

With the comfy sofa seating and wonderful sunset views across to the mountains, the terrace at Laurel's in Quesada has always been a popular social haunt, whether it be for pre and post dinner drinks, or just for relaxing with drinks and friends.

Now, the terrace is even more welcoming with new pots, spring flowers and rustic fencing, to add colour and charm to the surroundings whilst you kick back, relax and enjoy, as Laurel's have added to their stylish cocktail menu. Perfect for the summer, Laurel's welcome frozen cocktails, such as Strawberry Daiquiri, Frozen Mojito, and Boozy Strawberry Vodka Ice.

New mouthwatering milkshakes, such as Chunky Monkey, Banana Caramel, and Vanilla and Oreo, plus more 'mocktails,' non-alcoholic versions of the favourites, are also available.

You can enjoy all of these now, so make



SUMMER READY: The popular terrace has been spruced up for spring and summer.

a visit to Laurel's, and enjoy the warmth of their hospitality and the tranquillity of their surroundings.

Laurel's is situated on Calle Los Arcos, with plenty of parking. The restaurant, bar/lounge, and terrace area occupies the top floor of the building, with access via stairs and a lift. Their monthly changing three-course set menu, plus a la carte and traditional Sunday Lunch menus can all be

found on their website www.laurels.es and their Facebook page (Laurel's Restaurant, Quesada) has regular updates on menus and forthcoming events. With live music every Saturday night to accompany dinner and for dancing afterwards, booking well ahead is advisable.

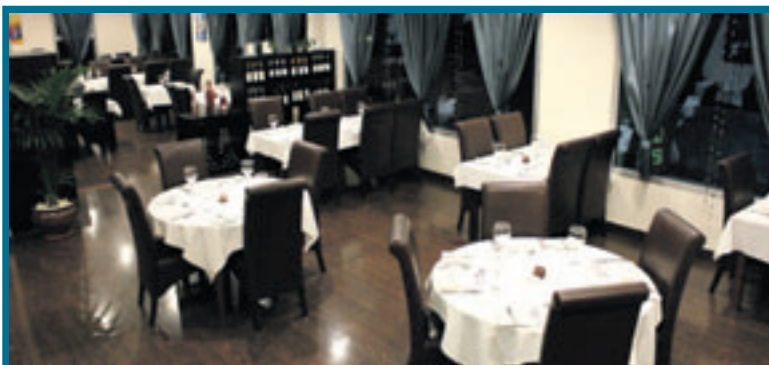
For Easter weekend Laurel's still has some tables available. On Easter Sun-

day enjoy their traditional Sunday lunch, at just €13.50 per person including wine, with extended serving hours of 1-8pm (last food orders). On April 15, the fabulous Paul Christie is entertaining through dinner and for dancing afterwards.

Tel: 965 077 444



COCKTAIL TIME: New arrivals on the cocktail menu at Laurel's.



EASTER SUNDAY
16th APRIL

You can now reserve
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Traditional Sunday Lunch
Serving from 1pm - 8pm



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A La Carte menu also available



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Hours

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Sunday, 1pm - 7pm
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Are you a Dirty Beer Drinker?

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GOOD FRIENDS
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Pubs in the city of Bath serve the least clean beer in the UK, while the South West is the worst region for unclean beer lines (with 40 per cent of lines unclean).

As a trainee in the UK we had to clean pipes after the weekend which was done on a Monday morning by the staff. Over here the cleaning is undertaken by the suppliers of which ever beer that the establishment uses. Obvious the light beer/lager style that we serve in Spain does not create as much grime as a real ale, so greater care has to be given to the great British beer!!

Whichever way you like to drink it - you pays your money and makes your choice.

The report found while beer may be substantially more expensive in the South - in some cases almost £1 a pint more - quality can be substantially lower. Another fact that confirms what many visitors coming to the UK unaccustomed to Britain's Real Ale Drinking Culture know, is in many cases the beer is served too warm.

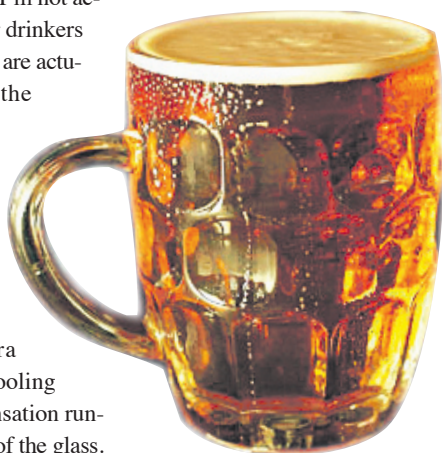
In other findings, one in four pubs were found to have major temperature issues with 6 per cent of all pints served too warm with the West Midlands most likely to keep their beer at the right temperature and Scotland was the region with the highest percentage of beer served too warm! Well I suppose it's cold enough at the best of times north of the border!!

