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# False hope

## Doctors defrauded over €600,000

By John Smith and Matt Ford

Two university professors are among five arrested in a €600,000 fake anti-cancer drug scandal.

The accused allegedly exploited facilities at the Universitat de les Illes Balears (UIB) to produce a fake anti-cancer drug that they sold online across Spain.

Xavier Busquets and Pablo Escriba founded Lipopharma, a biopharmaceutical company based on the university campus, 15 years ago.

They have been working

with an 'artificial molecule' which has not passed the necessary tests to obtain accreditation from the Spanish Medicine's agency. Despite the drug not having been authorised for sale, it has been patented by the UIB and given the commercial name Minerval.

Investigators from the National Police's Economic Delinquency unit also detained the company's business manager and two others linked to the non-profit Marathon Glioma Foundation.

Glioma is a particularly aggressive form of cancer that typically appears in the brain or

spine, and Minerval has been marketed to sufferers, with one parent having paid €25,000 in an attempt to save his daughter.

The accused are suspected of defrauding clients of at least €611,000, but the prosecution believe there may be more victims, who are now being encouraged to step forward.



DRUG SCANDAL: Fake anti-cancer drug was sold online.

See us on page 24



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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Family grief**

A PRIEST accused by a young girl and her father of molesting them as children defends his innocence saying, "everything is a plot against me. I'm the victim of full blown extortion."

**Bad bids**

THE political party More for Mallorca's (Mes) campaign director Jaume Garau is in hot water after presenting himself with two bids from companies he owned to obtain minor contracts from the culture department, which manage his party.

**Let them go**

POPULAR PARTY parliamentary spokesperson Marga Prohens has stated that the only possible remodelling the government requires is the "immediate dismissal" of both Biel Barelo and Vicenc Vidal.

# Flights cancelled in Palma



**NIGHTMARE:** Thousands have been affected by the delays and cancellations.

IT took four hours to regain normality at Palma Airport after computer problems halted all flights into and out of the city on Wednesday April 12.

The problem, which affected the control centre managing air traffic over the Balearics, began at 1pm and was resolved shortly after 5pm.

The incident caused delays

of up to five hours, affecting 79 take offs and over 40 landings.

The timing couldn't have been more inconvenient, in the middle of Semana Santa, on a day where 484 flights were planned and 80,000 people were due to pass through the airport.

Chaos began when a

Ryanair flight destined for Bologna, scheduled to leave at 1pm, didn't take off until 3pm. From there, everything spiralled out of control. The air traffic control tower suspended flights, giving priority to planes already in the air and destined for Palma.

Meanwhile, on the ground, AENA, the company that man-

ages the airports, coordinated with airlines to try and reschedule flights. The decision was made to cancel connecting and low cost flights, while other operators sent their passengers to hotels.

As EWN went to print, work was underway to reschedule almost 100 flights affected by the technical difficulties.

**Coo much**

SOLLER Council has exterminated 300-400 house pigeons which were living in abandoned buildings and public spaces.

The town hall says that the birds were killed for public health reasons after their population exploded in highly populated areas.

The reason for the upswing is thought to be the loss of the traditional dovecotes, which were used to collect pigeon eggs for human consumption.

Environmental councillor, Josep Lluís Puig, explained that his team had counted "well over 1,000" pigeons, leading to the cull.

Working alongside the Natura Parc Foundation, the council placed traps in disused buildings, removing the animals over a period of several weeks.

The campaign has not ended, with Port de Soller next on the agenda.

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## Blinded by the light

A PALMA school has been forced to put cardboard in the windows to protect students from the sun.

Son Serra de Palma has been without blinds since January and there is no set date for their replacement. Teachers have been forced to adopt these improvised solutions in order to see the blackboards and lower the temperature in the classrooms.

Parents are demanding changes from the Ministry of Education, to protect their children as we head towards the summer and temperatures begin to rise.

## Bus fuss

DEPUTY MAYOR of Palma, Antoni Noguera, has assured the public that the bus belonging to platform 'Hazte Oir' is not welcome in the city.

'Hazte Oir' are a group whose manifesto rejects policies in favour of transgender people, and plan to bring their campaign bus to Palma in June.

In a recent press conference, Noguera, who will assume the position of mayor in two months, was asked about the impending visit and replied with just three words, 'bus not welcome.'

It should be noted that local campaigners 'Valores en Baleares,' who describe the vehicle as 'the freedom bus,' have requested that it visit Palma. Their next president, Juan Jose Tenorio, said that "freedom in Spain is threatened under the guise of discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and the combating of LGBT-phobia."

In his opinion, Spain is approving 'laws of sexual indoctrination' that, 'far from promoting equality and non-discrimination, try to impose a new and relentless ideology,' and attack 'against the freedom of parents, educators, journalists and health professionals.'

## Dealers downed

FOLLOWING complaints from local residents, officers from the Guardia Civil have arrested two people in Palmanova.

Information was received that a Spanish couple was supplying drugs to a number of Britons who were in turn selling them to tourists including minors in Magaluf.

The officers descended on their flat

## 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.

## New rides

THE Local Police in Palma has renewed its fleet with 30 motorcycles and two new vans.

Mayor of Palma, Jose Hila, also presented female officers with new uniforms, adapted specially to their needs, recently incorporated into the force's wardrobe.

During the presentation, Hila stressed the importance of the new vehicles, re-

vealing that the fleet had not changed their motorbikes for seven years.

## Sol, sol, sol

TEMPERATURES are set to rise in the Balearics as we head towards Easter weekend.

According to a spokesman for the State Meteorological Agency, daytime temperatures on Good Friday are likely to reach 25 degrees.

The good weather will dominate throughout the islands with temperatures slightly higher than the average for this time of year, reaching daily heights of 23 or 24 degrees.

## Council condemns police attack

THE government team at Palma City Council has expressed its total condemnation of an attack on a Local Police officer.

The victim was an officer who is currently investigating police corruption. He was shot at by a motorcyclist with a shotgun, who fled the scene when the officer fired two warning shots into the air with his weapon.

According to the council, the officer was subjected to 'unprovoked act of intimidation' and they wish him

a speedy recovery.

In a statement, they said that they "in no way consent to any threat or attack on officials or police officers who are doing their jobs, depending on the public's compliance with the law."

They have reiterated their "support and gratitude" towards the Local Police officers for their continued work, as well as their willingness to clarify exactly what happened during the incident.

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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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## Violent robbery gang arrested

A GANG consisting of 23 minors and three young adults alleged to have carried out several robberies has been detained.

National Police arrested the 26 perpetrators in Palma who were apparently dividing into groups of five or six to intimidate and rob their victims, usually between the ages of 15 and 22-years-old.

Some of the offenders have previous history of criminal activities such as housebreaking and vehicle theft. Many of the incidents coincided with the release dates of some of the perpetrators from a juvenile detention centre.

Reports indicate that multiple victims were still attacked even though they gave up their valuables with no hesitation.

The National Police confiscated a large amount of stolen property, along with drugs and weapons including a simulated revolver and a knife that were used in the attacks. All of the stolen valuables had been taken to one home in Son Gotleu neighbourhood of Palma.

The charges against the gang include 41 robbery crimes involving violence, 29 vehicle related thefts, three house burglaries, one home robbery with violence, and numerous non-violent thefts.

The prosecution believes that there will be more crimes as the investigation continues.

## Marriages of convenience

THE leader of a network of marriages of convenience has been sentenced to 11 months in prison by a court in Palma.

The plot paid Spanish women to marry immigrants, commonly Hindu men in this network, so they could receive a permanent residence card.

Several participants of these fraudulent marriages were convicted within the last few weeks, but many were given fines instead of jail time.

One of the women was convicted of participating in three

marriages of convenience. The unnamed leader was a wanted fugitive until he was arrested last week.

Members of the network were always married in churches, and presented false baptismal certificates. A local diocese first detected the fraud and contacted the National Police.

According to the prosecutor, at least seven fraudulent marriages can be proven linked to this fraudulent network.



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## Unusual holiday

A GROUP of friends from Bristol who had booked a birthday trip to Mallorca were devastated when one of them, Joe McGrath, had to cancel and they were unable to obtain a refund on the flight.

Undeterred, they rushed to Facebook and contacted a raft of people with similar names, offering them a free holiday.

On the 15th attempt a Joe McGrath from Manchester decided that it wasn't a hoax and accepted their kind offer, enjoying the three days so much that they have now become firm friends.

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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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# Ryanair strike



GROUND handling staff for budget airline Ryanair at Alicante-Elche airport are set to go on strike over the Easter weekend in a dispute over unpaid wages, with certain flights to Mallorca likely to be affected.

The 230 Ryanair and Lesma staff have called for four days of 24-hour strikes from 00.01 on Friday April 14 and will last until 23.59 on Monday April 17.

Holiday and overtime payments and workers' rights are also disputed. Worker representatives claim that some of the part-time staff are owed up to €1,000 and 100 per cent of the staff are behind the strike.

Alicante-Elche Airport, originally named El Altet, is the fifth busiest airport in Spain based on passenger numbers, and the main airport serving the Valencian Community and the region of Murcia.

The airport is also a base for Air Nostrum, Evelop Airlines, Norwegian Air Shuttle and Vueling.

In 2016 it set a new, consecutive, record with almost 12,350,000 passengers, making it one of the 50 busiest airports in Europe.

Up to 80 per cent of all passenger flights are international.

The largest numbers of passengers arrive from the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Belgium and Sweden.

# Homelessness in Mallorca

A STUDY undertaken by the Mallorcan Institute for Social Affairs, which was undertaken in March of this year, reports that there are 209 homeless in Mallorca.

Some 200 volunteers agreed to walk the streets of Palma and other towns in the hours of 9pm to 1am in order to record the number of people who appeared to be living on the streets in order to be able to advise the authorities on how to identify and best cope with the problem.

In the last study of this type, which took place in 2015, just 156 people were counted and this has now increased with the majority of the homeless being found in Palma.

The majority are also males

aged between 40 and 59 years old although some of the homeless don't just sleep in the streets, but have tents or sleep in groups to protect their belongings and animals.

Wherever possible, those identified were interviewed and it transpired that of the 144 who agreed to discuss their situation, 95 had been living on the streets for 10 years or more.

The bulk of those interviewed were Spanish followed by other Europeans and just 12 originally came from Africa whilst at least half confirmed that they were still in contact with their families.

The two main reasons for homelessness were recorded as lack of work, followed by lack of money.

# Masseuse fined for minor massage

By Francesca Souter

THE Provincial Court of Palma has fined an erotic masseuse €2,430 after he performed services on a minor. The defendant was aware his client was under 13 years old, but still went

ahead with the appointment.

The court heard that the minor called the masseuse in September of 2013, asking to hire his services. Although he hung up on the first phone call, the defendant called back and they arranged an appointment, taking advantage of the child be-

ing at home alone. He stole various items of jewellery from the child's mother, valued at €722.

After handing over €90 for the massage, the child took off his clothes, except for his socks, and lay face down on his parent's bed.

The accused began to work on the back and

buttocks, and it was at this moment the minor became frightened and decided to end the activity. He asked the masseuse to leave which he did.

A settlement was reached whereby the defendant admitted to crimes of theft and the corruption of minors, receiving fines for both.

## 1,000 trees for Palma

DUE to the destruction of some 700 infected trees in 2016 the Palma Council will be replacing them this year.

The intention is to plant at least 1,000 trees of different species by the end of May and wherever possible, the council will plant attractive trees that do not have large and invasive roots.

Much has been learned from the problems encountered with some of the trees that had to be removed and the replacements are being targeted in particular areas so that if there is not a great deal of space then they will plant trees that do not spread their branches or grow over large.

## Airports to be very busy

THE Balearic airports expect to process more than 630,000 people over Easter.

Airport management company AENA has confirmed there will be 3,945 flights between Thursday April 13 and Monday April 17 with the bulk of visitors coming through Palma airport, subject to there being no further technical problems.

Palma will welcome just under 500,000 passengers in those few days with the busiest time set for Easter Saturday whilst Ibiza comes next with some 105,000 passengers overall.

Flights in and out of Menorca will be less frenetic but will see more than 40,000 passengers in just five days.

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## Beach bar evicted

THE eviction of Nassau Beach bar and restaurant in Palma's Portixol has been ordered by the board of the Balearic Ports Authority (APB).

The board claims the establishment has been illegally occupied and operating without a licence since last December.

