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Out of Africa

Police follow Moroccan drugs trail



STOWED AWAY: More than a ton of hash.

By Jack Troughton

Links between Murcia and Morocco are being probed by the Guardia Civil after a successful operation uncovered more than a ton of smuggled hashish.

Officers made nine arrests of suspected traffickers after months of painstaking undercover investigation, and continue their inquiries to uncover the gang's links in North Africa.

Police watched a boat land-

ing at a La Manga beach and 'discreetly' followed the smugglers towing it to a rented cottage to El Vivero Urbanisation.

The suspects had rented the premises days earlier for the months of April and May, having paid the owner in cash.

Later, armed with a search warrant, officers raided the house and found two boats in the garden. The large boat had a false bottom under which the resin was discovered. They ar-

rested three Spanish men and a Moroccan man.

Eight of the alleged traffickers refused to answer questions. The ninth maintains he come to La Manga on holiday, driving from Almeria with four of the suspects.

All nine were remanded in custody and charged with crimes against public health.

Winner of EWN car contest



VIRGINIA DELATORRE UNCETA from Marbella is the winner of the EWN 2017 Win-a-Car readers' survey prize draw.

Her name was picked out from thousands of entries by Sala Group Chairman Ian Radford and former professional footballer Stephen Carr.

» Full story: page 3

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NEWS EXTRA

Public holidays

SPAIN celebrates Labour Day on Monday May 1, coinciding with the May Day Bank Holiday in the UK, meaning the majority of shops, supermarkets, banks and other public services will be closed.

Back Pedro

THE Torrevieja branch of socialist party PSOE is backing former national leader Pedro Sanchez to return to the helm. Members are being asked to back him as candidate.

Car explodes

ALARM spread through the streets of El Moralet in Alicante as solvents exploded in a burning car. Flames spread to a second vehicle before the fire was able to be extinguished.

Sports bar

THE El Toscar sports centre café in Elche has reopened, having been closed for two years, and the town's El Pla sports centre café is scheduled to reopen in June, having been closed for three months.

It's a right royal mess

POLITICIANS have once again caused the King of Spain's state visit to the UK to be postponed.

The planned June visit by King Felipe VI and his wife Queen Letizia has been rescheduled to avoid clashing with the snap General Election called by Prime Minister Theresa May.

Buckingham Palace said in a statement: "Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Majesty King Felipe VI of Spain have agreed that, in light of the General Election, the planned State Visit to the United Kingdom from June 6 to 8 by King Felipe and Queen Letizia should be postponed. The visit will now take place from July 12 to 14."

The rejig came after Spain's foreign minister, Alfonso Dastis, indicated that the country would not find it appropriate for the visit to go ahead during an election campaign.

This is the second time in just over 12 months that politicians have been responsible for a state visit cancellation, as the King was supposed to visit in March last year.

On that occasion, the visit was axed due to political uncertainty in Spain, after a spate of inconclusive General Elections soured by bickering and failed deals left the country without a government.

King Felipe's UK state visit will be the first by a Spanish monarch since that of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia in 1986.



BETTER LATE THAN NEVER: King Felipe and Queen Letizia.

By Jack Troughton

RESIDENTS living in an Elche street prevented a drunk driver fleeing after she careered into a parked car.

The 35-year-old was later found to be three times over the legal limit and was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

You shall not pass

She was driving down Calle Antonio Brotons Pastor, in the El Toscar area, at around dawn on Monday when her vehicle collided

with a car parked in the street, damaging two others.

Witnesses said she had lost control of the car and after the accident

parked nearby. However, residents alerted by the noise called police and several people refused to allow the driver to leave.

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Aqualandia Every Sun, Mon & Wed. Ad 39€ Ch/Snr 34€ From 28th May	FIESTAS/SPECIALS Heather Small Sun 30th April 69€ show/coach or 120€ inc 1 night FB	Cordoba Patio fair 3-5 May 3* B&B 165€	Calling at, Marseille, Genoa, Rome, Palermo, Sardinia & Palma
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Jalon Valley Every Mon 23€ incl lunch/wine	Billy Furys original Tornados Sun 14th May 37€ show/coach OR 95€ inc 1 night FB	Sevilla City 16-19 May 3* B&B 219€	Calling at, Bari, Cortu, Santorini, Athens, Dubrovnik & Venice
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Money's too tight to mention

PEOPLE living in Murcia have the least money in their pockets to spend, according to figures published by the Living Conditions Survey, an annual European investigation.

Spain's regions with the highest annual income are the Basque Country with €14,345 per person, Navarre with €13,408, and Catalonia which has an average of €12,660.

The worst off region is Murcia with an average income of €8,273; followed by Andalucia with €8,398 and Extremadura with €8,674.

And the survey revealed that 48.7 per cent of people in Murcia said they could not afford to go away from home for a holiday of at least a week; 47.9 per cent complained they could not pay for unseen sudden expenses.

Murcia has 28.9 per cent of its population said to be 'at risk' of poverty. More than a tenth of people admitted having arrears with payments related to housing and almost a quarter said they had real difficulties reaching payday at the end of the month.

Rail quiz

CARTAGENA'S mayor visited Madrid to take part in an Extraordinary General Meeting of the organisation bringing the high speed rail link to the city.

Mayor Jose Lopez attended the Sociedad Cartagena Alta Velocidad to discuss the next steps in the project, calling on the government to accelerate its environmental impact studies ahead of construction of the railway.

He also wanted information about the renovation of Victor Beltri Station in Cartagena, which will be the terminal for the AVE service.

Charity muggers

TWO robbers who raided the Elche headquarters of an organisation supporting people in need have been arrested 10 months after the burglary.

The 21-year-old villains stole a "multitude" of items from the Non-Governmental Organisation in the Carrus district of the city.

An inspection of visual evidence by the scientific department of Elche police

identified one of the suspects who lived in San Vicente del Raspeig in Alicante. The second man was later arrested at an Elche address.

The burglary took place in mid-June last year, when two people broke into the NGO building, an organisation helping homeless and unemployed people; stealing items ready for delivery to those in need.

The suspects were said to have climbed a perimeter fence and smashed

a window to get access to their loot.

In a statement, Elche Police said both men were charged with robbery and have since been dealt with by the courts.

Fire scare

HOMES were safely evacuated when fire broke out in the bathroom of a flat in Torreveja.

A faulty bathroom heater could be the cause of the fire in Calle Diego Ramirez

which generated thick smoke that filled the building. Residents were asked to leave their homes as a precaution and no one was injured in the incident.

Two fire crews were able to extinguish the flames within an hour and ventilate the building

Waters rise

REPLACING the network of water pipes in Orihuela is to put €3 on every bill per year until 2020 as essential works take place.

The current drinking water supply network was said to be obsolete with maintenance needed to sort damaged pipes.

We have a winner!

EWN reader wins car in €15,000 draw



GRAND DRAW:
Took place at La Sala.

IAN RADFORD:
With EWN's Steven Euesden.

VIRGINIA DELATORRE UNCETA is the winner of the *Euro Weekly News*' Win a Car competition.

Her name was picked from thousands of entries submitted to *EWN* over two months as part of a readers' survey.

The prize, a new Dacia Sandero Ambiance, plus insurance and a luxury meal for two, is worth almost €15,000.

Joining *EWN* publisher Steven Euesden for the glittering prize draw at La Sala Banus, Marbella, were Sala Group Chairman Ian Radford and former Premier League and international footballer Stephen Carr.

He picked Virginia's number, and when Ian called her to break the news, she at first found it difficult to fully accept that she had not only won a new car including tax supplied

by EWN Media Group, but also that her prize included a year's free insurance from Abbeygate and a grand dinner at La Sala Banus.

EWN, Spain's biggest and best English newspaper, will use information from the surveys to take another leap forward in what has so far been a defining year for the EWN Media Group with the acquisition of several new titles and more to follow.

Teenage driver exposed by mother

A 75-YEAR-OLD pedestrian was killed in Alicante after being struck by a vehicle allegedly driven by a teenager, who fled the scene.

The incident took place at 10.45pm on Sunday night on Avenida Oviedo, near the city's San Juan beach area according to police.

It was said the youth took the keys to his mother's car, and from marks on the road, police said the body of the mortally wounded pensioner was dragged 40m.

It is believed the victim was struck on a pedestrian crossing near the TRAM station. The dead man was a Spanish national.

The car did not stop and police reported the teenager's mother rang claiming she was driving the car but confessed she was trying to cover up to protect her son when she learnt of the gravity of the incident.

The matter has been referred to the Juvenile Prosecutor's Office and the driver could face a charge of illicit homicide.

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Postscript to ponder

19.8

The number of lifts per 1,000 Spanish citizens, placing the country at the top of the global ranking, owing to the fact that 65 per cent of the population live in apartments, the most in Europe.

Spain shows WhatsApp

SPAIN'S National Police triggered an international investigation into a paedophile network using WhatsApp to distribute images of child pornography; leading to the arrest of 39 suspects.

The force discovered dark web sites directing users to private WhatsApp groups used to share illicit images. Arrests in Europe and South America followed after action involving Europol and Interpol. Searches of homes led to the seizure of hundreds of devices containing images of child sexual exploitation.

Rajoy star witness

PRIME MINISTER Mariano Rajoy will have to appear as a witness in the ongoing Gurtel corruption trial, the huge investigation into 'kickbacks-for-contracts' that has plagued the Spanish leader's Partido Popular.

Rajoy was general secretary of the PP while Luis Barcenas, who is accused of running a massive slush fund and squirreling away millions of Euros in tax havens, was treasurer.

Power surge

PEOPLE in Catalonia want greater powers for the region rather than independence from Spain, new opinion polls suggest.

The results indicate 46 per cent of Catalans would support remaining within Spain if the region was granted new and guaranteed exclusive powers. This and the 19 per cent said to be against independence is seen as weakening the case for the region to go it alone.

The poll is said to show pro-independence leaders have misjudged the

Eye on SPAIN

Around the nation in 7 stories

Postcard from San Juan de la Pena



THE religious complex of San Juan de la Pena, a medieval mountainside monastery in Aragon, is once said to have sheltered the Holy Grail.

Part of the community of Santa Cruz de la Seros, the spectacular site is around 90km from the provincial capital of Huesca.

Legend is that the chalice used at the Last Supper was sent to the monastery for protection and to prevent it being captured by Moorish invaders. It is said Alfonso V of Aragon presented the cup to Valencia Cathedral in 1438.

One of the most important monasteries in Aragon and within the Pyrenees; it is partially carved into a cliff face that overhangs the buildings; the name translates as 'Saint John of the Cliff.'

The original monastery was built in 920, devastated by fire in 1675, but then restored, with the older parts declared a national monument in 1889.

In the 11th century the monastery became part of the Benedictine Order, and it is believed to have been the first monastery in Spain to have used the Latin Mass.

The cloister was built around 1190 and features biblical scenes.

The second floor of the monastery contains a royal pantheon of kings of Aragon and Navarre; and is a final resting place of royalty.

Modern marble and stucco work recalls historic battles and were added during in the time of Charles III of Spain; around 1770.

mood of voters after months of battling Spanish government in a series of court cases.

Police protest

BAYERN MUNICH has accused Spanish police of 'violent attacks' on supporters during its Champions League defeat at Real Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu.

The club filed an official complaint to UEFA saying riot police actions were "completely misplaced and excessive" and demanded an explanation. Witnesses claimed police stormed the visitors' section to remove a banner and Bayern fans retaliated; there were some 4,500 at the match.

Big Foot

SCIENTISTS say a fossilised footprint discovered in the north eastern Pyrenees in Spain was left by a previously unknown species up to 248 million years ago.

The print was amongst other tracks made by the ancestors of crocodiles and dinosaurs, a group known as archosaurs – and the reptile looked like a crocodile but had wider legs and measured 1.5 metres long.

Alternative medicine

MORE than half of Spaniards continue to believe homeopathy remedies work and have a basis in science.

In a survey by the Spanish Federation for Science and Technology (Fecyt) 6,300 people were asked if they believed Homeopathic products work.

Despite a lack of scientific evidence to support the curative properties; more than half of the sample group believed the remedies could make a difference.

Birthdays

• **Tess Daly, TV presenter, April 27, 48**

British TV presenter who co-presents BBC One's Strictly Come Dancing. She has hosted a range of other shows including SMTV Live, Make Me a Supermodel and Children in Need. The former model is married to fellow presenter Vernon Kay.

• **Bradley Wiggins, Professional cyclist, April 28, 37**

The British former professional cyclist competed professionally from 2001 until 2016. In 2012 he won the Tour de France and he has amassed a total of a total of 28 medals including five gold, one silver and two bronze Olympic medals. He was awarded a CBE in 2009 and in the 2013 New Year Honours received a knighthood.

• **Willie Nelson, Musician/Actor, April 29, 84**

American country singer had hits with songs such as On the Road Again, To All the Girls I've Loved Before and Hello Walls. He has starred in more than 30 films including The Electric Horseman, Barbarosa and The Dukes of Hazzard. He has also been an activist for the use of biofuels and the legalisation of marijuana.

• **Joanna Lumley, Actress, April 30, 71**

Best-known for her role as Patsy in the sitcom Absolutely Fabulous the English actress has also starred in many other TV shows and films including The New Avengers, Sapphire and Steel, The Wolf of Wall Street and Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie. She has won two BAFTA awards and at the 2013 National Television Awards she received the Special Recognition Award.

• **Princess Charlotte, May 2, 2**

The youngest child of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge who is fourth in line to the throne after her grandfather, father and big brother. On her first birthday she received gifts from 64 countries around the world and these included a Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale book and a £30,000 (€35,700) gemstone-studded white gold toy rattle.



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Motorway theft gang take the high road

By Jack Troughton

POLICE have arrested a gang of highwaymen preying on tourists travelling on the A7 and AP7 motorway on the Costa Blanca.

The bandits targeted tourists at service stations in the provinces of Valencia and Alicante, occasionally driving as far as Murcia to rob holiday-makers.

The Guardia Civil arrested eight people under Operation Travel, two other suspects, aged 25 and 32, are still being investigated.

Cars with foreign number plates were selected by the gang and many of the victims were elderly and visitors to the coast.

Operation Travel was launched in November following a number of crimes being committed in service areas of the motorway and officers were



LOOT: Cash stolen by the gang.

gradually able to identify a group committing crime along the arterial route.

The gang is said to be behind 108 criminal acts. Those arrested were Romanian citizens and have been charged with belonging to a criminal organisation, robbery with violence, robbery with force, theft, and having false documents.

It is alleged the gang used distraction tactics to snatch lug-

gage or smashed windows of vehicles to take valuables left on show.

Typically they used high end vehicles to travel the motorway and make a speedy getaway; 11 have been recovered by police. Three properties in Castellon have been searched and €10,000 in cash, 25 wristwatches, 15 suitcases, 17 handbags, jewellery, 20 mobile phones and nine pairs

of sunglasses seized.

A spokesman for the Guardia Civil said the gang was divided into 'cells' to commit crimes, and used apartments in communities along the length of the motorway as a base.

"One of the gang distracted victims by asking them for a certain place or an address while another would open a door of the vehicle and remove possessions they had inside," he said.

"On one occasion a woman was dragged several metres by the gang's vehicle as she clung onto a bag."

And one weary traveller suffered cuts from broken glass as his car's window was smashed as he slept, the gang grabbing valuables. A woman and her daughter fell victim to the criminals twice in 20 minutes after luggage was stolen and as the driver reported the crime, her handbag was snatched.

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OUR VIEW

Still disenfranchised

ON more than one occasion Theresa May said she would not call an early election, but she now believes she can defeat Labour.

It is most infuriating for those expatriates who were promised the right to vote in the last Conservative manifesto to miss out not only on the referendum but now what could be the most important general election for decades.

Whilst civil servants will shortly go into 'purdah' which means that they cannot comment on political matters for six weeks prior to the election, it was clear there was insufficient time to introduce legislation to return the franchise to those who had left the UK more than 15 years ago.

We make no secret of the fact that at the *EWN Media Group*, we are committed to life and business in Spain but as British passport holders, we feel it only fair that we should be able to have an element of input to the future of the country which many of us didn't last year and won't again this year.

It seems that the UK is divided regardless of what Mrs May says and it is too early to know too much about manifesto policies from each party, but within the next few weeks we will see whether this snap election becomes a second referendum.

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LA MARINA TRAM: Citizens' dreams of moving around freely may come true.

LONG-CHERISHED dreams of continuing the Alicante TRAM as far as the airport could soon be halfway there.

They are nearer to becoming reality thanks to Alicante City plans for diverting traffic away from the seafront. This enters into the council's ambitions for what Mayor Gabriel Echavarri described as a "means of collective and public transport that guaran-

tees citizens' freedom of movement."

The seafront plans include reopening the closed section of TRAM from the Postiguet beach and La Marina station to Plaza del Mar and extending the line as far as San Gabriel.

From the existing and now disused halt at Plaza del Mar the TRAM would continue for approximately 3.5 kilo-

metres along the Rambla and Canalejas, past the Bus Station and Casa del Mediterraneo and other frontline streets before reaching Parque Joan Fuster in San Gabriel.

From here there would still be another 8.5 kilometres to cover before arriving at Alicante Airport, although according to city hall there are no immediate plans to do so.



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A Spanish slug invasion

AN invasion of Spanish slugs is set to devastate UK gardens as they cross-breed to create 'superslugs.'

The amorous bug, known officially as the *Arion vulgaris*, breeds twice as fast as its British relatives and is immune to common control methods, eating up to 20 slug pellets without being harmed.

They are believed to have first arrived on salad leaves in the UK in 2010, but were thought to have been wiped out by cold weather.

Experts now fear they are mating with native species to create "superslugs" which can survive in both hot and cold climates.

Dr Leslie Noble, from the University of Aberdeen, said any Anglo-Spanish hybrids are highly fertile and could breed

native species out of existence.

"When they hybridise, the British native slugs get swamped by the invasive genes. It's like adding a large amount of white paint to a black pot. It starts to go grey and eventually, if you add enough, it goes white," he said.

Dr Noble said the best way to kill the slug was to put out a saucer of beer as they are attracted to it and then drown in it.



SUPERSLUG: They could wipe out the native species.

50,000 forged prescriptions

A GANG which was responsible for the forging of 50,000 medical prescriptions has been broken up with 18 members arrested.

Both the Guardia Civil and National Police were separately investigating claims of fake prescriptions emanating initially from Cadiz in 2015 and they decided to work together.

After painstaking research, they discovered the

prescriptions were being produced in order to obtain benzodiazepines, a family of tranquilisers which found ready buyers on the black market in Ceuta and Morocco generally.

The trail of fake prescriptions led officers initially to pharmacies in Algeciras, Campo de Gibraltar and La Linea and then spread to most of Spain including Almeria and Murcia.



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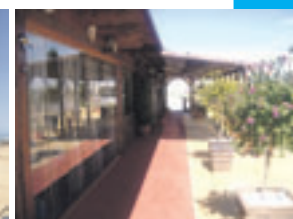
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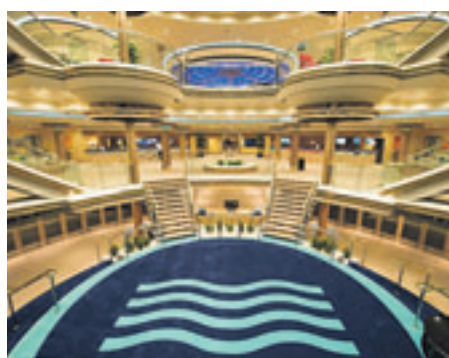
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doorstep.

This is merely a taste of what to expect - the only way to experience it all is to see for yourself on board one of the many Pullmantur Mediterranean cruises.

Horizon has gained some of her experience sailing under the guidance of Celebrity Cruises and not Royal Caribbean.

Speaking of the crew, Horizon's fun and vibrant atmosphere is created through the passion that they have to ensure everybody is enjoying themselves. Whether you are relaxing by the pool or working up a sweat in the gym; they will do everything they can to offer the most enjoyable experience on the seas.

The public spaces are similar to those found on other Pullmantur ships. There are a variety of options when it comes to meals, numerous places to relax, and stunning views wherever you turn. In fact, 80 per cent all the ship's cabins have vistas of the sea, whilst 68 of the cabins have luxurious private balconies.

A recent refit has brought this classic vessel up-to-date without removing any of her charm, and spacious public areas include three restaurants, a theatre lounge, and a casino. Horizon spreads her time between the calm waters of the Mediterranean.

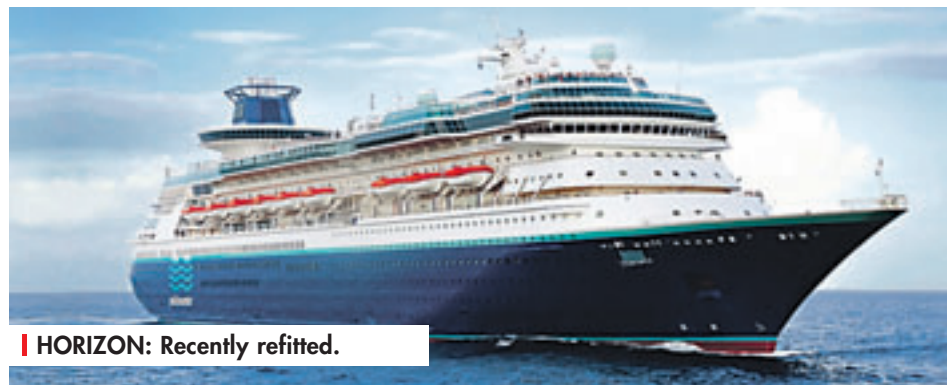
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NEWS EXTRA

Dirty move

SEVENTEEN former Servet cleaners protested in Orihuela and Elche, demanding their jobs back. They were not taken on when the publicly-owned employment office switched to another concessionary company.

All aboard

TORREVIEJA is planning a tourist route that will enable those with mobility problems to visit the town's outstanding features. The town hall hopes to include the Delfin II submarine.

Bumpy ride

CYCLISTS complained about the state of Orihuela's two bicycle lanes. They are full of obstacles including lampposts, trees, weeds and involve crossing roundabouts, they said.



ARTIFICIAL WETLAND: Will treat water for agricultural use.

Natural water filter

THE government is to create a €4.2 million 'green' filter in the Mar Menor to naturally treat water and allow it to be used in the agricultural sector.

The Ministry of Water, Agriculture and Environment has put the project out to tender; it will create a wetland at Albujon with a number of lagoons naturally cleaning water.

Costs of the work will be mainly born by Madrid and

20 per cent by the regional government of Murcia, and should be completed in 20 months. The project will be included the 2017 and 2018 budgets.

The artificial wetland will cover 18 hectares and is the first to be built in the area for the treatment of water with nutrients and it is aimed at significantly reducing the nitrate content; the cleaned water will run off into a reservoir.

The filter can treat 200 litres per second of runoff and drainage water and will be diverted back for agricultural use under a concession agreed by the ministry's Segura Hydrographic Confederation.

The Albujon site will be the first of a network of filters in the Cartagena area. Planning is already underway for similar lagoon treatment plants at El Algar and San Pedro del Pinatar.

Rogue broker's insurance scam

POLICE have arrested an insurance salesman who pocketed €22,000 in premiums leaving unsuspecting clients without cover.

The 54-year-old broker was arrested in Santa Pola; it is alleged he collected the cash for the policies but never formalised them with insurance companies.

The Guardia Civil operation was launched after a driver was fined for driving without having compulsory cover. She continually argued she had purchased a policy through the suspect.

The victim, who could not understand why it was not listed on the police computer database, even produced a receipt for the insurance payment.

Other complaints were also discovered by officers. People insisted they had tak-

en out policies but when they made a claim the company concerned informed them there was no record of any insurance being in place.

The common link between all the cases was the insurance broker; an agent for two firms of brokers; which used six separate insurance companies.

A spokesman for the Guardia Civil said the premiums involved totalled €22,000 – although it had not ruled out there may be other losers – and clients had lost €4,000 making claims that could not be honoured through the lack of cover.

He said the case involved motor insurance and cover for commercial premises and alleged the salesman had taken advantage of his position and the friendship he had with a number of clients.

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With Article 50 triggered, Britain is on track to leave the EU in under two years, on 29 March 2019. The surprise June UK general election is unlikely to change this, as the two key parties have committed to honour the referendum result.

While we still have no certainty about how Brexit will affect expatriates in Spain, there are steps you can take today to future-proof your financial planning.

1. Consider securing your EU residency

The two-year countdown is underway for current residency and freedom of movement rules. While we can expect a fresh reciprocal agreement between Spain and the UK to protect expatriates in each country, the new rules may be less favourable than today. So if you are still a UK resident but want to live permanently in Spain, take steps now to secure your position.

Once resident here, you receive the same tax treatment as other Spanish residents. Non-residents, however, may face higher taxes after Brexit. When it comes to income tax, for example, Spain charges more for non-EU and non-EEA residents. Also, non-EU or EEA residents may not qualify for the generally lower rates offered by the regional autonomous communities

Four ways to prepare as the clock ticks down to Brexit



By **Gerald Turner, Partner, Blevins Franks**

for wealth, succession and gift taxes.

2. Review your pensions

As things stand, Brexit should not affect how you can withdraw or transfer UK pension funds. However, the UK's new 'overseas transfer charge' could indicate post-Brexit changes. Since 9th March, a 25% tax applies to UK pension funds transferred to a Qualifying Recognised Overseas

Pension Scheme (QROPS) outside the European Economic Area (EEA), unless you live in the same jurisdiction. Other QROPS transfers remain free of UK taxation, but liability lingers for five tax years after the transfer date (transfers made before 9th March 2017 are exempt).

Currently, expatriates in Spain transferring to an EEA-based QROPS (including Gibraltar) avoid this tax. But many think the UK government could use Brexit to recoup revenue from UK nationals abroad with further 'exit taxes' on pension funds. They could also change the rules to make it harder to take advantage of today's high transfer values for 'defined benefit' (final salary) pensions. So consider acting now, before Brexit closes the current tax-free window. However, ensure you take specialist, regulated advice to avoid pension scams and

establish the right solution for you.

3. Avoid overexposure to UK investments

While markets have proved quite resilient to Brexit news so far, we cannot predict how the UK economy will continue to react. In uncertain times like this it is more important than ever to have a well-diversified portfolio to help ride out market turbulence. Ensure your portfolio minimises risk by spreading investments across countries, currencies, regions, asset types and market sectors.

4. Look for currency flexibility

With the fortunes of the pound and euro so tied up with Brexit developments, you should explore the best currency mix for you. Consider using structures that allow you to hold investments in multiple currencies and convert when rates are favourable, including flexibility to choose the

currency of your withdrawals.

In any case, you should regularly review your affairs to ensure your assets and investments remain suitably diversified and tax-efficient for your unique situation. The ticking of the Brexit clock makes this even more essential. A locally-based adviser can help you understand the cross-border implications and be fully prepared so you can continue enjoying your life in Spain, whatever Brexit brings.

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

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

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NEWS EXTRA**Happy market**

THE Orihuela market on Saturday has moved to Avenida de la Vega, due to works at Avenida Teodomiro. The market will return to its original location after the summer.

Street fuss

THREE signs and two different names for a street in La Florida area of Alicante have caused much bewilderment. The Jaime Niñoles and Clara Zetkin in (Valencian and Castilian) even confuses Google Maps.

Rent help

SANTA POLA is offering help to residents with their rent. In 2016, 79 families benefited from the aid fund. Applications can be made at the Civic Centre, fourth floor.

Abused horses vanish

BUREAUCRACY has been blamed for the failure to rescue two 'starving' horses before they were spirited away.

An equine sanctuary in Alicante agreed to take the animals but by the time paperwork was in order, the horses had gone from a Valencia property leaving rescuers 'devastated.'

The Rojales-based Easy Horse Care Rescue Centre is now calling on police forces to act more quickly, blaming bureaucratic delays in preventing action.

The centre's co-founders Sue and Rod Weeding were shocked to receive damning photos of the two starving horses on March 19; part of evidence collected for an official 'denuncia' police report made by Valencia's College of Lawyers Ani-

mal Rights Section.

The lawyers were desperately seeking a refuge for the neglected horses, as Spain's authorities have no facilities to house them; meaning such animals often remain with their owners even after an official complaint has been made.

Sue and Rod instantly agreed to take the two horses but nearly a month of delays and inaction by local authorities, including police and the Civil Guard's Seprona, followed.

"We are devastated. It's just so upsetting when you think how many weeks this has gone on and that these animals are literally starving," Sue said.

"We've been doing this for many years now but when we see photos like that, it still upsets us



STARVING: One of the mistreated horses.

deeply. We just want to rescue these animals and help them. It's so frustrating. We nearly got them and then we lost them."

The Valencian lawyers continue to look into the horses' whereabouts, but hold little hope of finding

them.

Sue explained that Spain's current animal welfare system requires a rescue centre to agree to take any abused equine before it can be legally seized. Yet the government doesn't provide any fund-

ing to centres like Easy Horse Care.

This also requires strong cooperation between local authorities and rescue centres, so abused animals can be rescued quickly before neglectful owners have time to move them.

"I can't praise the police in our area enough. The problem is, in other parts of Spain, there aren't organisations like ours that can take equines," Sue said.

Sue called for the government to fund centres like Easy Horse Care and appealed to the police to act on denuncia reports as quickly as possible. "For the police to do their work, they need to have somewhere to place these animals."

For more information about the rescue centre, go to www.easyhorsecare.net.

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HOWEVER - with BREXIT could all this change again?

If the free movement of citizens is removed and European regulations no longer apply to British nationals, this could impact on the taxes that UK nationals must pay when residing in Spain.

One of the biggest impacts will be on **inheritance tax**.

British nationals within the Eurozone at the moment have exceptional tax benefits in inheritance procedures, compared to those living outside of Europe (for example Canadians, Americans and Australians). With Brexit these exemptions MAY BE removed.

PRE BREXIT

The inheritance of a property in Alicante has a declared value of 299.000,00 € and is inherited by 2 children. The inheritor living in the UK would ...**PRE BREXIT**... be protected by the aforementioned European Court of Justice sentence and would not pay any inheritance tax. The other child living outside of the Eurozone would have to pay more than 18.000,00 € in inheritance tax.

POST BREXIT

Neither child would be protected by the European Court of Justice, resulting in both children having to pay more than 18.000,00€ EACH in inheritance tax.

As you know, it all depends on a political decision and we will need to wait and see how this situation is resolved in the near future by the Governments.

At Pellicer & Heredia Lawyers we always recommend to seek independent legal advice and do tax planning trying to see all possible scenarios. It is very important that all your concerns are properly dealt and discussed with your lawyer to be able to get best legal and tax advice.



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Expats remain top of the list

BRITISH AMBASSADOR Simon Manley visited the Costa Blanca to discuss Brexit concerns with expats ahead of negotiations to leave the European Union.

Charities, associations and individuals were invited to the round table discussions in Alicante and were reassured the rights of UK nationals living in Europe

and EU citizens in Britain remain "top of the list."

Minister of State for Exiting the European Union David Jones was scheduled to join the meeting. However, he was forced to cancel his trip after Prime Minister Theresa May called a snap General Election and he was needed in the House of Commons, sending a video message of support instead.

Darren James, a member of the Alicante Consulate's 'Our Local Ambassador' scheme, was at the meeting and said Mr Manley reassured everyone their views and concerns were reported back to London.

"It was very nice to meet some different people and hear different opinions being expressed," he said.

"It was also both fascinating and refreshing that everyone had done their research, and knew what they were talking about. Once again healthcare, pensions,

and education were discussed."

Darren, who lives in La Marina, added: "The embassy and consulate hope to stage larger meetings more frequently, which I think will be very useful."

"It appears everyone across Europe is saying much the same thing; the status of citizens living in different countries will be top of the list in discussions. But nothing can be agreed until it is all agreed in official negotiations."

He said there was another discussion about UK state pensions and whether people would still get annual increases - expats living outside the EU find pensions frozen when they migrate.

"One woman pointed out this should not be affected by EU negotiations because they are within the gift of the British government and nothing to do with the EU."

Darren said the ambas-



DARREN JAMES (R): With Simon Manley.

sador said he was "pleased" the expat community was getting involved and expressing its opinions.

"He said everything discussed at Brexit meetings

was sent back to London and every time a meeting was held it was discovered there was something that had not been covered before."

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Firemen needed

COMPROMIS, the Valencian left-wing coalition party, is demanding the Alicante fire brigade be expanded and modernised.

The party's deputy spokesman for the provincial

government, Jose Manuel Penalva maintains the Diputacion de Alicante and its president Cesar Sanchez need a new strategy for the emergency service.

Mr Penalva, who is the rep-

resentative for Crevillente, said it was time to stop confrontation with the regional government and Alicante's continued presence at tourism fairs promoting the region.

"Less Fiturs and more fire-fighters is what we demand," he said, referring to recent criticism of the region's tourist chiefs and the organisation of the International Tourism Fair, FITUR.

His remarks came as a party colleague claimed there were not enough firemen to handle an emergency along Orihuela Costa.

Mr Penalva said a new strategic plan was needed for the consortium of firefighters, especially in southern Alicante, giving the emergency service increased resources and recruiting new recruits to replace an ageing team of firemen.

He said the government urgently needed to act and address the problem to give the province a 21st century service - especially at a time hard-



FIGHTING FLAMES: Be aware of dryness in the coastal area.

pressed firemen were calling for action.

Cayetano Portuges, who is the Compromis spokesman in Orihuela, has also called for change; saying more resources must be set aside for tackling fires and the emergency services in general.

"There are not enough fire-

fighters to attend the emergencies of Orihuela Costa; so it is necessary for an increase in staff so the coast is protected," he said.

"We must be aware of the dryness of the coastal area and the enormous increase of the population during the summer periods."

NEWS EXTRA

Drunk driver

A WOMAN passenger was injured in Lorca on the A-7 by a 50-year-old 'kamikaze' driving in the wrong direction. He was four times over the legal limit when breath-tested.

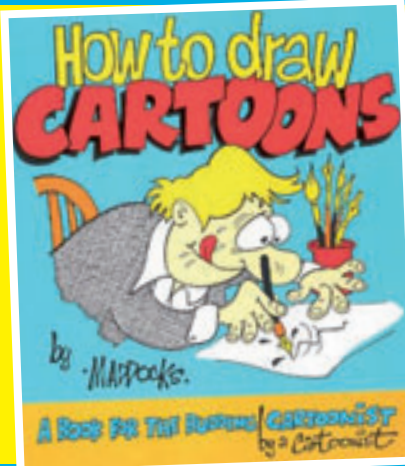
Tidy sum

THE national government will spend €7.3 million on clearing, repairing and channelling Alicante Province riverbeds. The Segura in Beniel, Orihuela, Rojales and Guardamar will all benefit.

Small fry

THE Aquarium in Alicante City's Plaza Nueva has reopened to a certain amount of criticism. The fish are very small and hide most of the time, visitors complained.

PETER MADDOCKS



Link for Peter's books:

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

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Community areas on municipal land

PROPERTY OWNERS on an Orihuela Costa development have won €4.5million in compensation, after it was discovered that community areas were built on local authority land.

A Supreme Court ruling has ordered the compensation be paid to investors in a scheme on El Mirador de Los Altos following a long legal battle.

The development was marketed as having large 'green' community areas and a communal swimming pool. The court condemned Promoplus Internacional SA for marketing the large community area actually built on municipal land.

In ordering the compensation, the Supreme Court upheld the 2014 judgement of the Audencia de Alicante, a court sitting in Elche that

had set out the compensation, and dismissed the company's appeal.

The ruling said Promoplus had incurred "a breach of contract" when it delivered a pool built on council land.

A Torrevieja court first ruled in June 2013 and set compensation at €5.4 million but the decision was also appealed and the case moved to the Audencia, which upheld the finding but reduced the compensation.

The developer offered 'a community pool for adults and children and wide community green areas' and the court said advertising had to be "truthful and not misleading".

Owners discovered 3,400 square metres of land belonged to Orihuela and the pool was located on land "that did not belong to the developer." The court said there would be no contract to give access to owners.

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Bees take the wheel

SURPRISED members of the public immediately called police when they discovered a swarm of honey bees at the wheel of a car in Murcia on Tuesday morning.

Local Police and Guardia Civil officers rushed to Calle Emeterio Cuadrado in Mula to find the swarm had settled on a rear wheel arch of the Citroen.

The area in the town centre was sealed off for safety reasons as a beekeeper was called; the protected insects were removed and were taken to a hive.

The car belonged to a worker at a nearby bakery, who was finally able to drive away at around 2pm; admitting he had seen nothing like it before.

The authorities later underlined such events were 'very rare' and said that swarms only posed a risk if they were disturbed.

People were advised to always call for professional help if they discovered a swarm; attacks have been known when people try and remove bees



ON THE MOVE: Swarming bees.

from confined spaces such as false ceilings, in walls or chimneys and try to move or kill them.