Meanwhile, Newcastle and Warrington are where the cleanest beer can be found, with the North East the cleanest region with only 27 per cent of beer lines adjudged to be unclean.

These bombshell findings came into the public arena thanks to the findings of the Beer Quality Report 2017. Apparently, researched by that internet of things provider Vianet, that monitors the flow of beer through lines in pubs across the country, together with beer quality accreditation and training firm, Cask Marque.

Any bar man/pub landlord should know that the cleaning of pipes and equipment should take place every seven days.

DON'T GET ME WRONG! I'm not accusing beer drinkers of being 'dirty'! We are actually talking about the beer itself. I am not a beer drinker as such, but admit in the summer to be able to sink a couple of draught Mahou or Alambra and watching the cooling effect of the condensation running down the side of the glass.



On the few occasions that I have ventured back to the UK the first thing that my dear late father and I would do was to go to a local country pub where he would have a small 'boy's beer' - obviously the least potent on offer, normally a pale ale type beverage!! - and I would go for one of the highly popular selections of real ales now in abundance especially in the South West of England.

Two pints of that - in a mug not a sleeve - and that would be my craving for 'English Beer' satisfied and would probably be my last visit to a pub that trip!

But a recent report discovers the following little known facts that have further fuelled the 'North-South' divide!!

CALVADOS IS ONE OF THOSE LIQUEURS, (or is it a brandy?) that is divisive. Similar to the age old quip about Marmite, you either drink it or avoid it. Although, I have never seen an accolade such that has been levelled at my featured drink this week. **THE WORLD'S BEST CALVADOS 2017.**

The story of Drouin Calvados started around 1960. Apart from a love of good food and fine wine, there was nothing to suggest that Christian Drouin the elder, an industrialist from Rouen, was destined for a career in spirits. Despite this, he purchased a farm in Gonneville with one aim - to produce the very best spirit he could from the cider apple orchards. Fast forward almost 60 years and his Calvados' are now some of the most sought after and awarded in the world with the 1989 being the pick of the bunch.

For a Calvados to be classified as 'Pays d'Auge,' it must adhere to various rules, including being double distilled and being aged for a minimum of two years in oak barrels. It is also limited in the production area to the east end of the department of Calvados between Caen and Rouen. Due to this permitted delimited area, production and availability is always limited. However, that hasn't stopped it picking up the award for 'The World's Best Calvados' at the recent World Drinks Awards which is amongst the most coveted awards on the planet. To win this award is to be up there with the greatest achievements that any product can receive. The 1989 Pays d'Auge will now join an elite group of other Calvados' to achieve such heights

Tasting notes: "Restrained on the nose with baked apples and light vanilla notes. Almost lemon zest freshness. Lean and zesty with a sharpness of fruit. Well paired with pastry or crumble based desserts."

Oh well, I have always used Calvados to cook with. Hey Ho!

Alcohol may be man's worst enemy, but the bible says love your enemy."
~ Frank Sinatra



Double distilled and finished in sherry casks, the 1989 vintage was bottled in 2015 and retails at a cool 150€ (prices can vary throughout Europe).

THERE'S PLENTY MORE FISH IN THE SEA, as the age old expression goes!! But I never wanted to go out with a fish!! But in reality there is 'something fishy going on in the state of... well in this case - Norway!

Three fishing areas in the North Sea have seen haddock sustainability downgraded after a fall in stocks but the downgrading of haddock does not apply to any Norwegian fishing grounds. Norway is home to one of the largest haddock stocks in the world, but this is no coincidence. It takes a lot of hard work and a strict quota system to maintain.

Haddock has been on the International Fisheries watch list for many years as it has been overfished from the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. With the expansion of fish farming things have taken an upward swing. Thanks to Norway's scientifically managed fisheries, haddock stocks re-



Keeping an eye on fish stocks!

main abundant in Norway's cold, clear waters. Which means Britain's staple Haddock and Chips is not in danger - yet! Haddock is the usual fish of choice in Scotland, York-

shire, other parts of Northern England and many parts of the Midlands. Thanks mainly to our affinity to fish & chips (around 382m portions consumed per annum), the UK is the biggest haddock market in the world, consuming around 120,000 tonnes annually. Only 30 per cent of the haddock we eat is caught from UK waters, therefore there is a constant need to source outside the UK to satisfy demand - 70 per cent comes from the Barents Sea (*)

The Good Fish Guide, published by the Marine Conservation Society states: 'Depending on how and where it's caught, this species ranges from sustainable to unsustainable. Check individual options to make the best choice.' Norway's haddock stocks, all of which come from the North East Arctic, are classed as 'good sustainable fish to eat' by the Guide.