Joan Gual de Torrella, president of the APB, has been given the power to

request police assistance if the occupants do not comply with their three day eviction notice

The most recent lease ended at the end of 2016, and a new renter has been given the new licence but is unable to move in as the old tenants are still occupying the space

Torrella is expected to request authorisation to enter the premises if the occupants do not leave.

## Public road protest

AROUND 200 protesters gathered to demand the Son Quint golf course reopen the section of public road Puigpunyent.

The president of the residents association of Son Rapinya, Marisa Bonache, commented, "more than half of the route is part of the old neighbourhood road that linked Son Rapinya with Puigpunyent and la Vileta

with Estellencs."

The protesters held a banner reading 'we want our open roads,' and marched with chants and music for over an hour. The road dates back to the 13th century, still with the original pavement.

They are also asking for clear sign of usage rights, such as allowing pedestrians but prohibiting vehicles such as quad bikes.



Photo by Facebook.com/emayapalmax

**NEW BINS:** Are the most modern on the market.

# New modern waste and recycle bins

By Gillian Keller

WASTE management company Emaya will be installing 1,800 new garbage and recycling bins starting on April 24. In addition to the new equipment, Emaya trucks will be deployed daily to clean the bins and their area.

The first phase includes the

1,800 new containers which will be replacing the old ones in Arenal, Las Maravillas, Can Pastilla, and Eixample in the north.

Each collection point will host four bins for glass, waste, cans and containers, and paper and cardboard. At the end of 2017 the company will add or-

ganic and compostable waste bins.

The new bins are the most modern available, with wheelchair access, Braille for the blind, and QR codes for identifying their use and reporting incidents. Starting from April 24, 50 bins will be replaced each day until all the new bins are in use.

According to Neus Truyol, president of Emaya, two trucks will visit each collection point daily, one to pick up the waste, the other to clean the area.

The second phase will begin this October and will expand into Palma. In total Emaya will introduce 8,000 new bins, 5,000 of which will be installed this year.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Presidential death

FORMER president of the Balearic parliament, Maximilano Morales, has passed away from cancer. In 1983 he was one of the members that drafted the statute of autonomy of the Balearic Islands.

### Fire halted

PALMA firefighters rushed to a quickly spreading fire at the Renault workshop for repainting cars in the Polígono of Can Valero. Highly flammable paint helped the fire spread quickly, but firefighters were able to extinguish the fire without injuries.

### Belt up

TWO cameras have been set up on motorways to monitor that drivers are wearing seatbelts. There will be no fines delivered until a two-month testing period is over. One is on the M-20 and the other is on MA-13.

### Bar brawl

TWO boys were taken to hospital when several groups of young people got into a brawl on Palma's Paseo Martimo shortly before 6am after a night out. National Police are investigating the incident.

### Rip-off rent

ALONG with the recent increase in rental properties available in Mallorca has come an increase in real estate scams. The main real estate portals stress tenants should not pay any money without keys to the property.

### Traffic jam

A FIVE-CAR pile up blocking the left lane of the Andratx motorway caused a large traffic jam. Police officers arrived to decongest the traffic, which took two hours to free.

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## Violent thief detained

THE thief responsible for the robbery of eight businesses in Inca and Sa Pablo has been detained by the police. Neighbours were on edge after the hooded assailant repeatedly used a large knife to threaten employees when stealing thousands of euros. The 34-year-old thief has numerous offences on his criminal record. The robberies took place in broad daylight, usually in the afternoon during opening and closing hours.

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# Two rescued sea turtles are set free

By Gillian Keller

TWO rescued sea turtles have been released in Dragonera Natural Park. One turtle was rescued near Ibiza with flotation problems, and the other turtle was found in the Bay of Alcudia entangled in plastics.

The programme of monitoring and recovering sea turtles launched years ago by the Balearic Islands ministry of environment is responsible for the rehabilitation of the two turtles.

Primary students from Palma's La Purissima school were able to participate in the process and learn about the importance of preserving sea life and preventing animals from suffering.

Many of the animals from the recovery centre are released in Dragonera National Park, and whenever possible, the release is done with school groups in order to educate and stress environmental conservation.

Many factors have led to the decline



**SEA TURTLES:** An estimated 20,000 sea turtles are caught in fishing nets off the Balearic Islands yearly.

of the sea turtle population in the Balearic Islands in recent decades including being caught in fishing nets, entangled in plastics and debris, and ingesting rotten waste.

The counsel of Mallorca, who co-

manage the natural park with the Balearic government, stress the importance of protecting the local sea turtle. Among other effects, a decline in sea turtles has led to an increase in jelly fish around the islands.



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# Marihuana acquittal

A GROCERY store owner in Son Gotleu has been acquitted of a charge of selling marihuana in his shop due to lack of evidence.

The ruling states that the low amount of the drug found, 6.6 grams, does not establish intent to sell or distribute. It also cannot be proven that the money in the shop was from the sale of drugs.

In Mallorca, the buying, possession, and consumption of marihuana in a public place is a misdemeanour and is penalised with a fine and confiscation of the drug.

Selling marihuana is however a criminal offence, punishable by law at any quantity. It is not considered a criminal offence for adults to grow or use marihuana on personal private property.

The 45-year-old defendant claims the six wrapped balls of marihuana found by the National Police were for personal use. He did admit to previously selling the drug,



Photo by flickr.com/100651935@N07

**DRUG STORE:** The selling of marihuana is a criminal offence in Mallorca.

for which he was convicted of months ago. In addition to the small amount of the drug and only a reasonable amount of money for a shop to have, the police noted there were no scales for weighing or tools for trimming the drug on the premises.

The criminal court in Palma have dropped the charges.

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## Self-sufficient solar school

THE city council of Costitx has completed the first stage of formalities to begin the installation of solar panels in the public school Nadal Campaner Arrom.

The solar panels will make the school completely energy self-sufficient.

The project will cost €40,000, 45 per cent of which will subsidised through European aid,

and the rest covered by local town funds.

Town mayor Antoni Salas commented, "in the public school, all the facilities are electric and the building is used both in summer and winter so we have to deal with bills ranging from €900 to €1,200 per month. Savings of around €12,000 per year, will help to pay it off in 18 months."

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# Family of cancer boy Leo the Lion plan their 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.



**LEO THE LION:** Is undergoing proton beam therapy.

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:

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Advertising Feature

# Little change for the euro

## Commentary by Moneycorp

### EUR weekly currency update

There was little net change for the euro against the pound and the dollar. It strengthened by quarter of a US cent and lost a fifth of a cent to sterling. That is not to say the week was entirely uneventful. Last Friday the pound extended the rally that had begun after Britain's prime minister sent her Article 50 divorce letter to Brussels. The pound's climb was the result of further unwinding of short positions by investors.

There were more reminders of how monetary policy is pointing in opposite directions on opposite sides of the Atlantic. Mario Draghi at the European Central Bank said for the umpteenth time that it is too soon to reduce stimulus. The Federal Open Market Committee talked of more rate increases and said it was time to think about reducing its stock of bonds, thereby further tightening monetary policy.

### USD weekly currency update

A range of less than a cent and a half covered the movement of sterling against the dollar. Eventually the pound booked an almost-invisible net gain of eight ticks while the dollar took a quarter of a cent off the euro. The pound started off well, extending the rally that had begun after Britain's Article 50 divorce letter had been delivered to Brussels. It was the result of investors covering more of their short positions.

Looking at the longer term, the week's most important development was the Federal Open Market Committee minutes. They spoke of beginning to run down the huge stock of bonds amassed by the Fed during its quantitative easing schemes. Investors inferred that this 'balance sheet normalisation' would mean fewer interest rate increases than they had previously bargained for. It did not affect the dollar too much though, because the Fed was vague about when it might begin.

### CAD weekly currency update

The Loonie was one of several currencies that spent the week busily going nowhere. It lost a third of a US cent and went down by two thirds of a cent against sterling. The pound spent last Friday extending the gains it had made the previous day after the prime minister's Article 50 divorce letter was delivered to Brussels. Investors who had previously sold sterling in anticipation of its decline continued to cover their short positions by buying back the pound.

Canadian economic data were few: Gross domestic product expanded by a healthy 0.6% in January, RBC's manufacturing sector purchasing managers' index showed a pick-up in activity and Canada logged a small trade deficit for February. There weren't too many UK ecostats either. Fourth quarter economic growth was confirmed at 0.7%. The manufacturing PMI disappointed by



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falling slightly while the services sector reading jumped ahead, driven by banks and other financial institutions.

### AUD weekly currency update

The Aussie continued its yoyo performance, dropping to the back of the field again after a week in the lead. It lost more than one US cent and fell by a cent and a quarter against the pound. Although it is one of the strongest performers in the year to date the Australian dollar has languished over the last month, losing five cents to sterling. As it does so often, the Reserve Bank of Australia influenced the currency. On this occasion it was the monetary policy statement that hindered it, not because the Cash Rate benchmark was left unchanged but be-



cause the RBA held out no prospect of higher rates.

Economic data from Australia carried no coherent message. Purchasing managers' index readings showed manufacturing activity growing more slowly while firms in the services sector pushed ahead at a faster pace. Retail sales and building permits fell in February, as did imports, but exports increased, widening the trade surplus.

### NZD weekly currency update

A range of less than two cents covered sterling's movement against the NZ dollar and the two were unchanged against one another. They were also unchanged against the US dollar. Yes, it was a fairly quiet week. Sterling showed early promise, as investors covered speculative short positions following the delivery of Downing Street's Article 50 divorce letter to Brussels. There was no carry through, though, and the pound blotted its copybook with a weaker-than-expected purchasing managers' index reading from the manufacturing sector. It redeemed itself later when the equivalent figure from the services sector came in a point and a half higher than forecast.

Two NZ business confidence measures both showed companies to be less ebullient in March than they had been previously. The fortnightly GDT index showed milk prices rising by 1.6%. There was nothing in those numbers to inflame passions for the Kiwi in either direction.

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# Llull Bakery set to close after 64 years

THE famous Llull bakery in Palma will close its doors after 64 years of traditional

baking. The owner, Juame Llull, will soon retire and has yet to find a replacement to

take over the establishment.

“Before my family came here the bakery only sold bread, but when my father Miquel took over the establishment, he began to make cakes, pastries and ensaimadas and little by little began to have a name,” said the owner and long-time baker.

“You have until April 23 to try the traditional treats on offer.

Llull also said the last few years “have been a little rough because of the economic crisis,” and that was a factor in timing his retirement.

Those who wish to try the traditional treats have until April 23, which is when the bakery is set to close.

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FIRST PHASE: Puigserver, Juan, and Moll met with the new home care team.

## Care at home project launch

IMAS, the Mallorcan Institute of Social Affairs, has launched its new project, a comprehensive care at home service. The first phase has already begun which includes eight nursing technical assistants and four coordinators. The project is set to gradually grow, adding 48 more assistants.

The new system of care at a person's home will have many benefits including the possibility of living in a comfortable familiar environment because of regular medical visits.

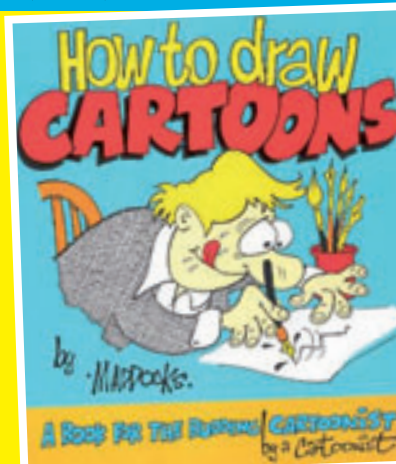
Families and carers will be offered information, training, and specific programmes directly at the patient's home. The home care will also gradually

grow in coordination with the patient's needs.

According to the minister of welfare and social rights and president of IMAS, Margalida Puigserver, there are currently 33 people given care to in their homes with this programme, and will expand in May to reach 150 people. The budget for the first year of the project is almost €1.2 million provided by both IMAS and the government.

Recently Puigserver, along with IMAS vice-president Javier de Juan and director of IMAS's care unit Regina Moll met with the nursing technical assistants and coordinators to learn first-hand about their first week with the new programme.

## PETER MADDOCKS



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

<http://petermaddockart.com>

## NEWS EXTRA

### Two injured

TWO people riding a motorcycle have been seriously injured on the Via de Cuntura road in Palma. The two victims were taken to Son Espases Hospital with a severe prognosis.