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colony. They occur when the queen leaves an existing colony with a huge group of worker bees; swarms can contain tens of thousands of insects.

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NEWS EXTRA

Looking up

DIGGERS are removing boulders and levelling the path to Callosa de Segura's new lookout point. The €402,000 project, which will rehabilitate the neglected area, should be ready by August.

Litter bugs

ELCHE City Hall is paying an outside company €4,500 to clean the Vinalopo riverbanks near the Bimilenario bridge. They are littered with rubbish that includes furniture and household appliances.

Green trip

THE Alcachofa de la Vega Baja association is promoting local artichokes on the social media and recently organised a "blog trip" to introduce them to gastronomy and tourism professionals.



Photo by Yassan_Yukky

ALICANTE: The city hall and all political parties in favour of 40,000 square metre store.

One voice over IKEA

ALICANTE City Hall still hopes to persuade Ikea to open a store in the Rabasa area.

Undeterred after the Swedish multinational cancelled a Madrid meeting, the three-party alliance plans to reoffer the Rabasa site with an adjoining shopping complex.

This would be reduced to 40,000 square metres instead of the 80,000 square metre complex that Ikea executives put forward during their one and only meeting with the current team now at city hall.

Deputy mayor and Urban Development chief Miguel Angel Pavon of the Guanyar party and city hall spokesman Natxo Bellido from Compromis, agreed that all parties on the council "now speak with one voice."

It was agreed that the 80,000 square metre complex was "unacceptable" for Alicante City and all political parties, including the opposition, were now in favour of the 40,000 square metre compromise.

Although the Partido Popular backed the new proposal, its councillors Luis Barcala and Carlos Castillo believed there was a 95 per cent probability that Ikea had "definitively" abandoned its intention of coming to Alicante City.

Yaneth Giraldo, councillor for another opposition party, Ciudadanos also appreciated city hall's change of heart, welcoming the decision to negotiate and drop its dogmatic "Ikea yes, macro-centre no, stance."

Never on a Saturday

OPINIONS are divided over closing Elche's La Corredora to traffic from mid-day on Saturdays.

It is now a year since the city centre's principal street was pedestrianised for one half-day each week and shoppers or those out for a walk are in favour of the closure.

They can now stroll peacefully without having to worry about traffic when out with the family and especially children, they said.

They do not back the calls from cafes, bars and restaurants who want the road to close instead on Sundays.

Takings were more buoyant before vehicles were barred on Saturdays, say the majority of La Corredora business-owners who claim that takings have fallen by 30 per cent.

"Knowing that the street is closed to traffic is enough to make people stay at home or go somewhere else," said one shop-keeper.

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Pollution
worry
for the
residents

CALLS for an air quality survey in an area of Cartagena over growing fears of contamination caused by the chemical plants in the area.

The Partido Popular has submitted a motion to the regional government to guarantee the health of people living in the Aljorra district of the city.

The PP also wants a coordinated response from the health and environmental departments to monitor emissions that may not be covered by national law.

Spain, like the UK, faces European Commission sanctions if it is not able to improve air quality and the motion calls for pollutants such as nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide, ozone and benzene to be measured.

People living in the area, through the La Aljorra Residents Association, have already asked for new meters to be installed near the sites of the two chemical companies, allowing an investigation of components harmful to health in the air.

Residents maintain that child cancer is a third higher than average in the area and have demanded effective control of air quality.

The chemical companies have already responded. They maintain they work within the law and strictly follow necessary procedures and protocols.

Underage drinker soon recovered

THE 13-year-old girl taken to a Murcia hospital after drinking half a bottle of rum was discharged the following day.

The Murcia City Health

department refuted early reports which claimed that she was comatose on admission to the city's Reina Sofia hospital, but acknowledged that she was in

a serious condition.

Neither was it true that the drinking took place in the street during the Entierro de la Sardina fiestas as she had drunk the rum in

her own home, a department statement said.

The girl was one of 60 people needing treatment during and after the Entierro de la Sardina celebra-

tions.

These included a man of 50 with a heart condition who lost consciousness after drinking alcohol and smoking cannabis.

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Building up for a fight

THE four-party alliance at Torrevieja Town Hall hopes to rezone 12,000 square metres of land in order to build there.

Under the current Town Plan, PGOU; this can only be used for a hotel and the corporation now hopes to build homes.

The plot is located in Sector 25 in the area adjoining the Auditorium, Hospital Quiron and the Ciudad Deportiva sports complex.

The owner tried to have the land rezoned in 2013 but the town council, then in the hands of the Partido Popular, turned down the application. The interests of the municipality came first.

Now the owner intends to reapply and the PP has warned that it will once again oppose an attempt to re-zone the land.



Qoan

PLANNING CHANGES: Torrevieja Town Hall could rezone land for homes to be built.

“Our group is convinced that we should continue to significantly increase the town’s hotel offer,” said PP spokesman Eduardo Dolon.

He was also surprised at the socialists and environmentalists supporting modification to the PGOU when they opposed it in 2013.

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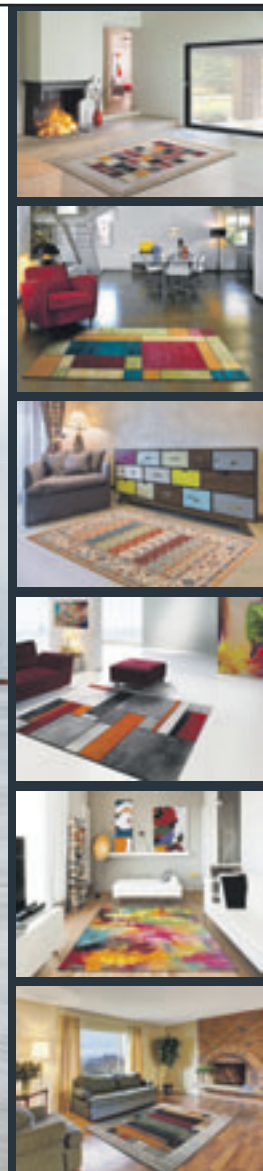
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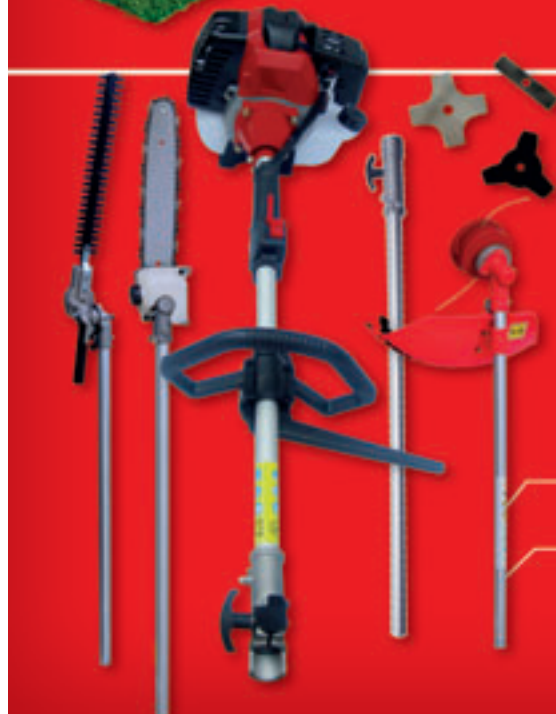


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NEWS EXTRA

Driver's hours

LOCAL POLICE in Elche are conducting daily checks on lorry and bus drivers to ensure that they are complying with the regulations regarding time at the wheel. In 2016, 300 offences were recorded.

Car power

THE Department of Mobility in Alicante has announced that it will be installing 10 public recharging points for electric vehicles in the city.

Cancer run

OVER 2,000 people participated in the second Alba Dona Vida run in Novelda, Alicante. The Race motto 'we run for the investigation of childhood cancer' raised funds for the Alba Perez Foundation.

Game over

THE FAOC residents association warned that children's playgrounds in Orihuela Costa were increasingly dangerous. They have not been properly maintained and the swings, seesaws and slides are often unsafe, they said.

Young at heart

MURCIA has one of the highest populations of young people - those aged between 15 and 29 years old - across Spain, according to new figures.

The region has 16.9 per cent of young people amongst its total population; the same as Andalucia and the Canary Islands, according to data from the Observatory of Youth in Spain.

“

Rural Spain has been suffering depopulation for years.

The figures also reveal younger people are attracted to urban areas to live, usually because of economics and a desire to find work. Four in 10 of the 247,975 young people live in municipalities with a population of between 10,000 and 50,000.

And three out of 10 live in the region's capital, Murcia

itself; another 10th in the cities of Lorca and Cartagena, and the same number in towns of between 50,000 and 100,000 people.

Just 0.3 per cent of the young population chooses to live in communities of less than 2,000 people.

Rural Spain has been suffering depopulation for years, noted the Observatory, as older generations die and young people migrate to cities and large towns.

In Spain there are 7.11 million young people, 15.3 per cent of a population of 46 million. The statistic is the second lowest in the European Union, only Italy has fewer young people in percentage terms.

The demographics reveal Spain's autonomous communities with a decreasing birth rate, an ageing population, and rising migration from rural to urban areas, are the ones with the fewest young people, such as Asturias, Galicia, Galicia and the Basque Country, Cantabria, and Castilla and Leon.



MURCIA: Has many young people. |

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Soaring tourism

ORIHUELA enjoyed a record number of visitors over Easter with the city and Orihuela Costa registering almost 100 per cent occupation and the need to raise 'no vacancy' signs.

The local authority reported the beaches were crowded but visitors were also drawn to traditional Easter celebrations, now declared as being of international tourist interest.

And the Orihuela Tourist Office recorded 22 per cent more visitors against the same period 12 months ago.

Councillor for Tourism Sofia Alvarez also highlighted the increased use of the official website and downloads of information.

Errors fla

By Linda Hall

THE Spanish flag was spotted flying upside down in Rojales.

It was seen on a flagpole on a council office in Ciudad Quesada where it drew comments from residents and, above all, the Partido Popular opposition party.

The blunder was the result of the current town hall's slackness, claimed the PP spokesman Alberto Ros. Nor had it gone unnoticed as there had been comments on social media, Ros added.

When asked to comment by the provincial Spanish press, Rojales mayor Antonio Perez said the old flag was deteriorated and had recently been replaced. A municipal employee mistakenly put it the wrong way up but this was rectified after several people contacted the town hall to point out the error.

La Murada on the outskirts

of Orihuela had a different problem. A flag flying outside a bar terrace in Calle Marques de Lacy was taken down because it displayed the old Francoist shield instead of the Constitutional crest.

It had been flying there for several days, flanked



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agged up

by two European flags and a second Spanish flag, this time with the Constitutional emblem.

Councillors Karlos Bernabe and Marta Guillen from the Cambiemos Orihuela party reported the presence of the flag which, they complained, "acclaimed hate, fas-

cism and violence" on a public street. "Is this the image we want to give?" Bernabe asked.

The councillors urged the town hall to order the flag's removal but the bar-owner took it down voluntarily hours after the councillors complained.



SPANISH FLAG: Right way up and with the right symbol.

Ramon Duran

Thieves' illicit business

THREE burglars who stole goods to sell in Elche's second-hand shops have been arrested by police.

The suspects aged 29, 30 and 31, were said to have carried out a series of domestic robberies and also raided a school and construction sites.

Officers said one man carried out the raids while his companions sold the stolen goods at the shops.

A police investigation was launched after a primary school was targeted with valuable electronic equipment stolen.

Following the arrests, police recovered a haul of goods and hoped to recover more and reunite them with their legitimate owners.

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Capture DNA

INTERNATIONAL DNA Day in Torre Vieja and Orihuela was marked by the appearances of the 'Unique' capsule; a device for storing the genetic information.

The device collects a family genetic fingerprint and avoids the loss "of all the information of life."

The initiative was launched in the two Costa Blanca communities and the capsule can be kept at home with its vital information.

"The most valuable inheritance, DNA, is able to tell us who and how we are, where we come from, or da-

'UNIQUE' CAPSULE:
Collects family genetic fingerprint.



ta on diseases, beyond our physical and psychic traits," said a spokesman for the event.

"Most of the genetic code is very similar among all people. But we all have small differences that are reflected in DNA and that make us unique."

The pioneering 'Unique' capsule was launched by Grupo ASV Funeral Services at the event and is said to be capable of "uniting the past, present and the future."

Couple hurt in apartment fire

MURCIA firemen rescued a couple from their home as fire spread across their flat in Puente Tocinos. A 57-year-old man suffered burns and the 49-year-old woman was affected by smoke inhalation in the fire on Monday night in Calle Gallegos.

A series of calls were made to the 112 emer-

gency number warning of the blaze. Neighbours were worried people in the flat and on adjoining floors could not leave the building.

Firemen, Local and National Police, and ambulances carrying paramedics were dispatched to the fire but there were no reports of any other injuries.



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Nurses 'overloaded'

NURSING staff at a Murcia hospital are 'overloaded' and attending to 350 per cent more patients than advised by guidelines, a councillor claimed this week.

The Lorca politician is calling for an extension of the workforce at the Rafael Mendez Hospital and is demanding the regional government take action.

Gloria Martin, of Izquierda Unida-Verdes, wants Mayor Francisco Jodar – who is also a member of the regional government – to raise the problem and address "the just needs" of people using and workers at the Rafael Mendez.

She said the workload of nurses was greater "than advised in standards of quality of care"

And the councillor said she also hoped to end "deficits of care" that meant children needed to travel to Murcia for paediatric surgery for 'mild' conditions and boost the care of youngsters under the age of five; and called for the cardiology unit to be improved.

Health chiefs agreed the ratio of nurses at the hospital were low, but said it was a historic problem and it was hoped to expand staff.

It was also said certain key services needed to be centralised across the region.



WITHIN THESE WALLS: Fontcalent prison is seeing an increasing number of attacks.

Alicante prison assault

PRISON officers are blaming a lack of staff for the increasing number of attacks at Fontcalent, the latest on Sunday.

Two officers working at the Alicante prison were assaulted in the infirmary according to the officers' union Acaip.

Trouble flared after the body alleged a known troublemaker – said to have provoked a number of incidents in the last month – went to attack another inmate.

An Acaip spokesman said: "A prison officer of the nursing department intervened quickly to try and stop the trouble and this prisoner kicked him in the stomach.

"Several other officers arrived at the infirmary as the violence continued, the prisoner threatening to kill other workers there. The prisoner spat on them and bit one of the work-

ers on the hand."

The situation was brought under control but the inmate continued to maintain a threatening attitude for several hours before calming down.

The union said the prison needed more officers and the infirmary was a particular problem; where usually there was just one person dealing with the physical and psychological problems of prisoners, as well as controlling others waiting for care or medication.

And it argued the staffing problems would get worse in the short-term by the demographic of the staff; many due for retirement or stepping down to surveillance roles because of their age.

Acaip has called for an urgent review of staffing levels at Fontcalent to cover the shortfall in numbers and to ensure the safety of staff and inmates.

First ship fuels up

THE port of Cartagena has become the first in Europe to offer visiting ships the opportunity to refuel with LNG, liquefied natural gas.

A Canadian vessel has become the first to take on board fuel from a state of the art gas plant run by Spanish energy giant Repsol.

The gas was supplied through flexible cryogenic hoses which can be directly connected to a ship docked at the terminal in the port, via a specially constructed pontoon.

It is hoped the initiative will become benchmark for Europe and allow Spain to take advantage of its privileged geographical position in supplying clean fuel to shipping.

Future plans include supplying ships at anchor via tankers and creating fuel stations at other ports in the Mediterranean.

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Fireman injured by beam

A FIREMAN was injured as fire crews tackled a blaze at an empty warehouse in the San Lucia area of Cartagena.

The firefighter was struck on the shoulder by a falling beam as the roof of the building in Paseo de las Delicias collapsed. He received medical attention at the scene and did not need hospital treatment.

Arson has not been ruled out and three fire crews arrived to find the building was well alight; the owner of a next door property was evacuated for safety but the flames were prevented from spreading.

Keeping it on the level



Photo by Moises Pastor

EL HONDO: Now a national park.

THE regional government will pay to maintain stipulated water levels in El Hondo.

The Consell (Cabinet) authorised a €175,000 payment to the Riegos de Levante Margen Izquierda irrigation syndicate to sustain the national park's environmental flow allocation.

It now rests with the national government's Environment Ministry to give the go-ahead, said Riegos' president Javier Berenguer. This meeting would

also provide a good opportunity to ask the Ministry for three outstanding payments to Riegos for water used to maintain ecological levels in the past, he added.

El Hondo national park forms part of Elche's old coastal lagoon at the mouth of the River Vinalopo which was almost entirely drained between the Middle Ages and the 18th century. Riegos de Levante created two reservoirs there in the 1920s to store irri-

gation water for agricultural use.

According to the Plan Hidrológico del Segura, Riegos assigns a minimum of four cubic hectometres of water to cover overall environmental consumption demands. In 2017 only 1.755 cubic hectometres is needed, approximately 44 per cent of the agreed amount and for which the Generalitat will pay €175,000 in line with the tariff charged for water from the Tajo-Segura pipeline.



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NEWS EXTRA

Pirates sunk

POLICE in Cartagena seized a treasure trove of counterfeit goods at the Cabo de Palos 'rastro' - or flea market - on Sunday including fake branded trainers and handbags. Officers were in plain clothes to trap sellers.

Big pick up

A SMALL army of 265 street cleaners in Murcia City cleared up almost 40,000kg of rubbish after the Burial of the Sardine festival. The record figure came after an influx of nearly 900,000 people for the celebration.

No smoke

NATIONAL POLICE arrested a Belgian woman and seized 584 marijuana plants at a farmhouse on the outskirts of Elche. Three rooms had been given over to growing the illicit drug.

Artist at work



DALE GRIMSHAW: With one of the murals currently being painted on the city streets.

BRITISH artist Dale Grimshaw is hard at work painting a colourful 42 square metre mural in Murcia as part of a new exhibition.

The Londoner - who needs a cherry-picker to reach higher parts of the picture - began work on Monday creating the image outside the Regional Federation of Met-

alworkers of Murcia.

Dale's mural is one of four currently being painted on the streets of the city as part of the show 'Urban Art: from Street to Museum'; the live display of talent attracting inquisitive onlookers.

His work is alongside another huge painting by local graffiti artist Nels, a third in

the street is by another Murcia artist Carlos Callizo - an even larger undertaking of 72 square metres - and a fourth mural is being painted by his colleague Tone in Calle Auditorium.

The exhibition can be viewed at the Museum of Fine Arts in Murcia until July 9.

Neighbours watch out

RESIDENTS of Villafraqueza have organised patrols to protect their homes and property against the growing threat of crime.

More than 50 living in the 'orchard area' of the Alicante town have created a group linked by social media and respond to alerts; with four or five neighbours responding to a call.

They say crime figures have escalated in recent weeks in Huerta de Villafraqueza and they hope a visual presence will deter criminals and drug traffickers.

The neighbourhood association said the problem has grown from being one of petty crime to organised gangs. Now security bars are cut, alarms deac-

tivated, and escape routes planned.

However, they denied being vigilantes. "We do not confront these people ourselves, we just allow ourselves to be seen by them and call the police."

And the problem starts at nightfall; strangers are often seen 'lurking' in the area, cars driving with no lights, and strangers taking photographs or videos.

The crime wave is blamed on police clamp-downs in other parts of Alicante City, causing the criminal fraternity to migrate.

Residents want Alicante City Council to act; providing an increased police presence, better street lighting and the cutting back of undergrowth.



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HELP COMPETITION: The Easter bonnet winners.

HELP's Easter Parade

EASTER MONDAY saw 66 members of HELP Murcia Mar Menor and friends gather for lunch and an Easter Bonnet competition and Grand Easter Draw.

The charity members met at Principe de Asturias in Santiago de la Ribera; a last minute change of venue but with the kind help of Carlos the manag-

er, who opened his restaurant especially for the event, a great time was had by all.

A lot of the ladies had put a great deal of time and effort into making their bonnets and Carlos judged the winner to be Margaret Leigh, with Doreen Sykes runner-up and Sue Savage third.

The top prize in the Grand

Draw was a hamper full of Easter goodies and was won by Linda Falkner, who was unable to attend but it will be delivered to her. The draw raised €330 for the charity's funds.

HELP Murcia Mar Menor welcomes everyone. For more information go to the office in Calle Penélope, Los Narejos, or call 968 570 059.

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TODAY, Thursday, saw the first conducted tour of a formerly restricted military zone in Guardamar, a veteran of the Cold War.

Despite notices warning off visitors, earlier today 20 people were shown round the base that was built by the US between 1963 and 1965. It is also the site of a

Mystery cleared up

radio mast still referred to as 'Torre de Los Americanos' which, at 370 metres, is higher than any building in Spain.

The tower, whose transmissions were remotely controlled from the US naval base in Rota (Cadiz) was installed at the height of the

Cold War to communicate with American submarines throughout the Mediterranean.

The 17 military personnel stationed socialised with the Guardamar population and according to sources with long memories, there were at least two marriages with local girls.

The base, which was used jointly with Spain from 1984 and handed over in 1990, is still used for submarine communications.

Guardamar's mayor Jose Luis Saez dealt with the red tape and security surrounding today's visit which required stringently vetted

visitors to apply several weeks in advance.

There are plans for monthly visits although the mayor explained that he was told access would still be limited at times, owing to ongoing missions. Despite occasional restrictions, Mr Saez was satisfied that at last it would be possible to see the base from the inside.

"Although we have lived with the antenna since it was installed, it remains a mystery for most of the population," said the mayor. Internet information is very sparse and anyone looking on Google Earth finds only a blur, Saez added.

NEWS EXTRA

Workout woes

THE Vecinos x Crevillent residents' association criticised the state of gym equipment at the municipal sports centre. The outdated exercise machines were unusable, rusted and broken, they said.

Fire scare

FIREMEN fought two hours to control a blaze that started late at night in a Monovar bar. No-one was hurt but the kitchen and bar counter were badly damaged.

Early start

ONE in four 14-year-olds have attended an outdoor 'botellon' binge-drinking, a Murcia region survey found. Six out of 10 students admitted getting drunk, the same researchers found.

Pea-souper

ENVIRONMENTALIST Angel Perez Ruzafa announced that the Mar Menor need not turn green this summer. This could be avoided by preventing agricultural dumping and discharge from treatment plants, he said.



Photo by Malcolm Mannon NFTM

GUARDAMAR ANTENNA: Base of the radio mast.

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Patriots join party

CAMPOVERDE Church organised a colourful St George's Day Celebration Dinner on Saturday evening, the eve of England's patron saint's day.

The restaurant 'That Place' hosted the event and highlights included a traditional English roast dinner, patriotic red and white decorations and music.

Father Richard, the church priest, performed a highly patriotic song accompanied by Mike Shail on guitar to help maintain the mood and fly the flag.

Maggie Dew, from Campoverde Church, thanked everyone who attended the party on a chilly Costa Blanca night.

"We are always looking for ways to provide more than just a church service in Campoverde and we thought that the celebration of the Patron Saint of England, combined with good food; good company; and good entertainment



PRIESTLY PERFORMANCE: Father Richard and Mike Shail sing and play guitar for guests.

would be a winning combination," she said.

The event raised €410 to help continue the work of the church and in the local com-

munity.

To find out more about Campoverde Church visit the Facebook page on www.facebook.com/campoverdechurch; or to find out more about other Anglican churches in the area visit the website www.c-of-e-torrevieja.com.

erdechurch; or to find out more about other Anglican churches in the area visit the website www.c-of-e-torrevieja.com.

UFAM safeguarding women

A SPECIALISED National Police unit in Elche keeps watch on 640 women who are at risk of gender violence.

The women, who are of all ages come under the protection of Elche's UFAM unit, created to safeguard women and the family. In some cases victims are directly connected to the police, by an emergency number, 24 hours a day.

An increasing number are young, "This has shot up in recent years owing to social media," a UFAM officer explained.

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Changing the mindset

JOSEP OCHOA, regional Director General for Social Responsibility, revealed details of laws due to come into effect later this year.

Speaking in Alicante, Ochoa revealed that this will have a direct effect on the Public Administration contracts that account for 17 per cent of the region's Gross Domestic Product.

Price cannot be the only determining factor when contracting a firm to carry out an Administration project, Ochoa argued.

The new regulations will veer to companies based in or operating from tax havens or those



CHANGING PRIORITIES: Ochoa's team spreading the word of social responsibility.

that have been involved in corruption cases, the Director General declared.

"We have to alter our mind-

set and redraw our boundaries, giving priority to social and environmental factors together with fair trade."

Ochoa announced the outlines of the new law in Alicante City, where he and 70 members of his team on a visit organised by the regional government and the Local Development Agency attached to Alicante's City Hall.

The Alicante visit was intended to explain to the public the different tasks currently being carried in preparing the 229 draft of the Social Responsibility Law, Ochoa said. "And it also draws attention to what the Generalitat is achieving throughout the Valencian Community.

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Brexit likely to decide General Election



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

AS the various political parties gear up to campaign for the General Election, Brexit will form an important platform for each of them.

Currently, opinion polls which have been notoriously inaccurate over the past few years indicate that the Conservatives are gaining ground in both Scotland and Wales with potential losses for the SNP in Scotland and Labour in Wales.

SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon has come out, suggesting that the calling of the snap election was a cynical ploy by the government to be re-elected prior to the prosecution of current Tory MPs for election irregularities although this is denied by the party which accepts that its 'battle bus' is being investigated.

The Lib Dems are appealing to



Photo Credit: Chatham House flickr

SIR KEIR STARMER: The man behind Labour Brexit strategy.

Bremainers and promise to run a second referendum if they are elected and many 'big names'

such as Nick Clegg, Vince Cable and Ed Davey, who lost their seats in the last election, are expected to

stand again with a much better chance of getting back into parliament.

Labour in the meantime had been accused of not knowing what to do but its shadow Brexit Sir Keir Starmer has confirmed that if elected it would honour the referendum result but would effectively scrap the government's current Brexit plans and focus on protecting the rights of EU residents as well as British passport holders in the EU.

The Labour party clearly recognises that those areas in the Midlands and the North of England which voted to leave the EU are vulnerable to a Conservative party which is determined to take Britain out of the EU and is trying to maintain its traditional blue collar support.

UKIP in the meantime is planning to ban the burka and full face covering in the event that it comes into power. However, more importantly, in real terms the party has indicated that it will not field candidates in marginal areas where the sitting MP is known to be strongly pro-Brexit.

Both major parties united in support

THE next six weeks will see plenty of bitter rhetoric and fights between political parties but little in the way of Brexit progress.

Even though the current Conservative government seems likely to return to power, possibly with an increased majority, it is highly unlikely that there will be any headway in negotiations with the European Union until the result of the General Election is known.

What is almost certain however is that unless the Lib Dems surprise everyone and are elected as the next government, Brexit will go ahead and the only question will be whether it is negotiated by Mrs May or Mr Corbyn as Labour will not ignore the will of the referendum.



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Rascals head for Broadway

THEATRE and musical group Rascals are heading for the Big Apple with next month's show On Broadway.

Tickets are already on sale for the Torrevieja-based group's production at the Los Montesinos School of Music and Culture on Friday May 26 and Saturday May 27.

Busy rehearsing On Broadway, the

show features song and dance numbers from a catalogue of Broadway hits, such as: Kinky Boots, Beautiful, Hair-spray, Cabaret, Show Boat, Chess and Les Miserables.

There is a selection of songs penned by Andrew Lloyd Webber and scenes from *Mama Mia*, *Grease* and *Motion the Musical*...

with a few comedy scenes put in for good measure.

Tickets can be ordered in advance by calling Jill on 966 727 282 or purchased from cast members. Alternatively, call in at Sackos Bar, El Limonar on Mondays or Thursdays from 10am until 2pm.



ON BROADWAY: Grease is the word!

Drivers wanted for charity

AGE CONCERN Costa Blanca Sur - based in Torrevieja - is looking to expand its team of volunteer drivers, required most mornings from 10am until 1.30pm.

Anyone able to help the charity and community is asked to call into the Age Concern Centre in Calle Paganini, Urbanisation La Siesta 03184, Torrevieja, or call 966 786 887.

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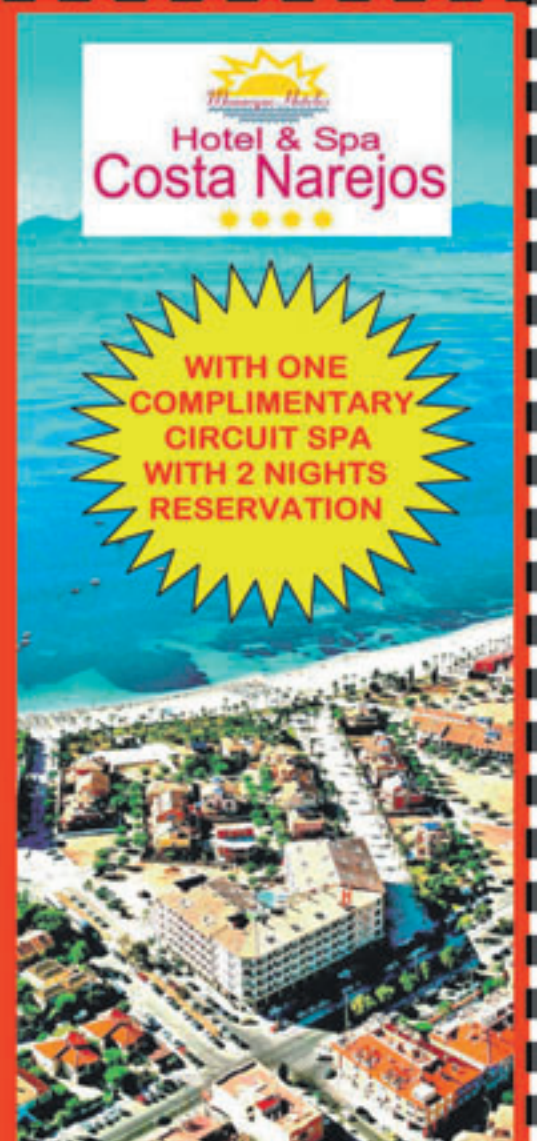
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DISTRICT NORTH: New branch committee members with their colleagues.

Branching out

THE Royal British Legion has opened a new branch in Spain, covering the northern part of Murcia.

The lovely surroundings of the Sanctuary on the outskirts of Calasparra made a spectacular venue for an inauguration ceremony.

Almost 50 people attended to illustrate there was great enthusiasm for starting a branch in the area of the province.

This branch will be under the umbrella of the Royal

British Legion Spain District North.

Chris Wyatt, District Secretary said: "We are delighted that the Legion will now have a real presence in this area of Murcia.

"Branch members will be able to enjoy a varied social life as well as raising money for the Poppy Appeal and helping with Community Support. We wish them all the very best for the future."

For details about Branch meetings, please contact

Lynn the new Secretary - murcia.secretary.rbl@gmail.com. Visitors will be made most welcome.

This is a great opportunity to join the largest UK charity dealing with Armed Forces support and combine this with an active social diary as part of enjoying life in Spain.

For Community Support - please ring 676 45 17 80 or visit their website www.britishlegion.org.uk/committees/spain-north.

Samaritans offer support

VOLUNTEERS from Samaritans in Spain visited La Zenia Boulevard to meet shoppers and explain the support on offer from the charity.

The team will return on Wednesday May 31 aiming at creating further awareness of what Samaritans actually do; especially the 24-hour listening service available throughout Spain on a free phone number 900 525 100.

Samaritans' listeners answer the phone with the empathy and compassion which is required for their everyday work.

Empathy - rather than sympathy - so they can understand and feel the emotions of the caller, placing themselves in the other person's

shoes, to be more intimate and immediate; while compassion expresses a broader form of care and concern for another person's well-being.

The volunteers join the teams to make a "positive difference to the lives of others who need help." Psychologists conclude the most effective help comes from those with compassion, hope, optimism, self-efficacy, resilience and commitment.

EWN was told: "Whatever the Samaritans in Spain undertake to do in the public sphere is grounded on empathetic listening and based on a solid moral and ethical foundation."

All about travelling the world

MAUREEN Moss was the recent guest speaker of Torre Vieja U3A and shared her experiences of travelling the world.

Maureen, who lives in La Mata, speaks several lan-

guages, has been married, had children, and divorced, all before setting off on her adventures. She also has her own website for information on being a tour guide.

There was also a chance

for attendees to find out what is happening on the social scene during the of summer.

More details of the group and its activities can be found at www.torreviejau3a.org.

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The Good Old Days

THE members of Campoverde Theatre Group are pleased to offer another great evening out; a supper show paying homage to the classic BBC programme The Good Old Days.

Guests are invited to get imaginative and arrive in their Edwardian finery; long dresses for the ladies, big hats that can be decorated as elaborately as imagination allows.

Just like the television programme, Campoverde Theatre group promises a master of ceremonies who has been busy finding long words and flowery language, just like Leonard Sachs.

The show will be full of songs that people will have learnt from their parents, and everyone can join the company and have a good sing along with old standards. The show will have something for everyone, singing, dancing, a little magic.

Music Hall was one of the standards of old fashioned theatre, and is undergoing a revival on BBC4 television every Friday evening.

Campoverde Theatre Group donated over €2,500 to local charities last year and the proceeds of this show will go to a very worthwhile local charity, Help at Home, which offers invaluable support to local residents who are ill, need short term help, transport to health services,



MUSIC HALL: Turning the clock back.

hospital visiting; and much more.

The supper show will be performed on Wednesday May 3, Thursday May 4, and Friday May 5, at the Fiesta Plaza - formally known as Breakaways - Calle Republica Dominicana, Urbanisation Pueblo Principe.

Tickets are available from the Ticket Line, email ctgticketline@gmail.com, or telephone 626 772 256. Tickets can be purchased directly from The Book Shop, San Miguel or drop into the Community Centre, Blue Lagoon, Monday and Wednesday 2pm-4 pm.

Music loved by all

THE Deadwood Stage Company plans to entertain with a lively version of Abba and hit show Mamma Mia.

There is even a planned surprise for the leading lady, Donna, with the immortal Red Book and 'This Is Your Life, Gramma Mia.'

Join Donna and her friends recounting stories of her colourful past and sing along karaoke style to all the music everyone loves. The show is being performed on Saturday May 20, Sunday May 21 and Monday May 22 May at Georgiou's Restaurant, Blue Lagoon, near Limonar School, San Miguel de la Salinas.

The audience will be served a supper dish of Greek mese, a



Mamma Mia is coming.

version of tapas, at 8pm and the refreshments will be followed by the opening of the Red Book.

Tickets are €8 and are available from members of the society, Georgiou's Restaurant, or can be reserved by telephone by calling Jackie on 965 321 411.

Raising funds at the fair

THE Anglican Church in Mojacar is holding a Spring Fayre on Saturday April 29 in the Levante Bar car park.

The venue is opposite Price Brown and the event runs from 9.30am until 1pm. Entrance is free, and visitors can browse a varied collection of stalls while helping the church raise funds.

Attractions include stalls selling ladies and gents clothing; bric-a-brac, jams and preserves; home-made cakes; books, and crafts.



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Age Concern has a ball

TICKETS for Age Concern Costa Calida's Black and White Ball on September will be available from Thursday May 11.

They are €17.50 and include a light supper with a choice of meat or fish, and music by Melodee Duo.

Tickets can be purchased from Age Concern from May 11 at the Cultural Centre, Camposol B, from 10.30am to 12.30pm and every following Wednesday and Thursday. People inquiring from Puerto de Mazarron should call the Events line 634 336 484.

On Wednesday May 3, there is 'Talking Shop' at the Cultural Centre; on Friday May 25, 'Table Top'; and the first Wednesday of the month there is a volunteers' meeting at noon. Supporters can enjoy a Menu del Dia at La Caletta, Puerto del Mazarron on Wednesday May 31.

The Age Concern number is 634 344 589 and for Equipment Loan call 634 306 927; all are available between 10am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

The charity is looking for volunteers to help with administration. Call 634 344 589 for more info.

Springing forwards for charity

THE hard work by volunteers of HELP Murcia Mar Menor ensured the successful Spring Fair at the Oasis Boulevard in Los Alcazares, raising €550 for the charity.

The highlight of the day was the fashion show which was staged in the sunshine and where some high-quality ladies' dresses, skirts, tops and trousers were sold at bargain prices.

There were a variety of stalls including goods such as Outdoor Solar Lighting, Stained Glass Ware, Jewellery, Cakes and Clothing as well as the ever popular Tombola Stall.

Throughout the event music was supplied by Jim Devlin and friends who generously gave their services for free; as the afternoon passed many of the HELP volunteers and the public were able to dance to the music outside HELP's outlet.

The €550 together with €415 raised by HELP's auction held at the La Zona Bar in March. All money raised will go towards the cash donations that HELP traditionally make every year to various nominated charitable organisations in the Murcia Region.



FASHION SHOW: Was the highlight of the Spring Fair.