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.

(*) The Barents Sea is a marginal sea of the Arctic Ocean located off the northern coasts of Norway and Russia divided between Norwegian and Russian territorial waters.

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.

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Gamble pays off

AFTER making waves with the first floatation of a Spanish property developer in 10 years, Neinor Homes has done extremely well from its gamble. Shares in Neinor, one of the country's biggest residential real estate giants, rose by 9 per cent on the first day of trading.

It now has a market value in excess of €1.3 billion and claims to represent a new breed of Spanish property developer, confident, competent, and firmly backed by American private equity. Neinor was bought by Lone Star, a US private equity group, from a bank in 2014 and has since gone about snapping up as much developable land as possible.

It is expected to go from strength to strength in the coming years as Spain's urgent need for quality new-built homes leads to a lucrative wave of construction across the country. Millions of homes need built in the coming decade to satisfy



NEW HOMES: Millions need built in the coming decade.

market demand.

A fledgling younger professional class is eager to finally get on the property ladder after a lost decade which saw many workers forced to retreat to their parents home, or rent, when mortgages fell out of reach.

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Life of Brian

THE Latin lessons given to the hapless messiah in Monty Python's Life of Brian after he vandalised a Roman wall might come in handy for the anonymous protest-

ers who daubed a luxury housing complex in Cambridge with Latin graffiti.

The vandals wrote 'loci populum' and 'locus in domos' on the expensive six-

house development. It translates to 'local people' and 'place of homes.'

Though the language is clumsy, the point is clear. Some locals are getting fed up with astronomically high prices that have risen by 50 per cent in the southern English city in just six years.



The average house costs 12 times the average salary.

Homes in the villified complex for instance cost £1.25 (€1.46) million a piece. The average house price now exceeds £500,000 (€584,000) in Cambridge, which is about 80km from London.

That means the average house costs 12 times the average salary.



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Ref 3996 Price only 99,995 Euros
Lovely Apartment in Villamartin - Las Violetas, facing com garden, fully furnished, with nice pool, com roof terrace, amenities next door, 2 bed 2 bath, MUST BE SEEN



Ref 4335 Bargain price only 105,000 Euros
Sunny Ground floor APT in Villamartin - Valencia North, private garden with beautiful garden views, s/w facing, furnished, 2 com pools, 5 min walk to Villamartin plaza, attractive area, very good rental potential, 2 bed 1 bath



Ref 3993 Bargain price only 139,900 Euros
Nice Bungalow in Villamartin - Valencia North, s/w facing, front and back garden, roof terrace with fantastic views, Golf shares + car + golf trolley, close to plaza, 3 bed 1 bath



Ref 4219 Bargain price only 235,000 Euros
Immaculate det Villa "Ibiza" in Villamartin - Violetas, s/w facing, on a 287 m2 plot, 15 m2 garage, fully furnished, 28 m2 roof terrace, next to Villamartin plaza, 3 bed 2 bath



Ref 4306 Attractive price only 165,000 Euros
NEW Semi-detached Villas in La Zenia, beautiful modern design 93 m2, 100m from Zenia Boulevard shopping centre, walking distance to beach, ready in 2 months, 3 bed 2 bath



Ref 4313 Price only 129,000 Euros
Beautiful Apartment with fantastic pool views in Villamartin - Los Dolses, s/w facing, nice furnished, 50 m2 private garden 10 min walking to amenities, 2 bed 2 bath, MUST BE SEEN !!

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Crop rotation in a vegetable garden

By *Graeme Tyrrell*

FINDING ways to improve the quality of a vegetable garden is every gardener's aim.

A natural method to improve soil fertility, reduce weed proliferation and assist in keeping pests and disease under control can be simply planning the garden to introduce a crop rotation system.

It works very well for annual vegetables that you replant every year and should be considered when biannual and

perennial plants need replacing.

Crop rotation is not essential if you build up the soil with regular composting after each crop and keep your weeds, pests and diseases under control in other manners, such as intermixing plants of different types in the same beds, but if you prefer the convenience of growing rows or blocks of the same plants together for easier planting out and harvest, it is a very beneficial method.

The principles of crop rota-



Photo by Maren Winter Shutterstock

CROP ROTATION: Encourages growth.

tion are that the main plant groups of root vegetables, legumes, nightshade (tomato and potato family), onion fami-

ly, vines (squash, cucumber, melon families), leafy greens and other types of plants, such as herbs, are planted in groups in different beds and each season they are replaced by a different group of vegetables or plants so that the plant groups are always rotating to different beds.