### House fire

A CIVIL GUARD officer rescued a mother and her two children, aged 2 and 6, who were caught in a house fire in Binissalem. The fire started on a mattress and both the mother and officer were treated for smoke inhalation.

### Road death

A GERMAN national, aged 53, has died from injuries sustained during a car accident near Estellencs. The driver sustained severe chest trauma after driving into a wall, and died soon after in hospital.

### Grand Prix

THE trophy for the 84th National Grand Prix will be created by the School of Design of the Balearic Islands. The Mallorcan Institute of Horse-Riding wishes to give more prestige to one of the Balearics' most important sporting events.

### Not fair

EMAYA workers near Santa Catalina have issued complaints since their eviction from their centre of operations due to risk of collapse from severe cracks. Currently the outraged workers have no lockers, showers, office or break room and poor working conditions.

### Rental zone

MAYORS in Mallorca have positively responded to the announcement that town halls will hold the power to zone or even prohibit holiday rentals. Once the legislation passes in parliament, towns will have eight months to submit zoning plans.

# Mallorca Wordsmiths to host Division Spring Conference

TOASTMASTERS all across the island have been busy for the last six months planning and organising the biggest event in the Toastmasters' calendar. On April 28/29/30 Mallorca Wordsmiths, the Toastmasters club here in Mallorca, will host the Division Spring Conference.

This three-day event is being sponsored by La Caixa bank and will take place at the Hotel Horizonte, Bonanova, who supports the club and is where the meetings take place every Wednesday evening. This will be an event not to be missed by anyone interested in public speaking, leadership skills and personal development.

Toastmasters from Mallorca Wordsmiths participating in the Division Contest have already competed and won at club level, then competed again at area level alongside clubs from Alicante, Murcia and Valencia.

At division level they will compete with clubs from

Barcelona and the winner from division will go on to compete at district level in Winthur in Switzerland on May 14.

We have a dream – a vision – that a member participating in this conference will go all the way to the top to the International Speech Contest which is being held this year in Vancouver, Canada to claim the title of Toastmaster International Speaker of the year.

There are no teachers or professors in Toastmasters, everyone simply learns from each other by giving evaluations and feedback. For the evaluation contest a Toastmaster presents a speech which is then evaluated by the winners of the evaluation contests at club and area level. Contests take place in Spanish and English.

The conference will have keynote speakers from Brussels, Barcelona, London and Mallorca. International speakers will entertain and educate with the art of storytelling,

voice coaching, communication and leadership skills.

Doors are open to guests on Saturday April 29, the central day, with different options to choose from and you just pay at the door on the day:

- Saturday 9.am–6.30pm includes speech and evaluation contests both in Spanish and English. Keynote speakers, buffet lunch and morning coffee break - €30.

- Morning session only 9am-1pm includes speech and evaluation contest in Spanish, keynote speaker and coffee break - €15.

- Afternoon session only 2.30–6.30pm includes speech and evaluation contest in English, keynote speakers - €10.

Mallorca Wordsmiths hold meetings in Spanish on the first and third Wednesday of the month and English on the second and fourth Wednesday.

[www.facebook.com/MallorcaWordsmiths/](http://www.facebook.com/MallorcaWordsmiths/) or [walkthetalkinmallorca.com.es/](http://walkthetalkinmallorca.com.es/).



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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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Not only does the EWN family produce a title that delivers each and every week great foot flow to our San Pedro store, it also penetrates deeply across many Spanish regions ensuring our clients are aware of our full delivery service and the access of our Spanish website.

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.

The EWN family make my life easy and for that Oak Land Furniture is most grateful to Michel, Steven and all members of the large EWN family.

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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## NORWAY

### Olympics bid

POLITICIANS will not head Norway's Winter Olympics bid, with parliament saying the campaign must come from the Sports Association.

### Sea tunnel

PLANS have been revealed for a tunnel in Norway that would allow safer passage for ships bypassing the dangerous Stad peninsula. It would be the world's first sea tunnel to pass through a mountain.

### Ferry death

A NORWEGIAN man died after falling seriously ill on a ferry from Copenhagen to Oslo. He was airlifted to hos-



WINTER OLYMPICS: Sports Association must campaign.

pital but later passed away.

### Nine years

A MAN has been sentenced to nine

years in prison by a Norwegian court who wanted to join Daesh. The 31-year-old admitted to financially supporting the group.

## GERMANY

### Heart of EU

GADHEIM, a Bavarian hamlet with just 78 inhabitants will officially be the geographical heart of the EU when Britain leaves. The exact coordinates for the centre of the EU are 9° 54' 07" E and 49° 50' 35" N.

### Pricey picture

A TURNER painting of Germany's Ehrenbreitstein, a mountain fortress on

the bank of the Rhine, is set to be auctioned in London with an estimate of £15-£25 million, being one of just six of Turner's paintings still owned privately.

### Home schooling

A GERMAN couple are appearing in the European Court of Human Rights to defend their parental right to home schooling, something which is essen-

tially banned in Germany. The children were initially taken away into care.

### Final flight

THE shortest international flight in the world, between Germany and Switzerland is to be grounded. The Austrian People's Air Group said it is retiring the eight minute flight with the final flight on April 14.

## FRANCE

### Bishop resignation

A FRENCH bishop has resigned at the request of the Vatican, over his alleged inappropriate comments and behaviour with youths.

### Nice inquiry

AN inquiry is to be launched to investigate allegations that security in Nice was lax on the night of the Bastille Day attack which saw a truck driver kill 86 people. There are claims lies were made about the number of police on duty.

### Dr helpline

A NEW 24-hour doctors helpline number is being trialled in Corsica, Normandy and Pays-de-la-Loire. The new 116 117 is being tested in these regions first by the Health Ministry.

### Head's award

THE headteacher who managed to reason with a teenage gunman who went on a rampage in a high school in the south of France, helping prevent more casualties, is to be awarded with the Legion d'honneur, the country's highest honour.

## BELGIUM

### Equal rights

MEPs meeting in Brussels are calling for greater acknowledgement of the role of women within agriculture giving them equal pay and rights with men.

### Night inspections

MORE inspections are to be carried out on night shops in Belgium after reports that more and more are opening from midday when the law requires them to be closed from 7am-6pm.

### Tangled whale

A BOWHEAD whale spotted off the Belgian coast appeared to have been caught in a fishing net that was entangled around the base of its tale.

### Skyscraper evacuation

A THREAT led police to evacuate Antwerp's iconic 'Boerentoren' skyscraper. Police soon allowed people back in but did not reveal the nature of the threat.

## NETHERLANDS

### Relaxed workers

LOOKING for a stress-free job? Then move to the Netherlands as a survey of 25,000 employees worldwide revealed that Dutch workers had a happiness score of 69.9 out of 100, and the lowest stress levels.

### Safety report

A REPORT by the Dutch Safety Board has warned that Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport cannot grow without taking drastic safety measures. There has been numerous near-collisions between planes as the runways cross.

### Security threat

THE Netherlands' Coordinator for Security and Counter-terrorism is concerned about the possibility of terrorists using drones to launch an explosives attack over the country. The threat level in Netherlands is currently four out of five.

### €1m homes

AMSTERDAM has more homes worth more than a million euros than any other place in the Netherlands and more than before the crisis hit.

## DENMARK

### Tall heights

AARHUS' new tower is set to become Denmark's tallest building. The building is in the harbour development area and once completed by 2020, will be 128m tall.

### Stolen works

A DANISH auctioneer accidentally sold a painting that was listed as stolen on a worldwide database. The painting by Danish artist Carl Vilhelm Holsøe, was stolen in 2000, but the auction house does not subscribe to the international Art Loss Register.

### Youth crime

DENMARK has reported further falls in youth crime levels. Charges against youngsters aged between 10 and 17, have fallen year on year since 2006.

### Angels raided

A HELLS ANGELS clubhouse in a Copenhagen district was raided by police who believed it was connected to various cannabis dealings and a Hells Angels member was subsequently arrested.

## SWEDEN

### Fishy find

POLICE in Gothenburg were called to handle a suspicious package near the Central Station. However, rather than explosives, they found 10kg of frozen fish inside.

### Public shares

SPOTIFY, the music streaming company which was created in Sweden, could register its shares directly on the stock market instead of an initial public offering, according to the *Wall Street Journal*.

### School segregation

MEMBERS of an anti-immigrant vigilante group put up propaganda stickers around a school's playground following reports the school in Stockholm had segregated children by gender on the bus.

### Business boost

SWEDEN'S small businesses had a strong 2016, with profitability increasing for a third consecutive year for small businesses with less than 15 employees.

# 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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# LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES APRIL 10

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
3i Group PLC	759.75	4.00	0.53	98.44
Admiral Group PLC	2006.00	3.00	0.15	22.59
Anglo American PLC	1254.25	18.50	1.50	502.59
Antofagasta PLC	875.50	6.32	0.73	201.07
Ashtead Group PLC	1687.50	-4.00	-0.24	67.26
Associated British Foods PLC	2518.50	36.00	1.45	75.74
AstraZeneca PLC	4774.50	-19.50	-0.41	184.95
Aviva PLC	511.50	-2.36	-0.46	589.03
Babcock International Group...	889.25	6.95	0.79	165.30
BAE Systems PLC	648.25	-1.00	-0.15	525.95
Barclays PLC	214.72	-0.60	-0.28	5,093.89
Barratt Developments PLC	560.75	2.00	0.36	197.21
BHP Billiton PLC	1357.25	70.00	5.44	4,357.11
BP PLC	468.95	-1.45	-0.31	1,740.51
British American Tobacco PLC	5338.50	-19.00	-0.35	155.92
British Land Co PLC	647.75	-0.34	-0.05	314.64
BT Group PLC	312.65	0.57	0.18	1,428.31
Bunzl PLC	2334.00	-13.00	-0.55	9.19
Burberry Group PLC	1771.50	-2.00	-0.11	102.15
Carnival PLC	4630.00	12.00	0.26	33.96
Centrica PLC	217.15	-0.70	-0.32	755.82
Coca-Cola HBC AG	2059.00	-22.00	-1.06	46.75
Compass Group PLC	1521.50	-5.90	-0.39	215.01
ConvaTec Group PLC	281.70	1.50	0.54	90.12
CRH PLC	2776.00	-24.00	-0.86	54.35
Croda International PLC	3498.50	6.00	0.17	32.13
DCC PLC	6997.50	-105.00	-1.48	6.81
Diageo PLC	2272.75	-8.50	-0.37	474.95
Direct Line Insurance Group...	345.45	1.00	0.29	213.30
easyJet PLC	1053.00	10.00	0.96	114.68
Experian PLC	1612.00	-5.00	-0.31	69.27
Fresnillo PLC	1601.00	-23.00	-1.42	88.52
GKN PLC	356.10	-0.10	-0.03	240.75
GlaxoSmithKline PLC	1641.75	4.50	0.27	785.45
Glencore PLC	324.78	3.60	1.12	4,091.08
Hammerson PLC	584.50	-1.50	-0.26	181.84
Hargreaves Lansdown PLC	1327.50	-2.00	-0.15	31.42
Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC	1927.00	43.00	2.28	94.59
HSBC Holdings PLC	658.50	3.90	0.60	2,944.05
Imperial Brands PLC	3898.75	-14.50	-0.37	73.38
Informa PLC	646.25	3.50	0.54	77.79
InterContinental Hotels Gro...	3934.00	10.00	0.25	13.73
International Consolidated ...	530.25	6.50	1.24	1,048.40
Intertek Group PLC	3989.50	-8.00	-0.20	5.90
Intu Properties PLC	286.25	0.20	0.07	217.09
ITV PLC	215.00	-0.70	-0.32	1,446.31
Johnson Matthey PLC	3007.50	-23.00	-0.76	16.97
Kingfisher PLC	323.55	-0.10	-0.03	498.18
Land Securities Group PLC	1098.00	0.00	0.00	137.73
Legal & General Group PLC	246.15	-0.10	-0.04	841.10