At HELP's AGM in March it was decided that this year the Spanish Red Cross will be the sole organisation to benefit from the charity's funds in 2017 in recognition of their work in the community and espe-

cially after all the hard work and effort they put in helping the victims of the terrible flooding in the region in December 2016.

Anyone with a few hours to spare during the week and feel they

would like to volunteer to help others in the region can visit HELP for further information at either their office in Calle Penélope, Los Alcazares or the outlet in the Oasis Centre or call 968 570 059.



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NEWS FROM OUR FIVE OTHER REGIONS

Prices spark food frenzy

» By Matthew Elliott

■ ALMERÍA



TOMATOES: Cheap as chips in Almería.

FURIOUS food producers dished out 20,000 tons of free courgettes, aubergines and tomatoes in protest over astonishingly low prices. The horticultural platform 'Agriculture Live in Action' said the stunt expressed the basic financial reality that prices are so low they may as well be throwing the food away.

Residents of Federico Garcia Lorca street in Almería were understandably delighted to be on the receiving end of the farmers' fury. Vegetables may be cheap, but budgets are also tight.

Jesus Fuentes, president of the Live in Action platform, claims that around 70 per cent of the fruit and veg grown across Almería are sold under price in supermarket, some fetching just 50 cents per kilo.

■ AXARQUÍA

Studying fruit

IN the search for sustainable fruits, the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University and IHSM in La Mayora, Axarquía will be undertaking a joint project. They will initially be studying the pawpaw which is not widely cultivated in the USA.

Verdial oil

THE town of Periana hosted a party to welcome the latest pressing of olive oil. Unique to Axarquía, the particularly sweet and fruity verdial version is much prized and this year's harvest provided 1.6 million kilos of tasty oil.

I am Legion

SOCIAL media was all a twitter when a video showing 20-month-old Yoel Extramera from Velez-Málaga went viral. The toddler, dressed as a legionnaire executed a number of moves normally undertaken by the soldiers at the Holy Thursday parades.

Nasty accident

FIVE people were injured in a serious accident on the N340 near Almuñecar. The three men and two women had to be transferred to hospital in Motril for emergency treatment.

Another fire

YET another fire broke out in the Salobreña area which required 40 firemen to tackle it. As the weather was particularly windy, officers attended from Motril and Salobreña together with others from the Infoca forest brigade.

Arms raised

THE funeral of former Franco supporter and minister José Utrera Molina took place in Nerja on April 23. A small number of supporters stood outside the church and raised their arms whilst singing the fascist anthem.

■ MALLORCA

Brexit news

DURING what will possibly be his last statement on Brexit prior to the General Election, British Ambassador Simon Manley addressed an audience in Palma confirming the British government was committed to protecting expatriates rights.

Briton killed

A MAN believed to be a 40-year-old Briton was knocked down and killed by a car in Magaluf early on April 23. Reportedly, the Spanish driver tested positive for alcohol and cocaine has been arrested.

Mutual interest

AS part of a short visit to Mallorca, British Ambassador to Spain Simon Manley met with Francina Armengol, President of the Balearic Islands to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Novel auction

IN support of the British Benevolent Fund charity, Lord Jeffrey Archer travelled to Mallorca to conduct a charity auction. The event, catered by Michelin star chef Marc Fosh raised in excess of €5,000.

Power struggle

THERE is huge disagreement between Endesa and the Council of Mallorca over an old power station in Alcanada. The council wants to keep the building but Endesa wants to knock it down.

■ COSTA DE ALMERÍA

Stone success

THE stone quarries of Macael and the incredible art and engineering works they have inspired proved the Costa de Almería's secret weapon at a tourist exhibition in Barcelona, B-Travel 2017.

Furious OAP

A PENSIONER went wild and attacked his 70-year-old wife and 50-year-old daughter. He even threatened to throw his 89-year-old mother-in-law out the window before being subdued by police at their Almería home.

Tax turmoil

A PROTEST against the Spanish succession tax took place in Almería demanding the abolition of the 'inhuman tax' which can strip many Spanish residents of a big chunk of their inheritance.

Phone zombies

A FATHER who confiscated his teenage daughter's phone was found innocent of mistreatment by Almería judges after she took him to court. He was angry over her smoking and poor school grades.

Food festival

DOZENS of chefs brought the flavours of Almería to the Hall of Gourmets in Madrid. Delicious Almería produce was a huge hit at the event, one of the biggest food fairs in Europe.

■ COSTA DEL SOL

Levelling out

IN preparation for the forthcoming holiday season work is taking place on the beaches of Torremolinos. The idea is to repair all the beaches affected by the March storm by levelling the sand.

Drain in Spain

WORK is now being undertaken to improve the storm drains on the Paseo Marítimo in Torreblanca, Fuengirola. The work which is expected to take 21 days attracted 36 bids and the final award was €84,804 cheaper than originally budgeted.

Police update

THE Local Police in Marbella have received 10 defibrillators and new drug testing equipment. This is part of a €400,000 investment to ensure they are able to cope with the requirements of a modern police presence.

Flats evacuated

A FIRE occurred in the car park of a block of apartments in Huerta Nueva, Málaga which left a number of cars damaged. The fire started in one of the vehicles and spread, causing the evacuation of the building.

Fibre optics

AFTER a lengthy delay, it has now been agreed that fibre optic broadband will be installed in Mijas Pueblo. This should benefit everyone who has been demanding faster more efficient internet connections.

■ COSTA BLANCA NORTH

Tax breaks

TEULADA Town Hall will lower death duties on bequests of urban land to family members. This applies to spouses, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren and siblings.

Nursing shifts

NURSES at the Denia Hospital will now work 12-hour shifts. In recent trials at the hospital the new working pattern resulted in less absenteeism, happier staff and happier patients.

Building fine

ALCOY Council has been ordered to pay €104,000 to the construction company building the Barranquet centre for the mentally ill in the town. The high court made the award because of delays on the council's part.

Fire victim

A GANDIA man died in hospital after being pulled from his blazing home by firefighters and suffering 80 per cent burns. A medical team attempted to revive the 43-year-old victim at the scene but without success.

Murky waters

RESIDENTS in La Nucia were shocked to discover a tea coloured substance coming from their taps. Staff at the local Aqualia office said that it was part of a maintenance schedule for cleaning pipes.

Buy-to-Let and how Wincham can help you purchase, own, sell & inherit property in a tax efficient way



Mark Roach
Company Director,
Spanish Tax Consultant

With the recent legislation changes in the UK, it is becoming far more tax efficient to own investment properties in a corporate structure.

From the 1st April 2016, landlords have had to pay the standard rates of Stamp Duty, plus an extra three per cent when they purchase a Buy-to-Let property in addition to their main residence. This increase can add thousands of pounds to the Stamp Duty bill and applies to property purchases in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This change in Stamp Duty charges also extends to homes abroad. For example, if you already own a home

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Would you like to meet with one of our Wincham Consultants at our "Tea on the Terrace" Events scheduled to take place in June 2017 at Calpe, Altea, and Javea? Please read our article in next weeks' edition for more details.



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NORWAY



Beggars belief

BEGGARS in Bergen have said they no longer feel safe in the city following a documentary that followed residents of a house connected to the Romanian begging community which was sending large sums of money to Romania.



BERGEN: Beggars no longer feel safe.

Green monitoring

THE opposition party wants to create a committee in order to monitor how effective the country's various green energy initiatives actually are.

Smarter transport

DRIVERLESS public transport

could be in place within a few months following a parliamentary proposal which would see 100 million kroner available for projects to develop smarter city transport. Driverless vehicles are currently not legal on Norwegian roads.

Staying put

NORWAY is refusing to lift Russian sanctions. The Trade Minister, Monica Maeland, returned from Russia and disappointed officials by saying she had no intention of lifting the sanctions yet.

GERMANY

Cold feet

A GERMAN man went missing as he suffered cold feet over his upcoming marriage. The groom was reported missing by his sister over Easter on what would have been his wedding day.

Top tax

GERMAN workers are complaining about taxes as socialists and taxpay-

ers organisations want tax reform. It is reported that one in 11 workers are paying 42 per cent tax on their income. Anyone earning over €50,000 a year is in the top tax bracket.

Rule change

CALLS are being made for the dual citizenship rules to be changed. It

comes after German Turks mainly voted in favour of expanding the Turkish President's powers.

Second vote

THE SPD party leader, Martin Schulz, said the UK should hold another EU referendum now that it is clear what PM Theresa May's plans for Brexit are.

FRANCE



Attack foiled

POLICE have arrested two men in Marseille as police say they foiled an imminent attack planned for the lead up to the French election. The two Frenchmen arrested met in prison and had converted to radical Islam.

Extreme eggs

FRANCE'S most extreme artist has spent three weeks in a glass box in an art museum in Paris sitting on 10 eggs waiting for them to hatch. He will spend the first 48 hours of their life with them before they live on a farm.

Birth defects

A STUDY has reported the epilepsy medication valproate is responsible for 'severe malformations' in 2,150-4,100 children since the drug was first available in France in 1967.

Breastfeeding petition

A COUPLE has launched a petition against the police officers who told a mother to stop breastfeeding at a police station in Paris as the couple carried out paperwork. They claimed the officer tried to humiliate the woman.

BELGIUM



Fruit frost

A LATE frost has potentially damaged crops in the fruit region of Haspengouw. As temperatures dropped below freezing farmers tried to protect crops but it's feared the damage may have been done.

Doggy DNA

OSTEND is taking action against dog mess as it plans to use DNA technology to identify the dogs responsible. Owners who are found guilty of not cleaning up after their pets face a fine of up to €1,000.

Borrowing benefits

WANT to buy a house but can't save enough for the deposit? You might want to consider moving to Belgium as they are proposing the possibility of allowing buyers to borrow the entire cost of a home.

Rail boost

BELGIAN RAIL has announced ambitious plans to improve rail transport, offering more services and shorter travel times.

NETHERLANDS



Female discussion

QUEEN MAXIMA is joining German chancellor Angela Merkel and US president Trump's daughter Ivanka in Berlin to participate in a discussion on female entrepreneurship at the Women20 Summit.

Happy rabbit

DUTCH animal rights groups have joined with pet shops to launch the 'Happy Rabbit' project to remind owners of their responsibilities and to how best to care for their rabbits. Rabbits are the fourth most popular pet in the Netherlands.

Cambodia arrest

A DUTCH Catholic church official has been arrested in Cambodia accused of creating child pornography. Over 1,000 nude photos were found on his camera and phone.

Job satisfaction

A STUDY has found that youngsters look for an interesting job over one that is the best paid. Over 70 per cent of the Dutch millennials questioned said they favoured job satisfaction.

DENMARK



Night shifts

WORKING nights could lead to brain damage. That's according to a Danish study which found that night shifts increased the risk of Alzheimer's and dementia.

Cold spring

DENMARK has recorded the coldest April temperatures this century. Temperatures at Karup airport in Jutland were -6 degrees centigrade, the coldest morning temperature since 1997.

Newer production

DENMARK could remove 3,300 of its 4,200 onshore wind turbines, if they were to be replaced by larger, more modern turbines, and still produce the same amount of energy.

Poverty plight

SINCE 2002, the number of poor people has doubled in Denmark. The total number of people considered to be living in poverty rose to 44,141 in 2015.

SWEDEN



Shorter days

AFTER two years of trialling six-hour work days at an elderly care home in Gothenburg, staff have gone back to eight-hour shifts after the government couldn't afford to pay the extra staff needed. However, staff had less sick days and were healthier with the shorter days.

Half overweight

OVER half of the Swedish population is overweight. That's according to a study by the Public Health Agency which reported that 51 per cent of those aged between 16 and 84 were either overweight or obese.

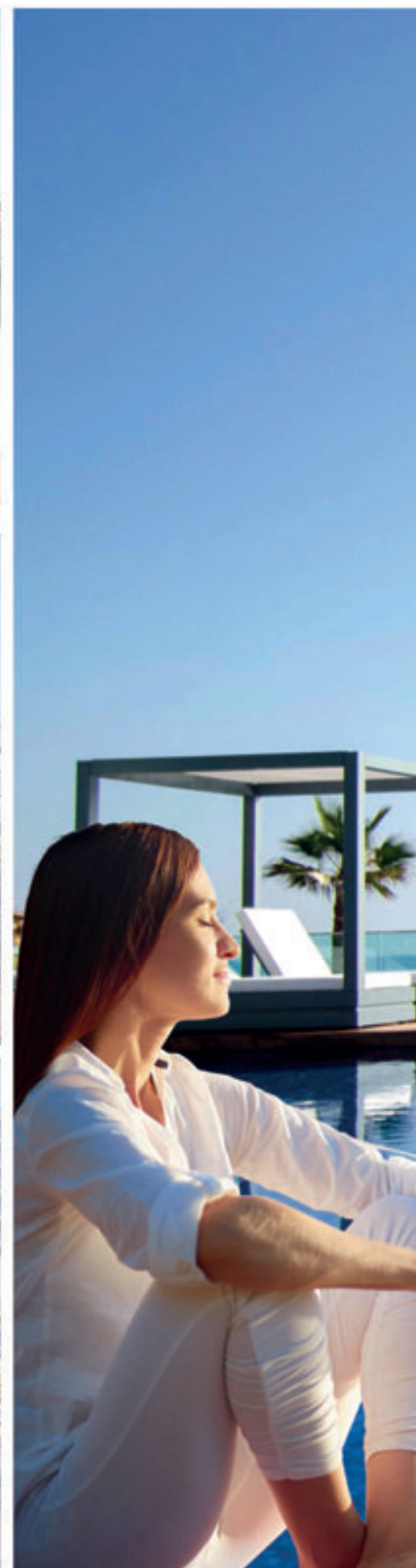
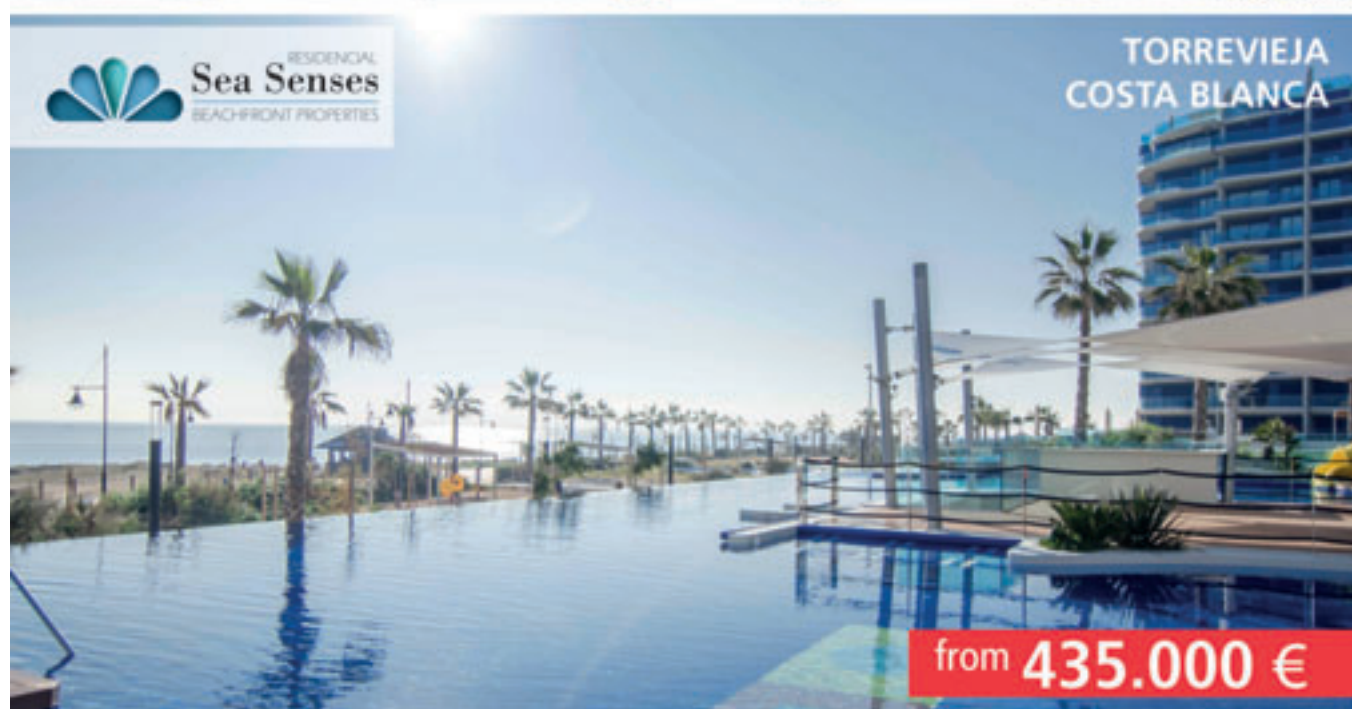
Homeless help

A WOMAN who tried to buy food from McDonald's for a homeless man claims she was told by staff she was not allowed as he had been taking leftover food from customers. She said she gave the meal to the man anyway.

Teachers wanted

MORE Swedish teachers are needed to cut the waiting times for foreigners wanting to learn the language. Foreign residents are entitled to free language lessons with some municipalities having waiting lists of up to six months before classes start.

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RUSSIAN PRESS



LAWLESS LAND: Ingushetia is one of Russia's wildest regions.

Bride kidnapping

■ A CRACKDOWN on bride kidnapping will take place in the southern Russian republic of Ingushetia. Young girls are routinely abducted by wannabe husbands in the deeply conservative society. But if the kidnappers release the girls they face no charges. Now they will get a three-year prison term.

Tense lecture

■ A STATE university showed a film comparing Russian anti-corruption crusader Alexei Navalny to Adolf Hitler. Students at Vladimir University protested and accused lecturer Alla Byba of being a liar. She said they were raised like animals and that cyber warfare is trying to turn Russia's youth against the state.

porting slaves to work on its world cup stadiums.

Bigoted bakers

■ AN organic food shop in St Petersburg has banned gays from its premises. 'Bread and Salt' is owned by Orthodox religious activist and businessman German Sterligov. A wooden sign outside reads simply 'faggots are banned.' LGBT groups have complained to police arguing that the sign incites hatred.

Floating cars

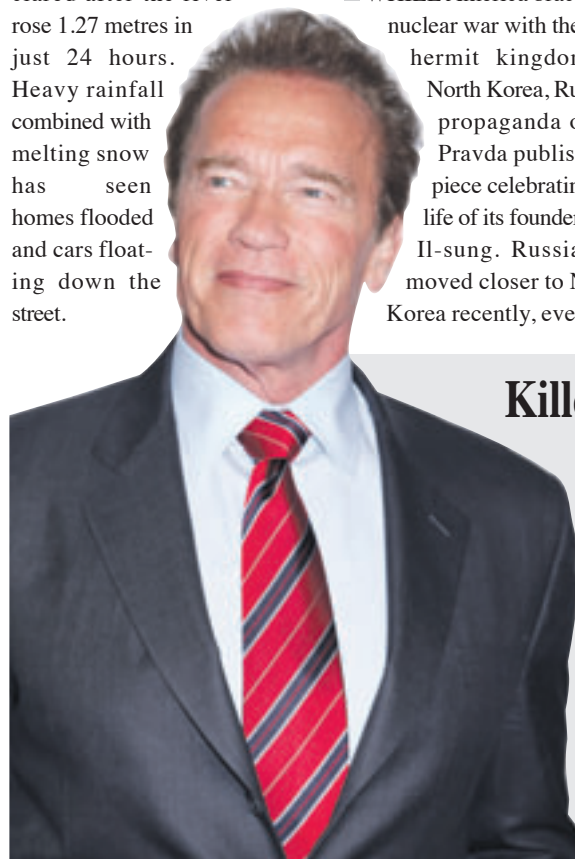
■ HUNDREDS of people were evacuated during the worst floods in recent memory in the Ural region of Orenburg. A state of emergency was declared after the river rose 1.27 metres in just 24 hours. Heavy rainfall combined with melting snow has seen homes flooded and cars floating down the street.

Shifting alliances

■ WHILE America braces for nuclear war with the mad hermit kingdom of North Korea, Russian propaganda outfit Pravda published a piece celebrating the life of its founder Kim Il-sung. Russia has moved closer to North Korea recently, even im-

Holy mobile

■ A CHRISTIAN mobile phone company has debuted in Russia. Blagovet provides internet, calls, and also text alerts from Patriarch Kirill of the Orthodox Church. It helps the faithful find local parishes and is proving an instant hit across the country as ministers convince their flock to sign up.



Killer portrayal

■ KILLER Vitaly Kaloyev has lambasted Arnold Schwarzenegger's new film on his unusual life. Arnold stars as Vitaly in 'Aftermath,' the true story of how Vitaly travelled to Switzerland to murder the air traffic controller whose mishap led to a plane crash which killed his family.

ARNOLD: Showed too much pity according to Vitaly.

New EWNMG takeover

Sol Times acquired by parent company

EWN MEDIA GROUP (EWNMG) has further expanded its portfolio of newspapers by taking over the Sol Times publications.

The takeover announcement comes just weeks after EWNMG, the parent company of Euro Weekly News, added the well-established three-edition RTN Costa Blanca newspaper firm to its expanding empire.

Originally launched in the Almería area in 2005, since then the Sol Times has further expanded into Costa Calida, Mar Menor and Costa Blanca.

After completing the latest takeover negotiations earlier this month, Michel and Steven Euesden, owners of EWNMG, instigated internal restructuring.

This has today led to all four editions of Sol Times being back on the streets with a greater print run and improved distribution, upgraded paper quality and size, and increased news content.

Michel said: "The aim of EWNMG is to offer all media clients the very best advertising and marketing opportunities to suit their target au-

dience needs as well as their budgets.

"With the four additional Sol Times titles added to the group we now offer the widest choice of advertising and reading options along the Costas with three newspaper brands and a total of 13 editions.

"Based on more than 20 years' experience and local knowledge origi-

nally gained by EWN - the founding and ever-present strength of EWNMG - I know that exciting times lie ahead for the Sol Times publications and team members as part of a much larger media family."

The Sol Times was originally founded by Rob and Chrissie Matthews and they have run the titles for the last 12 years.

Quote of the Week

"The risks are deeper and more serious than a few months ago,"
Luis de Guindos Spanish Finance Minister on European economy.



IMF comments on Spain growth



Photo Credit: IMF Twitter

SPANISH ECONOMY: Was discussed by IMF.

DURING an International Monetary Fund (IMF) briefing on the April World Economic Outlook, much mention was made of the Spanish economy.

It was suggested by a member of the invited audience that one possible reason for the recent growth in the Spanish economy was thanks to the increasing inequality of wages, the decline of collective agreements and the weakening of the trade unions.

Responding on behalf of the IMF, Gian Maria Milesi-Ferretti gave some historical insight for the reasons of the sudden decline in the economy and ac-

knowledged that wage inequality was bound to become a factor as unemployment grew so quickly.

Spain has suffered from the fact that as part of the eurozone it has been unable to benefit from the usual advantages of declining exchange rates when the economy was bad and therefore the only way to regain competitiveness was to see wages decline.

As the economy continues to recover, so he believed that inequality would shrink, but one of the ongoing problems in Spain is the fact of the volume of seasonal work.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Rare metal

THE BBC and other media outlets are reporting the discovery of a 'rare' source of Tellurium near the Canary Islands. At first this seems to be a useful new source of this element used in the production of solar energy panels but some scientists claim it is an easily extracted side product of copper worth only €20 per kilo.

Rodrigo Rato

ONE small crumb of comfort for Rodrigo Rato, disgraced former government minister is he won't face charges over a Lazard Bank loan. Prosecutors were alleging a €2 million payment to him was a form of illegal commission but the presiding judge has ruled this was not the case and accepted it could have been a loan.

Migrants up

DESPITE high unemployment figures in Spain, foreign workers continue to arrive with Romanians representing the largest number of EU migrants. The total number of foreign workers enrolled in the Social Security system increased by 37,473 in March bringing the total to 1,739,720, a 2.2 per cent increase.

Brazilian energy venture

ACCORDING to reports appearing in a newspaper in Sao Paulo, Spanish energy company Iberdrola could create a major new entity in Brazil.

It appears that Iberdrola may decide to bid for the shares in Neoenergia which are currently

owned by the Banco do Brasil and insurance company Previ which would then allow a merger with Elektro, a company which it currently controls.

The resulting energy group would then become a major operator within Brazil.

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House prices on the up

SPANISH bank BBVA has released a fairly upbeat report on the property market and forecasts overall price rises of 2.5 per cent in 2017.

Perhaps not a huge amount but certainly positive if you are a seller and unlikely to put off those who want to purchase a property in Spain.

Not only does the bank see a likely increase in prices but it expects a significant increase in the number of transactions around the country with an uplift of some 7 per cent to nearly 500,000 sales during the year.

In support of this view, a second report, this time by property valuers Tinsa has already seen an overall increase of 1.8 per cent in prices for the first quarter of 2017.

Despite restrictions oil price remains volatile



Photo Credit: Opec

PRESS CONFERENCE: Will be held on May 25, to which non-OPEC members will be invited.

INTERNATIONAL oil prices are currently quite erratic due to mixed messages from suppliers.

The Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has indicated that it intends to continue to restrict production in order to force prices of crude oil up, but there have been as

many drops in the wholesale price as rises in the past few weeks.

All eyes are now on the OPEC conference to be held on May 25 to which non-OPEC members will be invited to agree continued cuts in supply, but with plenty of US shale oil being made available, their efforts may well

be frustrated.

Iran has benefited from the removal of international export restrictions and has assisted in keeping prices down with its large scale exports in a bid to bolster its economy, but prices of fuel in Spain appear to have drifted upwards rather than stabilise.

New green taxes being introduced

AS Britain prepares to penalise drivers of diesel cars entering into polluted cities, the EU continues to encourage 'green taxes.'

A report based on 2015 data compiled by the Institute for Economic Studies compares the percentage of such taxes collected by all member states and shows that a number of the most successful economies such as France and Germany are below the EU average of 6.8 per cent.

Spain sits relatively comfortably at 5.6 per cent but has already announced that it will be introducing new 'green taxes' which should raise income and combat some environmental problems.

Safer credit cards

WITH banks and consumers around the world worried about credit card fraud, MasterCard has unveiled a new safer card.

After trialling the concept in South Africa it has announced that it will be introducing a new style of card which includes a fingerprint sensor whereby users hold their fingers over the sensor whilst making a payment.

It is not completely fool proof as fingerprints can be removed from glass objects, but it is believed to be much safer than the current pin and chip cards currently in use.

This is believed to be the first card of its type that does not require a separate fingerprint sensor but there is one drawback as it can only be used for 'in-store' purchases and gives no additional safety for online transactions.

The card should find its way into Spain as it is rolled out throughout Europe, but retailers will need to obtain adapted card readers.

One 'ghost' airport may see life

By John Smith

SPAIN has a reputation for building regional airports which never open but now it appears that Corvera in Murcia might just.

At the time that work started on the airport in 2008, it appeared that by the time it opened in 2013 it would be able to take over all of the internal flights from San Javier airport which is limited by the fact that it is shared with the Spanish Air Force.

All seemed to be going to plan and an agreement was reached with a management company to allow for the opening and at the same time, negotiations commenced with international airlines who were interested in operating new European routes.

Unfortunately, nothing was completed and the government of Murcia was forced to cancel the contract with the intended management company due to the fact that they did not comply with time clauses.

Whilst this is the matter of a legal dispute, the government has decided to issue a new tender inviting bids to manage the renamed Region de Murcia International Airport which will need



Photo Credit: Adam Hinnett flickr

LYING UNUSED: Corvera, an airport without planes.

little additional construction work to complete.

According to the call for tender, those who are interested will have until early May to register for the opportunity to obtain a franchise to run the entire airport for 25 years, but they will be required to submit a bond in the sum of €9,917,752 in order to establish their

seriousness and financial worth.

The local government believes that there is a need for this airport which has the ability to handle hundreds of thousands of passengers each year through its single terminal and that over a period of four years it would generate €1 billion in income through taxes and handling fees and create

20,000 jobs for the region.

Anyone who takes on the project will be required to pay a number of fees to the government and apart from leasing costs it will make a payment for each passenger who travels through the airport, although as passenger number increase so the individual fee will reduce.



Photo Credit: Renault-Nissan Alliance

AVILA PLANT: Farewell to the versatile NT400.

Hundreds of jobs saved in Avila

By John Smith

FOR 60 years, there has been vehicle production in Avila but in September 2019 this will all come to an end.

Unable to justify the cost of converting the NT500 truck engine to meet new European Union regulations, Nissan Spain announced in February of this year that it would discontinue that model and that it was also reviewing the future of the factory as the NT400 was due to be discontinued in 2019.

There appeared to be every likelihood that the eventual decision would sound a death knell for the Avila plant, but

the president of the Renault-Nissan Alliance in Spain, José Vicente de los Mozos has announced that the factory will remain open protecting the 471 workers currently employed there.

The NT500 will be phased out but the company has, after discussions with the Junta de Castilla y Leon, agreed to invest €40 million in retooling the factory so that it can produce spare parts for Alliance cars.

The involvement of the Junta was important as there will be a need to build a stamping plant and to expand the overall size of the facility, so in principle planning

permission was vital but with assurances from the authorities, the jobs and the factory are now safe.

This will mean that those who are currently employed will have to enter into new work agreements with the company, but it is likely that they will be no worse than those entered into by workers in other Alliance factories in Spain.

Production of the NT400 will cease as planned in 2019 and it is expected that by 2020, the new facility will be producing 80,000 spare parts per month of which 70 per cent will be for Renault cars and the balance for Nissan.

Debenhams, for and against

BRITISH department store group Debenhams has been receiving a grilling in the British financial press as it is considered to be outdated.

One of the few British stores to set up a special .es website and to advertise its goods in Spain priced in euros with free delivery, it is still

thought to be out of touch with modern trends and needs to reposition itself on the British high street.

Having recently granted a franchise to operators in Gibraltar, it seems to operate in a twilight world of innovation and stagnation.

Flying high in Sevilla

HAVING signed a new contract with the government of Kazakhstan, Airbus will be producing two new military aircraft in Spain.

This will then mean that the Kazakh Air Force will have taken eight of the C295 transport aircraft as an extension of a con-

tract for aircraft and parts signed in 2012.

This particular model as well as the similar long range A400M are produced at the Sevilla factory of Airbus Defence and Space and are expected to be delivered before the end of 2017.

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I'd like to be a fly on her wall!

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT**



WELL, not many of us saw that coming. Theresa May's announcement of an early election caught just about everyone on the hop.

Not least the SNP's pincer mouthed pain in the butt Nicola Sturgeon. I'd like to be a fly on her bedroom wall. Instead of waking up every morning screaming 'freedom,' she now actually has to think of other benefits and policies her tunnel vision party can produce for her Scottish constituents.

Corbyn couldn't wait to jump up on his wobbly, geriatric soap box. Not having time to liaise with his speech writers, he proceeded to spout rhetoric which is so archaic he has undoubtedly blown the cobwebs off diatribes he wrote and delivered as a Hammer and Sickle inspired student decades ago.

This Dinosaur throwback will never be happy until the

Red Flag flutters atop parliament and he and his cronies travel to work in special 'party member' transport lanes, while his supporters all line the route wearing those silly brown Mao hats.

UKIP's initial gambit has been predictably unpredictable, announcing its manifesto will include the banishment of the Burka in public places (don't forget millions scorned their announcement of their Brexit intentions!) And finally, despite their denials,

Lib Dems are hoping once again to scrape into power on the coattails of... well, just about anyone. The only thing the Conservatives have to worry about is complacency. Nothing in this world is a foregone conclusion. Let's hope the weight of turnout reflects this attitude across the nation.

Meanwhile, over the Channel, the fiery right wing challenger Le Penn continues to gain popularity.

If she is successful, be prepared for a 'Non, je ne regrette rien' 'Frexit' and the subsequent 'Dominex-it' effect I forecast some time ago.

Well this week has been quite an eventful occasion for me personally. At one mixed emotional point, I found myself driving my twins, now approaching 17, to their first job interview. As a single parent for the past five years or so, it has been a long old haul and not always easy to achieve my

avowed intent to make up, both physically and emotionally, for the lack of a Mum in our household.

However with prayers and a little help from friends along the way, they are now just about ready to venture into those great areas of adult uncertainty. No one could be more proud of them than I, they are a true credit to their old Dad and I wish them a positive deluge of love and luck in their future endeavors. Having been circumstantially forced to become a bit of a reclusive homebody over the last few years, I now find myself with a little more time on my hands.

So look out all you socialites, the old Leaper is back! My eldest Granddaughter has also informed me that in six months I will become a GREAT! Love, peace and congrats all around. Funny old life ennit?

*Keep the faith
Love Leapy*

leapylee2002@gmail.com



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Caught just about
everyone on the hop.**

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Advertising feature

No need to paint with Andura

GIVE your home the ultimate spring clean with Andura Abroad No Need To Paint system. Every home owner on the Costa Blanca is aware of the continual struggle to upkeep and retain the fresh, clean appearance of the exterior of their Mediterranean home, but with Andura, this spring clean is one that will last for years. Thanks to the Andura Abroad No Need To Paint system, repetitive house painting is a thing of the past, as this specialist exterior wall coating lasts up to 10 times longer than any ordinary paint.

The system has been in place since 1979 and has been on the Costa Blanca in Spain for 25 years, transforming the exterior appearance of thousands of homes.

Andura wall coatings offer numerous benefits over standard exterior paints. The coating is made from a flexible resin allowing it to expand and contract with the building, preventing cracks and blisters. It is 10 times thicker than paint offering an unrivalled coverage and resists strong sunlight and UV rays. The coating creates an impenetrable barrier which prevents any water getting into the fabric of the building, but also allows internal moisture to escape. It prevents mould and fungus and also acts as an insulator to the building.



Before



After

As well as vastly improving the appearance of your property it also adds value.

The coating comes in a standard range of 12 colours and the professional team will offer the best service possible working on your home until it is completed. The service begins with the walls being cleaned to remove dirt and loose paint and surface imperfections are carefully treated. Doors and windows are masked up and plants and lawns are fully protected by tarpaulins before the primer and coating is applied.

Andura Abroad No Need To Paint is so confident of the long lasting finish you will obtain, they offer a 15-year guarantee and an insurance backed guarantee is available.

Promotional homes are currently wanted across the Costa Blanca. For nearly 20 years the company has successfully used the open house/open day promotional homes concept to promote the products and services they offer as the home owner enjoys substantial discounts on the normal cost of the Andura coating.

So for more information or to arrange a free

on site survey and assessment, contact the team today.

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HAVING your passport stolen or losing it whilst on holiday or even if you live here, can be a nightmare, but it's not as difficult to replace as you might think. The process can seem daunting at first but given direction you can have a replacement within six weeks.

First you need to report your passport stolen to your Local Police station and get a document to declare it lost or stolen. After that you need to fill in your application form online. In Spain you have to apply online, you cannot use paper forms any more or apply in person.

Before you apply you're asked to supply your passport issue date, this is not essential to your application but will speed up the process considerably.

All supporting documents that are not in English, like the police report for example, are requested to be translated fully into English before sending along with your application. The Card and Gift shop in Quesada offer a translation ser-

vice here in the shop for a small fee and all translations are official.

The LS01 is also an essential supporting document to send alongside the online application, you can print these off online or have them supplied to you by us.

All

this seem like too much hassle? The Card and Gift Shop in Quesada offers a fully comprehensive renewal or replacement passport service for

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needed, certified and approved passport photos taken and printed in the shop and an insured and secure

courier service to the UK.

They can also receive the new passport back at the shop for you and will contact you as soon as it arrives free of charge.

It's best not to delay reporting it lost or stolen to the police and getting a replacement, as in Spain it's a legal requirement to have photo ID on you at all times.

The total cost for a replacement passport is the same as a renewal, £102.86. You pay £83.00 for the passport, and then Her Majesty's Passport Office adds an additional £19.86 for the overseas return courier.

If you would like any more information about this complete service call 966 718 684 for any queries or to arrange an appointment.

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Photo by Chris, Flickr

STOLEN PASSPORT: The Card and Gift Shop in Quesada can help with all passport applications.