If you have enough beds it is also a good idea to include a bed as fallow for a season to rest the soil. I usually don't even water the fallow beds to allow the sun to do its work to

sterilise the soil as it remains dried out and inhospitable to most bugs and soil borne diseases.

There are different ways to categorise the plant groups and each has its advantages but generally I follow the principles of just making sure that something different is planted each time with consideration of what was planted in previous years to fit as best as possible the idea of having constantly changing plant groups.

Each group of plants for rotation have different nutrient requirements, influence the weeds ability to grow differently, thus reducing the ability of domination by any particular weed, have different pest and disease problems so rotating reduces the build up of soil diseases and pests in the garden beds.

So moving the site for growing vegetables each season changes the ecology of the soil system in a way that supports healthier growth for the next crop than is the case when the same plants are continually planted in the same beds season after season.

Legumes are well known to fix nitrogen in the soil which would benefit green leaf vegetables rotated after the legumes. Research has shown that potatoes grow better after a crop of sweet corn.

When potatoes and tomatoes are grown in the same bed for consecutive years they can lose as much as 40 per cent of production even with the same soil improvements added.

It is therefore worth incorporating this method into the gardens routine of planting to gain maximum benefit with just a little more planning and the application of crop rotation.

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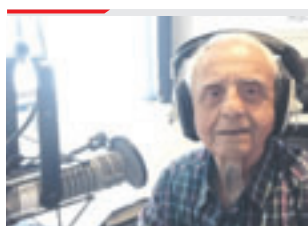
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DOG foods vary in quality and so do the companies that make them. For some companies quality is only a word, for others, it's a way of life.

Ultimately, the quality of a dog food is best measured by your dog. Evidence of this shows in how your dog performs on the food, and how he looks, feels and acts. At least 30 per cent of my clients, report an improvement in behaviour when they change their food.

Not all dogs do well on a particular brand of food; some dogs simply do better than others.

Most foods are categorised as economy, regular, premium, super premium and performance. Regular and premium foods are not formulated like a super premium or performance food.

Dogs have simple stomachs and short digestive tracts for digesting meat. They also lack the saliva enzyme amylase, which is necessary for pre-digesting starch.

Dogs have adapted to foods with high vegetable protein levels, however they perform better when fed foods high in meat protein and animal fats.

When checking the label of a super premium or performance food, an animal protein will be listed as the first or second major ingredient. These should include either chicken, or turkey meat, or poultry by-products. At least two sources of fat or oil should be included for adequate energy and essential fatty acids.

Fat in food is the dog's source of energy. Animal fat contains essential and non-essential fatty acids as well as providing a highly digestible and easily metabolised energy source. Generally, poultry, turkey or chicken fat are higher in quality because they have more unsaturated fatty acids and are more digestible than animal tallow.

Vegetable oils, such as soybean oil, lecithin corn oil, wheat germ oil, sesame seed oil or linseed oil all contain high levels of linoleic acid, an essential fatty acid for dogs. These should be combined with animal fats for the best results for a

glossy coat and soft pliable skin.

Carbohydrates are the third most important nutrient and ingredient class in modern super premium and performance foods. Simple carbohydrates in dog food come from quality sources like rice, oatmeal, corn or wheat. These are easily digested when properly cooked.

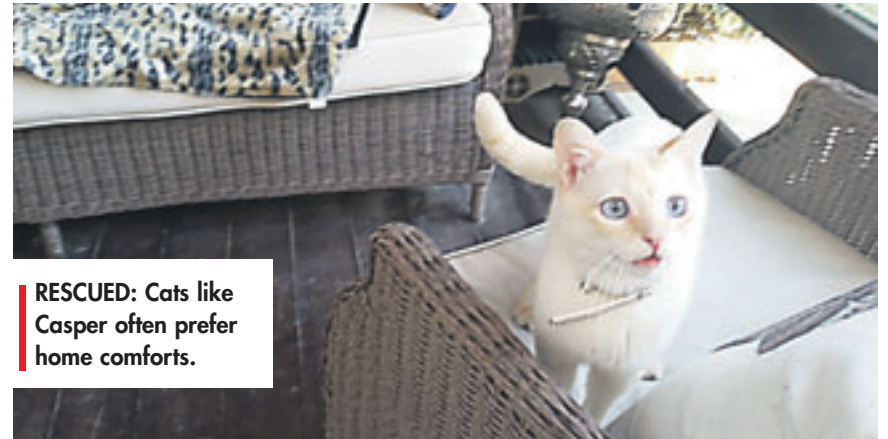
Fibre, a complex carbohydrate is essential for proper digestion and stool formation. Beet pulp and tomato pomace are both high in fibre. Other sources of fibre include rice, soy hulls, oat hulls, wheat bran and peanut hulls. All these come from the external portion of the seed coat. These sources except peanut hulls have microscopic sharp edges, which can cause small cuts in the intestine. This reduces the intestine's effectiveness in nutrient digestion.