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Lloyds Banking Group PLC	63.08	0.05	0.08	16,865.72
London Stock Exchange Grp...	3232.50	-4.00	-0.12	17.72
Marks & Spencer Group PLC	342.15	5.20	1.54	1,134.94
Mediclinic International PLC	705.00	5.50	0.79	162.53
Merlin Entertainments PLC	482.80	2.50	0.52	132.21
Micro Focus International PLC	2455.00	14.00	0.57	76.48
Mondi PLC	1948.50	1.00	0.05	56.01
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	232.70	-1.60	-0.68	292.09
National Grid PLC	1027.50	-5.00	-0.48	462.14
Next PLC	4052.00	29.00	0.72	39.35
Old Mutual PLC	190.10	-1.80	-0.94	764.24
Paddy Power Betfair PLC	8412.50	5.00	0.06	4.97
Pearson PLC	640.50	0.57	0.09	275.46
Persimmon PLC	2177.00	31.00	1.44	198.07
Provident Financial PLC	3139.00	-18.00	-0.57	22.64
Prudential PLC	1676.25	1.50	0.09	204.00
Randgold Resources Ltd	7292.50	-115.60	-1.56	102.23
Reckitt Benckiser Group PLC	7325.00	-63.00	-0.85	61.44
RELX PLC	1577.50	0.00	0.00	189.02
Rentokil Initial PLC	251.20	0.20	0.08	122.70
Rio Tinto PLC	3304.75	50.50	1.55	447.77
Rolls-Royce Holdings PLC	798.75	1.50	0.19	735.80
Royal Bank of Scotland Grou...	236.60	-1.60	-0.67	503.85
Royal Dutch Shell PLC	2237.25	-8.50	-0.38	329.06
Royal Mail PLC	409.60	-5.60	-1.35	275.41
RSA Insurance Group PLC	592.50	2.50	0.42	73.99
Sage Group (The) PLC	631.75	-1.00	-0.16	128.94
Sainsbury (J) PLC	260.75	-1.00	-0.38	517.54
Schroders PLC	3122.00	7.00	0.22	17.80
Scottish Mortgage Investmen...	370.70	0.78	0.21	418.37
Severn Trent PLC	2401.50	-2.00	-0.08	48.35
Shire PLC	4579.75	17.50	0.38	224.32
Sky PLC	967.25	-2.00	-0.21	371.96
Smith & Nephew PLC	1239.00	3.00	0.24	168.18
Smiths Group PLC	1631.50	-3.00	-0.18	172.69
Smurfit Kappa Group PLC	2050.50	-10.00	-0.49	47.75
SSE PLC	1481.50	-5.00	-0.34	249.97
Standard Chartered PLC	740.60	-1.60	-0.22	508.83
Standard Life PLC	370.20	1.60	0.43	458.20
St James's Place PLC	1039.50	10.00	0.97	136.16
Taylor Wimpey PLC	195.20	0.70	0.36	2,158.17
Tesco PLC	189.80	0.10	0.05	3,380.80
TUI AG	1097.50	3.00	0.27	42.58
Unilever PLC	4019.75	-21.00	-0.52	183.52
United Utilities Group PLC	1002.00	-1.00	-0.10	84.86
Vodafone Group PLC	202.58	-0.65	-0.32	4,182.99
Whitbread PLC	4033.00	10.84	0.27	27.09
Wolseley PLC	4946.50	-2.00	-0.04	29.19
Worldpay Group PLC	300.95	-0.80	-0.27	132.01
WPP PLC	1731.50	1.00	0.06	132.70

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3M	189,990	+0,05%	0,100	113M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	77,7700	-0,19%	-0,1500	70M
APPLE	143,340	-0,22%	-0,320	752M
BOEING CO	178,850	+0,83%	1,480	108M
CATERPILLAR	95,520	-0,31%	-0,300	56M
CHEVRON	108,86	-0,39%	-0,43	206M
CISCO SYSTEMS	32,960	-0,36%	-0,120	165M
COCA-COLA	42,61	-0,14%	-0,06	182M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	80,0500	-0,73%	-0,5900	69M
EXXON MOBIL	82,76	-0,30%	-0,25	343M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	29,9900	+0,20%	0,0600	261M
GOLDMAN SACHS	227,88	-0,33%	-0,76	90M
HOME DEPOT	147,1300	-0,07%	-0,1100	176M
IBM	172,14	-0,18%	-0,31	162M
INTEL CORP	36,0300	+0,00%	0,0000	170M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	86,1800	-0,35%	-0,3000	306M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	124,9200	-0,10%	-0,1300	338M
MC DONALD'S CORP	129,9600	-0,15%	-0,1900	106M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	63,13	-0,17%	-0,11	173M
MICROSOFT	65,680	-0,08%	-0,050	507M
NIKE	55,11	-0,05%	-0,03	72M
PFIZER	34,1000	-0,03%	-0,0100	203M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	89,230	-0,19%	-0,170	228M
TRAVELERS CIES	120,15	-0,32%	-0,39	33M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	112,99	+0,52%	0,58	90M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	166,02	+0,41%	0,68	158M
VERIZON COMMS	48,66	+0,47%	0,23	198M
VISA	88,74	-0,39%	-0,35	164M
WAL-MART STORES	72,9000	+2,06%	1,4700	221M
WALT DISNEY CO	112,5800	-0,42%	-0,4700	178M

# NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES APRIL 10

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
Akorn, Inc.	\$ 29.77	4.55 ▲ 18.04%
Depomed, Inc.	\$ 13.75	1.76 ▲ 14.68%
Conatus Pharmaceuticals Inc.	\$ 6.30	0.70 ▲ 12.50%
Affirmed N.V.	\$ 2.35	0.20 ▲ 9.30%
Kandi Technologies Group, Inc.	\$ 4.35	0.35 ▲ 8.75%
Impax Laboratories, Inc.	\$ 13.75	1 ▲ 7.84%
Loxo Oncology, Inc.	\$ 47.80	3.22 ▲ 7.22%
Origin Agritech Limited	\$ 2.24	0.15 ▲ 7.18%
VelocityShares Daily 2x VIX Short Term ETN	\$ 37.92	2.52 ▲ 7.12%
IES Holdings, Inc.	\$ 18.85	1.25 ▲ 7.10%
Aurinia Pharmaceuticals Inc	\$ 7.05	0.46 ▲ 6.98%
<b>Most Declined</b>		
HTG Molecular Diagnostics, Inc.	\$ 6.51	0.73 ▼ 10.08%
Xcel Brands, Inc	\$ 2.75	0.305 ▼ 9.98%
Protagonist Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 10.35	1.03 ▼ 9.05%
Rocket Fuel Inc.	\$ 4.46	0.39 ▼ 8.04%
NewLink Genetics Corporation	\$ 16.19	1.35 ▼ 7.70%
Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.	\$ 17.10	1.40 ▼ 7.57%
Karyopharm Therapeutics Inc.	\$ 11.36	0.90 ▼ 7.34%
Angie's List, Inc.	\$ 5.59	0.41 ▼ 6.83%
PriceSmart, Inc.	\$ 87	5.85 ▼ 6.30%
Collectors Universe, Inc.	\$ 26.89	1.80 ▼ 6.27%
Foamix Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	\$ 4.44	0.28 ▼ 5.93%

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EUR Fixed Income B  
 Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

€0.9656 ..... €0.0048  
 €0.9518 ..... €0.0030

Price Movement

## Accumulating Funds

GBP Currency B  
 EUR Currency B  
 Multi Asset Conservative B GBP  
 Multi Asset Conservative B EUR  
 Multi Asset Balanced B GBP  
 Multi Asset Balanced B EUR  
 Multi Asset Growth B GBP  
 Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

€0.9845.....-€0.0001  
 €0.9634.....-€0.0002  
 £1.1468..... £0.0013  
 €1.0771..... €0.0010  
 £1.2842..... £0.0000  
 €1.1960.....-€0.0003  
 £1.4123.....-£0.0013  
 €1.3226.....-€0.0014

Price Movement

Remaining Elite Fund prices available on request

Prices correct as at 05/04/2017



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\*Fees and exchange rate data for banks taken from the International money transfer index™ (IMTI™).

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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)