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BBC one

- 7:00am Breakfast
- 10:15am Health
- 11:00am Homes Under the Hammer
- 12:00pm The Sheriffs are Coming
- 12:45pm Claimed and Shamed
- 1:15pm Bargain Hunt
- 2:00pm BBC News at One
- 2:30pm BBC London News
- 2:45pm Doctors
- 3:15pm The Boss
- 4:00pm Escape to the Country
- 4:45pm Garden Rescue
- 5:30pm Put Your Money
- 6:15pm Pointless
- 7:00pm BBC News at Six
- 7:30pm BBC London News
- 8:00pm The One Show
- 8:30pm EastEnders
- 9:00pm MasterChef
- 10:00pm Mind Over Marathon
- 11:00pm BBC News at Ten
- 11:30pm BBC London News
- 11:45pm Question Time
- 12:45am This Week
- 1:30am Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC TWO

- 7:00am Flog it! Trade Secrets
- 7:30am Garden Rescue
- 8:15am Put Your Money
- 9:00am Gardeners' World
- 10:00am Victoria Derbyshire
- 12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live
- 1:00pm The Daily Politics
- 2:00pm Snooker
- 7:00pm Eggheads
- 7:30pm Debatable
- 8:00pm Snooker
- 9:00pm The World According to Kids
- 10:00pm The Last Kingdom
- 11:00pm Live at the Apollo
- 11:30pm Newsnight
- 12:15am World Championship Snooker Highlights
- 1:05am Top Gear
- 2:05am Top Gear: Extra Gear
- 2:30am MasterChef
- 3:00am American Justice
- 4:00am Turkey with Simon

BBC FOUR

- 8:00pm 100 Days
- 8:30pm Top of the Pops
- 9:00pm The Sky at Night 60th Anniversary Special
- 10:00pm Bob Monkhouse: The Last Stand
- 11:00pm Bucket
- 11:25pm Wild Ireland
- 12:25am Dan Cruickshank: At Home with the British

CHANNEL 4

- 7:00am Countdown
- 7:45am Will and Grace
- 8:10am Will and Grace
- 8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond
- 9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond
- 9:35am Everybody Loves Raymond
- 10:05am Frasier
- 10:35am Frasier
- 11:05am Car S.O.S
- 12:05pm Ramsay's Hotel Hell
- 1:00pm Channel 4 News
- 1:05pm The Question Jury
- 2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
- 3:10pm Countdown
- 4:00pm Fifteen to One
- 5:00pm A Place in the Sun
- 6:00pm Couples Come Dine with Me
- 7:00pm The Simpsons
- 7:30pm Hollyoaks
- 8:00pm Channel 4 News
- 9:00pm The Supervet
- 10:00pm Born to Kill?
- 11:00pm Locked Up
- 12:05am One Born Every Minute
- 1:05am My Online Nightmare
- 2:05am The Secret Life of the Zoo

CHANNEL 5

- 8:25am Shimmer and Shine
- 8:35am Noddy: Toyland Detective
- 8:50am Paw Patrol
- 9:05am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
- 9:15am Digby Dragon
- 9:30am Peppa Pig
- 9:40am Peppa Pig
- 9:50am Wispers
- 10:00am Wanda and the Alien
- 10:15am The Wright Stuff
- 12:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
- 1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
- 1:15pm Can't Pay Special: Big Family Bust-Up
- 2:15pm Home and Away
- 2:45pm Neighbours
- 3:15pm NCIS
- 4:15pm Deadly Departure
- 6:00pm 5 News at 5
- 6:30pm Neighbours
- 7:00pm Home and Away
- 7:30pm 5 News Tonight
- 8:00pm Secrets of Great British Castles
- 9:00pm On Benefits
- 10:00pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
- 11:00pm Murder on the Internet
- 12:05am Me... And My Body

4

- 9:55am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
- 10:30am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
- 11:00am Melissa and Joey
- 11:30am Melissa and Joey
- 12:00pm Baby Daddy
- 12:30pm Baby Daddy
- 1:00pm How I Met Your Mother
- 1:30pm How I Met Your Mother
- 2:00pm The Goldbergs
- 2:30pm The Goldbergs
- 3:00pm The Big Bang Theory
- 3:30pm The Big Bang Theory
- 4:00pm How I Met Your Mother
- 4:30pm How I Met Your Mother
- 5:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
- 5:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
- 6:00pm New Girl
- 6:30pm New Girl
- 7:00pm The Big Bang Theory
- 7:30pm The Big Bang Theory
- 8:00pm Hollyoaks
- 8:30pm The Big Bang Theory
- 9:00pm The Big Bang Theory
- 9:30pm Kevin Can Wait
- 10:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
- 10:30pm New Girl
- 11:00pm The Inbetweeners
- 11:30pm The Inbetweeners
- 12:00am The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

- 7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
- 10:00am Joshua/Klitschko: The Knockouts
- 10:30am Froch Returns
- 10:45am Froch and Mccracken: Back in the Ring
- 11:00am Premier League Daily
- 12:00pm Joshua/Klitschko: The Knockouts
- 12:30pm Froch Returns
- 12:45pm Froch and Mccracken: Back in the Ring
- 1:00pm Sporting Triumphs
- 1:30pm Joshua/Klitschko: The Knockouts
- 2:00pm Fight Night
- 4:00pm Wladimir Klitschko / Ruslan Chagaev
- 5:00pm Ringside Special
- 6:00pm Sporting Triumphs
- 6:30pm Joshua/Klitschko: The Knockouts
- 7:00pm Ffc: Merse Meets Carrick
- 8:00pm Football
- 11:30pm Carling: In Off the Bar
- 12:00am Factual

itv

- 7:00am Good Morning Britain
- 9:30am Lorraine
- 10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
- 11:30am This Morning
- 1:30pm Loose Women
- 2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News
- 2:55pm ITV News London
- 3:00pm Judge Rinder
- 4:00pm Culinary Genius
- 5:00pm Tipping Point
- 6:00pm The Chase
- 7:00pm ITV News London
- 7:25pm Party Election
- 7:30pm ITV Evening News
- 8:00pm Emmerdale
- 8:30pm Tonight
- 9:00pm Emmerdale
- 9:30pm Joanna Lumley's Postcards
- 10:00pm The Detectives
- 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
- 11:30pm ITV News London
- 11:40pm Piers Morgan's Life Stories
- 12:40am Tipping Point
- 1:30am Jackpot247
- 4:00am Tonight
- 4:30am ITV Nightscreen

itv2

- 7:10am You've Been Framed!
- 7:35am Below Deck
- 8:20am The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 9:00pm Emmerdale
- 9:30pm Coronation Street
- 10:00pm Totally Bonkers
- 10:10am Psych
- 11:05am Below Deck
- 12:20pm Who's Doing the Dishes?
- 1:25pm Emmerdale
- 1:55pm Coronation Street
- 2:30pm You've Been Framed!
- 3:00pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 3:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
- 4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
- 6:00pm Judge Rinder
- 7:00pm You've Been Framed!
- 7:30pm You've Been Framed!
- 8:00pm You've Been Framed!
- 9:30pm Two and a Half Men
- 10:00pm Mom
- 10:30pm Mom
- 11:00pm Celebrity Juice
- 12:00am Family Guy
- 12:30am Family Guy

itv3

- 7:00am In Loving Memory
- 7:25am Heartbeat
- 8:25am Where the Heart is
- 9:30am The Royal
- 10:30am Judge Judy
- 11:00am Judge Judy
- 11:30am Judge Judy
- 11:55am Road to Avonlea
- 12:55pm The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
- 2:05pm Heartbeat
- 3:10pm The Royal
- 4:15pm Where the Heart is
- 5:20pm Barging Round
- 5:50pm Love Your Garden
- 6:55pm Heartbeat
- 8:00pm Murder, She Wrote
- 9:00pm Wycliffe
- 10:00pm The Bletchley Circle
- 11:00pm Law and Order: UK
- 12:05am Wire in the Blood
- 1:10am A Touch of Frost
- 3:00am In Loving Memory

itv4

- 7:00am Minder
- 7:50am The Saint
- 8:45am Ironside
- 9:50am The Sweeney
- 10:50am Minder
- 11:50am The Chase
- 12:55pm Cash Cowboys
- 1:50pm Pawn Stars
- 2:20pm Storage Wars Texas
- 2:50pm The Saint
- 3:55pm Ironside
- 4:55pm Minder
- 6:00pm The Sweeney
- 7:00pm Cash Cowboys
- 8:00pm Pawn Stars
- 8:30pm Pawn Stars
- 9:00pm The Chase Celebrity Special
- 10:05pm Double Impact
- 11:05pm FYI Daily
- 11:10pm Double Impact
- 12:15am Don't Say a Word

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- 9:45am The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen
- 11:45am The Patriot
- 2:40pm Ant-Man
- 4:45pm X-Men: The Last Stand
- 6:40pm Sherlock Holmes
- 9:00pm Ant-Man
- 11:00pm Spy
- 1:05am The Mummy Returns
- 7:45am Spud 3: Learning to Fly
- 9:20am The Top Ten Show 2017
- 9:35am Ted 2
- 11:35am Daddy's Home
- 1:20pm Zoolander 2
- 3:10pm Hitch
- 5:10pm Magic Mike XXL
- 7:10pm Starsky and Hutch
- 9:00pm Zoolander 2
- 10:45pm Daddy's Home
- 12:30am Ted 2
- 2:30am The Hangover
- 4:20am Gremlins 2: The New Batch

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

- 7:00am Iona
- 8:40am Everest: Special
- 9:10am American Fable
- 11:00am Tarzan
- 1:00pm The Top Ten Show 2017
- 1:20pm Barbershop: The Next Cut
- 3:25pm Let's be Evil
- 5:10pm American Fable
- 7:00pm Tarzan
- 9:00pm Barbershop: The Next Cut
- 11:00pm Let's be Evil
- 12:40am Me and Kaminski
- 2:55am Love Me Do
- 4:45am Iona

sky SPORTS 2

- 7:00am Cricket Classics
- 8:00am WWE SmackDown!
- 9:00am Football
- 9:30am Football
- 10:00am Football
- 10:30am Barclays Premier League World
- 11:00am Football
- 11:30am Football
- 12:00pm Football
- 12:30pm Cricket's Greatest
- 1:00pm Live RI One Day Cup
- 9:30pm Joshua/Klitschko: The Knockouts
- 10:00pm Great Sporting Moments 2016
- 10:15pm Wembley
- 10:45pm Great Sporting Moments 2016
- 11:00pm Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown
- 11:30pm World Rugby
- 12:00am Premier League Match Pack
- 12:30am La Liga Show
- 1:00am Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown

The rise of the machines

Trudy Stewart



I HAVE always loved to play video games. In the same way that books provide sheer escapism and entry to another world through your imagination, video games do it with aplomb!

Love them or hate them, in an industry with sales of around \$91 billion worldwide last year and an estimated 1.8 billion gamers around the globe, they are here to stay.

Every so often, video games are subjected to criticism usually directed towards the violence some contain. They are however subject to a rating system (PEGI) similar to that of films. Their content is always clearly labelled. As an avid gamer, I can definitely agree that there is material that is unsuitable for children, but those games are not for them in the same way an over 18 horror film isn't.

What might surprise you is that there are actually more people over

the age of 50 playing games than those under the age of 18. Far from the image of children glued to their consoles, the average male game player is 35 years old. The most frequent female game player is on average 43 years old. We're also catching up with the boys with females accounting for 44 per cent of worldwide gamers.

Someone needs to try telling that to the staff in the high street games shops. I've lost count of how many times I've gone to buy the latest title only to be asked what console my son or daughter (of which I have neither) plays on to make sure I get the right version! You might not think it to look at me, but I've played enough games to feel fairly confident I could hold my own in a zombie apocalypse.

I feel fortunate that I've been able to watch the evolution of games. From my first glimpse of 'Pong' in the 70's through to the newest generation of consoles, it's incredible how far the technology has come. Whenever I start a new game and watch the cinematic intro, I am astounded by

how realistic the scenery and characters are. Thanks to motion capture technology, characters now move freely around their environment no longer bobbing about jerkily slightly above the scenery.

With so many ways to play and vastly different genres there is something for everyone available. PC gaming still dominates the market accounting for 62 per cent, but with games like Bejewelled and Candy Crush coming pre-loaded on smartphones, everyone is a potential gamer - you don't have to have a console or computer to play. I think people who say they hate games fall into the same category as those who have also never tried scuba diving or eating calamari, but instinctively just know they wouldn't enjoy it.

I don't know why some of us are predisposed to enjoying games while others see them as a waste of time and money. Maybe it's a part of the brain that craves the approval bestowed in electronic congratulations every time we do well in a game. Perhaps it's to do with suspension of dis-

belief and some can't disconnect the part of the brain required to get fully absorbed in it. I do feel you're missing out a bit though if you don't enjoy games. Some of the best nights I've had have been spent gaming into the early hours with a group of friends.

There are a plethora of games across a vast amount of genres appealing to all ages and interests. There even exists a game where you can pretend to be a goat! Don't believe me? Go and do a quick search for it now. It's called Goat Simulator. I'll wait.

Over the decades that I've been playing games, their evolution has been phenomenal. With Sony expanding into virtual reality at the end of last year and Microsoft set to follow suit at the end of this year, it's exciting to see how far that's come. It's almost inconceivable when you see the games of today compared with those early cartridge-based games and I cannot begin to imagine what they will look like in another 20 years.

One thing's for sure (if we

make it through the next two decades), I'll still be playing those future releases. Hopefully, by that time we'll be using our minds to play them as by then, my 'controller claw' will have settled nicely into arthritis!

VIDEO GAMES: Here to stay.



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BBC one

11:00am Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm The Sheriffs are Coming
12:45pm Claimed and Shamed
1:15pm Bargain Hunt
2:00pm BBC News at One
2:30pm BBC London News
2:45pm Doctors
3:15pm The Boss
4:00pm Escape to the Country
4:45pm Garden Rescue
5:30pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
6:15pm Pointless
7:00pm BBC News at Six
7:30pm BBC London News
8:00pm The One Show
8:30pm A Question of Sport
9:00pm EastEnders
9:30pm MasterChef
10:00pm Have I Got News for You
10:30pm Hospital People
11:00pm BBC News at Ten
11:25pm BBC London News
11:35pm The Graham Norton Show
12:25am Witless

BBC TWO

7:00am Flog it! Trade Secrets
7:30am Garden Rescue
8:15am Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
9:00am The World According to Kids
10:00am Victoria Derbyshire
11:00am Snooker
1:00pm The Daily Politics
2:00pm Snooker
7:00pm Eggheads
7:30pm Debatable
8:00pm Snooker
10:00pm Versailles
11:00pm QI
11:30pm Newsnight
12:05am Later... with Jools Holland
1:05am World Championship Snooker Highlights
1:55am Trump's First 100 Days
2:55am Doctor Who
3:40am This is BBC Two

BBC FOUR

8:00pm World News Today
The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.
8:30pm Top of the Pops
9:00pm The Good Old Days
Leonard Sachs chairs the old-time music hall programme, originally broadcast on 14 March 1978.
9:50pm Sounds of the Seventies
10:00pm When Albums Ruled the World
Documentary looking at the history of the pop music album.
11:30pm The Joy of the Single
12:30am Music for Misfits: The Story of Indie
Documentary series exploring British indie music.
1:30am Top of the Pops
2:10am When Albums Ruled the World
3:35am Music for Misfits: The Story of Indie

CHANNEL 4

7:00am Countdown
7:40am Will and Grace
8:05am Will and Grace
8:30am Everybody Loves Raymond
8:55am Everybody Loves Raymond
9:25am Everybody Loves Raymond
9:55am Formula 1
11:35am Frasier
12:00pm Ramsay's Hotel Hell
12:50pm Channel 4 News
12:55pm The Question Jury
1:55pm Formula 1
3:35pm F1: Grand Prix
4:00pm Fifteen to One
5:00pm A Place in the Sun
6:00pm Couples Come Dine with Me
7:00pm The Simpsons
7:30pm Hollyoaks
8:00pm Channel 4 News
8:30pm Unreported World
9:00pm Posh Pawn
10:00pm Gogglebox
11:00pm Sarah Millican
12:05am First Dates
1:10am Attack The Block
2:40am Single Mums Club
3:35am National Treasure

CHANNEL 5

8:50am Paw Patrol
9:05am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9:15am Digby Dragon
9:30am Peppa Pig
9:50am Wissper
10:00am Wanda and the Alien
10:15am The Wright Stuff
12:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm The Nightmare
2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Neighbours
3:15pm NCIS
4:15pm Trump Unauthorised
6:00pm 5 News at 5
6:30pm Neighbours
7:00pm Home and Away
7:30pm 5 News Tonight
8:00pm The Gadget Show
9:00pm Barging Brits in the Sun
10:00pm Spectacular Spain with Alex Polizzi
11:00pm The Bruce Forsyth Story
12:30am Peter Kay: The Early Years

4

9:55am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
10:30am Brooklyn Nine-Nine
11:00am Melissa and Joey
11:30am Melissa and Joey
12:00pm Baby Daddy
12:30pm Baby Daddy
1:00pm How I Met Your Mother
1:30pm How I Met Your Mother
2:00pm The Goldbergs
2:30pm The Goldbergs
3:00pm The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm How I Met Your Mother
4:30pm How I Met Your Mother
5:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
5:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm New Girl
6:30pm New Girl
7:00pm The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm Hollyoaks
8:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
9:00pm The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm American Pie: Reunion
12:15am The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
10:00am Football
10:30am Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown
11:00am Premier League Daily
12:00pm Football
12:30pm Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown
1:00pm Football
1:30pm Froch/Groves II: History at Wembley
2:00pm Fight Night
4:00pm Steelhammer: Wladimir's Story
4:45pm Froch and Mccracken: Back in the Ring
5:00pm Ringside Special
6:00pm Froch/Groves II: History at Wembley
6:30pm Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown
7:00pm Ffc: Merse Meets Carrick
8:00pm Football
Cardiff City v Newcastle United
11:15pm Joshua/Klitschko: the Countdown
11:45pm Froch and Mccracken: Back in the Ring
12:00am Factual

itv

7:00am Good Morning Britain
9:30am Lorraine
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am This Morning
1:30pm Loose Women
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News
2:55pm ITV News London
3:00pm Judge Rinder
4:00pm Culinary Genius
5:00pm Tipping Point
6:00pm The Chase
7:00pm ITV News London
7:25pm Party Election
Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats
7:30pm ITV Evening News
8:00pm Emmerdale
8:30pm Coronation Street
9:00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories
9:30pm Coronation Street
10:00pm Lethal Weapon
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:30pm ITV News London
11:40pm Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous
1:45am Jackpot247

itv2

7:10am Below Deck
8:20am The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00pm Emmerdale
9:30pm Emmerdale
10:00pm Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records
10:35am Psych
11:25am Below Deck
11:55am You've Been Framed!
12:20pm Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm Emmerdale
1:55pm Emmerdale
2:30pm You've Been Framed!
3:00pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm Judge Rinder
7:00pm You've Been Framed!
7:30pm You've Been Framed!
8:00pm You've Been Framed!
9:00pm Two and a Half Men
9:30pm Two and a Half Men
10:00pm Shaun of the Dead
12:00am Family Guy

itv3

7:00am In Loving Memory
7:25am Heartbeat
8:25am Where the Heart is
9:25am The Royal
10:25am Judge Judy
10:55am Judge Judy
11:25am Judge Judy
11:50am Road to Avonlea
12:55pm The Corrie Years
1:25pm Heartbeat
2:30pm ITV Racing: Live from Sandown
5:00pm Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green
5:35pm Great Estates of Scotland
6:55pm Heartbeat
8:00pm Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm Doc Martin
10:00pm Secrets of Growing Old
11:00pm Law and Order: UK
12:00am Wire in the Blood
1:05am A Touch of Frost
3:10am Martin Clunes: A Lion Called Mugie
4:00am Charles: The Destiny of a Prince
4:55am Long Lost Family

itv4

7:00am Nijinsky's Triple Crown
7:05am Minder
7:55am The Saint
8:50am Ironside
9:55am The Sweeney
10:55am Minder
11:55am The Chase
12:55pm Pawn Stars
1:30pm Cycling
Gary Imlach, with Chris Boardman, presents live coverage of stage one from Bridlington to Scarborough.
6:15pm World Cup Top Goalscorers
6:30pm The Sweeney
7:30pm The Darts Show
8:00pm Cycling
9:00pm Counting Cars
9:30pm Counting Cars
10:00pm Another 48 Hrs
11:05pm FYI Daily
11:10pm Another 48 Hrs
12:00am Beetlejuice
1:05am FYI Daily
1:10am Beetlejuice
1:55am The Saint

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

8:55am Avengers
Confidential: Black Widow and Punisher
10:30am Die Hard 4.0
12:50pm Deadpool
2:40pm The Scorpion King
4:20pm The Chronicles of Riddick
6:25pm Armageddon
9:00pm Die Hard 4.0
11:15pm Deadpool
1:10am Camino

sky CINEMA COMEDY

11:50am The Cable Guy
1:35pm Sisters
3:40pm Grimsby
5:10pm Robin Hood: Men in Tights
7:00pm Whiskey Tango Foxtrot
9:00pm Sisters
11:00pm Grimsby
12:30am Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am Let's be Evil
8:45am Love Me Do
10:35am Tarzan
12:35pm X-Men: Apocalypse
3:10pm Barbershop: The Next Cut
Comedy sequel about a barbershop owner trying to come up with a scheme to protect his beloved Chicago neighbourhood from rival gangs.
5:15pm Love Me Do
7:00pm Tarzan
9:00pm X-Men: Apocalypse
When an ancient mutant awakens from his slumber, Professor X and his latest recruits must find a way to stop his world-ending plans.
11:30pm Barbershop: The Next Cut
1:30am Let's be Evil
3:05am Iona
4:40am American Fable

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am Cricket Classics
8:00am Super League Highlights
8:15am Great Sporting Moments
8:30am Barclays Premier League World
9:00am Premier League Match Pack
9:30am Live Super Rugby
11:35am Super Rugby Gold
11:45am Cricket Gold
11:55am Live RI One Day Cup
8:00pm Super League Gold
8:15pm Super League Gold
8:30pm Live Super League
Hull FC take on Warrington Wolves at the KCOM Stadium in the Betfred Super League.
11:30pm Barclays Premier League Preview
12:00am The Fantasy Football Club
1:00am Live NFL Draft
5:00am Indian Premier League Highlights

Advertising feature

Yearly Travel Insurance dilemma unravelled

Christina Sharp

GLOBELINK INTERNATIONAL

christina@globelink.co.uk



TRAVEL INSURANCE: What's best for you?

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“ Very efficient, nice, helpful and easy to deal with. And a real person at the end of the phone.”

“ I wanted insurance for a trip to Canada and wanted my trip to start from Spain... great price plus the minor existing health issues were covered with no extra form filling.”

IT'S refreshingly reassuring that the slump in Sterling hasn't diminished our appetite to travel, with holiday bookings for this summer up by 7 per cent on 2016 according to ABTA, the Association of British Travel Agents. If anything, we are more determined to get the most out of our much-needed getaways, and hunt down the best bargains. There are certainly some excellent deals available, as operators compete for our custom and websites like Secret Escapes and Voyage-prive tempt us with exclusive, luxury breaks for a fraction of the usual cost.

We are tending to stick closer to home, with Spain, Greece, Portugal and Cyprus all attracting high bookings, partially due to travellers steering clear of the Eastern Mediterranean due to heightened security concerns. We are also increasingly opting for short city breaks for a 'travel fix.' Rome, Bruges, Venice and Barcelona remain hot favourites, while Tallinn, Gothenburg and Valetta have joined our mini-break radar too.

Whatever your holiday habits, don't be fool-

hardy by leaving home without travel insurance. UK Travel Insurers shell out £365 million per year on claims, so you can be sure that holiday mishaps do happen! However, is it better to buy an Annual Multi Trip or a Single Trip Policy? We look at this Travel Insurance dilemma facing holidaymakers each year. To get it right, ask yourself some simple questions and decide what's best for you:

- Are you considering two trips outside your home country? Include weekends and visits to family back home too.
- Will you travel outside Europe for one of these trips?
- Might you have a winter break as well as a

summer holiday, and weekend away?

If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, then odds are it's more cost effective for you to purchase an Annual Multi Trip policy.

Additional essentials to watch out for include 'Trip Duration': Some annual policies limit the number of days for each trip, or the total number of days abroad, so check before you buy. Globelink's Annual Policy allows you to take as many trips as you like of up to 120 days each if you're under 65 years, and up to 60 days per trip if you are 66-70 yrs. You are covered for up to 31 days if aged 71-74. If you globe-trot for longer periods of time, Consider a Single Trip 'long stay' policy. Globelink Comprehensive Single Trip provides trip duration of up to six months if aged 66+, or three months trip duration if you are 80-84 years. Also look out for discounts for joint cover - such as reductions for couples or families.

Check what best suits you, and remember, that the cheapest policy won't necessarily provide the right cover.

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BBC one

BBC TWO

BBC FOUR

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 5

4

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am	Breakfast
11:00am	Saturday Kitchen
12:30pm	Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites
1:00pm	Football Focus
2:00pm	BBC News
2:10pm	Weather
2:15pm	Snooker Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.
5:30pm	Final Score
6:30pm	Who Dares Wins
7:10pm	BBC News
7:20pm	Regional News
7:25pm	Weather
7:30pm	Pointless
8:20pm	Doctor Who
9:10pm	Casualty
10:00pm	BBC News
10:15pm	Weather
10:20pm	All Round to Mrs Brown's
11:20pm	Match of the Day
12:30am	Murder in Successville
1:00am	Wild Hogs
2:35am	Weather for the Week Ahead
2:40am	BBC News

7:25am	On Moonlight Bay
9:00am	That's Entertainment! 2
11:00am	Snooker
1:00pm	Raymond Blanc: How to Cook Well
1:30pm	The Hairy Bikers' Best of British
2:15pm	Talking Pictures
2:45pm	The Ipress File
4:30pm	Meet the Moose Family: Natural World
5:30pm	Snooker
6:30pm	The Crucible: 40 Golden Snooker Years
7:30pm	Dad's Army
8:00pm	Snooker Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.
10:30pm	St. Stephen's Night
12:05am	Versailles
1:05am	Rabbit-Proof Fence
2:30am	This is BBC Two Highlights of programmes on BBC Two.

8:00pm	Dan Cruickshank: At Home with the British
9:00pm	BBC at War with Jonathan Dimbleby Documentary looking at the role the BBC played in the second world war.
10:00pm	Pioneer
11:45pm	Top of the Pops John Peel and David Jensen present the weekly look at the pop charts, first broadcast on 13th January 1983.
12:30am	Top of the Pops
1:05am	Sinatra: All or Nothing at All
3:05am	The Andy Williams Show: Duets
4:10am	Sounds of the Eighties

7:05am	Motorsport
7:35am	Motorsport
8:00am	King of Queens
8:25am	Everybody Loves Raymond
8:50am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:20am	Frasier
9:50am	Frasier
10:25am	Frasier
10:55am	Formula 1
12:25pm	F1: Grand Prix
12:55pm	Formula 1
3:30pm	The Auctioneers
4:30pm	A Place in the Sun
5:35pm	Big House, Little House
6:35pm	Location, Location, Location
7:30pm	Channel 4 News Includes sport and weather.
8:00pm	The Restoration Man
9:00pm	Walking Through Time
10:00pm	Carol
12:20am	Zombieland
2:00am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
2:50am	Hollyoaks Omnibus

7:00am	Milkshake!
11:15am	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
11:20am	Access
11:55am	Criminals Caught on Camera
12:20pm	The Gadget Show
1:15pm	The Gadget Show
2:15pm	On Benefits
3:15pm	On Benefits
4:15pm	On Benefits
5:15pm	The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door
6:10pm	Can't Pay Special: Secrets and Lies
7:10pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
8:05pm	NCIS: Los Angeles
9:00pm	NCIS
9:55pm	5 News
10:00pm	Football on 5
11:00pm	Football on 5
11:15pm	The Expendables 2
1:05am	Super Casino
4:10am	The Long Ships A Viking adventure in which two brothers search for the legendary Golden Bells of St James.

7:00am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
7:25am	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
7:50am	Black-Ish
8:15am	Made in Chelsea
9:15am	Melissa and Joey
9:40am	Melissa and Joey
10:05am	Melissa and Joey
10:30am	Melissa and Joey
11:00am	Melissa and Joey
11:30pm	The Goldbergs
12:00pm	The Goldbergs
12:30pm	The Goldbergs
1:00pm	The Goldbergs
1:30pm	Hop
3:30pm	Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief
5:50pm	Rude(Ish) Tube Shorts
6:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
6:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm	Safe House
12:15pm	Gogglebox
1:20am	Gogglebox
2:25am	Rude Tube

7:00am	Klitschko: Behind the Ropes
7:30am	Joshua: Behind the Ropes
8:00am	Froch Returns
8:15am	Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown
8:45am	Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown
9:15am	Premier League Preview 2016/17
9:45am	The Fantasy Football Club
10:45am	Soccer A.M.
12:30pm	Football Rangers v Celtic
3:30pm	Sporting Triumphs
3:45pm	Rugby Gold
3:55pm	Rugby Union Round 21 - Ospreys v Ulster
6:15pm	Football Brighton v Bristol City
9:00pm	Scottish Football Highlights
9:30pm	Nissan Game of the Day
11:30pm	Nissan Match Choice
12:30am	Football
1:00am	Football
1:30am	Football

itv

itv2

itv3

itv4

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	CITV
9:25am	ITV News
9:30am	Weekend
10:25am	The Home Game
11:20am	James Martin's French Adventure
12:20pm	Tipping Point
1:25pm	ITV News and Weather
1:30pm	Big Heads
2:30pm	ITV Racing: Sandown Park and Haydock
5:00pm	Planet's Got Talent
5:30pm	Britain's Got More Talent
6:30pm	Catchphrase
7:15pm	Local News and Weather
7:25pm	ITV News and Weather
7:45pm	Take Me Out
9:00pm	Britain's Got Talent
10:20pm	Through the Keyhole
11:15pm	ITV News and Weather
11:30pm	Yes Man
1:20am	Jackpot247
4:00am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
4:50am	Nightscreen

7:00am	The Hot Desk
7:10am	Emmerdale Omnibus
9:40am	Coronation Street Omnibus
12:10pm	Britain's Got Talent
1:35pm	Britain's Got More Talent
2:35pm	Take Me Out
3:50pm	Take Me Out: The Gossip
4:50pm	You've Been Framed!
5:20pm	Flubber
6:20pm	FYI Daily
6:25pm	Flubber
7:15pm	The Incredible Hulk
8:15pm	FYI Daily
8:20pm	The Incredible Hulk
9:25pm	Scorpion
10:20pm	Britain's Got More Talent
11:20pm	Celebrity Juice
12:20am	Family Guy
12:45am	Family Guy
1:15am	Family Guy
1:45am	American Dad!
2:15am	American Dad!
2:45am	American Dad!
3:10am	Through the Keyhole
4:00am	Teleshopping

7:00am	Judge Judy
7:20am	Murder, She Wrote
8:10am	Murder, She Wrote
9:10am	Murder, She Wrote
10:10am	Columbo
11:50am	Goodnight Mister Tom
1:55pm	Margery and Gladys Lewis
4:00pm	Lewis
5:55pm	Rosemary and Thyme
8:00pm	Agatha Christie's Marple
10:00pm	Foyle's War Feature-length drama about an enigmatic detective working on the South Coast during World War II.
12:05am	Law and Order: UK
1:05am	Law and Order: UK
2:05am	Law and Order: UK Crime drama based on the hit US series Law and Order.
3:00am	ITV3 Nightscreen Text-based information service.
3:30am	Teleshopping

7:00am	British Touring Car Crashes and Smashes
7:10am	Motorsport UK
8:00am	Bundesliga
9:00am	ITV Racing: The Opening Show
10:00am	Cycling
1:45pm	Counting Cars
2:20pm	Counting Cars
2:40pm	Football Rivalries
3:00pm	Cycling
6:15pm	Football Rivalries
6:30pm	Storage Wars Texas
6:55pm	Fierce
8:00pm	Cycling
9:00pm	River Monsters
10:00pm	The Devil's Advocate
11:00pm	FYI Daily
11:05pm	The Devil's Advocate
12:55am	Don't Say a Word
1:55am	FYI Daily
2:00am	Don't Say a Word
3:05am	Cash Cowboys
3:55am	ITV4 Nightscreen
4:00am	Teleshopping Innovative, value-for-money products brought directly to you at home.

8:15am	Spy
10:25am	13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi
12:55pm	Marvel's Avengers Assemble
3:25pm	The Dark Knight
6:05pm	Spy
8:15pm	Hitman
10:00pm	Marvel's Avengers Assemble
12:30am	The Dark Knight
3:10am	Con Air

sky CINEMA COMEDY

7:15am	Dude, Where's My Car?
8:45am	Bruce Almighty
10:35am	The First Wives Club
12:25pm	All About Steve
2:10pm	The Intern
4:20pm	Bad Neighbours 2
6:00pm	Bridget Jones's Diary
7:40pm	All About Steve
9:25pm	The Intern
11:30pm	Bad Neighbours 2
1:10am	The Overnight
2:40am	Brüno
4:10am	Office Space

7:00am	Barbershop: The Next Cut
9:05am	Tarzan
11:00am	Everest: Special The likes of Jake Gyllenhaal, Keira Knightley and Josh Brolin talk about disaster epic Everest.
11:30am	X-Men: Apocalypse
2:05pm	Sausage Party
3:50pm	Barbershop: The Next Cut
6:00pm	Tarzan
8:00pm	X-Men: Apocalypse
10:30pm	Sausage Party
12:10am	Let's be Evil Badly in need of money, a young woman takes a job supervising an advanced learning program that quickly spirals out of control.
1:55am	Me and Kaminski
4:15am	Iona

7:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights
8:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights
9:00am	Cricket Classics
10:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights
11:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights
12:00pm	Live Indian Premier League
4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League
8:30pm	Football Espanyol v Barcelona.
11:00pm	EFL Goals
11:30pm	Rugby Union
1:30am	Football
3:30am	Sporting Rivalries Series profiling some of the greatest sporting rivalries of all time.
4:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights
5:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights

|| 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.

Freedom is no longer enjoyed

Cassandra Nash
A weekly look

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

HOLY WEEK shows Spain at its most quaintly religious with processions, hooded penitents and outpourings of devotion as statues are hauled through the streets.

The rest of the year churches are sparsely occupied except for births, marriages, first communions or funerals, and Spain's hierarchy is hitting out. "Secularism threatens religious freedom," thundered the Cardinal-Archbishop of Valencia not long ago.

What he was actually expressing was regret that the Church no longer enjoys the freedom to impose its will on Spanish society.

Beat the Hanger-on clock

CATALAN president Carles Puigdemont recently toured the US, touting for support for independence.

He didn't get many takers and both the US ambassador and the Jimmy Carter Foundation later hinted that neither thought secession was good for Catalonia or Spain.

Polls show that Catalans want more autonomy, not secession, but although pro-independence politicians are still planning a September referendum, five months is hardly long enough to get it off the ground, experts in electoral logistics say.

Brings to mind a bridegroom arriving late at the church in the hope that everyone, and especially the bride, has gone home.

PODEMOS, which shores up Castilla-La Mancha's PSOE government, refuses to support its Budget.

The Podemos regional leader Jose Gracia Molina - doubtless on the orders of party supremo Pablo Iglesias - is instead flexing his muscles.

"People have regarded us as an appendage to the PSOE," he complained.

Nearly right, but it might be more accurate to reduce that to 'appendage' full stop.

A transgression too many

ENGLISH writer Richard Ford who spent three years here in the 1830s declared that Spain was governed by "corrupt rogues."

Nearly two centuries later, their descendants would greet this information with a jaded "so what's new?"

The Barcenas scandal, the Gurtel scandal, the Punica scandal, the little-discussed Acuamed scandal, former Industry minister Jose Manuel Soria's offshore money scandal - the list prompts shrugs, mutterings and a few obscenities. But then, overshadowing them all, comes Rodrigo Rato.

Fury and smouldering resentment are reserved for the disgraced ex-vice president, ex-Minister of Hacienda, ex-Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and ex-president of Bankia.

On current political form, the charges of fraud, embezzlement, money-laundering and undeclared assets are par for the course. But the latest revelation that Rato salted away €7 million in an offshore account while Hacienda minister will be neither forgiven nor forgotten. Not because he was a corrupt rogue but because he announced "Hacienda somos todos" in a television and press campaign, exhorting the Spanish to pay their taxes.

A rogue? Pass. Corrupt? Pass. A hypocrite? Wheel out the tumbrils.



Rodrigo Rato.