Peanut hulls on the other hand, have the potential of being contaminated with aflatoxins and should never be used in a quality dog or cat food.

Vitamin and mineral fortification is an absolute necessity in nutritionally balancing any food for dogs. While the vitamins and minerals generally, make up less than 2 per cent of the total food by weight, they provide some of the most crucial nutrients. These include 12 to 16 vitamins and 15 to 25 minerals.

Often there are more micro nutrients than major ingredients. Super premium usually features more than one source for each vitamin and mineral.

Casper a rescued cat loves being at home



RESCUED: Cats like Casper often prefer home comforts.

MANY of our homeowners and pet owners in Spain take in rescued animals and care for them at home. It often takes the newly adopted pets a few months to settle in and feel safe and at home. Then when the owners plan to go away on holiday, they can begin to worry about what to do with the adopted or rescued pet. How will they be affected by the sudden disappearance of the owner? What if they go to new kennels or a home to be cared for and will the new smells be too alien?

One of our homeowners Teresa has six rescued cats living with her. She is always mindful that she prefers the cats to be cared for at home, to maintain their routines as much as possible. One of her cats Casper was rescued 18 months ago and though com-

fortable at home now, it's always interested and perhaps a little nervous of strangers. Teresa chooses cat lovers when she selects new house-sitters to come to her home and care for the cats while she is away. We have helped Teresa find great sitters, with police checks and references on several occasions now.

Do you need a house or pet-sitter? Get in touch. House-sitting can be a win-win situation for both parties, a free house, pet-sitting, and the experienced and checked sitters get free accommodation! Register as either house-sitter or homeowner now with a 50 per cent off, introductory offer using coupon code SPECIAL50. To find a house or pet-sitter go to www.HousesitMatch.com.

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Clever cats love us

By Francesca Souter

RESEARCH conducted by scientists in Japan has revealed that contrary to popular belief, cats are actually equal to their canine counterparts when it comes to intelligence.

Previous arguments cited a dog's ability to be trained and learn commands as evidence that they have superior mental abilities, but in reality a cat could do exactly the same if it wanted to. The differences lie in their desire to do a certain activity. We know that many cats are independent and will come and go as they please, whereas dogs are pack animals that respond to a social hierarchy.

Japanese scientists have found that cats can respond to human commands, gestures, emotions and expressions, just like dogs. However, the most interesting study involves a cat's memory. We already know that

dogs have episodic memories and recall past events.

This suggests that not only do cats also have the same capacity for memory, but they may actually enjoy recalling specific memories, especially of human interactions. This shows a higher level of intelligence than has ever previously been expected and may help to settle the question of whether cats

are capable of loving their owners.



SORRY DOGS:
Research shows cats may be just as clever.



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Motoring shorts

Record UK car sales

CAR sale records were smashed in the UK as British drivers rushed to escape hefty new environmental taxes imposed on all new car purchases from April 1.

Now only cars with absolutely zero emissions are exempt from the punitive tax that previously affected gas-guzzlers but not the average vehicle.

The annual tax now stands at £140 (€ 164) for standard cars. Though surely not the sole reason, the increase precipitated a huge volume of sales in March as 562,337 new cars were registered more than in January and February combined. In 2016 a record 2.7 million cars were sold.

March's best seller was the evergreen Ford Fiesta which shifted 25,428 units, significantly more than the Focus at 17,119. Volkswagen, Vauxhall and Nissan are the nation's three other favourite brands.

The best of the best

By *Matthew Elliott*

MAZDA'S MX-5 RF is the latest winner of one of the world's top design awards. The stylish two-seater retractable won the Red Dot: Best of the Best 2017 prize for its visionary design, hailed as a perfect blend of beauty, practicability, and quality.

It's the second time the Japanese brand, which has gone from strength to strength since ending its partnership with Ford, has won the award. The fourth generation MX-5 soft top achieved the same honour in 2015.

The RF is lightweight, fun to drive and can easily back up its claim to be the best roadster in history, design experts claimed. It was selected by a panel of 39 mechanics, design professors and journalists who scoured 5,500 entries, making a shortlist of 102 finalists.

They base their decision on er-

gonomics, creativity, material quality, green credentials, and functionality. The Red Dot competition is extremely influential in the motoring world. There are 47 categories overall, with each winner having the right to bear the distinguished Red Dot label, an international seal of design excellence.