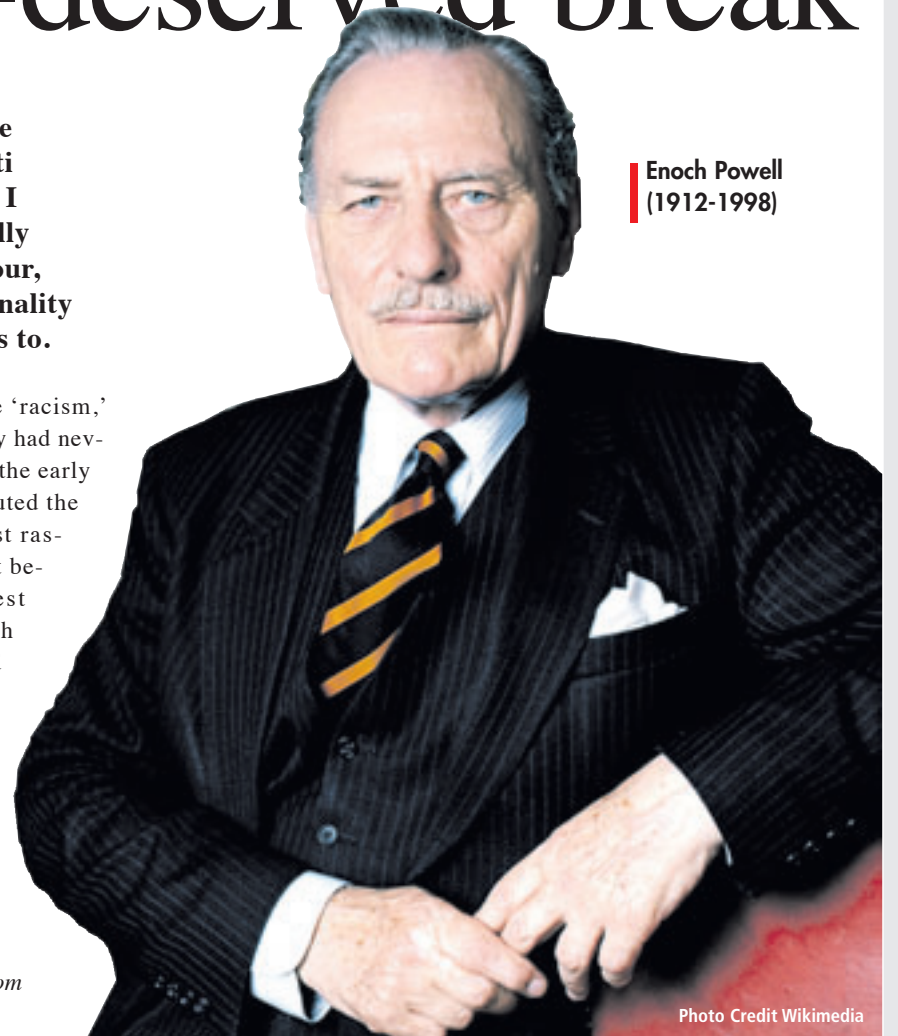


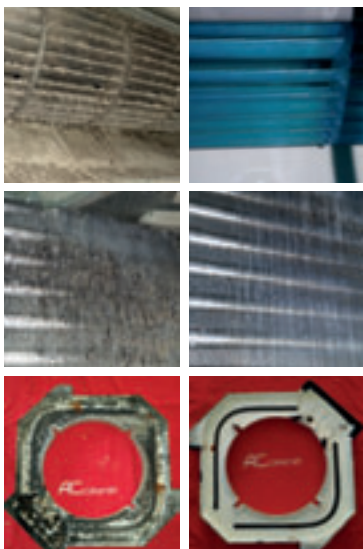
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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1
13 APRIL	7:00pm BBC News at Six	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:00pm Couples Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours	6:15pm Ricky Burns: My Greatest Night
	7:30pm BBC London News	7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm Help Stop Me	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	6:45pm Football Gold
	8:00pm The One Show	7:30pm The Repair Shop	9:00pm Ageing! Tonight	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	7:00pm The Fantasy Football Club
	8:30pm EastEnders	8:00pm Mary Berry's Easter Feast	9:30pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	8:00pm Live Premier League Darts
	9:00pm MasterChef	9:00pm The World According to Kids	9:30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule	9:00pm Great British Buildings	9:00pm On Benefits	11:00pm Premier League Match Pack
	10:00pm Galapagos	10:00pm The Last Kingdom	10:00pm The Detectives	10:00pm Three Wives, One Husband	10:00pm Rich House, Poor House	11:30pm Burns Night Again
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm Match of the Day	11:00pm The Nightly Show with Jason Manford	11:00pm The Super Orgasm	11:00pm Fritz! What Happened Next	11:45pm Ricky Burns: My Greatest Night
	11:30pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight	11:30pm ITV News	12:05am 24 Hours in A and E	12:05am When Kids Kill: Bullied to Death	12:15am La Liga Show
	11:45pm Bronx to Bradford: Friars on a Mission	12:15am Second Chance Summer: Tuscany	12:00am ITV News London			
	12:45am Child of Our Time	1:15am Versailles				
FRIDAY 14 APRIL	7:50pm BBC London News	3:40pm King of Kings	8:30pm Coronation Street	4:55pm Formula 1	2:05pm Ben-Hur	11:15pm Barclays Premier League Preview
	8:00pm The One Show	6:15pm Natural World	9:00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories	6:35pm The Simpsons	6:05pm Neighbours	11:45pm The Fantasy Football Club
	8:30pm A Question of Sport	7:00pm The Repair Shop	9:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:35pm Home and Away	12:45am Sporting Triumphs
	9:00pm EastEnders	7:30pm Eggheads	10:00pm Lethal Weapon	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:05pm The Last Days of Jesus	1:00am Barclays Premier League Preview
	9:30pm MasterChef	8:00pm Mary Berry's Easter Feast	11:00pm The Nightly Show with Jason Manford	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm Tony Robinson: Coast to Coast	1:30am Ricky Burns: My Greatest Night
	10:00pm Decline and Fall	9:00pm Gardeners' World	11:30pm ITV News	8:30pm Unreported World	10:00pm Spectacular Spain with Alex Polizzi	2:00am The Fantasy Football Club
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	10:00pm Selma	11:45pm Crank	9:00pm The Wild Weekenders	11:00pm The World's Most Luxurious Cruise Ship	
	11:20pm BBC London News	12:00am Later... with Jools Holland	12:05am The Nightly Show with Jason Manford	10:00pm Gogglebox	12:00am Football on 5	
	11:30pm The Graham Norton Show	1:05am Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby		11:00pm The Last Leg		
	12:15am Witless			12:05am Rude Tube		
SATURDAY 15 APRIL	7:20pm Regional News	5:30pm Snooker	6:30pm Local News and Weather	1:25pm Extreme Food	6:15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	6:15pm Football
	7:25pm Weather	6:30pm Nature's Weirdest Events	6:45pm ITV News and Weather	1:55pm Formula 1	7:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	8:15pm Spanish Football Gold
	7:30pm Pointless	6:45pm Easter from King's Snooker	7:00pm Operation Magic	3:25pm F1: Grand Prix	8:10pm NCIS: Los Angeles	8:30pm Football's Greatest II
	8:20pm Doctor Who	8:00pm Grand Tours of Scotland	8:00pm Take Me Out	3:55pm Formula 1	9:00pm NCIS	9:00pm Football's Greatest II
	9:10pm Casualty	9:00pm Dad's Army	9:00pm Britain's Got Talent	6:30pm Travel Man	9:00pm Most Shocking	9:30pm Nissan Game of the Day
	10:00pm All Round to Mrs Brown's	10:00pm QI XL	10:25pm The Expendables	7:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Super Casino	11:30pm Nissan Match Choice
	11:00pm BBC News	10:45pm War of the Worlds	11:25pm Inc ITV News and Weather	7:30pm The Book Thief	1:00am Knock Off	12:30am Football
	11:15pm Weather	12:35am Snooker	11:40pm The Expendables	10:00pm The Imitation Game	2:00am Football	1:00am Football
	11:20pm Match of the Day		12:40am The Chase	12:10am Solomon Kane	5:50am House Doctor	1:30am Football
	12:45am Rescue Dawn			2:05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA		2:30am Football
SUNDAY 16 APRIL	7:50pm Regional News	1:15pm MOTD2 Extra	7:00pm The Voice	3:50pm Formula 1	2:35pm Watership Down	2:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	7:55pm Weather	2:00pm Cycling: World Track Championships	8:00pm 5 Gold Rings	Bahrain Grand Prix	3:30pm Greatest Animated Movies	4:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	8:00pm Countryfile	3:15pm Snooker	9:00pm Maigret's Night at the Crossroads	4:50pm Formula 1	6:20pm Oliver	8:00pm Joshua/Klitschko: Gloves are Off
	9:00pm Antiques Roadshow	7:00pm Inside the Factory	11:00pm ITV News and Weather	7:15pm Formula 1	9:00pm Naughty Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud	8:30pm Football Gold
	10:00pm Line of Duty	8:00pm Robot Wars	11:20pm Lethal Weapon	7:45pm Channel 4 News	9:55pm 5 News	8:40pm Football
	11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Top Gear	12:10am The Nightly Show Best Bits	8:00pm Kevin McCloud's Escape to the Wild	10:00pm The Prince Story: Icon, Genius...Slave	10:40pm Spanish Football Gold
	11:20pm Regional News	10:00pm Colombia with Simon Reeve	12:40am Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	9:00pm Rome's Sunken Secrets	12:00am Purple Rain	10:50pm Football
	11:25pm Weather	11:00pm At Any Price		10:00pm Homeland	2:10am Super Casino	11:00pm Football
	11:30pm Match of the Day 2	12:40am Snooker		11:05pm Gogglebox		11:30pm Football
	12:30am I'm Different: Let Me Drive			12:05am East is East		12:00am Goals on Sunday
MONDAY 17 APRIL	7:45pm Regional News	2:00pm Snooker	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:00pm The Simpsons	3:50pm Mrs Caldicot's Cabbage War	10:00am Goals on Sunday
	7:55pm Weather	7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm Neighbours	11:00am Football
	8:00pm The One Show	7:30pm Debatable 2	9:00pm Devon and Cornwall Cops	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Home and Away	12:00pm Football
	8:30pm Would I Lie to You?	8:00pm Top Gear	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:30pm Travel Man	7:00pm Walt: The Man Behind the Myth	1:00pm Football
	9:00pm EastEnders	9:00pm Nature's Weirdest Events	10:00pm Broadchurch	9:00pm Warship	9:00pm Police Interceptors	3:30pm Football
	9:30pm Guardians of the Galaxy	10:00pm Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby	11:00pm The Nightly Show	10:00pm Hunting the KGB Killers	10:00pm Inside the Tube: Going Underground	5:45pm Football
	11:20pm BBC News	11:00pm The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas	11:30pm ITV News	11:30pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	11:00pm All New Traffic Cops	8:00pm Football
	11:40pm Regional News	12:30am Snooker	11:45pm Robson Green's Tales From the Coast	12:30am Three Wives, One Husband	12:00am Football on 5	12:00am Scottish Football Round Up
	11:45pm Weather		12:50am The Nightly Show			12:15am Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
	11:50pm All Round to Mrs Brown's					
12:50am The Graham Norton Show						
TUESDAY 18 APRIL	7:30pm Regional News	9:00pm Bake Off Crème de la Crème	5:00pm Tipping Point	5:00pm French Collection	6:00pm 5 News	7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm The One Show	10:00pm Nature's Wildest	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Couples Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours	10:00am ATP Masters 1000-Monte Carlo Hls
	8:30pm EastEnders	11:00pm Weapons: Horns, Tusks and Antlers: Natural World	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	11:00am Live ATP Masters 1000-Monte Carlo
	9:00pm Holby City	11:30pm Later Live... with Jools Holland	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Police Interceptors	7:00pm Premier League Review
	10:00pm Peter Kay's Car Share	12:10am Newsnight	8:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm The Wonderful World of Puppies	8:00pm Fight Night
	10:30pm Our Friend Victoria	12:15am Snooker	8:30pm Save Money Good Food	9:00pm Obsessive	10:00pm The Yorkshire Vet	12:00am Scottish Football Round Up
	11:00pm BBC News		9:00pm Don't Ask Me Ask Britain	9:00pm Compulsive Cleaners	11:00pm Inside the Old Bailey	
	11:30pm Regional News		10:00pm Billy and Me	10:00pm One Born Every Minute	12:05am Tony Robinson: Coast to Coast	
	11:40pm Weather		11:00pm The Nightly Show	11:00pm First Dates		
	11:45pm Reported Missing		11:30pm ITV News	12:05am Gogglebox		
WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours	8:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Debatable 2	7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away	8:30pm Boxing Gold
	7:30pm Regional News	8:00pm Great American Railroad Journeys	8:00pm Emmerdale	9:00pm How to Live	7:30pm 5 News	9:00pm Fight Night
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Me and My Dog	8:30pm Coronation Street	10:00pm Mortgage Free	8:00pm King Tut's Tomb: The Hidden Chamber	11:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	9:00pm MasterChef	10:00pm Second Chance Summer: Tuscany	9:00pm Palladium	10:00pm Confessions of a Junior Doctor	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	11:30pm Premier League 100 Club
	10:00pm Reported Missing	11:00pm Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience	10:00pm Benidorm	11:00pm My Online Nightmare	10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	12:00am Premier League 100 Club
	11:00pm BBC News	11:30pm Newsnight	11:00pm The Nightly Show	12:05am One Born Every Minute	11:00pm One Night with My Ex	12:30am Premier League Legends
	11:30pm Regional News	12:10am Weather	11:30pm ITV News	1:10am Hunting the KGB Killers	12:05am Gypsy Kids: Our Secret World	
	11:40pm Weather	12:15am Snooker	12:15am UEFA Champions League Highlights			
	11:45pm Peter Kay's Car Share		1:15am The Nightly Show			

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.

# Stop Press! The story behind the headlines

**Nora Johnson**  
*Breaking Views*



Nora is the author of popular psychological suspense and crime thrillers and a freelance journalist. To comment on any of the issues raised in her column, go to [www.euroweeklynews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson](http://www.euroweeklynews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson)

IT'S not often I'm left speechless, but that's precisely what happened during a recent appointment with my gynaecologist in London. As soon as all the medical stuff was over, his next words were: "That novel of yours could have been about me!"

As I said, I was speechless, having no idea he even knew about my first novel, *The De Clerambault Code*, let alone had read it or the others. (Every single one, as it turned out.)

Anyway, just like the main character in it, he described how, over a period of several months, he too had been obsessively stalked by a patient who sent him aggressive emails ending up in blackmail.

Eventually, he referred himself to the General Medical Council - and was subsequently totally cleared by the medical tribunal.

Phew, what a personal story, which hit the national headlines! Unfortunately, there wasn't time to mention that I'd also been stalked - in Los Angeles - an experience that resulted in the obsessive delusional relationship depicted in my novel.

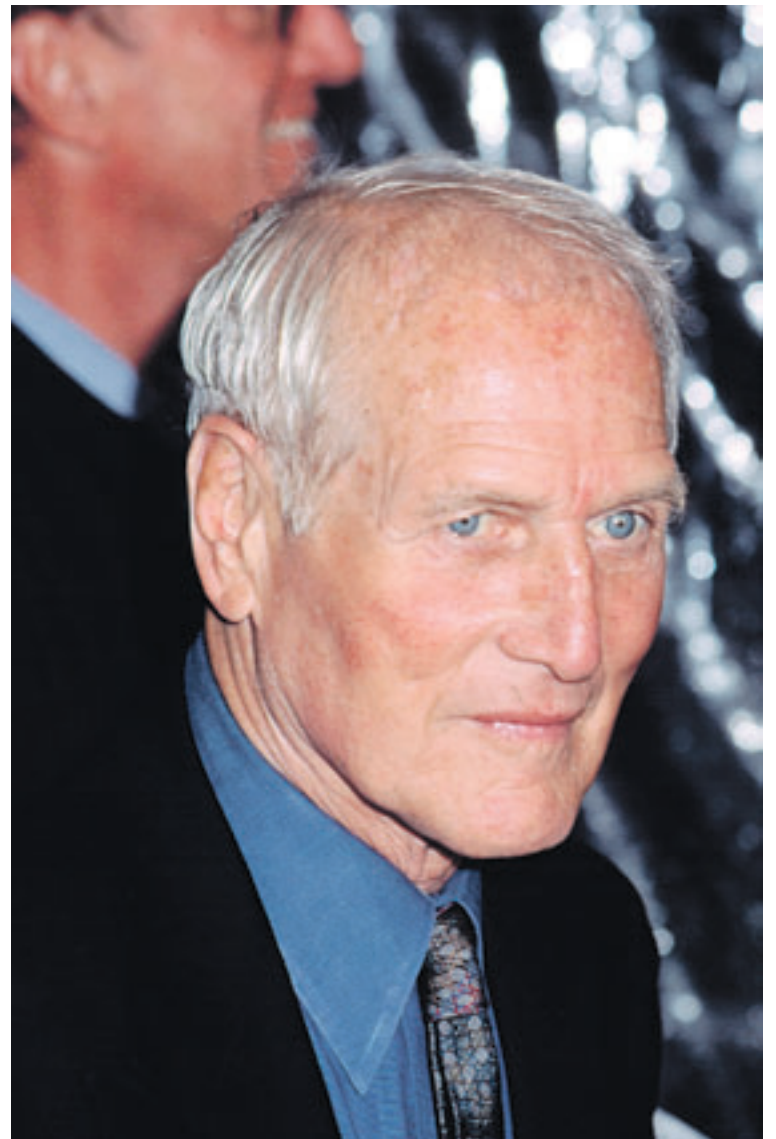
Nor that studying law there, specialising in criminal law, led to my growing interest in writing these psychological crime thrillers featuring investigative journalist Alice Myers (as you know, all profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity), including the latest in the series scheduled for publication this summer.