Photo Credit Wikimedia



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BBC one

7:00am Breakfast
 8:45am Match of the Day
 10:00am The Andrew Marr Show
 11:00am BBC News
 12:00pm Sunday Politics
 1:15pm Bargain Hunt
 2:00pm BBC News
 2:10pm Weather for the Week Ahead
 2:15pm Homes Under the Hammer
 3:15pm Wanted Down Under
 4:15pm Flog It!
 5:05pm Points of View
 5:20pm Escape to the Country
 6:05pm Songs of Praise
 6:40pm Pointless
 7:30pm BBC News
 7:50pm Regional News
 7:55pm Weather
 8:00pm Countryfile
 9:00pm Antiques Roadshow
 10:00pm Line of Duty
 11:00pm BBC News
 11:20pm Regional News
 11:25pm Weather
 11:30pm Match of the Day 2
 12:50am The Women's Football Show

BBC TWO

7:30am A to Z of TV Gardening
 8:15am Around the World in 80 Gardens
 9:15am The Beechgrove Garden
 9:50am Countryfile
 News and stories concerning the heart of the British countryside.
 10:45am Saturday Kitchen
 Best Bites
 12:15pm Nigel Slater: Eating Together
 12:45pm Simply Nigella
 1:15pm MOTD2 Extra
 MOTD2 Extra presents the latest football action.
 2:00pm Athletics: World Relay Championships Highlights
 3:00pm Snooker
 7:00pm Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby
 8:00pm Snooker
 12:00am Drive
 1:35am Question Time
 2:35am Holby City
 3:30am This is BBC Two

BBC FOUR

8:00pm Birth of British Music
 9:00pm The Secret Life of the Motorway
 10:00pm Horizon
 Series exploring topical scientific issues. Scientists genuinely don't know what most of our universe is made of. The atoms we're made from only make up four per cent. The rest is dark matter and dark energy.
 11:00pm Trump's First 100 Days
 12:00am Storyville
 Documentary about the first globally famous stunt performer, exploring the charisma and showmanship at the heart of Evel Knievel's improbable success.
 1:30am BBC at War with Jonathan Dimbleby

CHANNEL 4

7:10am King of Queens
 7:35am King of Queens
 8:00am Everybody Loves Raymond
 8:25am Everybody Loves Raymond
 8:55am Frasier
 9:25am Frasier
 10:00am Sunday Brunch
 Formula 1
 1:00pm Formula 1
 Steve Jones presents live coverage from Russia of the fourth race of the 2017 F1 season.
 4:10pm Formula 1
 5:30pm The World's Most Expensive Cars
 6:30pm George Clarke's Old House, New Home
 7:30pm Channel 4 News
 8:00pm The Supernet
 9:00pm Escape to Costa Rica
 10:00pm Carol
 12:20am Gogglebox
 1:25am Mud
 3:45am KOTV Boxing Weekly
 4:10am Gillette World Sport
 4:40am Building the Dream

CHANNEL 5

7:00am Milkshake!
 Programming aimed at children aged two to seven years old.
 9:10am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
 9:55am Football on 5
 10:45am Football on 5
 11:00am Great Birmingham 10k
 1:00pm Michael
 3:00pm Getting Even with Dad
 5:00pm Housesitter
 7:00pm Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves
 Romantic action adventure based on the legendary nobleman turned outlaw.
 9:55pm 5 News
 The latest news coverage.
 10:00pm Greatest Ever 90s Movies
 12:50am Football on 5
 Goal Rush.
 1:25am Super Casino
 4:10am Charade
 5:50am House Doctor

4

7:00am Rude(Ish) Tube
 7:30am Couples Come Dine with Me
 8:30am Hollyoaks Omnibus
 11:00am Made in Chelsea
 12:00pm The Goldbergs
 12:30pm The Goldbergs
 1:00pm The Goldbergs
 1:30pm Black-Ish
 2:00pm Baby Daddy
 2:30pm Kevin Can Wait
 3:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
 3:30pm New Girl
 4:00pm The Net
 6:15pm Rude(Ish) Tube Shorts
 6:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 7:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 7:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 8:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 8:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 9:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 9:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 10:00pm Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.
 11:00pm Tattoo Fixers
 12:00am Tattoo Fixers
 1:00am E4's Tattoo Artist of the Year
 2:00am Celebrity First Dates
 3:00am Naked Attraction

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am Football
 7:30am Football
 8:00am Football
 8:30am Football
 9:00am Football
 9:30am Football
 10:00am Football
 10:30am The Sunday Supplement
 12:00pm Goals on Sunday
 2:00pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
 3:00pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
 5:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
 Tottenham Hotspur v Arsenal
 8:00pm EFL Goals
 8:30pm La Liga Gold
 8:40pm Football
 Celta Vigo v Athletic Bilbao
 10:40pm La Liga Gold
 10:50pm La Liga Gold
 11:00pm Football
 11:30pm Football
 12:00am Football
 12:30am Goals on Sunday
 1:30am Football
 2:00am Football

itv

7:00am CITV
 9:25am ITV News
 9:30am Weekend
 10:25am Countrywise
 11:00am Peston on Sunday
 12:00pm Judge Rinder
 1:00pm ITV News and Weather
 1:05pm Tipping Point
 2:05pm Who's Doing the Dishes?
 3:05pm Planet's Got Talent
 3:35pm Britain's Got Talent
 5:00pm On Her Majesty's Secret Service
 7:35pm Local News and Weather
 7:45pm ITV News and Weather
 8:00pm Bigheads
 9:00pm The Durrells
 10:00pm Grantchester
 11:00pm ITV News and Weather
 11:20pm Lethal Weapon
 12:20am Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights
 1:15am Peston on Sunday
 2:05am Jackpot247
 4:00am Motorsport

itv2

7:00am You've Been Framed!
 7:25am Emmerdale Omnibus
 10:05am Coronation Street Omnibus
 12:25pm Take Me Out
 1:45pm Catchphrase
 2:30pm You've Been Framed!
 3:35pm Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium
 4:35pm FYI Daily
 4:40pm Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium
 5:25pm Britain's Got Talent
 6:45pm Britain's Got More Talent
 7:45pm Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous
 8:45pm FYI Daily
 8:50pm Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous
 10:00pm Take Me Out: The Gossip
 11:00pm Family Guy
 11:30pm Family Guy
 12:00am Family Guy
 12:30am American Dad!
 1:00am American Dad!
 1:30am The Cleveland Show
 2:00am The Cleveland Show
 2:30am The Vampire Diaries

itv3

7:00am In Loving Memory
 7:25am Goodnight Mister Tom
 9:30am Murder, She Wrote
 Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.
 10:35am Heartbeat
 Drama, set in the North Yorkshire moors in the 1960's.
 11:35am Heartbeat
 12:40pm Forever Young
 1:40pm FYI Daily
 1:45pm Forever Young
 2:40pm A Touch of Frost
 4:50pm Foyle's War
 6:55pm Midsomer Murders
 9:00pm Royal Stories
 9:30pm Royal Stories
 10:00pm Prince Harry in Africa
 11:00pm Law and Order: UK
 Crime drama based on the hit US series Law and Order.
 12:00am Law and Order: UK
 1:05am Wire in the Blood
 2:05am Wire in the Blood
 3:00am Lewis

itv4

7:00am World Cup Rivalries: England v Argentina
 7:20am Ironside
 9:00am The Darts Show
 9:35am Pawn Stars
 10:00am Pawn Stars
 10:30am Pawn Stars
 10:55am Pawn Stars
 11:30am Pawn Stars
 11:55am Pawn Stars
 12:25pm Cycling
 1:00pm Cycling
 6:30pm Pawn Stars
 6:55pm The Chase: Celebrity Special
 Bradley Walsh hosts a celebrity edition of the hit quiz show where four well known celebrities have to work together to try and win thousands of pounds for charity.
 8:00pm Cycling
 9:00pm Rugby
 10:00pm Car Wars
 11:05pm Beetlejuice
 12:05am FYI Daily
 12:10am Beetlejuice

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

7:00am Son of a Gun
 9:00am Sherlock Holmes
 11:25am Self/Less
 1:30pm Tomorrowland
 3:45pm Pearl Harbour
 6:50pm In the Heart of the Sea
 9:00pm Sherlock Holmes
 11:20pm The Mummy Returns
 1:35am Tomorrowland
 3:50am Self/Less
 5:50am Lost and Found
 sky CINEMA COMEDY
 7:50am Year One
 9:35am Three Amigos!
 11:20am Four Weddings and a Funeral
 1:25pm Central Intelligence
 3:25pm Ride Along 2
 5:15pm Groundhog Day
 7:00pm Superbad
 9:00pm Central Intelligence
 11:00pm Ride Along 2
 12:50am Superbad
 2:50am Dope
 4:40am Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

9:00am Barbershop: The Next Cut
 11:10am Queen of Earth
 Unsettling psychodrama about a troubled woman who retreats to her best friend's lake house and spirals into despair.
 12:55pm X-Men: Apocalypse
 3:30pm Sausage Party
 Frank the sausage investigates the truth when he learns life after the supermarket isn't much fun for groceries.
 5:15pm Tarzan
 Years after leaving his old home behind, the Lord of the Jungle is lured back to Africa and into a trap.
 7:15pm Queen of Earth
 9:00pm X-Men: Apocalypse
 11:30pm Sausage Party
 1:05am Barbershop: The Next Cut

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am Cricket Classics
 8:00am Live Super Rugby
 10:00am Cricket's Greatest
 10:30am Cricket's Greatest
 11:00am Great Sporting Moments
 12:00pm Premier League Legends
 12:30pm Live EFL
 3:30pm Great Sporting Moments
 3:45pm Great Sporting Moments
 4:55pm Info not available
 6:50pm Great Sporting Moments
 8:30pm Sporting Greats II
 9:00pm Football Gold
 9:10pm Football
 Atlanta United v DC United
 11:10pm Football Gold
 11:20pm Football Gold
 11:30pm Indian Premier League Highlights
 12:30am Indian Premier League Highlights
 1:30am Cricket's Greatest
 2:00am Indian Premier League Highlights

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Advertising feature

DKV prize for sales team at Abbeygate Insurance

A PRIZE for success in reaching a second category target in health insurance sales has recently been awarded to the sales team of Abbeygate Insurance, from the international specialists in health insurance, DKV Seguros SA.

Abbeygate Insurance has a great working partnership with DKV, which has resulted in its appreciation, in the form of a prize of €900, which will go towards a day out, where the team can have a bonding experience and a lovely meal out to celebrate their achievement.

Abbeygate said, "We are delighted to have been awarded this prize, it is always fantastic for our team of staff to be recognised for their hard work and dedication to excellent customer care."

Abbeygate Insurance offers a variety of insurance for health, motor vehicle, home, travel, marine, funeral, life, pet, golf and commercial including public and employment liability insurance. The head office is in Estepona and the company also has offices in Portugal, Cyprus and the United Kingdom.

Abbeygate, the largest independently owned expat insurance in Spain, offers tailored health packages with optional excess amounts available to best suit their client's needs. Abbeygate is famous for the professional friendly service it provides. Caring for clients is the basis of its success.

The reason it is special is because of the great team of dedicated English-speaking sales professionals it has. The team assess the needs of the client on an individual basis, through an underwriter, to ensure that they receive the best service and the best advice.

The underwriter houses medical professionals who assess each application accordingly and therefore gives the best advice.

Abbeygate Insurance



TOP TEAM: All smiles from the winning sales team at Abbeygate Insurance.



MAIN OFFICE: Cares for expatriate and local clients.

has accumulated many years of experience in caring for expatriate and local clients, giving an appropriate service that is tailor-made to each individual. The company is special in the way that it offers a service that focuses on the needs of the individual and it is able to put the customer's mind at rest.

For the remainder of 2017 it is offering discounted rates of 25 per cent. There's an offer you shouldn't miss!

Abbeygate's partner in health insurance, DKV Seguros SA is a specialist in health insurance and has an extensive network of branches, sales branches and exclusive agencies throughout Spain. This allows it to provide a personal and quality service to all its clients.

In recent years it has become one of the top five medical insurance companies in the country, through its two commercial trademarks in Spain: DKV and ERGO. Studies have also recognised them on numerous occasions as the insurance company with the largest number of satisfied clients.

Its managerial policy is guided towards the client, guaranteeing them strength, security and an excellent quality service. Its focus is on innovation, which includes new specialised products that are introduced into already existing coverage and products, ensuring that clients are made aware of these as part of their individual.

The staff at Abbeygate are always at your service, so if you happen to be in the area, just call in anytime to make some enquiries.

The team includes Adam from Manchester, who has a background in management and has lived in Spain for over nine years. Then there are the twin girls, Holly and Toni, along with their older sister, Charlie, who have all been educated and living in Spain for 17 years. Sandy was born and raised in India and studied in Barcelona. Matthew is from Birmingham and has lived on the coast for five years. Simona is the visiting rep from DKV and is of Spanish nationality.

The team plans to start celebrating the prize money with a trip on Saturday April 29 when they will visit the Estepona Go Kart Track. They will be joined by the dedicated renewals department and also the claims and accounting team.



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Contact us

If you are interested in getting to know the team, contact sales at Abbeygate Insurance by telephone 951 277 455 or email sales@abbeygateinsure.com.



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BBC one

7:00am Breakfast
 10:00am Rip Off Britain
 10:45am Homes Under the Hammer
 11:45am The Wanted
 12:30pm Claimed and Shamed
 1:15pm Bargain Hunt
 2:00pm BBC News
 2:30pm The Boss
 3:15pm Escape to the Country
 4:15pm Garden Rescue
 5:00pm Money for Nothing
 6:00pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
 6:45pm Pointless
 7:30pm BBC News
 7:45pm Regional News
 7:55pm Weather
 8:00pm The One Show
 8:30pm MasterChef
 9:00pm EastEnders
 9:30pm Saving Mr. Banks
 11:30pm BBC News
 11:50pm Regional News
 11:55pm Weather
 12:00am All Round to Mrs Brown's
 1:00am Have I Got a Bit More News for You

BBC TWO

7:00am Flog It!
 7:30am Garden Rescue
 8:15am Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
 9:00am Antiques Roadshow
 10:00am The Tittfield Thunderbolt
 11:25am Talking Pictures
 12:10pm Around the World in Eighty Days
 3:00pm Snooker Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.
 7:00pm Top Gear
 8:00pm Snooker
 12:00am Margin Call
 1:40am Countryfile
 2:35am Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby
 3:35am This is BBC Two

BBC FOUR

8:00pm 100 Days +
 8:30pm Orangutan Diary Nature series featuring orphaned and rescued orangutans in Borneo.
 9:00pm Penny Blacks and Twopenny Blues: How Britain Got Stuck on Stamps
 10:00pm Amsterdam: An Art Lovers' Guide
 11:00pm Girl with a Pearl Earring Peter Webber's Oscar-nominated film takes as its central theme Vermeer's famous, mysterious painting, Girl With a Pearl Earring.
 12:30am Harlots, Housewives and Heroines: A 17th Century History for Girls
 1:30am Botany: A Blooming History
 2:30am The Secret Life of the Motorway

CHANNEL 4

7:25am Everybody Loves Raymond
 7:50am The Big Bang Theory
 8:15am Thunder and the House of Magic
 9:50am Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen
 11:35am The Simpsons
 12:05pm The Simpsons
 12:35pm The Simpsons
 1:05pm The Question Jury
 2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
 3:10pm Countdown
 4:00pm Fifteen to One
 5:00pm A Place in the Sun
 6:00pm Four in a Bed
 6:30pm Extreme Cakemakers
 7:00pm The Simpsons
 7:30pm Hollyoaks
 8:00pm Channel 4 News
 8:30pm Travel Man: 48 Hours in Vienna
 9:00pm Britain's Biggest Hoarders
 10:00pm The Island with Bear Grylls
 11:00pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown
 12:00am Confessions of a Junior Doctor

CHANNEL 5

7:00am Milkshake! Programming aimed at children aged two to seven years old.
 10:15am The Wright Stuff
 12:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
 1:05pm 5 News National and international news.
 1:10pm Home and Away
 1:40pm Neighbours
 2:10pm Clash of the Titans
 4:20pm Jason and the Argonauts
 5:20pm 5 News
 5:25pm Jason and the Argonauts
 6:30pm 5 News
 7:00pm Neighbours
 7:30pm Home and Away
 8:00pm FIA World Rally Championship Highlights
 9:00pm Police Interceptors
 10:00pm The Miranda Hart Story
 11:30pm The Most Shocking Celebrity Moments of 2016
 2:15am Super Casino

4

8:00am Baby Daddy
 8:30am Baby Daddy
 9:00am Melissa and Joey
 9:30am Melissa and Joey
 10:00am Baby Daddy
 10:30am Baby Daddy
 11:00am How I Met Your Mother
 11:30am How I Met Your Mother
 12:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
 12:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
 1:00pm Astro Boy
 2:50pm Toy Story Toons
 3:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 3:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 4:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 4:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 5:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 5:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 6:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 6:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 7:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 7:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 8:00pm Hollyoaks
 8:30pm Baby Daddy
 9:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 9:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 10:00pm Made in Chelsea
 11:00pm Empire
 12:00am The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
 10:00am Premier League 100 Club
 11:00am Premier League Daily
 12:00pm Premier League 100 Club
 1:00pm Premier League Legends
 2:00pm Great Sporting Moments
 3:00pm Premier League Legends
 4:00pm Spanish Football Gold
 4:30pm Football Gold
 5:00pm Football's Greatest
 6:00pm Boxing Gold
 6:30pm Darts Gold
 7:00pm Premier League 100 Club
 7:30pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
 8:00pm Football Watford v Liverpool
 12:00am Scottish Football Round Up
 12:15am Premier League Legends
 12:45am Football Gold
 1:00am Mnf Pre-Game Show
 2:00am Football

itv

9:30am Lorraine
 10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
 11:30am Columbo
 1:30pm Loose Women
 2:45pm ITV Lunchtime News
 3:00pm Judge Rinder
 4:00pm Culinary Genius
 5:00pm Tipping Point
 6:00pm Babushka
 7:00pm Off Their Rockers
 7:25pm Local News and Weather
 7:45pm ITV Evening News
 8:00pm Emmerdale
 8:30pm Coronation Street
 9:00pm Devon and Cornwall Cops Documentary following the work of the Devon and Cornwall police.
 9:30pm Coronation Street
 10:00pm Little Boy Blue
 11:00pm ITV News
 11:20pm Don't Ask Me, Ask Britain
 12:20am Joanna Lumley's Postcards
 12:45am Jackpot247

itv2

7:00am Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records
 7:25am You've Been Framed!
 8:10am Who's Doing the Dishes?
 9:00am Emmerdale
 9:30am Coronation Street
 10:35am You've Been Framed!
 11:30am Flubber
 12:30pm FYI Daily
 12:35pm Flubber
 1:25pm Emmerdale
 1:55pm Coronation Street
 3:00pm You've Been Framed!
 3:35pm The Incredible Hulk
 4:35pm FYI Daily
 4:40pm The Incredible Hulk
 5:45pm Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
 6:45pm FYI Daily
 6:50pm Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
 7:55pm Evan Almighty
 8:55pm FYI Daily
 9:00pm Evan Almighty
 10:00pm Family Guy
 10:30pm The Great Indoors
 11:00pm American Dad!
 12:00am Family Guy

itv3

7:00am In Loving Memory
 7:25am Heartbeat
 8:25am Margery and Gladys
 10:30am Judge Judy
 11:00am Judge Judy
 11:25am Judge Judy
 11:55am Road to Avonlea
 12:55pm The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
 2:05pm Heartbeat
 3:10pm The Royal
 4:15pm Where the Heart is
 5:20pm Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green
 5:50pm Love Your Garden
 6:55pm Heartbeat Drama, set in the North Yorkshire moors in the 1960's.
 8:00pm Murder, She Wrote Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.
 9:00pm Doc Martin
 10:00pm Rosemary and Thyme
 11:00pm Law and Order: UK
 12:00am Wycliffe
 1:10am The Knock

itv4

7:00am Minder Modern-day re-imagining on the classic comedy-drama.
 7:50am Ironside
 9:55am The Sweeney
 10:55am Minder
 11:55am Ax Men
 12:55pm Cash Cowboys
 1:55pm Car Chasers
 2:25pm Car Chasers
 2:55pm The Saint
 3:55pm Ironside
 5:00pm Superman
 6:05pm FYI Daily
 6:10pm Superman
 8:00pm Pawn Stars
 8:30pm Pawn Stars
 9:00pm The Chase: Celebrity Special
 10:00pm Lethal Weapon 4
 11:05pm FYI Daily
 11:10pm Lethal Weapon 4
 12:30am Bundesliga
 1:35am Rugby
 2:35am Motorsport UK
 3:25am Car Chasers
 3:50am ITV4 Nightscreen
 4:00am Teleshopping

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

7:30am King Arthur
 9:40am The Mummy
 11:50am Captain America: Civil War
 2:20pm The Martian
 4:45pm The Karate Kid
 6:55pm Rocky
 9:00pm Captain America: Civil War
 11:30pm The Martian
 1:55am Lucky Number Slevin
 3:50am Underworld

sky CINEMA COMEDY

8:00am Two Night Stand
 9:30am My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2
 11:10am Meet the Parents
 1:00pm Ted 2
 3:15pm Ghostbusters
 5:20pm My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2
 7:00pm Meet the Parents
 9:00pm Ted 2
 11:10pm Ghostbusters
 1:10am Bachelor Party
 3:05am Gremlins
 4:55am The Apartment

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am Love Me Do
 8:50am Queen of Earth
 10:40am Sadie's Last Day on Earth
 12:30pm The Top Ten Show 2017 Which movies are doing the best business at home and across the pond?
 12:50pm X-Men: Apocalypse When an ancient mutant awakens from his slumber, Professor X and his latest recruits must find a way to stop his world-ending plans.
 3:25pm Sausage Party
 5:10pm Sadie's Last Day on Earth
 7:00pm Barbershop: The Next Cut
 9:00pm X-Men: Apocalypse
 11:30pm Sausage Party
 1:10am Let's be Evil
 2:45am Barbershop: The Next Cut

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am Cricket Classics
 8:00am WWE Raw
 9:00am Cricket World Cup Classics
 10:00am Sporting Triumphs
 10:15am Sporting Triumphs
 10:30am Sporting Triumphs
 10:45am Sporting Triumphs
 11:00am Great Sporting Moments
 11:15am Great Sporting Moments
 11:30am Great Sporting Moments
 11:45am Live RI One Day Cup
 8:00pm Great Sporting Moments
 8:15pm Great Sporting Moments
 8:30pm Great Sporting Moments
 8:45pm La Liga Gold
 8:55pm Football Malaga v Sevilla
 11:00pm Super League Fulltime 2017
 11:30pm Indian Premier League Highlights
 12:30am Indian Premier League Highlights



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BBC one

BBC TWO

BBC FOUR

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 5



sky SPORTS 1

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	WWE SmackDown!
9:00am	Mnf Pre-Game Show
10:00am	Football Gold
10:15am	Football Gold
10:30am	Football Gold
10:45am	Football Gold
11:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights
12:00pm	Indian Premier League Highlights
1:00pm	Great Sporting Moments
1:15pm	Great Sporting Moments
1:30pm	Great Sporting Moments
1:45pm	Great Sporting Moments
2:00pm	Indian Premier League Highlights
3:00pm	Indian Premier League Highlights
4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League
8:30pm	Top 14 Highlights
9:00pm	Indian Premier League
1:30am	Super League Fulltime 2017
2:00am	Sky Sports Originals

7:00am	Flog It!
7:30am	Garden Rescue
8:15am	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
9:00am	Great American Railroad Journeys
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Super League Show
2:45pm	Coast
3:05pm	Natural World
3:55pm	Who Do You Think You Are?
4:55pm	Red Rock
5:35pm	Red Rock
6:15pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Debatable
8:00pm	Great British Menu
8:30pm	Great British Menu
9:00pm	Bake Off Crème de la Crème
10:00pm	Horizon
11:00pm	Later Live... with Jools Holland
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:10am	Weather
12:15am	Second Chance
1:15am	Second Chance

8:00pm	100 Days +
8:30pm	Orangutan Diary <i>Nature series featuring orphaned and rescued orangutans in Borneo.</i>
9:00pm	Wild Ireland
10:00pm	Shock and Awe: The Story of Electricity
11:00pm	Nietzsche: Genius of the Modern World
12:00am	Time Shift <i>Timeshift reveals the history of Antarctica, finding out why the most inhospitable place on the planet has exerted such a powerful hold on the imagination of explorers, scientists, writers and photographers.</i>
1:00am	Natural World Special <i>A Wolf Called Storm.</i>
2:00am	Amazon Abyss
3:00am	The Story Of...
4:00am	Shock and Awe: The Story of Electricity

7:00am	Countdown
7:45am	Will and Grace
8:10am	Will and Grace
8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:05am	Frasier
10:35am	Frasier
11:05am	Car S.O.S
12:05pm	Ramsay's Hotel Hell
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	The Question Jury
2:05pm	Posh Pawnbrokers
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	Fifteen to One
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun
6:00pm	Four in a Bed
6:30pm	Extreme Cakemakers
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	Obsessive
10:00pm	Compulsive Cleaners
10:00pm	One Born Every Minute
11:00pm	First Dates
12:05am	The Break-Up

10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1:10pm	5 News
1:15pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS: Los Angeles
4:15pm	Brace for Impact
6:00pm	5 News
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News
8:00pm	Police Interceptors
9:00pm	The Yorkshire Vet
10:00pm	Elizabeth I
11:00pm	The Last Days of Mary Queen of Scots
12:00am	Restless Legs Syndrome: Desperate for Help
1:00am	Spectacular Spain with Alex Polizzi
2:00am	Super Casino
4:10am	Body of Proof
5:00am	Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink
5:45am	House Doctor

8:00am	Baby Daddy
8:30am	Baby Daddy
9:00am	Rules of Engagement
10:00am	Melissa and Joey
10:30am	Melissa and Joey
11:00am	Baby Daddy
11:30am	Baby Daddy
12:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
1:00pm	New Girl
1:30pm	New Girl
2:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
2:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
5:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
5:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm	New Girl
6:30pm	New Girl
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Black-ish
9:00pm	The Goldbergs
9:30pm	The Goldbergs
10:00pm	E4's Tattoo Artist of the Year
11:00pm	Bizarre ER
12:00am	The Big Bang Theory

7:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
8:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
9:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
10:00am	Football
10:30am	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Football
3:55pm	Cricket
11:00pm	La Liga World
11:30pm	Scottish Football Round Up
11:45pm	Football Gold
12:00am	Premier League Review
1:00am	Premier League 100 Club
1:30am	Premier League 100 Club
2:00am	Football's Greatest
2:30am	Football's Greatest
3:00am	The Premier League Years
5:00am	Sporting Heroes <i>Gary Newbon talks to legendary British athlete Sir Roger Bannister.</i>

itv

itv2

itv3

itv4

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine <i>Join Lorraine Kelly and her celebrity friends for all the latest showbiz, news, style on ITV.</i>
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm	Judge Rinder
4:00pm	Culinary Genius
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	Babushka
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Save Money Good Food
9:00pm	Don't Ask Me Ask Britain
10:00pm	Paul O'Grady
11:00pm	ITV News
11:40pm	Little Boy Blue
12:40am	The Chase
1:35am	Jackpot247

7:10am	You've Been Framed!
8:00am	Below Deck
8:20am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
9:30am	Coronation Street
10:00am	Coronation Street
10:35am	Psych
11:25am	Below Deck
12:20pm	Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm	Emmerdale
1:55pm	Coronation Street
2:30pm	Coronation Street
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!
7:30pm	You've Been Framed!
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	Hell's Kitchen
11:00pm	Family Guy
11:30pm	Family Guy
12:00am	Family Guy

7:00am	In Loving Memory
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:25am	Where the Heart is
9:30am	The Royal
10:30am	Judge Judy
11:00am	Judge Judy
11:25am	Judge Judy
11:55am	Road to Avonlea
12:55pm	The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
2:05pm	Heartbeat
3:10pm	The Royal
4:10pm	Where the Heart is
5:15pm	Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green
5:50pm	Love Your Garden
6:55pm	Heartbeat <i>Drama, set in the North Yorkshire moors in the 1960's.</i>
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Midsomer Murders
11:00pm	Law and Order: UK
12:00am	A Touch of Frost
2:05am	The Knock
3:00am	ITV3 Nightscreen
3:30am	Teleshopping

7:00am	Snooker v Darts
7:05am	Ax Men
7:50am	The Saint
8:45am	Ironside
9:50am	The Sweeney
10:50am	Minder
11:55am	Ax Men
12:50pm	Cash Cowboys
1:50pm	Pawn Stars
2:20pm	Pawn Stars
2:50pm	The Saint
3:50pm	Ironside
4:55pm	Minder
6:00pm	The Sweeney
7:00pm	Cash Cowboys
8:00pm	Pawn Stars
8:30pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	World Superbike Highlights
10:00pm	Benidorm
11:00pm	Lethal Weapon <i>US drama series based on the film franchise.</i>
11:55pm	The Bank Job
12:55am	FYI Daily
1:00am	The Bank Job
2:15am	Bear Grylls: Mission Survive
3:10am	Cash Cowboys

9:35am	Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials
11:50am	Hitman
1:30pm	Hitman: Agent 47
3:10pm	Wild Wild West
5:00pm	The Scorpion King
6:45pm	Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials
9:00pm	Hitman
10:40pm	Hitman: Agent 47
12:20am	True Lies

sky CINEMA COMEDY

9:00am	When Harry Met Sally
10:40am	Casual Encounters
12:10pm	Hitch
2:15pm	10 Things I Hate About You
4:00pm	Police Academy
5:45pm	Hot Pursuit
7:20pm	The Bad Education Movie
9:00pm	Police Academy
10:45pm	Vacation
12:30am	Mistress America
2:00am	Norbit

7:00am	Sadie's Last Day on Earth
8:50am	The Top Ten Show 2017 <i>Which movies are doing the best business at home and across the pond?</i>
9:05am	Sausage Party
10:40am	X-Men: Apocalypse
1:10pm	Love Me Do
3:00pm	Tell Me How I Die
5:05pm	Sadie's Last Day on Earth
6:55pm	Guardians of the Galaxy 2: Special
7:25pm	Sausage Party
9:00pm	X-Men: Apocalypse <i>When an ancient mutant awakens from his slumber, Professor X and his latest recruits must find a way to stop his world-ending plans.</i>
11:30pm	Tell Me How I Die
1:30am	Let's be Evil
3:10am	American Fable

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	WWE SmackDown!
9:00am	Mnf Pre-Game Show
10:00am	Football Gold
11:00am	Indian Premier League Highlights
12:00pm	Indian Premier League Highlights
1:00pm	Great Sporting Moments
1:15pm	Great Sporting Moments
1:30pm	Great Sporting Moments
1:45pm	Great Sporting Moments
2:00pm	Indian Premier League Highlights
3:00pm	Indian Premier League Highlights
4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League
8:30pm	Top 14 Highlights
9:00pm	Indian Premier League
1:30am	Super League Fulltime 2017

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BBC one

7:00am	Breakfast
10:15am	Rip Off Britain
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	The Wanted
12:45pm	Claimed and Shamed
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:30pm	Regional News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	The Boss
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	Garden Rescue
5:30pm	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News
7:30pm	Regional News
8:00pm	The One Show
9:00pm	MasterChef
10:00pm	Panorama
11:00pm	BBC News
11:30pm	Regional News
11:40pm	Weather
11:45pm	Peter Kay's Car Share
12:15am	A Question of Sport
12:45am	Mind Over Marathon
1:45am	Weather for the Week Ahead
1:50am	BBC News

BBC TWO

7:00am	Flog It!
7:30am	Garden Rescue
8:15am	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is
9:00am	See Hear
9:30am	Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
12:30pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Two Tribes
2:30pm	Holiday of My Lifetime
3:00pm	Natural World Award winning nature documentary series.
3:50pm	Who Do You Think You Are?
4:50pm	Red Rock
5:35pm	Red Rock
6:15pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Celebrity Eggheads
7:45pm	Debatable
8:30pm	Great British Menu
9:00pm	Trust Me I'm a Vet
10:00pm	Second Chance Summer: Tuscany
11:00pm	Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:10am	Weather
12:15am	Horizon

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	100 Days +
8:30pm	Orangutan Diary Nature series featuring orphaned and rescued orangutans in Borneo.
9:00pm	Mud, Sweat and Tractors: The Story of Agriculture
10:00pm	The Inside Story
11:00pm	Britain's Nuclear Secrets: Inside Sellafield
12:00am	Atomic: Living in Dread and Promise: Storyville
1:10am	Metalworks! As part of the Handmade in Britain season, in conjunction with the Victoria and Albert Museum, art historian and curator Tobias Capwell celebrates the great age of armour.
2:10am	Britain on Film
2:40am	The Brits Who Built the Modern World
3:40am	The Inside Story

CHANNEL 4

7:00am	Countdown
7:45am	Will and Grace
8:10am	Will and Grace
8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
10:05am	Frasier
10:35am	Frasier
11:05am	Car S.O.S
12:05pm	Ramsay's Hotel Hell
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	The Question Jury
2:05pm	Posh Pawnbrokers
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	Fifteen to One
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun
6:00pm	Four in a Bed
6:30pm	Extreme Cakemakers
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	How to Live Mortgage Free with Sarah Beeny
10:00pm	Confessions of a Junior Doctor
11:00pm	My Online Nightmare
12:05am	Gogglebox

CHANNEL 5

7:00am	Milkshake! Programming aimed at children aged two to seven years old.
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	GPs: Behind Closed Doors
1:10pm	5 News
1:15pm	The Gadget Show Technology show that examines at some of the most popular everyday gadgets.
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS
4:15pm	Taken Back: Finding Haley
6:00pm	5 News
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News
8:00pm	Chris Tarrant: Ice Train to Nowhere
9:00pm	GPs: Behind Closed Doors
10:00pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
11:00pm	One Night with My Ex
12:05am	Violent Child, Desperate Parents

4

9:00am	Rules of Engagement
9:30am	Rules of Engagement
10:00am	Melissa and Joey
10:30am	Melissa and Joey
11:00am	Baby Daddy
11:30am	Baby Daddy
12:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
12:30pm	How I Met Your Mother
1:00pm	New Girl
1:30pm	New Girl
2:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
2:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
3:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
4:00pm	How I Met Your Mother
4:30pm	How I Met Your Mother
5:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
5:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm	New Girl
6:30pm	New Girl
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	The Goldbergs
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm	The 100
11:00pm	Supernatural
12:00am	The Big Bang Theory

sky SPORTS 1

7:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
10:00am	Premier League 100 Club
11:00am	Premier League Daily
12:00pm	Premier League 100 Club
1:00pm	Premier League Review
2:00pm	Great Sporting Moments
2:45pm	Football Gold Premier League Legends
3:00pm	Football Gold Premier League Legends
3:30pm	Football Gold
3:45pm	Football Gold Cricket West Indies v Pakistan 2nd Test D4. Day four of the second Test between West Indies and Pakistan, held at the Kensington Oval in Barbados.
11:00pm	Barclays Premier League World Review
11:30pm	Premier League Review
12:30am	Premier League Legends
1:00am	Premier League 100 Club

itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine Join Lorraine Kelly and her celebrity friends for all the latest showbiz, news, style on ITV.
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning The popular morning lifestyle magazine show with advice, chat & competitions.
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm	Judge Rinder
4:00pm	Culinary Genius
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	Babushka
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Coronation Street
9:00pm	Tonight at the London Palladium
10:00pm	Benidorm
11:00pm	ITV News
11:40pm	UEFA Champions League Highlights
12:40am	Sports Life Stories

itv2

7:00am	Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records
7:10am	You've Been Framed!
7:35am	Below Deck
8:20am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
9:00am	Emmerdale
9:30am	The Cube
10:35am	Psych
11:25am	Below Deck
12:20pm	Who's Doing the Dishes?
1:25pm	Emmerdale
1:55pm	You've Been Framed!
3:00pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:00pm	Judge Rinder
7:00pm	You've Been Framed!
7:30pm	You've Been Framed!
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
8:30pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Two and a Half Men
10:00pm	Shaun of the Dead
11:00pm	FYI Daily
11:05pm	Shaun of the Dead
12:00am	Family Guy
12:30am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	In Loving Memory
7:25am	Heartbeat
8:25am	Where the Heart is
9:30am	The Royal
10:30am	Judge Judy
11:00am	Judge Judy
11:30am	Judge Judy
11:55am	Road to Avonlea
12:55pm	The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
2:05pm	Heartbeat
3:10pm	The Royal
4:10pm	Where the Heart is
5:15pm	Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green
5:50pm	Love Your Garden Alan Titchmarsh presents the series which shows viewers how to get the most from their gardens no matter what the size.
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Lewis
11:00pm	Law and Order: UK Crime drama based on the hit US series Law and Order.
12:00am	A Touch of Frost
2:05am	The Knock

itv4

7:00am	World Cup Top Goals Scorers
7:10am	Ax Men
7:55am	The Saint
8:50am	Ironsides
9:55am	The Sweeney
10:55am	Minder
11:55am	Ax Men
12:55pm	Cash Cowboys
1:55pm	Pawn Stars
2:25pm	Pawn Stars
2:50pm	The Saint Simon Templar is a debonair master thief with a talent for disguise.
3:55pm	Ironsides
5:00pm	Minder
6:00pm	The Sweeney
7:05pm	Cash Cowboys
8:05pm	Pawn Stars
8:35pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	British Superbike Highlights
10:00pm	Caught on Camera
11:00pm	Better Late Than Never
12:00am	Lethal Weapon US drama series based on the film franchise.
12:55am	Double Impact
1:55am	FYI Daily

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

8:25am	Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer
10:05am	The Da Vinci Code
12:35pm	Sherlock Holmes
2:50pm	Collateral Damage
4:50pm	Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer
6:30pm	The Da Vinci Code
9:00pm	Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation
11:15pm	Die Hard 4.0
1:30am	John Carter
3:45am	Hyena Road

sky CINEMA COMEDY

11:15am	Spud
1:10pm	Ghostbusters: Special
1:40pm	How to be Single
3:40pm	Grimsby
5:10pm	Magic Mike XXL
7:10pm	Robin Hood: Men in Tights
9:00pm	How to be Single
11:00pm	Grimsby
12:30am	Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am	Tell Me How I Die
9:00am	Sadie's Last Day on Earth
10:50am	Guardians of the Galaxy 2: Special Sky Movies takes a special look at the action-packed superhero sequel starring Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana and Dave Bautista.
11:20am	Sausage Party
12:55pm	X-Men: Apocalypse
3:25pm	Queen of Earth
5:10pm	Sadie's Last Day on Earth With the apocalypse approaching, a high-schooler creates a to-do list that ranges from learning survival skills to patching things up with her best friend.
7:00pm	The Top Ten Show 2017
7:15pm	Sausage Party
9:00pm	X-Men: Apocalypse
11:30pm	Black British
1:10am	Tell Me How I Die
3:10am	Let's be Evil
4:45am	Love Me Do

sky SPORTS 2

7:00am	Cricket Classics
8:00am	WWE Experience
9:00am	Cricket World Cup Classics
10:00am	Great Sporting Moments
10:15am	Great Sporting Moments
10:30am	Indian Premier League
2:55pm	Live RI One Day Cup Royal London One Day Cup - Hampshire v Middlesex. Hampshire take on Middlesex at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton in the Royal London One-Day Cup.
11:00pm	NFL
12:00am	NFL Series profiling some of the most significant players in the history of American football.
1:00am	Time of Our Lives
2:00am	Cricket's Greatest
2:30am	Cricket's Greatest
3:00am	Cricket's Greatest
3:30am	Sporting Rivalries

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Smart roundabouts

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.