All winners have been showcased at the Red Dot Design Museum in Essen, Germany since its inception in 1955.

This year's

winner of the Red Dot motorbike design award was the 2017 Yamaha XSR900.



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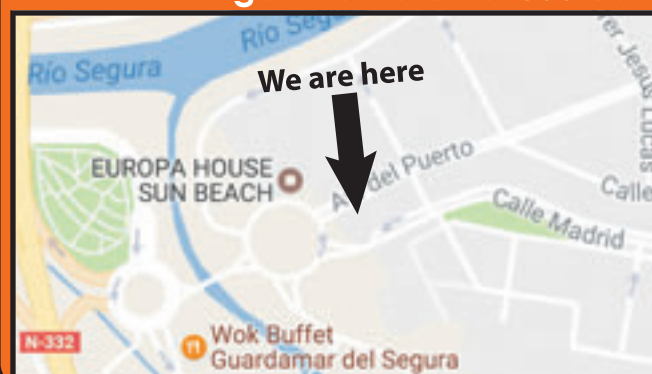
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The force of nature

THE world has a new fastest production car. The Bugatti Chiron has a theoretical maximum speed of almost 300mph. That monstrous figure is electronically limited to 261mph (420kph), a symbolic 3mph faster than its predecessor the Veyron. Just for kicks, the speedometer goes up to 500kph.

Named after race driver Louis Chiron who, at 55 was the oldest man to ever race Formula One, the sleek £1.9 (€2.2) million package comes with an evolved 8.0 litre quad turbo W16 engine with a seven-speed twin clutch.

It is not a hybrid. The Chiron can produce 1479bhp and 1180lb ft of torque. It can reach 186mph (300kph) from a standstill in 13.6 seconds, faster than a McLaren P1.

Built largely from carbon fibre the Chiron weighs just 1,995kg and has five different driving modes - Auto, Autobahn for cruising, Handling for track works, Lift for speed bumps and Top Speed presumably for the Mojave desert.

There are three turbos, four water pumps, 10 radiators, 16 cylinders, 32 fuel injectors and 60,000 litres of air pumping around each minute. There's even a one carat diamond in the speakers.

Only 500 Chirons are scheduled for production and 120 have already been snapped up despite the enormous asking price. Many of those buyers will have forked out an extra million just for the privilege of getting it ahead of time.

New York, New York

JUST one month after the 2017 Geneva Motor Show closed its gates, the motoring press is in New York City preparing for even more debuts and glimpses into what 2018 holds in store. The New York Motor Show runs from April 14-23 and is the 117th edition of the continent's biggest motoring feast.

A full preview is now available and shows that the show will keep true to its roots with a more American feel than its Swiss or French counterparts.

There's the Jeep Grand Cherokee Trackhawk, the latest off-road beast to channel the advertising world's inner Indian. It has a powerful 6.2

litre V8 engine with 707hp. If that's not enough there's the Dodge Challenger SRT Demon, more lightweight than the Hellcat but with 800hp to satisfy power trippers.

Another American classic in the mix is the Buick Regal TourX an estate car set to challenge Volvo and Audi for North American dominance and showing that SUVs aren't always the best option for family drivers.

The Range Rover Velar, a huge hit in Europe, will also make its play for the lucrative American big car market. Reasonably priced at around €40,000, it is already on sale in the States.

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Mazarron draw away from home

THE game started at a fast pace with Molina having the first opportunity with a shot which was well over the bar. Chino was prominent for Mazarron showing some good skill but most of the early play was confined to midfield.

Mazarron began to pass the ball around nicely and a good header from Boudia was on target but straight at the Molina keeper. Mazarron did have the ball in the net but the 'goal' was disallowed.

A number of bookings interrupted the flow of the game but Molina went close when Adrian deflected a shot over his own cross bar.

Mazarron continued to press forward but again

lacked the finishing touch in front of goal and the first half ended goalless.

The second half started at a good pace. Substitute Dani provided a number of opportunities from free kicks but none were taken. However, the visitors took the lead on 53 minutes with Chino's cross turned in by Miguel.

The goal spurred Molina into action and they started to exert more pressure on the Mazarron defence. Mazarron were reduced to 10 men in the 72nd minute when Marcos was sent off after receiving two yellow cards. Molina not surprisingly took control of the game with the extra man advantage and after 80 minutes Javier equalised.

SMGS play at Roda

THIRTY-EIGHT members and six guests turned out at Roda for San Miguel Golf Society's Stableford competition.

The day's results were:

Nearest the pins: Eva Pettersson (2), Bjorn Pettersson (7), Matt Newman (11) and Andy Imrie (13). Best Guests: 2nd Frank Stanhope (28) and 1st Gerald Harwood (30).