No time either to mention the colourful years I spent in LA. Apart from bit parts in movies (the English accent was wot dun it!) and, again through contacts, meeting famous actors - Paul Newman (those

eyes!), Harrison Ford and others - there were also some dodgy moments. Like the morning when I rushed into Law School and a Tax Law Professor was shot dead right in front of me! This shortly after J D (Juris Doctor) Finals; I never did find out if he'd pissed off some former client or just a student with failing grades...

Which reminds me, once one of my readers, a student, graciously offered to proofread my manuscript and pinpoint any errors in punctuation, spelling and style. Of course I spell perfectly and there's never no punctuation, errors! so her job was like, :- easy! Hapy Easta!

**Nora Johnson's psychological / suspense crime thrillers 'No Way Back,' 'Landscape of Lie,' 'Retribution,' 'Soul Stealer,' 'The De Clerambault Code' (www.nora-johnson.net) available from Amazon in paperback/eBook (€0.99; £0.99) and iBookstore.**



PAUL NEWMAN: Oh those eyes!

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# Reporter

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## LEGALLY SPEAKING

# Clampdown on fines

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



**ROAD SAFETY:** Brussels denounced the lack of cooperation between countries.

THERE are calls for stronger actions to be implemented to simplify sanctions of foreign drivers after Brussels denounced the lack of cooperation between countries.

DGT officials from Spain were in Malta to attend the EU High Level Road Safety Group meeting. The officials said the high volume of the fines processed makes the system insufficient 'in terms of efficiency' as they reported that only 50 per cent of the files opened end with the fine paid according to a Brussels report as in many cases it can be foreign drivers who are fined, who then return to their home country and the information is lost and the fine never received.

The request from the Spanish Government comes after a report found that the 28 countries had not 'exploited the full potential' of the electronic system designed to exchange information on traffic offences between countries.

Brussels denounced this lack of cooperation, eg Portugal, which does not exchange data.

The Spanish DGT also wants stronger cooperation and wants to take action against more dangerous foreign drivers who do not maintain the safety distance, carry out dangerous manoeuvres or who put safety at risk. Currently these are not considered in the present directive, which only provides data for speeding, failing to stop at a traffic light, riding without a helmet, using a mobile phone, not wearing a seatbelt and driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Gregorio Serrano, the Director General of the DGT, said they are working on being the first country to share this additional data, adding that Spain's roads were amongst the safest: "We were told at the meeting of the European Union that Spain is the fourth safest country in road safety."

For more news and articles visit [www.n332.es](http://www.n332.es) or search N332 on Facebook.

## Do they pay wealth tax?

**Q.** Our Community has a new President and things have changed. The AGM was called but no details of proposed resolutions were given. Only about 20 out of 130 owners attended. Ten weeks after the AGM, we were sent the Minutes. Several resolutions were passed committing the Community to extra expenditures and in-

creased fees. The majority of us had no idea that these items were to be discussed and voted on. A few weeks later a mass of information was distributed, so the majority finally were put in the picture. This is clearly unsatisfactory. Are some specific laws or regulations being flouted?

R.C. (Costa Blanca)

**A.** When the AGM of the Community is called, the members should receive a copy of the Agenda, which lists the items to be discussed and voted on. Properly, no item can be

**David Searl**  
You and the Law  
in Spain



voted on unless it appears on the official Agenda. This ensures that the members

have time to study the issues beforehand. Members who could not attend the AGM can protest after they are officially informed of the results and it seems you have grounds for protest.

Send your questions for David Searl through lawyers Ubada-Retana & Associates in Fuengirola at [Ask@lawtaxspain.com](mailto:Ask@lawtaxspain.com), or call 952 667 090.

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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](http://www.libertyexpatriates.es).*

# Personal service is most important

IT'S all about the client was the overriding impression I had when I left the offices of Lekker Homes, having spent half an hour in the company of Tessa Zwartendijk.

Tessa is the owner of this real estate business located in the commercial centre on Paseo de Illetes near Cas Catala. Her international team which includes her son Donald, Nicoletta and Jasmine who is her independent agent in Ibiza speak a total of six languages, Spanish, Dutch, French, German Italian and of course English.

They help clients with the whole process of buying a house, from step one when the client first walks into the office, providing legal and financial advice, keeping the customer fully informed at all stages right through to when contracts are signed in front of a notary.

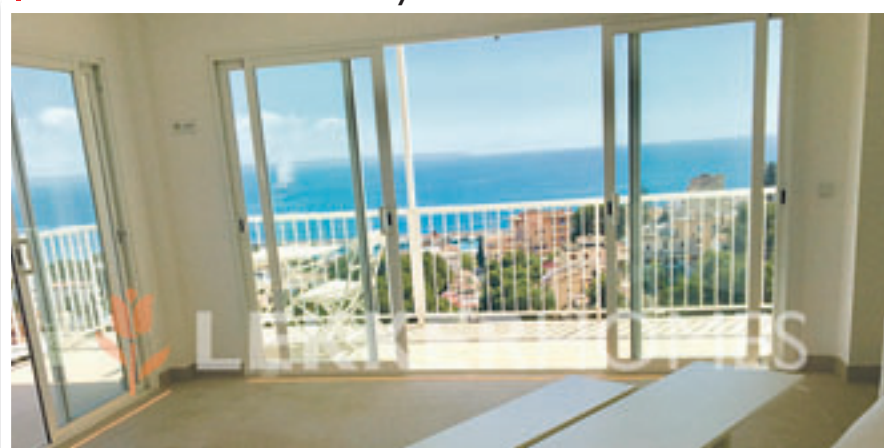
The feedback from clients said Tessa "Is that they feel the personal service provided is the most important aspect of the whole experience." I can see the pride in her eyes as she reflects on such special compliments.

Tessa has operated in Mallorca for over 11 years and covers the whole Island not just here in the South. They stretch from as far as Cala D'Or down to the Soller Valley.

While their office hours are 9am to 7.30pm they make themselves available 24



**LEKKER HOMES: The customer really does come first.**



hours a day and often do viewings on Saturdays and Sundays. "Some of our clients often fly in for only two or three days and so we need to make ourselves available for them," continued Tessa.

It's quite obvious to me that in this company the customer really does come first.

“

**Sincere, open, friendly and completely honest as well as refreshing.**

Even the office itself reflects the customer friendly approach of Lekker Homes, with comfortable seating, subtle lighting and an ambiance that is ever so relaxing as I sit back with my milky freshly made coffee and take in the intoxicating unmistakable laid back atmosphere which cannot fail to put one at ease.

Overall I found the experience to be sincere, open, friendly and completely honest as well as refreshing, to find a company that does genuinely believe the customer comes first.

Well done to Tessa and her team. Keep up the good work.

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[www.lekkerhomes.com](http://www.lekkerhomes.com)



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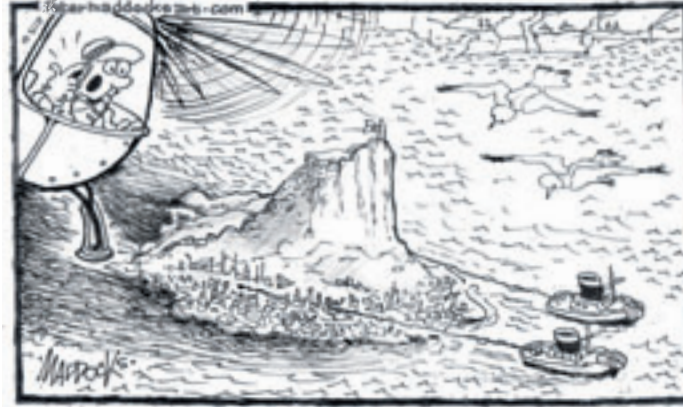
Fill all the empty squares using the numbers 1 to 9, so that the sum of each horizontal block equals the 'clue' on its left, and the sum of each vertical block equals the clue on its top. No number may be used in the same block more than once.

	12	6	25	11	
10					9
23					
	8	14			
10				7	6
20					
	16				

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

	15	29	28	9	
7	2		1	2	
8	5	3	9	6	
	6	2	7	1	
1	4	6	2		
6	9	5	4	2	
9	3		3	1	

## MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'CHIEF - THOSE BREXIT BRITS ARE SNEAKING OFF WITH GIBRALTAR - TOWING IT OUT OF OUR MED AND INTO THE ATLANTIC!'

## Nonagram

How many English words of four letters or more can you make from the nine letters in our Nonagram puzzle? Each letter may be used only once (unless the letter appears twice). Each word MUST CONTAIN THE CENTRE LETTER (in this case N) and there must be AT LEAST ONE NINE LETTER WORD. Plurals, vulgarities or proper nouns are not allowed.



TARGET:

- Average: 6 • Good: 8
- Very good: 12 • Excellent: 15

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

agar alga cage cleg crag gait gala gale gate gear gelt gilt girl girt grit raga rage trig agate agile aglet algae argal cager cigar glare grace grail grate great lager large legit liger regal taiga tiger agaric argali cagier gaiter garlic laager ligate tragic triage cartage cigaret glacier gracile regalia glaciare tragical CARTILAGE

## LOTTERY

### UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday April 08

14	23	36	BONUS BALL
45	47	50	21

### IRISH LOTTO

Saturday April 08

2	7	9	BONUS BALL
35	41	45	22

### EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday April 04

1	9	24	BONUS BALL
33	34	6	

Friday April 07

2	10	19	BONUS BALL
35	50	7	

### LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday April 08

3	19	40	BONUS BALL
44	47	48	1

### EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

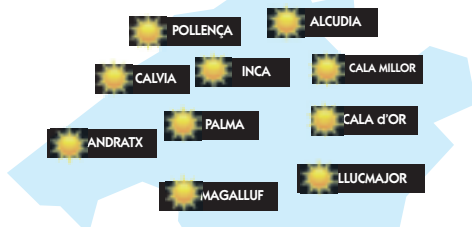
Sunday April 09

2	4	22	BONUS BALL
34	40	3	

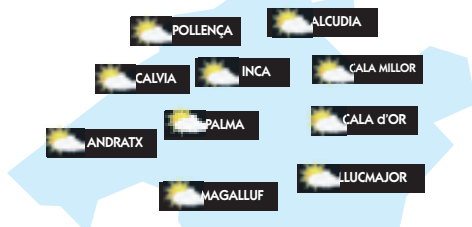
## Mallorca

## weather

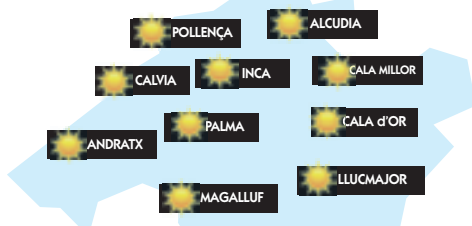
### TODAY



### TOMORROW



### SATURDAY



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

### Alicante

TODAY: MAX 25, MIN 16 - S

Fri	- 26	16	C
Sat	- 25	15	S
Sun	- 25	15	C
Mon	- 22	13	C
Tues	- 21	12	C
Wed	- 21	12	C

### Bilbao

TODAY: MAX 20, MIN 9 - C

Fri	- 19	9	C
Sat	- 18	10	Sh
Sun	- 19	9	C
Mon	- 17	9	C
Tues	- 19	9	Sh
Wed	- 18	9	Sh

### Almeria

TODAY: MAX 25, MIN 17 - CL

Fri	- 27	17	Cl
Sat	- 26	17	C
Sun	- 27	17	C
Mon	- 26	16	C
Tues	- 24	15	C
Wed	- 24	15	C

### Madrid

TODAY: MAX 27, MIN 10 - CL

Fri	- 25	10	C
Sat	- 24	10	Cl
Sun	- 25	9	C
Mon	- 25	8	C
Tues	- 24	8	Cl
Wed	- 23	7	C

### Barcelona

TODAY: MAX 21, MIN 11 - S

Fri	- 19	12	Cl
Sat	- 19	12	Cl
Sun	- 20	13	C
Mon	- 18	12	C
Tues	- 18	11	C
Wed	- 18	11	C

### Malaga

TODAY: MAX 27, MIN 15 - CL

Fri	- 29	15	C
Sat	- 27	13	Cl
Sun	- 26	15	C
Mon	- 25	13	C
Tues	- 23	13	C
Wed	- 24	13	Cl

### Benidorm

TODAY: MAX 25, MIN 16 - S

Fri	- 25	16	Sh
Sat	- 24	16	S
Sun	- 24	16	C
Mon	- 21	14	C
Tues	- 20	13	C
Wed	- 21	12	C

### Mallorca

TODAY: MAX 23 MIN 10 - S

Fri	- 25	11	Cl
Sat	- 24	11	C
Sun	- 23	11	Cl
Mon	- 22	10	C
Tues	- 22	10	Cl
Wed	- 22	11	C

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

## Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

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## LETTERS

## YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

Letters for Your Say should be emailed to [yoursay@euroweeklynews.com](mailto:yoursay@euroweeklynews.com) or make your comments straight on our website: [www.euroweeklynews.com](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.euroweeklynews.com)



**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 and

**“ Scientists looked at how genes change during the sleep-wake cycle.**

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 irregular

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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**Dr. Andreas Ludwig Jenke**

# Food allergies are on the rise

FOOD allergies are increasing amongst the Spanish population and the country is not alone. According to the EAC-CI (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.