RAMP METERING: Could restrict access when traffic is too busy on roundabouts.

ROUNDBABOUTS are often a cause of consternation for many drivers. But despite them causing confusion and dread to some, they provide a unique way of allowing traffic to flow freely through road intersections. However, when the volume of traffic is high, congestion can result which can end up in big traffic jams with no vehicles able to move.

Now, researchers from the Politecnica University of Valencia (UPV) have come up with what they think is a revolutionary system of implanting sensors in the road to ease congestion. These sensors would detect the passage of vehicles and determine when the volume of traffic was very high. At this point, they would then activate traffic lights to slow down vehicles on approach, allowing extra time for those in the area to manoeuvre through the roundabout, and in some cases, stop traffic on quieter roads to allow the con-

gestion to ease. This would then in theory, prevent a situation in which the excessive entry of vehicles causes such a jam that no one is able to move in any direction. The sensor system would allow for normal traffic flow to be restored in a short space of time, managing the troublesome situations in a simple and effective way.

The system used, known as ramp metering, is already used in some countries on access routes to motorways and main roads, restricting access when traffic on the main roads is too busy. Now the team at the UPV believe they can adapt and customise the system so it can be used on roundabouts.

Easter deaths

Figures from the DGT show that a total of 29 people lost their lives in road traffic accidents during the busy Easter weekend. This is a fall of 12 deaths compared to last Easter.

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

Can they re-assess the value?

Q. In 2015 we purchased a house in Guardamar Del Segura. We paid €85,000, which was entered on the 'escritura.' We paid €3,000 extra for furniture, wardrobes, and white goods. This was not entered on the escritura. Now we have re-

ceived a notice from Valencia regional tax office to say they want to re-assess the value of the sale. I am told this may be because they think the amount declared in the escritura was too low. Can they do this?

R W (Costa Blanca)

A. Most of Spain's individual regions have established a list of official property valuations for tax purposes. Have your lawyer consult the Valencian Region list to discover what is the minimum value you can de-

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain

clare for your purchase. You should have done this before you went to the Notary. And,

yes, if the value declared is too low, the tax office can claim tax on the difference. This official list was established because people formerly declared ridiculously low amounts on property sales to minimise transfer tax.

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

I am grumpy this week!

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



AS I've said many times I love living in Spain but there are still some things here that I don't think you could get away with living in the UK.

I've found out this week that along the paseo where we like to go to walk the dog and have a coffee, the town hall has said that over the next few years every cafe, bar and restaurant has to change their frontage to have raised wooden floors, glass curtain style fronts and different seating areas outside. I'm not saying it won't look nice but, me for one, I actually like the rough and ready looking tapas bars and the little family-owned cafes that I have been visiting for years. It's something that happens a lot here that you are forced to do things with no consideration to the expense involved.

I had a shop in the square in Fuengirola buying and selling gold and jewellery. Some of you might remember it. It was called the Old Gold Company. When we opened it we had to jump through hoops to get the four or five licences you needed just to get going. We had to do so much paperwork just to buy a single item it was crazy. But then it seemed that every week they changed the rules. In the end it was getting impossible to actually abide by all the regulations.

One, for instance, was that you couldn't buy broken jewellery. How crazy is that? Much of the time people wanted to sell us stuff that was broken and which couldn't be repaired but which, as it was gold, had scrap value. Sometimes the value was even more than when the item was new because, at that time, gold prices were rocketing. People in the UK who were doing the same thing laughed at me when I told them about all the Spanish red tape.

Another thing that happened recently was that we had some work done on our pools where we live and, to be honest, we were conned. (Mrs S wasn't President then) We called the company back to tell them there were some problems with the work and they just looked at us like we were mad. They did the 'shrug' and told us the bits that had gone wrong was nothing to do with them it was some other reason blah, blah, blah and they were absolutely not interested in doing anything about it. Denounce them, you might say. Everybody throws that word around like it's some kind of magic wand. Have you ever tried it? It's not that easy to get any type of result.

The UK system of the county or high courts was much better and didn't take the years that it takes to get things done through the legal system here. Needless to say we just had to leave it because here everybody knows the system of not paying if you don't want to.

Wow I am grumpy this week! Email me at mikesenker@gmail.com.



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Will Theresa May's snap election u-turn deliver a Brexit blank cheque

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

THERESA MAY has done a u-turn (I wrote about a possible Brexit u-turn last week), calling a snap election in which she'll aim to crush Brexit opposition by seizing a big parliamentary majority.

So, good on the PM for taking a decision in the best interests of the country and taking a swipe at Labour, the Lib Dems, SNP etc with their counterproductive whining and talk of coalition, collaboration and tactical voting.

The fact that it is in the best interests of the Conservatives is happily convenient for her, but not the driving force. She wants a strong hand in Brexit negotiations and she didn't

have one. This is also good news for Gibraltar and expats in Spain since the increased flexibility increases the likelihood of a better deal for us all. The effect on Labour should be akin to Trump's Mother of all Bombs, with Labour's pro-Brexit voters, polls claim, already deserting Corbyn.

To accusations from Corbyn, Sturgeon etc that May's 'breaking' repeated promises she'd never hold an election before 2020, she's a politician (the clue's in the word) and politics by its nature requires that positions are 'adjusted' to suit a change in circumstances.

She'd be a foolish leader not to take advantage of opportunities when they arise.

Doubtless she'll have a hard time not to put Brexit details into her manifesto and election campaign. How is she going to combine that with keeping her negotiation cards close to her chest? Easy! She just

needs to remain consistent. The negotiations with the EU will hardly have begun by June, so keeping her cards close to her chest is not only consistent but canny.

Why give the EU any extra help by showing her hand? All she needs to do is keep to her mantra that she'll 'negotiate the best deal for Britain' ad nauseam.

Finally, many thanks to all of you who have purchased my crime thrillers (all profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity), following my piece here two weeks ago about the true stories behind them. And keep those donations going to Cudeca!

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

THERESA MAY:
Taking advantage.



Advertising feature

Welcome to the world of spas

MUNDOSPAS really is the world of spas. Established in both Torrevieja and Benidorm, the company has been supplying, fitting and repairing spas for 16 years.

This leading company in the spa industry supplies only the best quality Canadian spas which are built to withstand the extreme Canadian conditions where temperatures can fluctuate from -30 degrees in the winter to +30 in the summer, so Spanish customers can rest assured they are going to stand the test of time. Among the spas offered are Coast Spas and the MS-line Spas.

MundoSpas are the only importers in Spain of these hydromassage spas, known for their therapeutic benefits as well as being a wonderful relaxing addition to any home. As well as easing aches and pains, they are fun for families and friends and can add value to your home, without the expense of building a full size swimming pool.

The team at MundoSpas will help find the right spa for you and they also offer a range of second-hand spas for those wanting a more affordable way to enjoy a touch of luxury.

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MUNDOSPAS: A world of spas in Torrevieja and Benidorm.

sauna or steam bath is an ancient treatment for relieving aches and pains and has been an important healing process in many cultures. Sitting in the wood-lined rooms or huts, temperatures reach between 70-90 degrees centigrade. Saunas have become best-known for relaxing the body and mind and for the ultimate sense of well-being which it imparts.

Studies have also shown they can help alleviate pain and improve joint mobility in patients with arthritis and rheumatic disease, offer short term improvements in pulmonary function for patients with asthma and chronic bronchitis and can even help lower blood pressure in patients with hypertension.

MundoSpas offer both indoor and outdoor

spa units and can make a sauna to suit your size, using a traditional wood burning sauna stove or an infrared sauna system.

Having purchased your sauna or spa, MundoSpas aims to offer customers the best possible after sales service from ensuring your new purchase is fully installed and working in your home, to any technical or maintenance help you may need. Their technicians are fully trained and qualified in all aspects of repairs and can also carry out pool repairs.

Stores also stock a high range of maintenance products and spa accessories. For more information, visit your local store now.

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LETTERS

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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

Watch out, thieves about

AS a regular visitor to Spain, I look forward to spending time with family living locally and to some of wonderful sunshine. But one thing I remain dismayed by is the lack of warnings over theft in public places.

Two years ago my wallet was stolen when I was visiting Fuengirola market, and friends who live in Almeria had valuables - hidden under the passenger seat - stolen from their hire car after it was broken into when visiting Torre last summer.

I have also heard of thefts from cars when drivers have been distracted... only to find once they have told a seemingly innocent inquiring pedestrian a direction, that their shopping has been stolen, along with their handbag or wallet.

While warning signs will not solve the problem, they are essential to make everyone - including all first-time visitors - that while Spain is a wonderful place to visit, and probably to live, it is far from crime free.

So come on local authorities: put up signs; admit the risk of theft; and stop helping criminals by ignoring a problem that is not going to go away.

JM
Calahonda

Share Spanish experiences

I NOTICE that the correspondence column is pretty short in the paper. Can that be expanded as it is always good to see what others

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

Royal prank at marathon beyond a joke

“ TODAY I noticed something that should be brought to the public. In today's London marathon someone sprayed water on to the future king who was stood next to his wife. Where was security??

This could have easily been an acid attack on them both! There is a problem as with all these runners it would have been easy for someone to mingle in and carry this out. Thank god it did not happen but let's hope it's a wake-up call for the protection of the Royals. I have also sent an email to the BBC on this subject as I think it's important.

Bob



EASY TARGET: Wills and Kate.

think and experience in Spain?

Quite often I have noticed that those who write in the English papers are complaining about Spanish matters. That may be fair enough but I suspect that such complaints will go unnoticed by the Spanish because such complaints are not in Spanish papers.

It is necessary to mention such complaints in the Spanish press and, of

course, to the relevant Spanish agency which might be able to do something about it. The latter point necessitates having some knowledge of the language to make a point.

So, English and foreigners who speak and write in English and spend several weeks a year visiting Spain, and such people who live here, need to learn Spanish.

They should learn the language of the country they

are visiting or living in.

Graeme Bennett

Wrong island

I WOULD like to point out the great John Surtees won the motorcycle TT on the Isle of Man which is held every year and not the Isle of White as printed in *Euro Weekly*.

Geoff Scott
Ciudad Quesada

Divine intervention

Reply in response to Roy Leon's comments

FIRSTLY, regarding the 'Theory of Evolution,' all the 'missing links' for all species are still 'missing.'

Therefore, as there is not any evidence to support the theory, it is, at best, unproven, and probably cannot be proved.

Secondly, the cherished 'Big Bang Theory' is dismissed since radioactive material and the theory of radioactivity has concluded that at some point in time matter did not exist. If there is no matter, there is no bang.

President Dwight D Eisenhower was told he would have to have a limb amputated. He prayed overnight and walked out of hospital intact.

I have had many experiences that substantiate the words: 'Prove me and know my works' said the Lord.

D L Griffiths
Orihuela Costa

COMMENTS from EWN Online

» Expats left out of vote

YOU mean emigrants whose tax and NI contributions lapsed over 10 years ago when they chose to take up foreign residency.

Drew Edgar

EXPATS, please remember you need to re-register every year to avoid losing your voting rights even if you have been living abroad for less than 15 years. It is utterly shocking that we who pay taxes in Britain are not allowed to vote.

'No taxation without representation' was the cry as far back as 1761 when American colonists objected to being taxed by the British government without being allowed to vote. And look what happened to America! Revolution! Independence! That's what. Astonishing so little has changed in nearly 300 years.

Even if you voted in last year's Brexit referendum or the previous General Election you will not be allowed to vote in this one if you registered more than a year ago and have not re-registered. I wrote a comment about that in the *EWN* months ago when I predicted the likelihood of a snap election this year. (smug grin, tee hee!) Of course if you had been only 14 years as an expat last year I don't need to tell you what happens to your voting rights now!

Brian Eagleson

WHY should people living in another country be able to vote in UK elections, we can't vote in their country. As for tax, I used to live in Spain and had the option to be pay in Spain or uk. Most expats like to keep a foothold in the UK 'just in case.'

Maureen Quarrington

» Snap election

WELL I guess it's impossible for the wingers to rest, they couldn't understand it is better for the UK and its people to leave the EU, they can't see it is better for Scotland and the Scottish to remain in the UK and now we hear them whinge everywhere firing more proverbial at the PM when she calls a general election because of the MP's who cannot accept the referendum vote... they just can't see they all work against the UK and they have brought this on.

The Tory party would have been happy to trundle on carrying out the wishes of the majority of the vote but it is the whingers who are to blame, no one else... but they have not got the nuts in their cookies to see even that, and still whinge :-)

Personally, I just look at them as losers and the sooner the election comes the better so we hopefully bury most of them :-)

Mike in ESP

» Dog protest Almeria

I LIVE in Spain and have been here 12 years. The way they treat the animals here is appalling to say the least. They treat them as if they are not living breathing feeling animals.

The authorities are to blame as they are as bad and they don't see anything wrong in letting the animals suffer like they do. The laws are there but are not acted upon. Spain is judged by how they treat the animals and at the moment quite frankly it stinks.

For God's sake the laws are there for a reason. We must stand together and make them listen. The law is on our side now we just have to make them use them for what they were meant to be used for and stop the suffering of the animals and stop it now.

Good luck with the protest I hope the people in authority take heed and look at the terrible way that these animals are being kept.

This makes my blood boil. For God's sake authorities use the power you have been given!!!

Lynn

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

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

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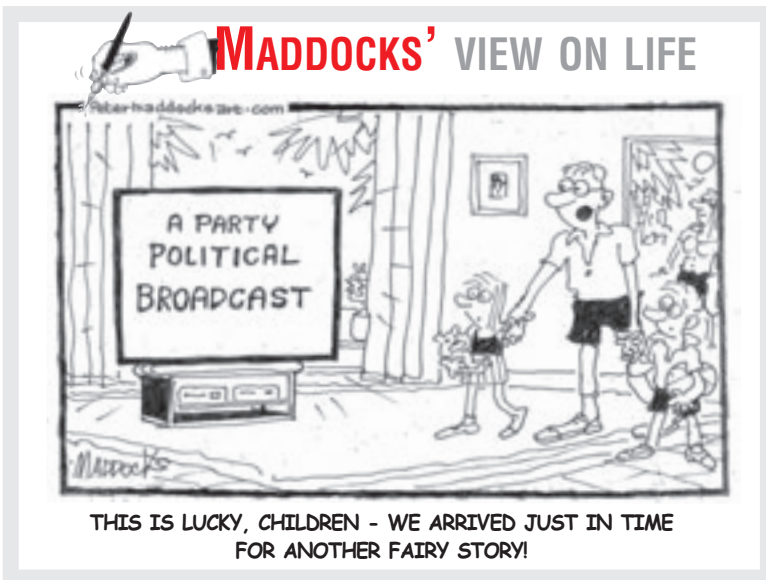
Kakuro

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.

	21	32	9	26	
25					
17					18
8			10		
7			4		
	78				
	22				

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

6	3	27	27	16
5	1	6	3	9
1	2	3	8	5
		7	6	2
2	3	5		
8	1	2	9	3
3	7	4	8	2



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.

A	P	O
P	N	T
E	E	R

TARGET:

- Average: 12 • Good: 17
- Very good: 24 • Excellent: 31

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

alit aril axel axil axle earl lair late liar lira luau rail rale rate real rial tael tail tale tare taxi teal tear urea alert alter exalt extra irate later latex laxer ratel relax taxer trail trial ultra auteur retail ritual LUXURIATE

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.

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday April 22



4	6	34
37	42	52



IRISH LOTTO

Saturday April 22



13	17	18
25	26	27



EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday April 18



17	22	31
38	45	



Friday April 21

2	13	16
22	49	



LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday April 22



1	11	16
26	45	47



EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday April 23



4	5	7
10	42	



YOUR STARS FOR 7 DAYS

GEMINI ♊ (May 22 - June 21)

Everything seems an effort at the beginning of this week but as energy levels pick up you will gain momentum. Tackle one thing at a time and realise that Rome was not, indeed, built in a day. As the weekend approaches you will begin to realise that you have been far more effective than you thought.

CANCER ♋ (June 22 - July 23)

You really do need to come to an understanding with friends over a social matter, although this may take a little effort this week. It is clear that there are those who are less helpful than others, but this could be because of a misunderstanding.

LEO ♌ (July 24 - August 23)

Be a social animal this week and you will strengthen both people and business contacts. After being busy last week, you may be inclined to take it easy. If it is the case that you really are low on energy, then use the telephone or email to full advantage to keep in touch.

VIRGO ♍ (August 24 - September 23)

Someone well and truly treads on your toes this week and it really puts your teeth on edge. There are some bridges that may not be mended at the present time and are best left alone. Show your generous side but resist the urge to give in on an important issue because you are likely to regret it later.

LIBRA ♎ (September 24 - October 23)

What a lovely surprise to find that

TAURUS ♉ (April 21 - May 21)

The brick wall that you start banging your head against this week is not an illusion. It is, indeed, true that others are not responding to you in an expected way. By Wednesday this wall will start to fall and people will be more receptive.

something you have always wanted is coming your way at last. Keep a firm hand with finances and take control if you want to organise things for the better.

SCORPIO ♏ (October 24 - November 22)

Be cautious this week with your money. You have been aware for some time now that a change in your finances is likely. You have this in common with many others in your situation. Seeking professional help can be free and can make a big difference.

SAGITTARIUS ♐ (November 23 - December 21)

A special chance to try something new should not be passed over. No one expects wonders from you, they are happy just to see you enjoying life. A recent change in your attitude to your future is already showing. Luck is just waiting for you to invite her in.

CAPRICORN ♑ (December 22 - January 20)

Your home life gives you the most satisfaction at the moment even though someone seems to be challenging you. Some things are best ignored until they go away of their own accord and that also often applies

to people. There is a time for everything and choosing it will make a task that could be difficult that much easier.

AQUARIUS ♒ (January 21 - February 19)

Involvement in a situation connected with someone close may not be the best option this week. Giving advice is all well and good so long as you are sure of your facts.

PISCES ♓ (February 20 - March 20)

Some disruption to your plans annoys you but there's no point getting in a huff. Outside influences cannot be stopped but you are able to keep calm yourself. Rising to the bait will play into someone else's hands. Although a situation must be dealt with, do it in your own time and in your own way.

ARIES ♈ (March 21 - April 20)

It seems that you are putting a lot of effort into whatever you do without getting as much out as you would like. However, as the week goes by, you will realise that it is only a temporary situation. Sometimes, it takes others a period of adjustment before they are ready to accept changes of a personal nature.

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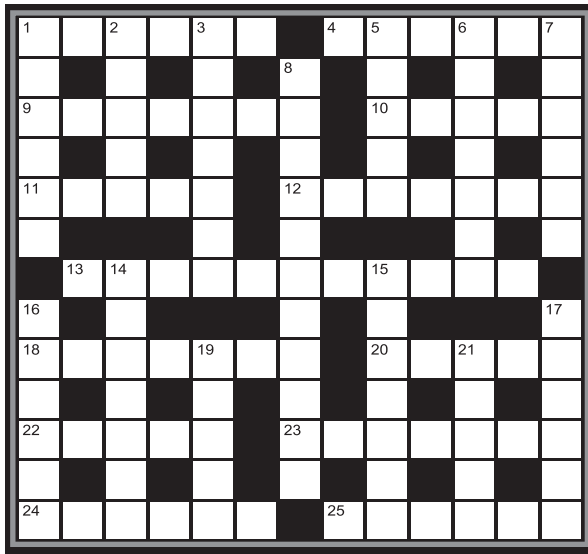
Crossword

page

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

Cryptic



Across

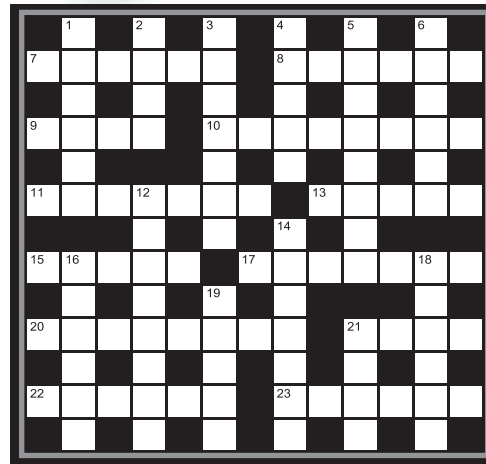
- 1 Row made by fiddle (6)
- 4 Opts for the soft pieces (6)
- 9 Whirlwind rent-a-party (7)
- 10 Sailor, dry, disheartened and late (5)
- 11 Bird hiding in farmhouse loaf (5)
- 12 The lion made a stone tool (7)
- 13 Characters can't mention policy (11)
- 18 Upset by putting it in quartz (7)
- 20 Tremble when she swallows a little potassium (5)
- 22 African antelope from Cleveland (5)
- 23 The weather worried Tim and Alec (7)
- 24 Transparencies of playground structures (6)
- 25 To laze around with a fanatic (6)

Down

- 1 Limit an allowance (6)
- 2 Spades, for example, for California roads (5)
- 3 Lee put a buckle on shoulder ornament (7)
- 5 Plenty to join in game (5)
- 6 Mantra I made up for someone from another planet (7)
- 7 Dreadfully chesty grass cutter (6)
- 8 Company events said to be happening at the same time (11)
- 14 I'm a Giro criminal, manipulating paper (7)

- 15 Dud is confused if miser (7)
- 16 Russian leader swears at lively clubbers (6)
- 17 Choose some wise lecturers (6)
- 19 Confuse the theologian with the French (5)
- 21 Exercise that makes a small number suffer (5)

Quick



Across

- 7 Containing salt (6)
- 8 View comprehensively (6)
- 9 Ready for harvest (4)
- 10 Example (8)
- 11 Dream (7)
- 13 Of no importance (5)
- 15 Frightening (5)
- 17 Windlass (7)
- 20 Pasta in the form of slender tubes (8)
- 21 Remain (4)
- 22 Extreme (6)
- 23 Interfere with (6)

Down

- 1 Boat harbour (6)
- 2 Eat (4)
- 3 Continue to exist (7)
- 4 Requested information about (5)
- 5 Soft running shoes (8)
- 6 Imperfection (6)
- 12 Menace (8)
- 14 Assortment (7)
- 16 Dry red wine (6)
- 18 Rhododendron (6)
- 19 Assembly of witches (5)
- 21 Identical (4)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Suspect, 5 Sales, 8 Stripes, 9 Aorta, 10 Nudge, 11 Augment, 12 Oppose, 14 Bitter, 17 Shelter, 19 Salad, 22 Edict, 23 Balance, 24 Sieve, 25 Errands.

Down:

- 1 Susan, 2 Shred, 3 Express, 4 Tuscan, 5 Slang, 6 Largest, 7 Scatter, 12 Oysters, 13 Precise, 15 Insular, 16 Arable, 18 Tithe, 20 Lenin, 21 Duels.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Scrawl, 4 Caring, 9 Aviator, 10 Groan, 11 Piece, 12 Surface, 13 Grasshopper, 18 Arsenal, 20 Tibia, 22 Cross, 23 Embrace, 24 Deeply, 25 Sextet.

Down:

- 1 Scampi, 2 Raise, 3 Witness, 5 Anger, 6 Isolate, 7 Gander, 8 Crash helmet, 14 Restore, 15 Potable, 16 Rancid, 17 Lament, 19 Nasal, 21 Boast.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

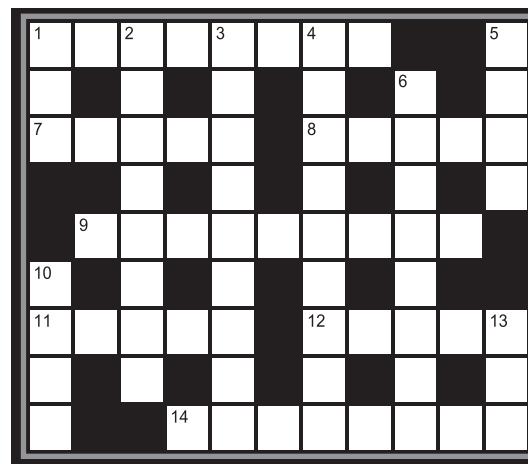
- 1 Lamparas, 8 Grito, 9 Suiza, 10 Fat, 11 Olive, 12 Racha, 13 Ski, 14 Aviso, 15 Listo, 16 Sea horse.

Down:

- 2 Abilities, 3 Profesora, 4 Rastrillo, 5 Suitcases, 6 Ignorar, 7 Ganador.

English - Spanish

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



Across

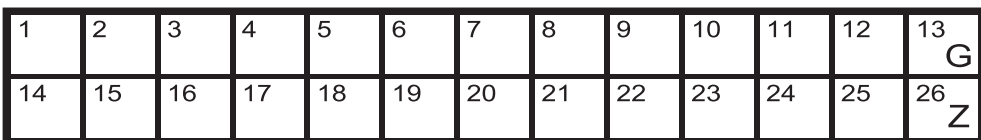
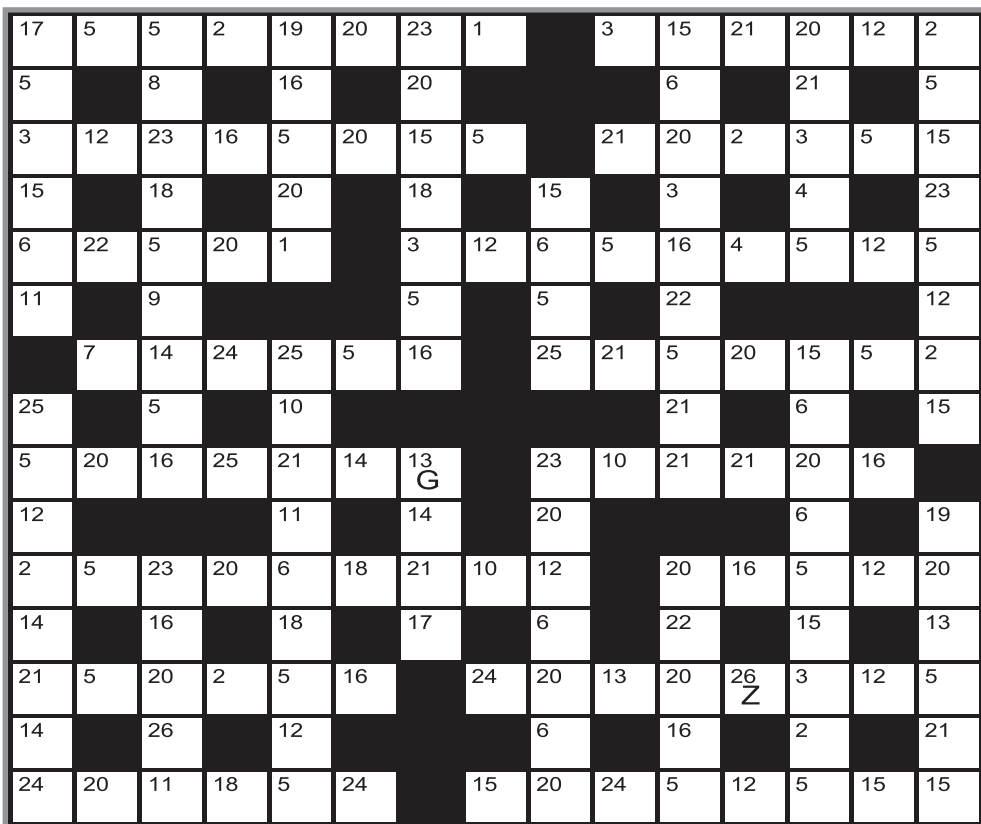
- 1 Souvenir (8)
- 7 Where (5)
- 8 Siete (5)
- 9 Sillones (9)
- 11 Desván (5)
- 12 Vaso (para beber) (5)
- 14 Timbre (8)

Down

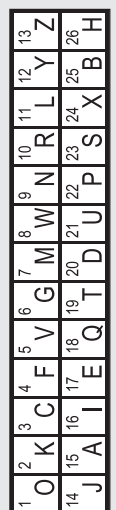
- 1/5 Vino tinto (3,4)
- 2 Hormigón (8)
- 3 Exercise (physical) (9)
- 4 To unload (9)
- 5 See 1
- 6 Adelantar (vehículo, rival) (8)
- 10 Lighthouse (4)
- 13 Sun (3)

Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 13 represents G and 26 represents Z, so fill in G every time the figure 13 appears and Z every time the figure 26 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



CODE BREAKER



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Dr Najma Hussain oversees Medcare's aesthetic suites. Trained as a doctor at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals in London, quali-

fying in the mid-1990s, she went on to train as a GP, working in Reading, and gained further qualifications in gynaecology and obstetrics. After her move to Spain, Dr Hussain's primary focus was aesthetics and providing a natural look using aesthetic and cosmetic treatments.

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Dr Bernabeu also has experience in head and neck reconstruction, micro-surgery and correcting congenital malformations.

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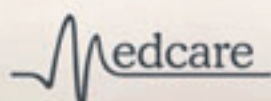


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Ask the Optician: How can I protect my eyes from allergies this spring?

Lisa James, Store Director, Specsavers Opticas Guardamar

UNFORTUNATELY, allergies are becoming more common and the World Health Organisation predicts that one in every two of us will be affected in future decades. Allergies such as hay fever are most prevalent at this time of year and as it has been a wet winter, we expect it to be worse than usual, so wanted to offer some advice on how to protect your eyes.

■ **How do allergies effect the eyes?** Allergies often lead to breathing issues, sneezing and coughing. It also affects the eyes often leaving them red, itchy, watery and in extreme cases can cause swelling of the eyelid and even light sensitivity.

■ **What can we do to protect the eyes?**

There are a number of things we can do to minimise our exposure to pollen;

- Wear large or wraparound sunglasses to stop dust and pollen coming into contact with your eyes.

- Wash your hands more often than usual, try not to rub your eyes and when you come home from being outside, take a shower and change your clothes to make sure you're not bringing pollen into the house.

- Keep your windows closed in your car and house and don't go for walks in the country during the times that you are most sensitive.

- Visit your chemist and ask about antihistamines and eye drops which can reduce your symptoms.

■ **What if I wear contact lenses?** Contact lens users who suffer from allergies can find it hard to wear their lenses over this time. If your eyes are irritated, we advise giving your eyes a rest from lenses, or reducing the time you wear them each day. Daily disposable lenses are the best option if you do want to keep wearing your lenses, as they are new each day, so haven't got any impurities on them. Make sure your hands are very clean before you put in your lenses and try not to rub your eyes.

There are five Specsavers Opticas on the Costa Blanca. Visit your optician if allergies are causing you problems with your eyes and they can give you the best advice. www.specsavers.es



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Personal workouts headed your way

MEDICAL professionals from 11 European countries have worked in close collaboration with computer scientists from Hasselt University in Belgium, to create a device that can offer a personalised workout programme in a bid to prevent heart disease.

The European Association of Preventive Cardiology Exercise Prescription in Everyday Practice and Rehabilitative Training (EXPERT) is a digital instrument that specifies the ideal exercise type, intensity, frequency, and duration needed to prevent a first or repeat cardiovascular event in each user.

“Exercise reduces cardiovascular risk, improves body composition and physical fitness, and lowers mortality and morbidity,” said lead author Professor Dominique Hansen, associate professor in exercise physiology and rehabilitation of internal diseases at Hasselt University: “But surveys have shown that many clinicians experience great difficulties in prescribing specific exercise programmes for patients with multiple cardiovascular diseases and risk factors.”

EXPERT can help. It can be installed on a laptop or PC and during a consultation, a doctor can input the patient’s characteristics and cardiovascular risk factors, their cardiovascular diseases and other chronic conditions, medications, adverse events during



EXERCISE PROGRAMME: Reduces cardiovascular risk and improves body composition and physical fitness.

exercise testing, and physical fitness.

EXPERT then uses this data to design a personalised exercise programme for the patient.

“This tool is the first of its kind,” said Professor Hansen: “It integrates all the international recommendations on exercise to calculate the optimum training programme

for an individual patient. It really is personalised medicine.”

The next step is to test the impact of EXPERT on patients in a clinical trial.



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PALM OIL: Devastating deforestation in Malaysia.

War on palm oil

SPAIN is looking at reducing the amount of palm oil in food and products sold in supermarkets.

Palm oil, which is high in saturated fat, is derived from the fruits of the African palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) and is mainly cultivated in Indonesia and Malaysia which produces 85 per cent of the world production. However, it is the environmental impact such farming has, that is causing concern. Due to the increase in demand, rainforests in Malaysia, Indonesia, and South America are being cut down and replaced with African oil palm plantations.

This deforestation has endangered or wiped out local wildlife on an enormous scale.

To try and counter the

damage to the environment, a Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), was formed in 2004 to try and prevent the negative environmental impacts of palm oil production, but Spain is wanting to take further action.

With the ingredient listed on the labels of many types of food from hamburgers and chips, to cereals and chocolate, as well as cosmetic products, Spanish supermarkets are wanting to limit its impact.

The Dia Supermarket, said as part of its commitment to quality and sustainability, they are asking their suppliers to replace palm oil with another product and, if it is used, they want to see a certificate of sustainability


to show it has been farmed and produced in the best possible way.

Not only is palm oil in focus, but a lot of fats and sugars are also under study by the Ministry of Health which aims to follow the guidelines of the European Union to reduce the use of ingredients that promote obesity, by 2020.

Meanwhile, studies on the potential harmful effects of palm oil are continuing. Last week the El Pinar Institute of Alhaurin de la Torre initiated a campaign on change.org addressed to the Ministry of Health and the Andalusian government to try to end the distribution of palm oil saying it was too high in saturated fats and should not be consumed.



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Arthritis care



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

AROUND 10 million people, including many children, suffer from arthritis in the UK alone. Here, our resident doctor answers some frequently asked questions.

What is arthritis and when does it usually appear?

- Arthritis is the term we give to inflammation of the joints. Not all joint pain has to be arthritis, in fact most joint pain is due to other causes which are not really arthritis.

The reasons it can appear are varied and it can be caused by many things ranging from autoimmune inflammatory conditions, infections, systemic illnesses to trauma etc therefore the moment it appears depends on the type of arthritis. Joint pain can be influenced by weather changes, diet, exercise and other factors meaning it can worsen in the winter.

What are the most common symptoms?

- Arthritis causes joint pain along with swelling in the joints and surrounding areas which can lead to redness, increased temperature, stiffness and is also sometimes related to fevers and a general feeling of being unwell. It can appear in one or more joints and can affect any joint in the body.

How is it diagnosed?

- Diagnosis is initially reached by examining the patient's medical history and listening to a specialist. This is followed by blood tests, x-rays of the affected joint and sometimes analysis of liquid from within the joint although this depends on the

area and whether it is safe to draw off liquid.

Are there any good treatments?

- The usual treatment for arthritis involves resting the joint/s and use of anti-inflammatory medications to reduce the pain. Sometimes the joint can be injected with specific medication and in severe cases surgery is an option.

What about diet?

- Diet is important for almost all ailments. In this case it is of importance especially for those who suffer secondary arthritis due to gout. These patients should avoid products high in uric acid such as red meat, seafood and alcohol.

Is exercise helpful or will that make it worse?