Bronze: 5th John Sorensen (23), 4th Norman McBride (24), 3rd Grattan Forber (26), 2nd Brian Butler (29) and 1st Mick Roscoe (34). Silver: 5th Noel Connellan (26), 4th Alan MacDonald (30), 3rd Ken Flaherty (33), 2nd Hugh Reilly (37) and 1st Norman Cahill (38). Gold: 5th Andy Imrie (31), 4th Matt Newman (32), 3rd Tony Smale (33), 2nd Kenny Reddington (34) and 1st Jamie Rorison (35). The 'Abacus' was awarded to Paul Cobain.

In the match-play doubles, it took Barry Roehrig and Kenny Reddington 20 holes to eventually beat Tony Smale and Nick Spicer. In the singles Bjorn Pettersson beat Kyree Skarsmoen 7/5.

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Costa de Almeria



WE have less sport this weekend than last Saturday and Sunday but nevertheless there's still plenty going on to please everyone.

We'll start with football, and the Premiership matches over Easter are Crystal Palace-Leicester, Everton-Burnley, Southampton-Manchester City, Spurs-Bournemouth, Stoke-Hull, Sunderland-West Ham and Watford-Swansea on Saturday, Manchester United-Chelsea and WBA-Liverpool on Sunday and Middlesbrough-Arsenal on Monday evening.

There's virtually a full Championship programme on Good Friday, the stand-out games being Huddersfield-Preston, Newcastle-Leeds, Norwich-Fulham and Wolves-Brighton while on Saturday, Aston Villa play Reading.

Then, on Easter Monday, all 72 Championship, FL1 and FL2 clubs are in action, several of them being involved in promotion, play-off and relegation battles.

In Spain, Real Madrid, seeking their 33rd La Liga title, visit Sporting Gijon while Barcelona (2nd) face

Real Sociedad (7th).

Meanwhile, tonight Manchester United play Anderlecht in the first leg of their Europa League quarter-final. The return clash is at Old Trafford next week.

Champions League matches took place on Tuesday and last night (see Round Up).

Moving onto motor sport, and on Sunday, the third F1 Grand Prix of 2017 takes place in Bahrain while at Donington Park in Leicestershire, we have the second round of the 2017 British Touring Car Championship with Matt Neal expected to do well.

Also this weekend, the World Snooker Championship gets underway at The Crucible in Sheffield.

ROUND UP:

- Over 70,000 punters saw One For Arthur, trained by Lucinda Russell and ridden by Derek Fox, win last Saturday's Grand National. The 14-1 shot was the first Scottish-based winner since Rubstic in 1979. Cause of Causes, my each-way choice Saint Are (25-1) and the favourite Blaklion finished 2-3-4.

- Sergio Garcia won golf's Augusta Masters, beating England's Justin Rose after an extra hole play-off. The Spaniard claimed his first major triumph after 74 attempts after a quite

thrilling and absorbing tournament.

- It was Lewis Hamilton, Sebastian Vettel and Max Verstappen 1-2-3 in the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai.

- Spain superstar Maverick Vinales made it two out of two with victory in the second MotoGP of 2017 in Argentina. Valentino Rossi was second and Cal Crutchlow third.

- GB, without Andy Murray, lost to France in the Davis Cup quarter-final.

- Premiership leaders Chelsea won 3-1 at Bournemouth; Manchester City (4th) beat Hull 3-1; Liverpool (3rd) defeated Stoke 2-1; Leicester lost for the first time under boss Craig Shakespeare, going down 4-2 at Everton; 10-man Sunderland (bottom) were humbled 3-0 at home by Manchester United; WBA lost 1-0 against Southampton; West Ham piped Swansea (18th) 1-0; Spurs (2nd) walloped Watford 4-0 and Burnley and Middlesbrough (19th) drew 0-0. Arsenal played Crystal Palace on Monday.

- In the Championship, Newcastle (2nd) lost 2-1 at Sheffield Wednesday (6th); Brighton (top) won at QPR; Huddersfield (3rd) went down at Nottingham Forest; Leeds (5th) beat 2-0 and Norwich thrashed Reading (4th) 7-1.

- In FL1, leaders Sheffield United beat Northampton 2-1 but

second-placed Bolton lost 1-0 at Scunthorpe, while the top three in FL2 all won, Doncaster against Mansfield, Plymouth over Crawley and Portsmouth versus Yeovil.

- In the SPL, champions Celtic defeated Kilmarnock 3-1 and Rangers won 3-0 at Aberdeen.