## 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 activa-

tion that actually constructs the taste of the wine. The neuroscientist believes the flavour is constructed in the brain but is also 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.

## 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, allowing 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 began to understand how passive heating (as opposed to getting hot and sweaty from exercise) improves health."

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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 and 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, affect nerves and increase 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 those of complications such as a heart attack or stroke.

If you have any symptoms something is amiss you should consult your specialist in internal medicine.

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

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**Brit Night of rock music**

THE TRUI theatre in Palma is having a 'Brit Night' concert evening on April 22. The first performance will be from the band 'Coldday' and the second half of the evening will be from 'Devotional Mode', cover bands of two of Britain's most popular rock bands.

Coldday bring the magic of Coldplay to the stage, with atmosphere, excitement and energy with an impressive cover of the rock group's biggest hits. Devotional Mode was formed in 2009 by experienced and talented musicians in Spain who give a great tribute the great Depeche Mode.

Tickets are on sale now, €22 in advance or €25 at the door.

**Music festival confirms first two acts**

SIR TOM JONES will return to Mallorca on July 20 to open Port Adriano's music festival.

The 76-year-old Welsh musician has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide. Fans can expect to hear hits such as 'It's Not Unusual,' 'Sex Bomb' and 'Delilah.' Jones last visited Mallorca in 1967 during the golden age of Tagomago, a popular party hall.

**“ Port Adriano music festival will be welcoming the timeless talents of two godfathers of music to perform with the arrival of George Benson and Tom Jones.**

The music festival is on its fifth year, with the biggest opening act to date. American guitarist and composer George Benson will also return to Mallorca during the festival. The 10-time Grammy Award winning jazz and pop giant will perform on July 25.



**GRAMMY AWARD WINNER: Tom Jones will open the popular festival.**

**Food trucks arrive in Port Adriano**

THE seventh street food festival will bring a variety of food trucks to Port Adriano from April 14 to 16. Access to the food festival is free with many different foods available from 13 vintage trucks.

This year's edition has put special effort into including vegetarian, vegan at each truck. El Perrito Callejero will have their usual delicious hot dogs, along with tacos and wraps.

Taleca's truck will have veal burgers and vegan burgers with patatas bravas. Il Cribbio brings their Italian pizza and pastas, including gluten-free options, along with cakes, tarts and delicate desserts.

The festival is open daily at 12pm, and closing at 12am on Friday and Saturday, and closing at 10pm on Sunday. There will be live music entertainment on Friday and Saturday evening at 9pm




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# Shakespeare's Hamlet returns to the stage

THE tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark by the great William Shakespeare will be performed from April 20 to 23 at 7:30pm at the Palma Auditorium. The Morgana Theatre Company is proud to pose the question, 'to be or not to be'.

Old Hamlet, King of Denmark, has been murdered by his brother. Prince Hamlet's mother, the widowed Queen Gertrude, marries his murderous uncle. Then the prince is visited by the ghost of his father to tell him that his own brother murdered him. Prince Hamlet vows to get revenge.

The young Hamlet hides his intentions by pretending to be mad, and Polonius, who is the councillor to the court and father to Ophelia who

is all but betrothed to Hamlet, believes his madness is caused by love. The king and Polonius both spy on the young prince and he violently rejects Ophelia at an encounter.

A company of actors arrive at court and Hamlet asks them to perform a play very similar to the events of Hamlet's father. His hope is that the play will force the king to reveal his guilt; his suspicions are confirmed.

The play ends in typical Shakespeare fashion with tragedy, grief and death.

The play will be performed in English for all four evenings, and general admission tickets are on sale now for €20.



Photocredit: flickr.com/losmininos

**TRAGEDY:**  
Hamlet was first performed in 1609.

## Clean the sea

PORT ADRIANO is organizing 'Plastic Day' on April 22 which is aimed at fighting against plastic pollution in the waters and on the beaches.

The port's sailing and paddle surfing school will lead children to clean plastic off nearby beaches. There will be educational workshops in the port and informational tents at the Palma Aquarium.

The event will also showcase three sculptures made out of recycled plastics.

"Just like there was a Bronze Age and an Iron Age, we are now living through a Plastic Age," Andrés Cózar has commented, a marine biologist and researcher at Spain's Cádiz University.

The Mediterranean sea is classified as the sixth highest region for the accumulation of plastic debris. The amount of plastic is comparable to levels in areas located in the centre of the oceans.

Dedication to clearing plastic from the sea and beaches, plus education and prevention, efforts are vital to preserve sea life and our ecosystem.



Photo Credit: flickr.com/rbh - flickr.com/dgriebeling

# Easter celebrations at the Festival Park

FESTIVAL Park Outlets is hosting a weekend of fun and fancy for Easter celebrations. The events begin on Saturday April 15 with children's face painting in front of the store Mango from 5pm until 8pm. At 6pm the popular children's band Cucorba will perform in the main square inviting all ages to dance and celebrate.

On Sunday April 16 at

**Easter bunny will give prizes and chocolate for the most eggs found.**

11:30am, the Easter Bunny will arrive at Festival Park and face painting and Easter egg colouring will begin. From 12pm until 2pm a large Easter egg hunt will

take place all around the park. There will be chocolates and prizes for the children who find eggs, and a special prize for the winner who finds the most eggs.

On Easter Monday, the Easter Bunny will return from 5pm until 8pm, with workshops available to make and decorate bunny ears to wear and to paint faces for the children

**EASTER EGGS:** Symbolise new life and resurrection.

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# Swan Lake performed by the famous Moscow Ballet

THE Moscow Ballet will return to the Palma Auditorium on May 3 to perform the famous Swan Lake. The ballet was composed by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in the mid 1870s, and despite its initial failure, it is now one of the most famous ballets of all.

The Moscow Ballet was founded in 1989 by Russian choreographer and dancer Timur Fayziev, and the ballet is made up of some of Russia's most talented ballet dancers and choreographers. The company has performed more than 60 tours and over 1,000 performances around the world. They are known for their beauty and elegance, performing ballets, such as the Nutcracker, Giselle, and Swan Lake.

Swan Lake, is a Russian folk tale and tells the story of Princess Odette who has been turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer. Prince Siegfried's mother, the Queen, tells him he must choose a bride at the royal ball. He sees a flock of swans flying and decides to go hunting. Then he arrives at the home of the princess, where the lake is filled with her mother's tears.

He sees a swan and takes aim with his bow, but at that moment the swan, Odette, transforms into a beautiful woman.

She explains to him that her and her mother are victims of a spell, and by day they are swans and that they can only remain human at night. Suddenly the evil sorcerer, Von Rothbart, appears, the prince threatens him but Odette explains that if the sorcerer dies before the spell is broken it will never be undone.

The next evening is the costume ball and Von Rothbart arrives in disguise, bringing his daughter Odile, to trick Prince Siegfried, by appearing as Odette. He dances with Odile and is fooled, even though Odette tries to warn him with a vision. He proclaims he will marry Odile, but soon Von Rothbart shows the prince his mistake.

In the final scene, Odette is distraught by Siegfried's betrayal and has resigned herself to death. When he arrives he apologises passionately, but it is too late for Odette. Von Rothbart arrives demanding that he marry his daughter, but Siegfried chooses to leap into the lake and die alongside his love, breaking the spell and the sorcerer to lose his power and dies. The swan maidens watch as the two young lovers ascend together united in love to the heavens.

The beautiful performance is available for one night only in the capital city. Tickets are on sale now and start at only €20.



Photo credit: facebook.com/balletmoscu

**MOSCOW BALLET:** Performing their most famous ballet throughout Europe.

## Stars and planets workshop day

LA CAIXA Bank's social work programme, ObraSocial, is hosting another educational workshop about the stars and planets for children.

The aim of the activity is to introduce

the largest, never-ending world of astronomy to the smallest in the community and awaken interest in observing the sky.

The workshop will introduce children to seasons, the moon, day and night,

planets and the solar system and the greatest stars and their history. The events will take place from April 25 until May 26 in Palma with half priced tickets for bank members.

If you want to eat like a King at great prices then come on down to Meson del Rey in Santa Ponsa. It is a traditional Spanish restaurant that does fantastic grilled meats, fresh fish, shoulder of lamb and paellas. With more than 35 years in the restaurant business, Meson del Rey is a big venue with ample space for up to 200 people, making it ideal for events such as weddings, christenings, company meals, etc. Apart from choosing the best dishes on the menu, you can also peruse our highly varied set menus where you can eat for €10 at lunchtime, and 15€ at night on weekdays. €15 on Saturdays and €20 on Sundays. We are open every day of the year.  
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# Are you a Dirty Beer Drinker?

**GOOD FOOD,  
GOOD WINE AND  
GOOD FRIENDS  
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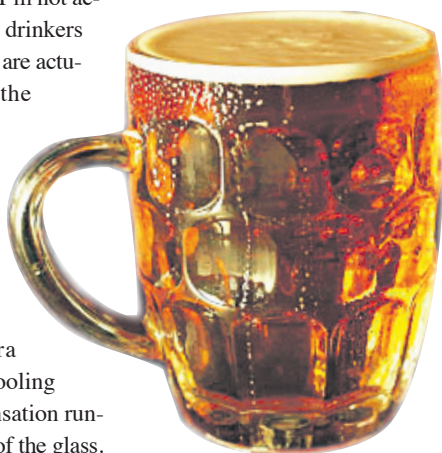
**D**ON'T GET ME WRONG! I'm not accusing beer drinkers of being 'dirty'! We are actually talking about the beer itself. I am not a beer drinker as such, but admit in the summer to be able to sink a couple of draught Mahou or Alambra and watching the cooling effect of the condensation running down the 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!!

**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).**



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.

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!!

**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](mailto:garrywaite@euroweeklynews.com).**





**SAN SEBASTIAN: The Basque Country is now most expensive in Spain.**

NEW data from the Spanish Real Estate Markets Index (IMIE) shows that house prices across Spain rose by 1.8 per cent in the first quarter of 2017, compared to the same period last year.

The statistics were released by Tinsa which described them as hugely positive news for Spain's continued progress. Director of research, Jorge Ripoll, did, however, point out that the market remains characterised by a selective recovery.

He is referring to the extreme variation across regions which continues to dog the Spanish property market and make generalisations from

## First quarter round up

average data of little relevance to particular areas.

At opposite ends of the spectrum are Catalonia and Navarre which posted growth of 7.5 per cent and decline of -5.6 per cent from January to March 2017. Madrid and the Canaries also saw strong increases, while Murcia and the Balearics posted substantial declines.

The most expensive autonomous community in Spain is now the Basque Country which boasts aver-

age prices of €1,986 per square metre. Second is the Balearics at €1,870, while

the cheapest region is Castilla-La-Mancha at just €786.