- Exercise should be avoided while the pain is at its worst but added gradually to daily life as swelling reduces.

Is there any way of preventing arthritis before it appears?

- Many forms of arthritis are unavoidable as it is a sign of other problems. Yet those caused by trauma or substance build-up can be avoided by following a healthy, balanced diet, taking moderate daily exercise such as walking to maintain a healthy weight and avoid overstretching joints and keep joint-supporting muscles toned.

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

Figures for Zika are way off the mark

CLAIMS are being made that Puerto Rico is hiding the number of babies born on the island with Zika in a bid to prevent a potential loss in tourism.

According to official data, just 16 Zika-infected children have been delivered since the mosquito-borne illness struck South America last year, but a former US official said this figure could be well off as some 3,300 pregnant women had the virus.

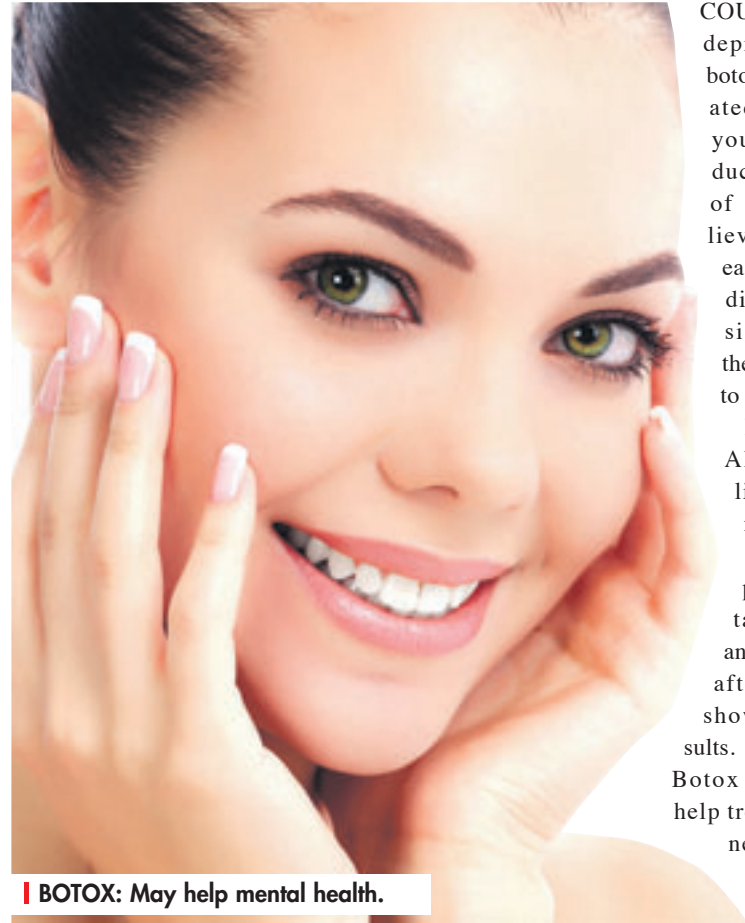
There were 63 Zika births in mainland America out of 1,300 Zika-infected pregnant women.

The former US official said the country is in denial over the problem and in a year or two from now there will be many more babies who aren't learning and developing correctly and all these problems will come to light.

The World Health Organisation declared a global health emergency in February last year due to Zika, and declared it over in mid-November. They said they don't expect a possible vaccine to be available until 2020.

Zika can be particularly dangerous for pregnant women and during the outbreaks last year, women were advised to not get pregnant for six months after travelling to affected countries.

Botox leads to more than just a beautiful face



BOTOX: May help mental health.

COULD botox help beat depression? Although botox is normally associated with giving users youthful looks and reducing the appearance of wrinkles, it is believed it may also help ease mental health conditions by preventing signals being sent to the brain that are linked to low mood.

Pharmaceutical giant Allergan is now believed to be in the final development stages of a botox product to treat mental health disorders and is seeking approval after clinical trials showed favourable results.

Botox is already used to help treat bladder incontinence, severe sweating, headache and muscle stiffness.

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Work and bullying a concern for students

SCHOOL work, anxiety and bullying are the main causes of concern in the life of teenagers. That's the findings from a 'Student's Well-being' study carried out by the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).

The study analysed for the first time students' motivation to perform well in school, their relationships with peers and teachers, their home life, and how they spend their time outside of school. The findings are based on a survey of 540,000 students in 72 participating countries and economies.

The study found that many students are anxious about school work and tests and the analysis reveals this is not related to the number of school hours or the frequency of tests, but with how supportive they feel their teachers and schools are.

On average across OECD countries, 59 per cent of students reported they often worry that taking a test will be difficult, and 66 per cent reported feeling stressed about poor grades. Some 55 per cent of students said they are very anxious for a test even if they are well prepared.

In all countries, girls reported greater school work-related anxiety than boys.

But teachers and parents can make a

difference. Students whose parents reported "spending time just talking to my child," "eating the main meal with my child around a table" or "discussing how well my child is doing at school" regularly were between 22 per cent and 39 per cent more likely to report high levels of life satisfaction. The academic impact is also significant; students who spent time talking with their parents were two-thirds of a school year ahead in science learning.

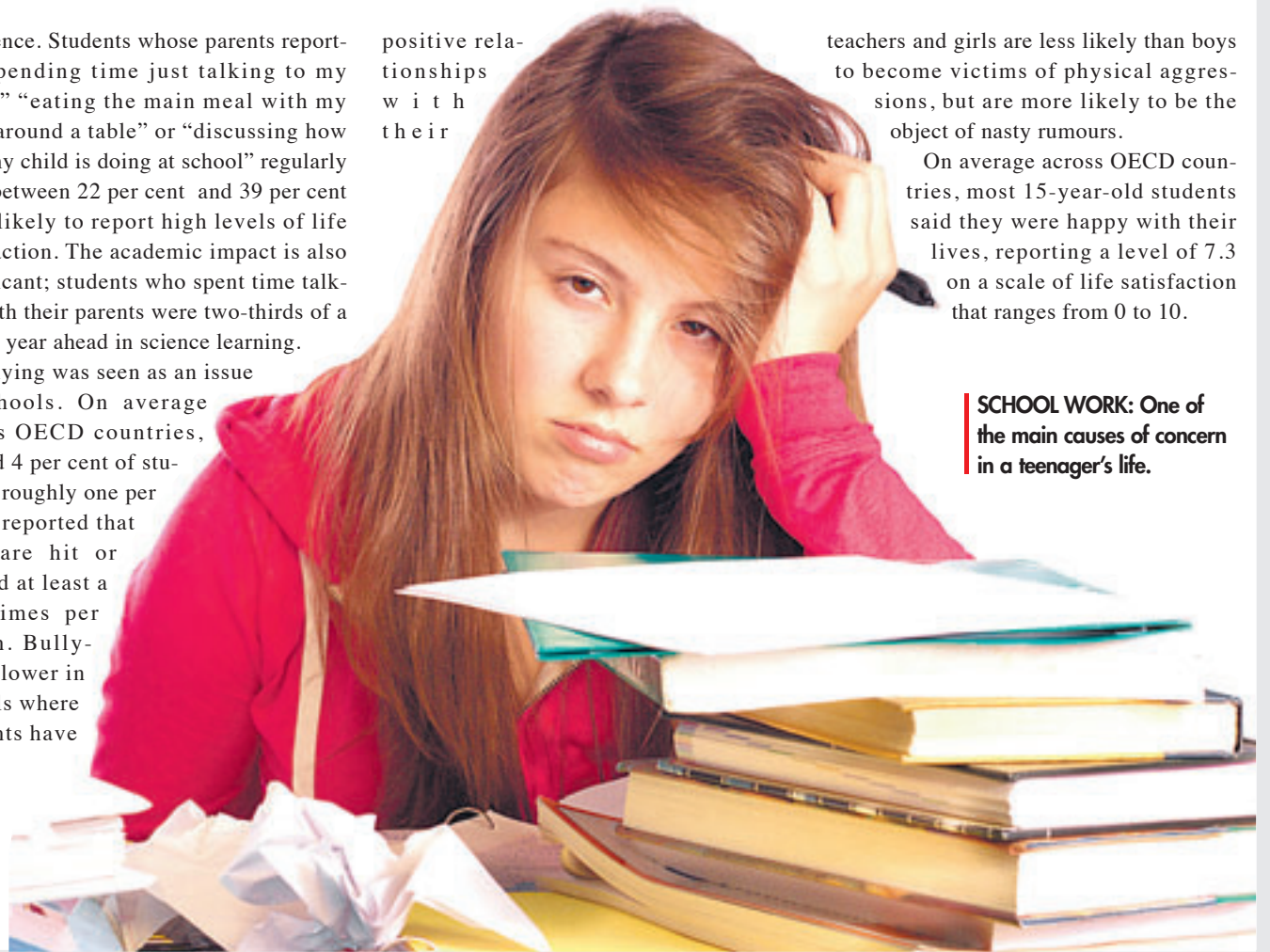
Bullying was seen as an issue in schools. On average across OECD countries, around 4 per cent of students, roughly one per class, reported that they are hit or pushed at least a few times per month. Bullying is lower in schools where students have

positive relationships with their

teachers and girls are less likely than boys to become victims of physical aggressions, but are more likely to be the object of nasty rumours.

On average across OECD countries, most 15-year-old students said they were happy with their lives, reporting a level of 7.3 on a scale of life satisfaction that ranges from 0 to 10.

SCHOOL WORK: One of the main causes of concern in a teenager's life.



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Advertising feature

New look for area's most popular Indian

AFTER a three-month closure to undertake a complete overhaul, the Taj Mahal in Benimar is now back open for business, better than ever before.

Established for over 13 years, serving the best Indian food in the area, the Taj Mahal felt now was the time to give the restaurant a fresh new look for 2017.

Outside, the spacious terrace area is now wrapped in a gloriously golden wooden balcony offering a sleek appearance and complete shade and comfort from the blazing summer sun. Decked flooring and new tables and chairs complete the look.

Inside has also had a makeover. The previously white upper walls and ceiling are now warm and welcoming and the dark red window dressings have been lightened up. There is also a new fresh food show kitchen area where diners can see and watch the experienced chefs create their famous fresh naan breads, tikkas and kebabs which is already loved by customers.



NEW LOOK: Attractive wooden terrace has been added offering more comfort to diners.



New to the Taj Mahal are the Sunday buffets now available. Unlike other buffets, diners will be served a chef's selection of tasty dishes direct to their table, from starters, mains and desserts, for just €14. This is the perfect option for those who love their Indian cuisine but maybe always stick to the same thing, allowing them to sample other dishes, or for those who may be new to Indian and are unsure of what to order. The buffets will allow you to sample a range of dishes with meat and fish options, served mild or hot.

So next time you want an authentic, quality Indian meal, get down to Taj Mahal and see for yourself their new and improved look. Already it is receiving top reviews on TripAdvisor by happy guests.

Taj Mahal
Commercial Centre Benimar,
Benjofar
Tel: 966 712 645 or 606 017 950

Whilst there have been some new additions to the menu, regulars will be pleased to hear that despite the exciting new look, the Taj Mahal has retained its popular choices, although they are back better and tastier than ever thanks to their new, highly experienced and renown chef.

Their three-course menu del dia served at lunchtimes, costs €9.95 al-

lowing customers to sample the best and most authentic curries made with spices from India and no food colourings, at the most affordable prices.

Any dish can be prepared to customer's preference whether they want it mild, medium or hot. Tandoori dishes, cooked in a loam oven and served on a hot sizzler are a speciality but there is something for everyone

from salads and samosas to biryani and baltis.

Diners can choose anything from a mild korma to a hot vindaloo and there is a choice of speciality rices, noodles and breads to accompany your meal. Set menus are also available in the evening for two, four or six people. An a la carte menu is also available, as well as a children's menu. Takeaways are also available.

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All together in electric dreams

AS *Euro Weekly News* went to print, there were still around 1,000 tickets left for the WAM Estrella de Levante electronic music festival, which makes its debut in Murcia from May 2-7.

The festival will bring some of the biggest names on the electronica scene to the city, with headliners including

erstwhile British techno duo Orbital and their spectacular live show, American synth-pop specialists Future Islands, and English band Editors.

They will be joined by big names from the Spanish circuit including Fangoria and Lori Meyers.

In total, more than 50 artists will perform live at various spots around the city, with

the more important gigs taking place at the La Fica venue.

There will also be a series of exhibitions, cinematic screenings, book presentations and other events.

For more information including tickets and a full line-up, see www.wammurcia.es.



ORBITAL:
Legendary live act.

Setting up the stage

ORIHUELA Culture councillor, Mar Ezcurra, presented details of upcoming shows at Circo Theatre, with four concerts, three plays, a stand-up comedian and a family magic show.

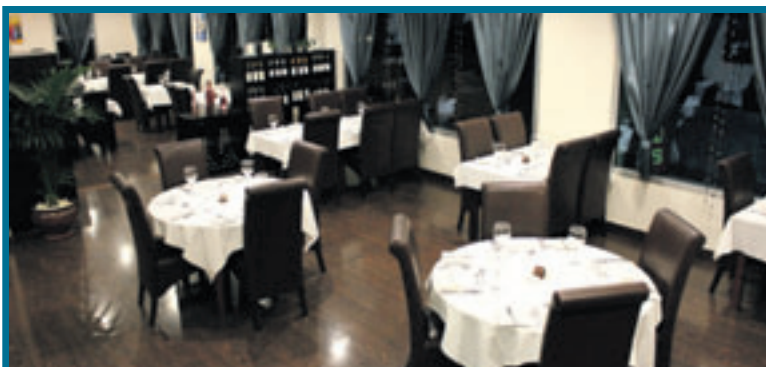
Well-known Spanish singer Coque Malla plays on April 28, promising to "make the public dance with his bold funny lyrics and characteristic rhythm."

The UMH Youth Orchestra are next up on June 2, followed swiftly by famous Lebanese violinist Ara Malikian, who Ezcurra described as "brilliant and expressive," plus Los Panchos and Tamara on June 17.

Two humorous Spanish plays are free on April 30 and May 13, respectively, while *Pancreas*, a contemporary comedy performed in verse directed by Juan Carlos Rubio, closes the programme on May 27.

A family magic show is set to wow on May 28, while popular Spanish comedian Dani Mateo is in town on June 16.

www.teatrocircoihuela.wordpress.com.



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Summer in the city

THE ADDA auditorium in Alicante City has planned its most ambitious summer programme to date, with a varied line-up brimming with international talent.

Mixing jazz, flamenco, world and classical music, provincial president Cesar Sanchez was convinced that the venue is on to a winner as he highlighted the great diversity on offer.

Launching the programme, which is available in four languages including English, Sanchez called it "insurmountable and universal," adding that "this is a programme the likes of which the ADDA has never

seen, combining an array of talent which accommodates both international and Spanish musicians.

"In short, it is a commitment to this fusion which places Alicante Province at the forefront of the national cultural, artistic and musical offering."

It is the second year that ADDA has produced a high quality summer programme, and the booklet includes a brief overview of each artist, plus information about the venue itself.

Under the general title 'Geografia' [Geography], the line-up includes British pianist and composer Michael Nyman and

his band, Cuban artist Richard Bona accompanied by Mandekan Cubano, and jazz noodlers Andrea Motis and John Scofield.

For more info, see www.diputacionalicante.es/es/ladda/.

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GOOD WINE AND
GOOD FRIENDS**
WITH
GARRY WAITE



TRIPADVISOR HAS RELEASED STATISTICS that show that Aqua Shard in London is the UK's most reviewed restaurant, while Park Plaza Westminster Bridge is the most reviewed hotel.

The news came as the customer driven review platform announced that it now has more than 500 million reviews and opinions on its website, and receives 290 pieces of user-generated content every minute of every day.

Aqua Shard, which sits within the 95-storey Shard building in Southwark, has received more than 11,000 reviews and sits 737th out of 17,953 restaurants in the capital. Meanwhile Park Plaza Westminster Bridge has received more than 15,000 reviews and is 192nd out of 1,087 hotels in London.

The most reviewed hotel in Spain would appear to be the Hotel Becquer in Sevilla with 3,866 posts. Locally the lovely Hotel Molino de Santo in Benaosan Juan has 1,119.

The most reviewed UK tourist attraction is the London Eye, which has more than 57,000 reviews.

Worldwide, the most reviewed hotel is the Luxor Las Vegas, with 29,000 reviews. The most reviewed restaurant in the world is Pasteis de Belem in Lisbon, with 26,000 reviews, and the most reviewed tourist attraction is the Basilica of the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, with more than 107,000 traveller reviews.

Stephen Kaufer, chief executive officer and co-founder of TripAdvisor, said: "Many savvy businesses report seeing incremental increases in the ratings and rankings



The first stone was laid on March 19, 1882 following the Neo-gothic design drawn up by the architect Francisco de Paula del Villar y Lozano. Antoni Gaudi took over the design of the Sagrada Familia in 1883 until his death on June 10, 1926 due to a traffic accident. The central tower of 172.5 metres (566 feet) will make it the tallest cathedral in Europe, because the tallest tower in Europe is Ulm, at 162 metres (531.5 feet). Construction has entered its final period. The project should be completed by 2030/32, 150 years after the first stone was laid!.

on TripAdvisor when they engage with travellers by responding to reviews and using the feedback to improve their customers' experience."

Nonetheless, not all hospitality businesses are happy with the way in which reviews are handled on the site, with some complaining of difficulties having reviews they see as malicious or inaccurate being taken down by the website.

I have said before I am not convinced about the service and have never understood their use of 'algorithms.' I have personally taken their 'content integrity department' to task over simple readings with questions like, "If restaurant A has 150 reviews of which 140 are excellent and have been posted within a two-month period and restaurant B has less reviews with more good than excellent over the same period of time how come B is higher in the rankings?" The reply was more like a Chicken or The Egg conundrum!!

(Content information courtesy of TripAdvisor and The Caterer and Hotelkeeper)

ONE OF THE REASONS that I opened Restaurant Nueva Campana, in Nueva Andalucia, Marbella some years ago was because of the highly successful restaurant next door, Il Ristorante.

Based on the old adage of 'never open a newsagent where there isn't a newsagent'! A couple of years ago they moved away to bigger - and better premises - in Golf Valley. It took them a while to find their pattern but they are back to their old selves again and a visit with some of my favourite clients/friends last Friday proved very enjoyable.

While Location, Location is very important if you don't serve quality and value for money it's all for now!! Menu del Día's abound on our Costas ranging from €7.50 to €30. Pitch it at €15 with extras available then you have a good chance of capturing the local market. Thanks to Renée and Sabine and staff at Conrad's and especially to my friends, for a splendid lunchtime.

If you have a favourite lunchtime venue, dear reader, wherever you live please let me know, I would like to get a list of Value for Money Eateries in your area.

IN MY WINE CORNER this week, I dusted off a bottle of Corral Gran Reserva 1987. From Rioja Alta and made with 80 per cent Tempranillo, 15 per cent Garnacha and 5 per cent Mazuelo, I was pleasantly surprised that it was in very good condition for a 30-year-old wine. Hav-

| Taken from my own 'cellar.' I've had it for more than 20 years.

ing said that, while it was still pretty good on the nose it would be fair to say it had lost a little of its finesse. Having left a glass in the bottle overnight (I know!!!) it hadn't kept up the next day despite being vacuumed. It certainly wouldn't last much longer in my opinion. So if you've got any, I suggest you start drinking it!!

“

**I cook with wine -
sometimes I even add it
to the food.”**

W C Fields



Are traditional pubs losing out to trendy bars and restaurants?

WE CONSTANLY HEAR ABOUT the number of British pubs that close in the UK every year. Now the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has pledged to help halt the decline in the number of pubs in London, as new figures show the city has lost 1,220 pubs since 2001.

That's around 80 a year. There have been many studies about why this has been happening but I'm not sure that anyone has studied the 'fashion' element.

Are there more trendy wine bars/pubs meaning the younger crowd are moving away from the traditional pub? Have communities changed? Are country pubs losing their appeal? Is it the fact that some of the established pubs don't serve food? Or maybe the food they serve is poor.

Or of course there simply could be too many pubs for the amount of people. Lon-

don's population is 10 million. Let's assume that three million of those are children - that leaves, say, seven million adults.

Now, obviously, not all these adults go out to drink, but if they did, with 3,615 pubs in the whole of the city that would mean less than 2,000 customers for each pub. I'm not going to carry on with figures, but you see what I mean?

As the article on this page re TripAdvisor tells you there are nearly 18,000 restaurants in London - five times more than there are pubs! And getting a seat in a restaurant in London is a lot harder than finding standing room in a pub. Must tell us something don't you think?

I remember in the early 80's the trend in the cities was to turn banks into modern pubs. Can we think of something else to reduce the population of bankers?

ON THAT NOTE I will bid you farewell until next week and should aspiring restaurateurs need some help or advice, please do not hesitate to contact me.
A toast to Good Food, Good Wine and Good Friends.

Garry Waite is a well-known foodie and restaurateur as well as a Hospitality Management Consultant. If you are contemplating setting up an operation in Spain, or indeed having problems with an existing project contact him on garrywaite@euroweeklynews.com.

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By Matthew Elliott

ESTATE agents, property specialists and local experts throughout the southern Costa Blanca have dedicated themselves to making their region, your home, or future home, one of the most vibrant and profitable communities in Europe.

Their tireless efforts have recaptured the imagination of the public who are now drawn once again to the sandy shores of Orihuela Costa, Torrevieja and throughout Alicante Province. From British expatriates to Chinese investors, property on the Costa Blanca is attracting a full spectrum of people determined to make the region their home, whether for themselves and their families, or for their bright new businesses.

All this extra attention and potential for profit has led to the Costa Blanca South pioneering a new method of conducting business in the property world, one characterised by professionalism, transparency and trust. The key to this is the strong roots regional realtors have in their local community. The property experts you will see throughout these pages are not anonymous businessmen and women, they are the backbone of our thriving society here on the Costa Blanca.

Local Costa Blanca businesses have also hugely embraced the 21st century by offering

Paving the way forward



COSTA BLANCA: One of the most vibrant communities in Europe.

a modern touch to their property services. Why today you can enjoy a myriad of mobile applications allowing you to analyse your potential new home, or the market dynamics, in greater detail than ever before and also

from the comfort of your estate agent's office.

On a broader scale the dynamics of Spanish property have rarely been in better shape as sellers and buyers alike enjoy a strength-

ening, stabilising market which is acutely aware of past mistakes and has thus restructured itself with more confidence and transparency than ever before.

Of course it is important to remember that property isn't only about buying and selling homes, but also investing in the local community. That's why the advertisers featured throughout these pages have been especially selected for the benefit of our readership.

These are men and women who have devoted their working lives to helping the Costa Blanca grow and making it a secure, prosperous environment for ourselves and our children. It is through their unshakeable belief in a recovery that we can stand here today and once again truly visualise our dreams coming true.

So as you look through these pages, just remember that, if you are looking to buy or sell your property, you have a wide range of businesses and people you can trust to get the job done properly, honestly and pave the way forward for you and your family.

We're a good estate agent in Sweden. So we're a brilliant estate agent in Spain. Hurrah for relativity!

In Spain, you don't need any particular qualification to call yourself an estate agent. You can just set up shop and off you go! So it's no wonder that some people have had bad experiences finding a property in Spain. But that's where we come in. We're Sweden's leading estate agent and we take a completely different approach. Our starting point is always to find out who you are and what you're looking for. We're members of the AIPP trade body and hold liability insurance that covers our work. So please feel free to contact a real estate agent in Spain.

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Enduring love affair

BOTH British and American homeowners are keeping their passion for Spain alive and kicking. British interest in dream Spanish homes has rocketed up with almost 20 per cent more online inquiries in March 2017 than in March of last year.

Tens of thousands of direct inquiries in-

to the cost and location of Spanish homes were registered in just one month. The news shows that Brexit appears to be encouraging rather than diminishing British interest in Spanish property.

Reasons for this are twofold. Very little of the dramatic predictions Remain campaigners warned of have come true.

There's still plenty time of course, but at the moment the situation appears to have stabilised. All the while the Spanish property market is going from strength to strength.

Secondly some Brits are being directly encouraged by Brexit to seek new homes abroad.

Young couples with a mind for adventure, retired couples eager to snap up a sunny property without complex red tape, and those who prefer having an EU passport are looking at Spain, France and Italy as an escape route from Brexit Britain.

American interest too has soared. In fact Americans are now among the top 10 groups inquiring about Spanish properties online, forming a competitive rivalry for properties with Scandinavians, Germans, French and Brits.

Just as Brexit has inspired some wealthier UK nationals to seek a second home abroad, the arrival of Donald Trump in the White House has encouraged thousands of US citizens to knock the dust off their passports and consider Europe.



DREAM HOMES: Interest in Spanish properties seems to be encouraging.



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Ref 4306 Attractive price only 165,000 Euros
NEW Semi-detached Villas in La Zenia, beautiful modern design 93 m2, 100m from Zenia Boulevard shopping centre, walking distance to beach, ready in 2 months, 3 bed 2 bath



BARGAIN
Ref 4110 Absolutely Bargain price 179,995 Euros
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Ref 3996 Price only 99,995 Euros
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Want to splash out this summer? Get clever with currency

Sun, sea, sand – Spain offers all the key components of a perfect summer.

While spending a few weeks getting bronzed with a book sounds pretty good, you might take the opportunity to travel and try out activities unavailable back home. If you're hoping to spend your summer entertaining family or embracing new experiences, you might find that you need to transfer money to Spain to finance your plans. But could you get more for your money by being clever with currency? Here are some top tips to help...

Keep an eye on the exchange rate

Exchange rates are notoriously volatile, and their habit of reacting dramatically to all sorts of political and economic news can make it annoyingly difficult to pick a good time to make a currency transfer. For example, UK PM Theresa May's surprise decision to call for an early general election saw GBP/EUR jump from €1.1762 to €1.1990 – a 2017 high. If you'd been planning to move £100,000 to Spain, your money would have been worth €117,620 before May's announcement but €119,900 after, a difference of over €2,000!

While some market moves can be impossible to predict, you've got a better chance of picking the right time to move your money abroad if you follow the latest currency news. To do this, simply sign up to receive free market updates from a leading currency transfer provider.

Don't let fees spoil your fun

Most banks apply fees when transferring money abroad – but you don't always have to pay to send funds overseas. Some currency transfer providers work on a fee-free basis, and the money you save by avoiding added fees can really add up if you send money to Spain regularly.

So, if you were moving to Spain monthly and were being charged £25 a time by your bank to do so, by the end of the summer you'd have an extra £100 to spend on treating yourself – that's a lot of ice creams!

Time is precious, don't waste yours

Organising regular currency transfers to Spain with your bank can be time consuming and (as mentioned above) pretty costly. Save yourself time, money and hassle by using a currency transfer

provider with the specialist services and expertise you need to make the process a breeze.

With providers like Currencies Direct you can use a regular transfer service to set up a weekly, monthly or quarterly Direct Debit and lock-in a rate for future transfers, while also benefitting from no fees, bank-beating exchange rates and access to a dedicated currency expert.

Find out how to get more from your currency transfers now so you can make the most of summer.

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Billionaire bunkers

WITH the world teetering on the brink of nuclear war or environmental ruin, many with money to burn are buying so-called 'billionaire bunkers' to protect them during the apocalypse.

Bunkers deep underground and dotted around the American countryside are selling for millions of dollars.

Far from the modest bunkers of the London blitz, these plush affairs come with all the luxuries your average billionaire expects.

Bombproof and with artificial stars and sunlight, they offer vast entertainment suites,

food storage facilities and connections to the outside world, should anything be left of it.

And it's not just in America. Europe is well used to the threat of nuclear annihilation.

Nuclear bunkers in the old Soviet bloc are now being spruced up and rented out as the new cold war threatens to turn very hot.



PLUSH AFFAIRS:
Bunkers are selling for millions of dollars.



PROPERTY ASSETS: Handed to the next generation.

Passing down wealth

PROPERTY assets worth almost €500 billion will be handed down to younger generations of Brits in the next few decades according to a survey of homeowners.

Royal London found that baby boomers, generally now aged over 60 expect to leave an estate worth between €450,000 and €600,000 on average. Those figures were averages from a survey of over 5,000 people. There are roughly one million such people leaving estates in

their will, with the resulting asset avalanche totalling around €500 billion.

Most of the money will be passed on to the next generation, typically people aged 45-64. The survey found that some of these people felt pressure to pass down at least a portion of the windfall to their own adult children, people aged 25-44 who have endured the bulk of the crisis and typically don't have properties to call their own.

Delivery delight

REAL ESTATE in Spain is getting a welcome boost from an unlikely source. The immense popularity of delivery services has led to an enormous increase in the number of storage facilities being built.

Companies like Amazon and El Corte Ingles are competing for the booming delivery market as more Spaniards realise they can get around restricted opening hours by simply ordering their shopping online.

That has led to an insatiable demand for warehouses and other logistics facilities across the country. Interestingly this has a knock-on effect on residential and commercial real estate.

The construction industry is better lubricated than it has been in decades and materials are in abundant supply. Unlike the UK, Spain is well on track to meet hot demand for new homes and developments.

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Spain embraces 'Prop-tech'

SPANISH real estate is being colonised by new companies who are determined to simplify and shake up the marketplace with technological tools. The phenomenon has been baptised 'prop-tech' after the 'fin-tech' which radically changed the financial world.

Prop-tech is a broad umbrella term that includes all manner of exciting new entrants to the property market. Among them are crowdfunding schemes, big data companies, virtual reality-using marketeers, and countless other start up groups who bring their own unique ideas to the table.

Crowdfunding for instance enables large groups of people to pool together their money to allow a company or individual to buy a property. It negates the need for bank loans and is a revolutionary model of fundraising that is transforming charities, businesses and even politics.

Big data companies are able to offer clients an in-depth perspective on particular property markets. They use advanced computer software to analyse and predict trends in different neighbourhoods, putting together a complete analytical package that gives potential buyers a better idea of whether their investment will pay off.

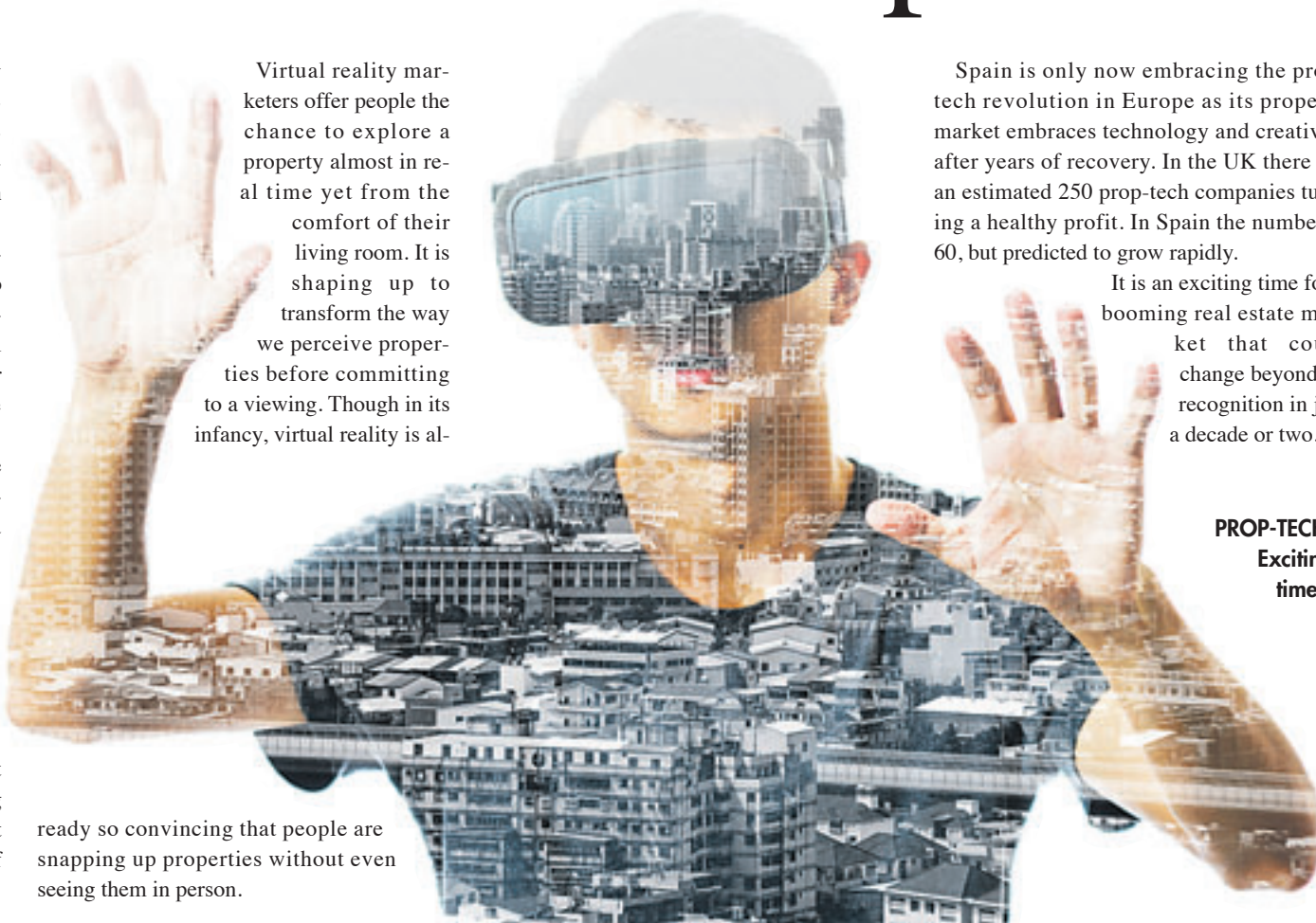
Virtual reality marketers offer people the chance to explore a property almost in real time yet from the comfort of their living room. It is shaping up to transform the way we perceive properties before committing to a viewing. Though in its infancy, virtual reality is al-

ready so convincing that people are snapping up properties without even seeing them in person.

Spain is only now embracing the prop-tech revolution in Europe as its property market embraces technology and creativity after years of recovery. In the UK there are an estimated 250 prop-tech companies turning a healthy profit. In Spain the number is 60, but predicted to grow rapidly.

It is an exciting time for a booming real estate market that could change beyond all recognition in just a decade or two.

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La Marina

LMS1089 · 89,950€



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This lovely three bedroom, one bathroom 'Julia' style property is all on one level with a large roof top solarium and HAS JUST BEEN REDUCED! There is also a communal swimming pool and other extras.

Gran Alacant

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Celtis australis - the European Hackberry

By Graeme Tyrrell

THE Hackberry or Nettle tree is one of the Mediterranean's hardiest native large trees that you will probably see lining streets and boulevards and standing as a valued specimen in private and public gardens as well as in native forested areas.

They are a very attractive deciduous shade tree of the Elm family with a smooth greyish bark, small leaves, small edible fruit, long lived (to around 500 years), fast growing in good conditions, drought tolerant once established and will grow in most soils in Spain below 1,000 metres.

If you don't have the space to grow a large tree they are also very hardy in containers, tolerating constant pruning to maintain a suitable size.

They are a favourite for bonsai enthusiasts as the trunk develops strongly but can be supported by a few healthy branches with the small leaves giving the good proportions required for a bonsai tree.

In my vegetable garden, I have a large one that is trained, by pruning, to



Photo by Meneerke bloem Wikimedia

CELTIS AUSTRALIS: An attractive deciduous shade tree of the Elm family.

act as an umbrella to add shade during the middle of the day in summer but allow morning and afternoon sun.

In winter there is enough sun after the tree loses its leaves. The leaves provide a very good addition of mulch to the garden.

I collect the self sown seedlings to make bonsai trees.

The fruit is edible and can be used to make jams. It was a food source when other food was scarce. Collecting the small berries is a lot of work as they are best when black in colour.

They ripen at different times so collecting the best ripe fruit is tedious. Many birds are attracted to the trees when the fruit is ripe.

The flower is insignificant in size, with its main interest being that it doesn't have flower petals.

The seed sprouts very easy to grow new trees, in fact birds spread the seed so young trees can appear throughout the gardens when a tree is fruitful.

Fresh seed needs stratification by exposure to cold to simulate winter conditions, such as storing in a fridge for several weeks, before it will sprout.

This follows the natural process of the seeds passing winter in the soil and emerging in spring to grow when conditions are more favourable.

The wood of the Hackberry tree is very useful for making tool handles, walking sticks, whips and items made by wood turning.

The qualities of the wood are that it is flexible without splitting easily.

The roots of the tree give a yellow dye that has been used for colouring silk cloth. The leaves and fruit have been used as remedies for various stomach region problems.

They have few pest and disease problems making them a healthy addition to the garden as they require little corrective maintenance other than pruning of excess branches.

It's all Greek to me

MOST know the beauty of Greece and its simplicity. There is no other place in the world that presents the colours white and blue as successfully as the Greeks do. The little white houses looks as if they are part of the landscape, carved out and designed by a mythical God.