- Real Madrid - La Liga leaders by three points with a game in hand - were held 1-1 by city neighbours Atletico in the local derby, while second-placed Barcelona, who had Neymar sent-off, lost 2-0 at Malaga.

- On Tuesday, Serie 'A' champions-elect Juventus played Barcelona and Borussia Dortmund met AS Monaco in the first legs of the Champions League quarter-finals and last night, it was Atletico Madrid v Leicester City and soon to be declared Bundesliga champions Bayern Munich v Spanish club Real Madrid. The return games take place next Tuesday/Wednesday.

- Castleford Tigers (14 pts), Salford Red Devils (12) and Leeds Rhinos (12) stand 1-2-3 in Rugby's Super League. Widnes Vikings are bottom. And it's Wasps (74 pts), Exeter (69) and Saracens (68) at the top of the Aviva PL.

- Former Harlequins and England Rugby Union international hooker Brian Moore is in hospital after suffering a heart attack. We wish him well.

LEWIS HAMILTON: Won the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai.



SERGIO GARCIA: Lifts his first major trophy having won the US Masters.

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OVER 70,000 punters saw One For Arthur, trained by Lucinda Russell and ridden by Derek Fox, win last Saturday's Grand National.

TO READ MORE

Costa Blanca's best guide to local sport

Carp-R-Us expands

THE seventh match of the Spring Series was fished at the Embalse de Argos on a beautiful spring day.

First was Dave Hoare who won with 35.81 kg of carp caught using his favourite feeder and pellet method with Steve Fell second with 15.68 kg who was using feeder with corn and maggots. Third was Tom Marshall with 9.55 kg and fourth was Roy Butress with 8.31 kg.

It is pleasing to report the club has taken on several new members, some of whom are

novices. As a result, over the last few weeks, the club has been running beginners sessions, which have been well received. The club's next meeting is on Sunday April 16 at the usual meeting place.

Further information about the club can be found on its website www.carprus.weebly.com or on the Facebook page Carp-R-Us Fishing Costa Blanca.

The club is currently looking for new members. Get in touch via Facebook, the website or call 634 379 081.

Eurogolf's medal play and Founders Cup

ON Thursday April 6 Eurogolf members played their monthly medal for the Founders Cup.

Results: Category one: 1st Pino Perito 69, 2nd George McCallum 73, 3rd Malcolm Foskett 74. Category two: 1st David Blanchette 74, 2nd Linda Lynch 75, 3rd Karin Van Der Kryse. Category three: 1st Jim Weston 69, 2nd John Cross 74, 3rd Jeff Lynch 77 c/b. Category four: 1st Kevin Bonser 67, 2nd Bev Evans 73, 3rd Eamonn Divine 75 c/b.

The Founders Cup winner was Pino Perito and the medal winner was Kevin Bonser. Best front 9: Bert Lawson 34.5. Best back 9: Ian Pegg 36.5. NTP's: 5th and 11th Jeff Lynch, 12th in two Colin Hobden, 15th Pino Perito, 17th David Gregson. Football: Bob Buckeridge, David Blanchette, Morag Turner, Tony Forbes and Monique Reeves.

On Tuesday April 4 the Toffs played their normal Stableford competition and the results were Category one (0-16): 1st John Barraclough 37, 2nd Bill Martin 35, 3rd Malcolm Foskett 35 c/b. Category two (17-



WINNING SMILES: From some of the Eurogolf members.

21): 1st Stan Low 38, 2nd Gary Grierson 35, 3rd David Blanchette 33. Category three (22-25): 1st Bruce Gordon 36, 2nd John Cross 36 c/b, 3rd Phyllis Venables 33. Category four (26-36): 1st Claire Daye-Gretton 33, 2nd Chris Stanley 31, 3rd Gina Ashworth 31 c/b.

Overall Toffs winner was Stan Low. Best front 9: Ian Pegg 20. Best back 9: Franz Berndt 19. NTPs: 5th Debbie Weedon, 11th Bev Fairhurst, 12th in two Pam Davidson, 15th Bill Martin, 17th Phyllis Venables. Football: Bev Evans, John Kirkwood, Chris Stanley, Franco Gentili and Norman Woods.

Los Nietos Golf Society

THE April Stableford for Los Nietos Golf Society was held at the Mar Menor golf course where 18 players took part.

The overall winner was Mick McGovern with 35 pts. Nearest the pins went to new member Mick Springer and Mick McGovern. The longest drive was achieved by Mick Lockley. The front 9 went to Peter Eades with 21 pts whose was also second shot nearest the pin Peter Eades. The back 9 went to Brummie Dave Tipping.

Next up is Lorca on Weds May 3. Anybody interested in joining should contact Ian Furniss casabromley@hotmail.com.

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