Broken down to cities Barcelona and Alicante saw prices rise most, with respec-

tive increases of 12.1 and 11.7 per cent. In terms of affordability it takes a Balearic Islander 12.4 years earning an average salary to be able to buy an average-priced home, and just 4.5 years for a Zaragoza resident.

## 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 protesters 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.

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 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€

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#### Ref 3030, Randa, 290,000€

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



#### Ref 2194, Vallgornera, 180,000€

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



#### Ref 2997, Lluçmajor, 175,000€

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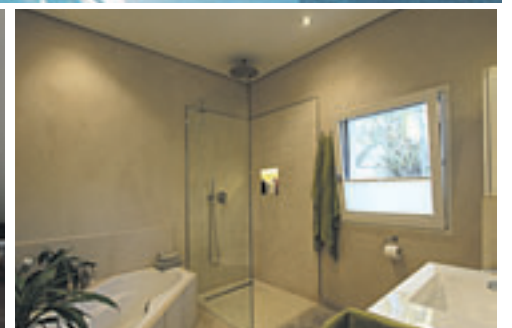
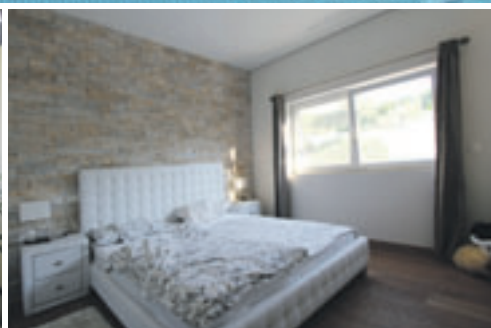
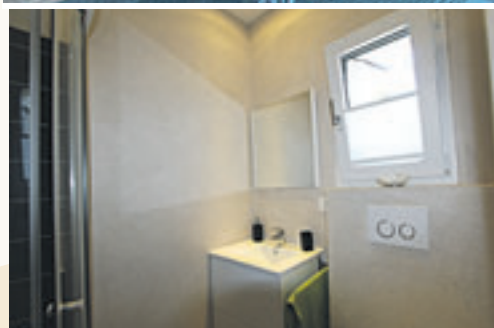
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# New investors flood market

WEALTHY Turks and Arabs are snapping up prime Spanish coastal properties as the political situations in their home countries grow increasingly unstable. Those who can afford it are investing in European real estate and Spain is the number one choice for many.

The numbers are high enough to substantially alter the client profile of foreign buyers, which has been traditionally dominated by northern and western Europeans. Today Saudi Arabians, Emiratis, Russians, and Chinese are vying with Europeans on the investment charts.

Not all are new arrivals. The Russians in particular have faded slightly under the tough new sanctions regime. While the Arabs are old hands on the Costa del Sol and in Barcelona and Madrid, the Turks are an

entirely new contingent still finding their feet.

There is change, however, in the manner of Arab investment. In past decades extremely rich buyers sought property for financial reasons and prestige, using it as another pawn in vast monetary empires, rather than an actual place to live. Today many are building garages and storage facilities, eager to take advantage of leasing opportunities.

Neither the Turks, nor the Arabs, offer much direct competition to the Brits, French, Scandinavians and Germans who are typically in the market for more affordable properties used as a summer retreat, or permanent home.

Spain's Golden

Visa continues to play a central role in attracting non-EU money. Buying a property worth over €500,000 outright gets investors a Spanish residency permit which, in these tumultuous times, may soon come in handy.

**REAL ESTATE: Being snapped up by Turks and Arabs.**



NEW HOMES: Millions need built in the coming decade.

## 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 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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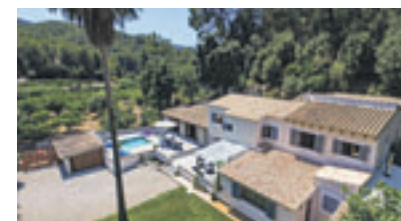
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# Crop rotation in a vegetable garden

*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.



**CROP ROTATION: Encourages growth.**

The principles of crop rotation are that the main plant groups of root vegetables, legumes, nightshade (tomato and potato family), onion family, 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 dis-

eases 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.

## Versatile pallets - turn them into planters

PALLETS are very useful in the garden, and can be manipulated into a structure that presents plants and flowers in creative ways.

Summer is on the way and it's time to start planting. If there is a shortage of garden planters, there is a solution in the form of a

wooden pallet. They are normally used for shipping and storage, but have recently become popular in creative home and garden

projects.

Pallets are versatile, and can be manipulated into a structure, such as planters, displays, garden furniture,

and even used to build a house. A garden that has a patio with a barbecue would find a free standing, pallet herb garden useful. It is a perfect structure to display herbs and also becomes a decorative feature.

To start off, it's a good idea to choose a kiln-dried pallet that has had heat and chemical treatment. Then remove three of the horizontal boards from one side. Sand down splinters, rough edges and hammer down all nails.

To create a support for the pallet, scrap wood can be used and if this seems challenging, find a friend who is good at DIY.

To protect the wood, it's a good idea to use some wood stain. Finally, take some fabric weed barrier and cut into shape, stapling it into shape between the pallet boards and then fill the pockets with herbs.

The pallet herb planter provides storage for herbs and a stunning display in the garden.

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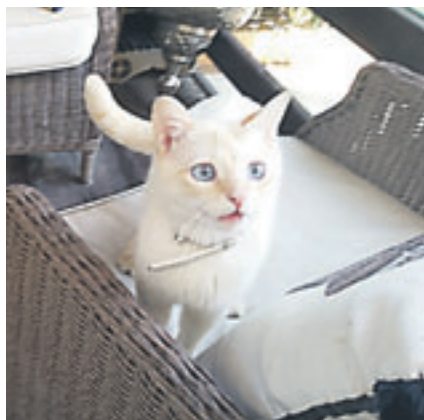
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## Casper a rescued cat loves being at home

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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 comfortable 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.

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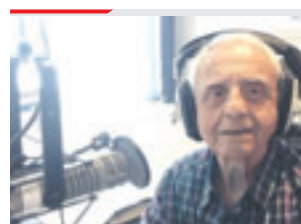
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DOG foods vary in quality and so do the companies that make them. For some companies quality is only a word, for others, it's a way of life.

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. At least two sources of fat or oil should be included for adequate energy and essential fatty acids.

Animal fat contains essential and non-essential fatty acids as well as providing an 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, 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.

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.

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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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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

## Suzuki S-Cross SZ5

SUZUKI'S original S-Cross didn't look as sharp or as classy as its main rival, the Nissan Qashqai. But now a new version of the S-Cross is avail-

able and Suzuki has addressed those styling issues.

New S-Cross has a bigger, bolder and much more noticeable front end, giving the mod-

el greater road presence, and inside there is a softer feel and more classy look to the dashboard and upgraded fabrics for the seats. The revised styling

comes together well and widens the market for this type of car, which tends to appeal to more image-conscious buyers.

Under the bonnet, the old 1.6 litre petrol engine has gone, replaced by turbocharged 1.0 or 1.4 litre units, with the smaller one offering less horsepower yet delivering better performance, and with reduced emissions and improved fuel consumption.

The new 1.4 does better still in the pulling power stakes as well as offering 138 hp and a little more economy than the previous 1.6 litre engine. There is also a 1.6 litre 118 hp diesel available, mildly modified from last time and with slightly improved emissions. It produces combined fuel economy of 24.3 kpl (68.8 mpg). Four wheel drive is available as an option with all the engines.

S-Cross prices start at €17,583 (£14,999) for a 1.0 litre version that comes with Bluetooth, digital radio, air conditioning, alloy wheels, heated door mirrors and seven airbags.

Mid-range models add satellite navigation, dual zone cli-

mate control, front and rear parking sensors, rear parking camera, rear privacy glass, bigger alloys and LED headlights.

The top-spec S-Cross SZ5 All Grip features extra kit including leather trim, heated front seats, large opening glass sunroof and alloy roof rails among an extensive standard features list. My SZ5 4x4 test model cost €26,786 (£22,849) and had the 1.4 litre engine and six-speed manual gearbox. The 0-100 kph time is a nippy 10.2 seconds and fuel economy is 17.8 kpl (50.4 mpg).

The cabin is roomy front and rear and the 430 litre boot is a decent size and can be expanded to 875 litres by dropping the rear seats. I found the S-Cross very pleasant to drive - smooth, quiet and responsive, with composed cornering and a comfortable ride. What was especially impressive was its precise light-touch agility making it effortless to drive.

Add that to its attractive new look and Suzuki's excellent reliability record and it is clear the S-Cross is now a strong competitor in the expanding SUV sector.

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## Sailor's surprise journey

A SAILOR has been rescued after his boat ran aground 100 miles from where he anchored for the night near Marbella in the Costa del Sol.

When the 65-year-old woke the morning after anchoring, he was close to rocks at the Le Calta beach in Cadiz.

The unnamed sailor sounded his siren but eventually ran aground on the beach. A rescue team was sent to aide the man after city workers cleaning the beach saw the distressed sailor in the early morning.

Firefighters helped the man to safety where he proceeded to check in to a hotel after his unexpected journey when his anchor failed.



The Continental GT3 was unveiled in Singapore with the Princess Yachts logo.

facebook.com/PrincessYachtsInternational

## Two luxury British brands in new sponsorship deal

TWO luxury iconic British brands, Princess Yachts and Bentley Motorsport, have signed a three-year sponsorship deal. The two global brands will partner together in motorsport activities worldwide.

According to Princess Yachts, both brands, "epitomise performance, elegance and luxury, mixing cutting-edge technology with traditional crafts-

manship and setting new standards within their industries."

"Currently Princess customers engage with Bentley at most of our global events, an in Dusseldorf this year, where Princess displayed the largest line up at BOOT 2017 we teased the new motorsport partnership at an exclusive private event," explained Princess Yachts marketing director Kiran Haslam.

"The enthusiasm and excitement generated was incredible, and the opportunities for both Bentley and Princess to work together collaboratively has really ignited a series of exciting activities," continued Haslam.

In addition to branding opportunities, the partnership will include activities to bring motorsport and luxury yachts together.

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# Congratulations to 'King Arthur,' Lewis the first and the 'masterful' Sergio

**Tony Matthews**



International Sports

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

Costa de Almería

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 Tues-

day 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

pl a y e d

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.**



## DID YOU KNOW?

OF 33 million people (two-thirds Asian) who supposedly 'support' Manchester United, hundreds (thousands more likely) try in vain to get one of 76,000 tickets for a game at Old Trafford because the club - confirmed by the FIFA Bleacher report to be the most-hated in the world - doesn't care about fans, giving away loads of tickets in sponsorship deals!



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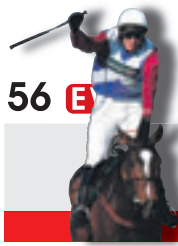
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OVER 70,000 punters saw One For Arthur, trained by Lucinda Russell and ridden by Derek Fox, win last Saturday's Grand National.

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

# El Toro RC and RC Ponent in the Cup final

ALL four teams were determined to give their all in the semi-finals of the JJ Garcia Cup and the resulting matches were hard fought to the final whistle.



In Son Caliu, Shamrock RC was the first to score but this spurred the home team to up their pace and by half time the score had moved on to 14 points to 10. El Toro RC made their passing more accurate and tightened up their defence for the second half and Shamrock RC could not re-

spond. Hicham El Isidry scored a hat-trick of tries and Austin di Santo a 100 per cent kicking record. The final score was 35 points to 17. It was the same in Principes de España between RC Ponent and Union RC where the final score was 42 points to 27.

The girls' teams went to Pollensa for the penultimate leg of their Sevens League. Shamrock RC were on good form again, whilst El Toro RC were still struggling with injury.

A sunny spring Saturday saw the youngsters and supporters heading to Inca for a Rugby Day. As always the enthusiasm was obvious and the players gave everything for their club.

Coming up after Easter will be the final of the JJ Garcia Cup to be played in Ibiza which unfortunately re-

duces the number of spectators able to support the matches between El Toro RC and RC Ponent for first and second place and between Shamrock RC and Union RC for third and fourth places.

El Toro RC will also host the final matches in Son Caliu the U18 and U16 Michel Rodier Trophy, the final Rugby Day for the younger categories and the last in the U14 and Girls' League.



The U10's at the Rugby Day.



El Toro RC holding up a Shamrock RC try.

El Toro U8's at the Rugby Day.



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