It is possible to achieve a Greek-style in your home by following a few simple rules, using natural colours and materials; keeping it simple and achieving symmetrical balance, applied through shape, texture and colour.

This creates a sense of

calm, which is probably why Greece has always been a popular holiday destination, for those that seek tranquillity.

Start by whitewashing walls, painting window frames blue and adding stone colours to give more depth. Greeks use marble or limestone for flooring but there are other options, which include vinyl flooring that mimics marble and cement limestone. Once the blank canvas has been created, you could lay down a traditional striped patterned rug or one that has a classic motif.

There are two prominent styles in Greece, which include the

'Cycladean' and the 'Hellenic' styles. The former adheres to the simple medieval style of the white houses on the islands, which were built for defence against the sun. The latter hails from the golden age of classical Greece, which used a more decadent and ornate design and materials, including brass and marble.

Choose furniture and decoration, including wooden tripod tables and stools; carvings; embroidered tapestry; glazed pottery; coloured glassware.

Other furnishings to include are: mosaic tiles for the bathroom, floors walls and shower; white linen for the bedroom and hardwood dining table and chairs.



GREEK-STYLE:
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Advertising feature

Pool heating: booming green business?

WHY is pool heating becoming more and more popular?

Albert from Poolworx: "Swimming whenever you want, whatever the season, that's what our customers are looking for and that's what we make possible. The Spanish property market is lifting up and home-owners simply want to get the most out of their pool and enjoy time off on their own or with family and friends."

A Belgian company with roots in Spain... why is that?

Albert: "Already before I started Poolworx my wife and I invested our first savings in a second home in Spain. Pretty soon we found that there were no (truly) efficient, affordable, durable heating solutions available in the larger costa areas of Spain. A lot of 'bricolage' but no professional products. In Belgium though, a lot of pools and domestic heating is provided for by using Duratech heat pumps. This is a high end Belgium-made product, developed in cooperation with Belgian universities. It absorbs heat from the ambient air and transfers it into the water from the pool, like a reverse aircon. For each kW consumed by the heat pump, 6 kW can be returned to the pool. So five out of 6 kW are for free. Combined with our LED lighting



INSTALLER PAUL: Hands-on. |

solutions, this saves a whole lot of energy!"

"I initially shipped a Duratech heat pump to Spain for myself and quickly found that in Spanish climate conditions, these heat pumps are ridiculously efficient! So, a few years ago, I decided to start off as official distributor for Duratech! Since then, it's going well and we are working on the marriage between digital services and hands-on installers."

So, you are looking for partnerships with

installers?

Albert: "Poolworx is growing and the Spanish costa is very long! We focus on distribution to professionals or directly to end-customers while liaising with local installers for installation. So naturally, we are eager to build up a better local network of skilled installers."

"At the same time, we centralise customer service and do all of the marketing to end-customers ourselves. This is the only way to offer the unique low prices we publish on our website for a professional product such as Duratech. On top of that we make sure that for every larger region there is a premium partnership in place for second line service, to guarantee our two year warranty, and help our customers for many years."

"We believe this is the way of working for the future, the only way to ensure long-term quality and stay in touch with customer feedback. We learn and improve continuously and are always fully transparent on what we can, or cannot make possible with our LED and heat pump technology. Our way of working also enables installers to focus on what they do best: installation and service! Any installer must

adhere to our factory instructions and guidelines."

Do you think of yourself as a disruptive start-up?

"Not really. We always think win-win, maybe that is disruptive? We invest big in digital services and are reaching out to interested customers via our state-of-the art website, via Google and Social Media. For this, we involve our installers in order to increase our knowledge and visibility along the Spanish costas. In case you are interested, contact us! I'm sure we can heat up more pool lives!"

LEDs: Energy saving for the future.



Contact Poolworx or refer your preferred installer for a no obligation 'pool specific' price quote, by calling Spain 643 363 179 or Belgium (+32) 497 408 800, email albert@poolworx.es or visit their websites in English at WWW.POOLWORX.EU | Spanish at WWW.POOLWORX.ES | Dutch at WWW.POOLWORX.BE

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Bougainvillea in all their regalia

THE bougainvillea can be found all over the Mediterranean, but it's not originally from this area. These plants are natives of Brazil, a tropical plant that can grow red or purple flowers.

In 1768, it was named by the French botanist, Dr Philibert Commerson in honour of his ship's Captain Admiral Louis-Antoine de Bougainville and became an official species in the 1980s. English and French breeding nurseries sent these plants all over the world.

There are 14 species, but only three types have cultural importance: glabra, peruviana and spectabilis.

To maintain a bougainvillea in a pot, it must be placed in an area

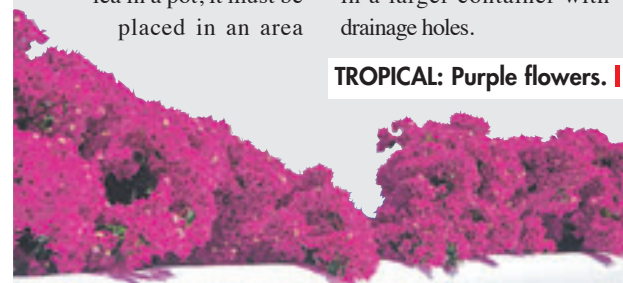
that receives at least six hours of sunlight each day. If it's outside, then make sure it's elevated above a drainage dish, so roots can grow out of the drainage holes. The roots need room to spread.

It's important to let the soil dry out between watering. Water the plant until it drips out of the drainage holes, then discard the water in the drainage dish to prevent the soil from remaining soggy.

During spring and autumn, feed them every two weeks and every three to four weeks during winter.

If the plant needs repotting, take out the soil, handling the roots very carefully and place in a larger container with drainage holes.

TROPICAL: Purple flowers. |



Chica the Golden Retriever who is 10 years old likes being at home

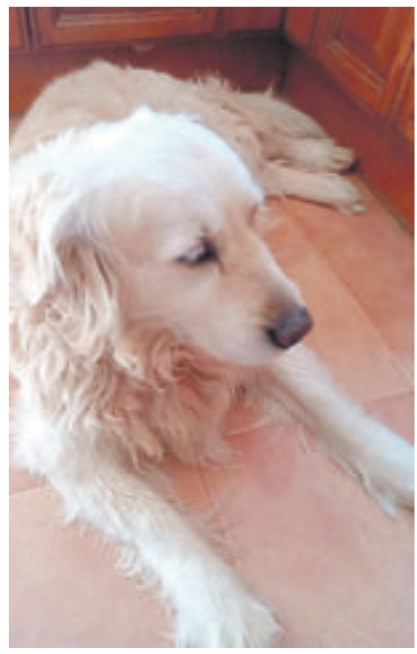
NOW that she is 10 years old, Chica, Annie's faithful companion of some five years prefers to stay at home. Annie found her in a rescued pets home.

Chica had been abandoned by her owners. Remarkably, Chica came with her pedigree papers which showed that she is a pure bred Golden Retriever, originally from Sweden. She has also lived in Portugal and Spain, so within her first five years of life she had moved around quite a lot which can be disorienting for animals.

Annie has always used house-sitters to care for her pets at home. She prefers for the pets to maintain their regular routine in their own environment.

So when Annie decided to go away for a short trip with her family it seemed the best decision was to have the three dogs and her cat stay at home in the care of experienced house-sitters.

Annie had heard Lamia Walker, the founder of HouseSitMatch being interviewed on David the Dogman's TRE radio show, so she contacted us. Within a couple of weeks, we had found a retired British couple living in Spain who said they would love to house-sit, keeping her home occupied and secure, maintaining the garden and caring for her pets. The sitters Rod and Hazel had



CHICA: A faithful companion.

lived in Malaga and said that it would be a lovely trip for them.

They could visit friends and reacquaint themselves with their favourite places in Malaga, while taking care of Annie's home and pets in exchange for free accommodation. They seem to be a good match!

Do you need a house or pet-sitter? Get in touch. House-sitting can be a win-win for both parties, free house and pet-sitting, and the experienced and checked sitters get free accommodation! Register as either house-sitter or homeowner now with a 50 per cent off introductory offer using coupon code SPECIAL50. To find a house or pet-sitter go to www.HousesitMatch.com or call Lamia on 00 44 (0) 777 214 2742.

Fluff, fleas and fertility

AT this time of year, cats will be shedding hair like there's no tomorrow and this process repeats itself in autumn as well as spring.

There are ways to reduce the amount of hair that accumulates in your home, by brushing your cat's coat on a daily basis.

When the days get longer, female cats' hormones are stimulated and they come into heat, getting pregnant as young as five to six months of age. Male cats become fertile around the same time. It's a good idea to get your cat spayed or neutered. It helps to keep numbers down, reduces transmission of disease, and keeps them closer to home, rather than fighting in the streets.

The warmer weather encourages fleas, so it's

wise to protect your cat, even before the weather changes. The garden and outside areas can be dangerous to your cat, so make sure that

fertilisers, pesticides and chemicals are put away. If an area has been sprayed with toxic material, then it's best to keep the cat away until it has

lost its potency. Plants could also be a danger, including lilies, tulips, lily of the valley and azaleas.

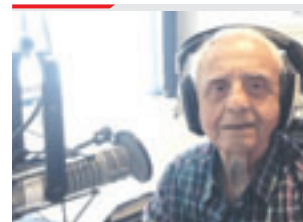
Like humans, pets can also suffer with allergies, so look out for excessive scratching, hair loss and skin rashes. Vaccinations are also

very important for your cat. If, in

any doubt, always consult your vet, especially if they are displaying unusual behaviour.



Trauma in pets, part 1



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SOME cats and dogs can have the best start in life and still grow up with behavioural concerns being fearful. Others that missed out on critical socialisation experiences such as puppies or abandoned kittens which impacted their development. But what about dogs who can have it worse?

How does trauma impact our pets?

Some of the cats and dogs we take into our homes don't just come from neglectful pasts but have lived with outright abuse. Sometimes this abuse has been

due to mistreatment at the hands of a past owner, and sometimes it has happened in the current home despite the owner's best intentions. Trauma has a lifelong impact on many cats and dogs.

Dog Training is still an unregulated field, which means there are still many so-called trainers who use aversive training techniques to address behavioural problems. This is the reason why there are many organisations for the premier experts in animal behaviour.

Although much progress has been made, many trainers and people have a position statement regarding the use of punishment in training.

Manufacturing fear or avoidance in an already panicked animal does not create an environment where critical learning can take place.

I have heard of trainers in this day and age using electrical collars on dogs who suffer from separation anxiety for barking, hanging dog-aggressive dogs by their neck when they lunged at others,

and strapping electronic collars to dogs' genitals in the name of behaviour modification.

Remember that you are your pet's advocate. If something doesn't seem right to you, it is up to you to put your foot down and protect your pet. Even something as seemingly mild as squirting a reactive pet with a water bottle or gently placing a frightened cat or dog into a fear-inducing situation and preventing that cat or dog from leaving can have long-lasting consequences.

While you may have had the best intentions when you followed the advice of the trainer on TV or tried a technique that your 'friend' swears by, if your dog responded by panicking or shutting down and if you've noticed your dog's behaviour has deteriorated since then, it's possible that your dog could be experiencing a canine version of Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS). It is time to discuss this with your vet who might well refer you to a behaviour consultant.

More to follow...



TRAUMA: Can have a lifelong impact on cats and dogs.

How fit is that doggy in the window?

SPRING is about new beginnings and brushing away the cobwebs, after being cooped up inside.

Dogs are out on the streets and in the parks with their owners, but are they protected enough?

The warmer weather could easily present issues for your dog's health, including heartworm, so make sure the dog receives a year-round monthly heartworm preventive.

This is also the time of year

for mosquitoes, fleas and ticks; so protect your dog well in advance and your dog will thank you for it. It is worth asking your vet about the latest products in flea protection.

Dogs, like their owners, need exercise, especially after living the sedentary lifestyle that winter encourages. However, don't rush your dog, as he needs to warm up before doing anything too strenuous, otherwise he'll end up with an injury.

Therefore, it is wise to build

up a fitness regime gradually, giving the dog time to adapt.

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THE ANGLICAN CHURCH, La Fustera. For more info: contact Frank Bentley on 966 495 188 (95461)

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ROUNDAABOUT CHARITY SHOP. We are now into summer and very soon we will be

feeling the heat! It is time therefore for another visit to the shop where you might find a bargain or two. Choose from the clothing selection, jewellery, household goods, books or bric a brac. There is usually something there for everyone - but not always. Charitable donations have recently been made to The Alzheimers Centre, Cancer Research and The Amigos Ambulance Service. We still need your help with donations etc. Please keep them coming in! We are situated on Avenida Del Furs close to the Fountain Roundabout and immediate left by Don Colchon bed shop. (93325)

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION, Torrevieja Branch, meet at 17.00 on the first Wednesday of each month at the Restaurante El Paraiso, Urb. Jardin del Mar 3 (behind Carrefour), Torrevieja. Contact Paul Edwards, Chairman 618 644 934 or Margaret Forshaw, Secretary 966 921 996. (95455)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Orihuela Costa - covering from Punta Prima to San Javier. The branch meets at Olympia restaurant, Mil Palmeras on 3rd Thursday of each month at 19.00 - 19.30pm. More info can be found on branch website www.oriuelacostarbl.co.uk. (95457)

HELP VEGA BAJA. We are a non-profit making organisation that helps and supports anyone, without prejudice, in times of need or crisis within the Vega Baja area. Our offices are based in San Miguel at Calle Lope de Vega 46 (Tel 966 723 733), Torrevieja at Rambla Juan Mateo Garcia 4 (Tel 965 704 282). Both offices are open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 1.30 pm and the Helpdesk at La Marina is open every Thursday (10 am to 1.30 pm) at the Hope Fellowship Church (opposite the Thursday Market site) at Avda de Justo Antonio Quesada, Urb. La Marina (Tel 615770145). We are online at www.helpvegabaja.com and also on Facebook. You can email the San Miguel Centre at office@helpvegabaja.com **We also have a 24 hour Emergency help-line which is available to both members and non-members on 966 723 733** (95456)

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TORREVIEJA Christian Fellowship (TCF) is an English speaking lively church located at Avenida de las Valencianas 68, Torrevieja 03183. Residents and holidaymakers are welcome to attend our services with communion and 'kids church' each Sunday at 10.30am. We have a Fellowship Meeting (Bible Study) each Wednesday at 6.00pm. For further information see our website www.tcf-spain.org or tel 966 700 391. (95464)

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THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION JAVEA BRANCH meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month @ Scallops Rest on the Arenal at 11.00am. Everyone is welcome to attend as a visitor and join the branch if they wish. Anyone needing any help or advice on welfare, or any information regarding the branch can contact either Sheila on 965 791 270 or Roger on 965 790 123 (95472)

TORREVIEJA STROKE SUPPORT GROUP meets each Friday 2.45pm to 5pm in The Annex, (behind Age Concern Centre), Calle Paganini, Urb. La Siesta. Our aim is to support stroke survivors and their carers by a range of facilities from speech therapy, rehabilitation exercise, group discussion etc. For info: Louie 966 718 964 or 965 071 920, e-mail: strokesupportgroup@hotmail.com Donations and further voluntary helpers are needed and guest speakers with relevant knowledge or experience are very welcome. (95473)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Gran Alacant & La Marina Branch meets 1st Monday of every month (except July and August) at Bar Sioux, Avda Escandinavia GA at 7pm for 7.30pm prompt. For further info contact Brian, Branch Secretary on 639 917 971 / email secretarybr3606@gmail.com (95474)

CAMPELLO CONTRA CANCER in conjunction with AECC Association Español Contra Cancer has opened a charity shop at C/Virgen de los Desamparados No 13 (next door to Mas y mas) El Campello. The shop is open Mon-Fri 10 - 2pm and is run by unpaid volunteers and all monies raised goes to the AECC. We urgently need donations of clothes, books, large and small furniture etc, and we will arrange collection of large items. We need volunteers to help out in the shop and also clothes rails, shelves etc. for display. Please support your local Cancer charity and if you wish to obtain literature or simply talk to someone. Please stop by at the shop. Contact Mina or Trisha. Tel 650 071 278 or 610 921 413 e-mail aecc_campello@hotmail.com (95475)

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ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION (Costa Blanca). The aim of the Association is to bring together not just ex Royal Marines, but ex Service personnel with an affinity to the Royal Marines. We meet on the last Tuesday of the month at Casa Ventura, San Luis Urbanisation, at 6.30pm. For further details Hon Sec 965 724 652

FREEMASONRY Are you aware that Freemasonry is thriving on the Costa Blanca? There are various lodges meeting up throughout the Valencia region. If you already are a Mason or simply wish to know more about Freemasonry in Spain please contact Harry Palmer Membership Committee Tel: 966 712 326 or email: palmers.quesada@yahoo.co.uk (95477)

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Motoring shorts

Testing out the satnav

BRITISH learners will have to pass satellite navigation tests as part of their official exam. The new law comes into effect in December as part of a testing shake-up from the DVSA.

Studies have found that more than 50 per cent of British drivers now use satnav, making it an essential part of the driving experience.

Distractions are already a major safety issue thanks to mobile phones. The DVSA fear novice drivers messing around with their satnav could seriously threaten other road users.

Other new requirements include manoeuvring into public car parks, which will replace the three-point turn. Motorway driving will still be off limits until drivers have passed their test, a decision which has proved controversial for years.

Top ten popular classics

By *Matthew Elliott*

THE biggest classic car trading website in Europe now has more than €1 billion of stock on its books. Classic Trader is a site

where classic car lovers can swap and buy timeless motors from enthusiasts across the continent.

To celebrate crossing the €1 billion milestone, Classic Trader released a list of the 10 most popular models on the site.

The list serves as a kind of informal referendum among European car lovers on which classics have best stood the test of time.

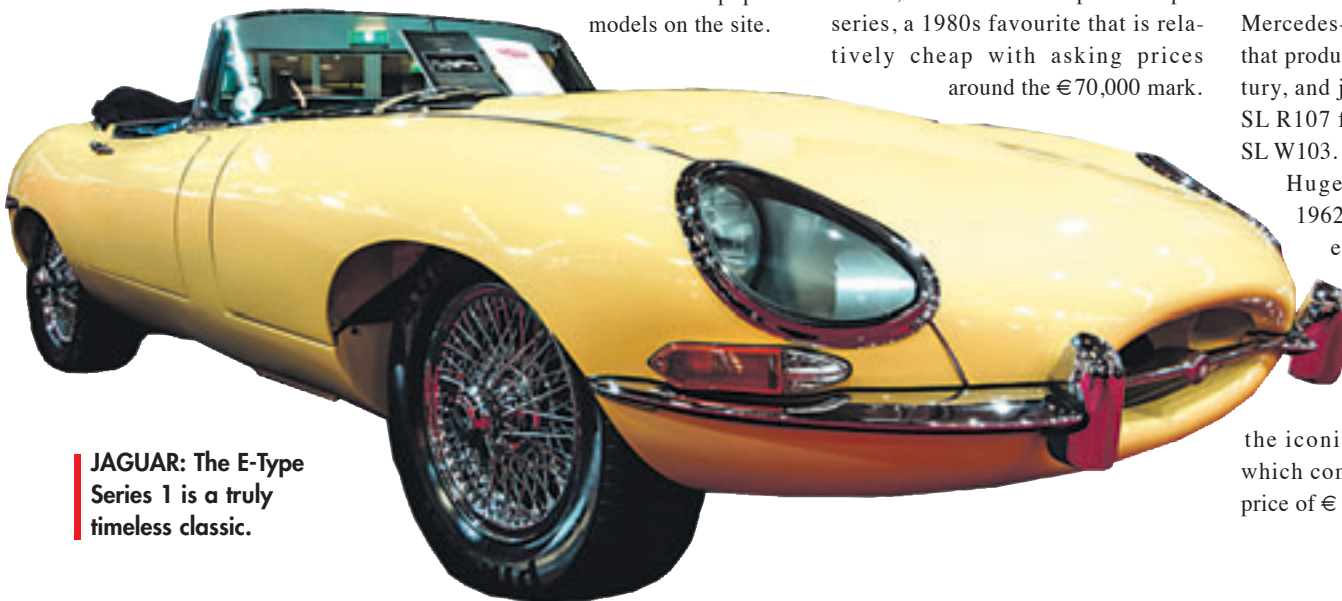
Topping the table is the Porsche G-Series, known as the impact bumper series, a 1980s favourite that is relatively cheap with asking prices around the €70,000 mark.

There are three other Porsches in the top 10, the 901 from 1965, later renamed the 911; the 964 with its all wheel drive system, and the last air cooled model, the 993 from 1994.

Other top tenners include the 1989 Mercedes-Benz SL R129, so popular that production ran until the 21st century, and joined by sister models the SL R107 from '79 and the beautiful SL W103.

Hugely popular is the classic 1962 Alfa Romeo Giulia. Going even further back in time is the 1957 Fiat Nuova 500.

Easily the most expensive yet popular car found on Classic Trader is the iconic Jaguar E-Type Series 1 which commands an average asking price of €150,000 second-hand.



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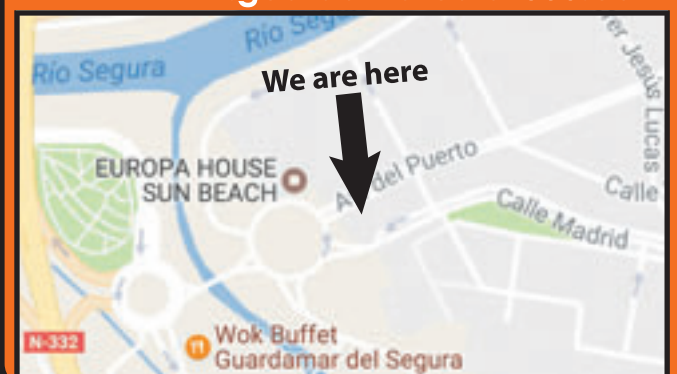
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VW's Dieselgate disaster drags on

A UK government report has revealed that Volkswagen's Dieselgate fix for the EA 189 diesel engine has caused numerous breakdowns, increased fuel consumption and reduced performance.

Owners who had a 2.0-litre diesel engine fix issued have also reported an increase in exhaust smoke and diesel particulate filter (DPF) regeneration and outright DPF failure.

The report also concludes that exhaust gas regeneration (EGR) valves have failed, that vehicles have entered 'limp

mode,' and that some engines are noisier post-fix.

Volkswagen has previously said that the software-based fix would have no impact on performance, claiming that it had been 'extensively tested' on over 200,000 vehicles.

The report believes that the number of complaints about the fix far exceeds Volkswagen's figures and the company has not maintained an exhaustive log of those received.

Models affected include the Beetle, Polo, Golf Plus, and Passat.

ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

Edgy Toyota C-HR

COMPACT SUV models have experienced a massive sale boom in recent years and one of the latest contenders to attack this crowded sector is Toyota with its funky-looking and head-turning C-HR.

The initials stand for Coupe High Rider and the cool and distinctive styling gives this Toyota an edge, and with a more upmarket interior than many rivals and a choice of turbo-petrol or frugal hybrid engines.

Priced from €24,832 (£20,995), it is well-equipped even at entry level, but there should be plenty of demand for the upper-spec versions which are laden with extra kit and a raft of technology and connectivity features for which many buyers are prepared to pay a premium. My test model was in mid-range Excel trim, and with the 1.2 litre petrol engine costs €28,380 (£23,995).

The C-HR is similar in size to the Nissan Qashqai, the sec-

tor leader and a hard act to beat, but this Toyota does pack a few aces, notably a wow-factor wraparound dashboard, stand-out exterior styling with rocket-ship-type protruding rear light clusters, and impressive driving dynamics.

It has coupe design cues with a mix of curves and sharp angles, steeply sloping roofline and 'hidden' rear door handles. Beneath its smart exterior suit is the chassis used on the latest Toyota Prius, which on the C-HR delivers superb ride quality and assured handling.

There is a 1.8 litre petrol-electric engine, likely to be the choice of around 75 per cent of buyers, but the 1.2 turbo-petrol in my test model has a lot to offer - 114 hp to give punchy per-

formance, a 0-100 kph time of 10.9 seconds, top speed of 190 kph (118 mph) and fuel economy of 16.6 kpl (47.1 mpg).

Front and rear occupants have plenty of space though the rear windows are quite small and restrict the view. The 377 litre bootspace is typical of class standards and the rear seats fold down for extra load versatility. Front-wheel drive is standard across the range along with a six-speed manual gearbox. CVT auto transmission is available on some models, so too four-wheel drive.

All versions get alloy wheels and distinctive LED running lamps, climate and cruise control, automatic lights and wipers, an auto dimming rear view mirror and seven-inch touchscreen infotainment system.

The Excel test model adds sat-nav, online connectivity, keyless entry, heated seats and park-assist among extra features.

Stats panel:

Model: Toyota C-HR Excel
Engine: 1.2 litre turbo-petrol
Transmission: 6-speed manual
Performance: 0-100 kph 10.9 seconds, top speed 190 kph (118 mph)
Economy: 16.6 kpl (47.1 mpg)
Emissions: 136 g/km

C-HR EXCEL:
With cool and distinctive styling.



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

Tesla's silicon surge

CAR industry insiders got a glimpse of the future when share prices in Tesla suddenly leapt up, making it the most valuable manufacturer in the US, despite having never turned a profit.

The Silicon Valley giant, which is determined to become the 'Apple' of cars, raced past Ford and General Motors to become the motoring world's number one on the New York Stock Exchange.

Valued at \$50.9 billion, Tesla just edged out General Motors, which is behind Buick, Cadillac and Chevrolet. In 2016 Tesla sold just 76,000 cars, compared to almost 10 million punted by GM.

The tech firm also made a loss of almost \$1 billion last year. A sharp contrast with the earning of more than \$9 billion secured by GM.

Tesla has endured an embarrassing se-

ries of setbacks and malfunctions with its expensive electric and autonomous cars. Its elaborately designed vehicles have been declared playthings for the rich with little import for mass manufacturing.

Why Tesla's shares suddenly surged is a mystery. Some investors see it as a sign of market confidence in Tesla's eco-friendly, uber modern concept. Others wonder whether shares were somehow artificially inflated, a possibility given Tesla's connections to the billionaire playground of Silicon Valley.

Nevertheless Tesla is ex-

pected to become one of the top five profit making car companies within a few years. The firm, alongside Google and Apple, has a firm grip on the technologies that will define the auto-industry's future.

Its cars are entirely electric, can drive themselves, are wifi-enabled and functional. They are the smart cars of the future, making today's regular cars appear as dated as old phones.



MODEL X: Slow sales for Tesla's latest car.

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Poor state of affairs

THE Carp-R-Us fishing club had to move its most recent match, round nine of the Spring Series, from Murcia town centre to the Embalse de Pedrera due to the poor state of the access and pegs in Murcia.

Despite the very windy conditions, gusts were up to 40 mph, weights were fairly good and almost everyone caught. First was Alan Smith with 15.10 kg caught on feeder and corn, his first victory in a club match. Second was Roy Buttress with 6.72 kg, third was Jackie Breslin with 3.56 kg fishing his first match of the year and fourth was Graham Leadley with 2.70kg, all fishing feeder and corn.

The club wishes Sue Boorman and Andy Foden a swift recovery from their recent injuries and operation.

Eurogolf monthly Stableford results

ON Thursday April 20 Eurogolf played its monthly Stableford and despite blustery conditions.

Cat 1: 1st George McCallum 37, 2nd Dave Nichols 35, 3rd David Gregson 31. Cat 2: 1st Bert Lawson 42, 2nd Alan Venables 32 c/b, 3rd Geoff Evans 32. Cat 3: 1st Cindi Green 34, 2nd David Valentine 33, 3rd Jan Shorley 29. Cat 4: 1st Lauraine Walker 40, 2nd Eamonn Divine 36, 3rd Mary Sanderson 35.

Overall winner: Bert Lawson. Best front 9: Bev Evans 18. Best back 9: Peter Sanderson 21. NTPs: 5th Robin Richards, 11th Sharon Horne, 12th in two David Valentine. 15th George McCallum and 17th Dave Nichols. Football: Tony Stanley, Bev Evans, George McCallum, Bob Shorley and Claire Daye-Gretton.

Tuesday Toffs played their normal Stableford competition on April 18. Results Cat 1 (0-15): 1st Franz Berndt 39, 2nd George McCallum 38, 3rd Fred Reeve 37. Cat 2 (16-21): 1st Steve Sayers 37, 2nd John Kirkwood 34, 3rd Gordon Bourne 33. Cat 3 (22-27): 1st Bruce Gordon 35, 2nd Anglique Berndt 35 c/b, 3rd David Valentine 31. Cat 4 (28+): 1st Eamonn Divine 36, 2nd Brian Jones 35, 3rd Sharon Horne 31.

Overall Toffs winner: Franz Berndt 39. Best guest: Geoff Renshaw. Best front 9: Tony Forbes 20. Best back 9: John Barraclough 20. NTPs: 5th Gary Lavender, 11th David Gregson, 12th in two George McCallum, 15th Bill Martin and 17th Sharon Horne. Football: Craig Hall, N Manning, Lauraine Walker, Arty Crammon and John Fairhurst.

It's a London Cup final, Messi scores 500th goal and Nadal wins

Tony Matthews

International Sports

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

Costa de Almeria



DIARY OF EVENTS:

• Starting with football tonight it's the Manchester Premiership derby, City v United followed on Saturday by Crystal Palace v Burnley Southampton-Hull, WBA-Leicester, Stoke-West Ham and Sunderland-Bournemouth. On Sunday, Everton face Chelsea, Spurs (2nd) play Arsenal, Manchester City visit lowly Middlesbrough and Manchester United meet relegation-threatened Swansea; Watford play Liverpool on Monday.

• Championship games include Cardiff-Newcastle (tomorrow) and Brighton-Bristol City, Birmingham-Huddersfield, Blackburn-Aston Villa, Fulham-Brentford, Leeds-Norwich, Ipswich-Sheffield Wednesday and Reading-Wigan on Saturday.

• Celtic and Rangers meet again - this time in the SPL.

• Manchester City Ladies, 3-1 down to Lyon, and PSG, 3-1 up on Barcelona, play the second legs of their Women's Champions Cup semi-finals.

• On Saturday, GB heavyweight Anthony Joshua fights Wladimir Klitschko at Wembley.

• Twenty-four later, 100,000 fans will attend the Russian F1 Grand Prix in Sochi.

• The World Snooker championship continues in Sheffield where Ronnie O'Sullivan is seeking glory (again).

• And Rugby's big Super League game is Castleford (top) against Wigan (3rd).

ROUND-UP:

• Congratulations to Lincoln City who return to the Football League in place of Leyton Orient who drop out after 112 years.

• The FA Cup final on May 27 will be Arsenal against Chelsea. In the semis, the Gunners beat Manchester City 2-1 after extra time while Chelsea, without a Brit in their line-up, defeated Spurs 4-2. This was Spurs' seventh semi-final loss on the trot.

• The Scottish Cup final, also on May 27, will see Aberdeen, 3-2 semi-final victors over holders Hibs, face treble-chasing Celtic who ko'd Rangers 2-0 in their semi-final.

• The Champions League semi-finals are Real Madrid-Atletico Madrid and Monaco-Juventus and it's Manchester United-Celta Vigo and Ajax-Lyon in the Europa League semi-finals.

• Lionel Messi scored a dramatic 92nd minute winner - his 500th goal for Barcelona - in last Sunday's 3-2 El Clasico win over Real Madrid. The teams stand level on points at the top of La Liga, but Real have a game in hand.

• John Terry with 704 appearances for Chelsea, will leave the club in May.

• Rafael Nadal won the Monte Carlo Masters tennis final for a record 10th time as GB's women's Federation Cup team lost to Romania in their Division Two play-off encounter which saw Ilie Nastase banned from the stadium after verbally abusing two GB players and the umpire.

• British F4 driver Billy Monger, 17, who crashed at Donington Park 10 days ago, has had both legs amputated. A fund has already raised over £1m.

• Last Sunday, 40,000 runners competed in the London marathon. Winners were Daniel Wanjiru (men) and Mary Keittany (women).

(women), the latter in a world record time. David Weir and Manuela Schar won the wheelchair races.

• In Rugby Union, Munster 'A' beat Jersey 29-28 in the British Isles Cup final and it's Wasps, Exeter and Saracens 1-2-3 in the Aviva Premiership. Saracens play Clermont Auvergne in the European Champions Cup final while Gloucester face Stade Francais in the Challenge Cup final.

• Britain's Ellie Downie won all-round gold, vault silver and bars bronze medals at the world gymnastics championships; Courtney Tulloch won rings silver.

• In the British swimming championships, Duncan Scott became the first Brit to break 48 seconds for the 100m freestyle. James Guy won gold in the 100m and 200m butterfly and 400m freestyle races. Adam Peaty triumphed in the 50m and 100m breast-stroke finals. Chris Walker-Hebborn took the 50m freestyle and the 50m and 100m back-stroke titles. Max Litchfield, Dan Jervis and Ross Murdoch (men) and Freya Anderson, Charlotte Atkinson, Georgia Davies, Anna Hopkin, Hannah Miley, Rosie Rudin and Jocelyn Ulyett also won golds.



LIONEL MESSI: Scored his 500th goal for Barcelona.

Vega Baja Premier Golf League

IT was up the motorway to one of the finest courses on the Costa Blanca to play the final game in the 16/17 season at Alenda Golf. The course was in very good condition with lovely greens and very good weather.

Club 25 Golf took a handy lead into this game, but were challenged by El Valle who were lying in second place. Surprisingly Eurotoffs pulled off a great win over Club 25 Golf which left the door open for El Valle, who were in second place in the table. They also got beat which left Club 25 Golf the 2016/17 Vega Baja League Champions.

The trophy, sponsored by Coys Rental Cars, was presented to Club 25 Golf by Ron Nicholson, who took over as secretary following the sad loss of Ivie Davies who co-founded the league.

Thanks go to all the courses that the

league played at and all the members from all of the societies that participated. Ron Nicholson would also like to thank all the secretaries from the societies who got the

teams to him in plenty of time.

He looks forward, all being well, to seeing you all next season when the league will hopefully have a few more teams.



LEAGUE WINNERS: Ron Nicholson presents the trophy to Club 25 Golf.



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THE Professional Footballers' Association announced that Chelsea's N'Golo Kante is the 2017 Footballer of the Year.

Costa Blanca's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

CD Montesinos are the runaway champions!

CD MONTESINOS ran out comfortable 6-2 winners in a match played at Granja de Rocamora where the visitors were just too strong for the home side Deportivo Orihuela CF.

A large following of 'Monte' fans saw

goals from Carlos Ventura (four), Dario and Vazquinho take them back to the top of the table.

What CD Montesinos did not know of course was that later on that same day its two nearest rivals, Callosa and La

Murada, would both drop points and in doing so would be unable to catch CD Montesinos at the top of the table and therefore crowning them champions and gaining an automatic promotion to the First Regional Division next season.

This is an amazing achievement especially when you look at how the team started this season with two heavy defeats to their closest rivals. The manager was replaced with Carlos Perez and he has created a strong group of players who have given their all for the club. One defeat since his arrival says it all really.

Celebrations went on long into the night as supporters, players and management worked their way through most of the bars in Los Montesinos.

There is still a matter of the final game of the season which will be on Sunday April 30 at home with a 5.30pm kick off. There will be a massive crowd there that day to celebrate the already won promotion so don't miss the fun and game – just get there early!!!



COMFORTABLE WIN: Champions CD Montesinos have also earned promotion.

Mazarron secures yet another win

A GOAL early in the second half gave Mazarron three valuable points against already relegated CD Lumbreras at the Estadio Municipal and took them to fourth place in the league after they won the match 1-0.

The only real action of a depressing first half came on 11 minutes when Dani's excellent free kick found Javi Torrano unmarked eight yards from goal but his header was saved. Mazarron were caught in possession far too often and apart from a few crossfield balls caused few problems for the bottom of the league team.

Three minutes into the second half Javi Torrano's cross was steered into the net by Dani after 48 minutes to give Mazarron a welcome lead.

Six minutes later when a rash tackle by Raul Torrano on former Mazarron striker Diego resulted in a penalty

kick for the visitors. Fortunately Diego's spot kick was well saved by Juan Pedro diving spectacularly to his right.

Mazarron then went in search of a much-needed second goal and, from another Dani free kick, the ball was only half cleared to Miguel who hit a fierce shot against the post. Diego had Lumbreras's first real effort from open play when he hit a left foot shot just wide after 65 minutes. Two minutes later Chino's cross found substitute Cesar who turned inside before hitting a powerful shot just wide of the far post.

On 84 minutes Miguel's shot bounced off the visiting keeper's chest to safety. Then Raso hit a thunderous drive from some 40 yards which cannoned off the keeper and Miguel was again unlucky with a superb overhead kick which hit the post.

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