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# Stag horror

## Brit holidaymaker killed by drink driver

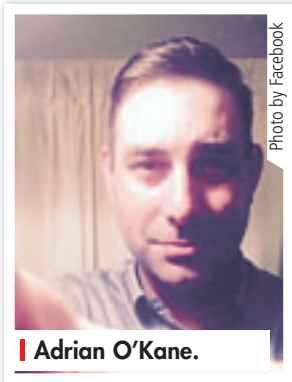
By Matthew Elliott

Heartfelt tributes have flooded in for a British man killed by a driver high on drink and drugs in Magaluf.

Father-of-two Adrian O'Kane was enjoying a stag weekend with friends when he was mowed down by a speeding car at around 3am on Sunday April 23.

The 40-year-old had just flown over from Birmingham where he lived with family and worked on a building site. He had two young daughters and was described as a true gent by his friends, who knew him as Swanny.

Mr O'Kane did not have travel insurance, but a Just Giving page set up to repatriate his body to the UK has seen a terrific response. Organised by Fiona Riordan, the fundraising target was set at £8,000 but at the time of writing the total was well



Adrian O'Kane.

Photo by Facebook

above £25,000.

The much-loved father died instantly when a car driven by a Palma resident careered into him on Calle Pinada in Punta Ballena, throwing him several feet into the air. Police received several calls about an out-of-control car just moments before the Ford Focus tore down the packed party strip.

Some reports suggested that the driver pleaded with a local taxi driver not to call the police after the horrific incident. The

39-year-old tested positive for alcohol and unspecified drugs before being arrested.

A court denied him bail on Monday (April 24) and he is expected to be charged with manslaughter and dangerous driving while under the influence.

It was the second time in less than a week that a British tourist was killed on Mallorca by a driver high on alcohol and drugs. Cycling safety campaigner Bryan Stout, 86, died in Alcudia on April 18 in the middle of a month-long bike tour of the island. See page 5 for more.



## Winner of EWN car contest

» Full story: page 3

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.

See us on page 24



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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Public hols**

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.

**Fishy folk**

**POLICE swooped on a group of part time fishermen illegally trawling waters around Alcudia despite strict overfishing laws. Officers confiscated a 51 kilo haul due to be sold to local restaurants.**

**Skinny dip**

*A MAN who went for an illegal dip in the Parc de la Mar outside Palma Cathedral found two policemen waiting for him with a camera and a hefty fine when he clamboured back on to the river bank.*

# 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



**BETTER LATE THAN NEVER:**  
King Felipe and Queen Letizia.

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.

**Princess backs down**

INFANTA CRISTINA of Spain will not appeal the judgement in the Noos case, the infamous corruption trial which took place in Palma last year. The princess, who is sister to King Felipe VI, was acquitted of criminal charges but ordered to pay €265,000, money she accrued through her husband's illegal dealings.

It had been expected the disgraced princess, who was stripped of her dukedom by her furious brother, would attempt to fully clear her name. Instead she appears to be trying to put the case behind her.

Cristina's husband Inaki Urdangarin was found guilty of conspiring with former Balearic president Jaume Matas to embezzle around €6 million of public funds destined for sporting events. Urdangarin is serving six years but plans to appeal.



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## Taxi driver troubles carry on

NO matter how many meetings occur between representatives of the taxi drivers and local authorities the protests rumble on.

One union is still opposed to the new bus services to be introduced on two routes from resorts to the airport in a few days and two more will follow in June.

None of these are non-stop routes and will take in a number of different resorts with prices ranging from €5 to €12 which has angered the remaining union despite the fact that the council has made some major concessions of the routes.

Timetables are due to be made available on [www.tib.org](http://www.tib.org) and it is expected that if the routes prove popular (with an expected 330,000 during the summer) then the service will continue in the winter but with fewer buses running.

In the meantime, other drivers are expected to participate in a nationwide protest against what they say are the wholesale granting of licences for private hire which they fear will open the market to companies such as Uber.

## New species

A NEW species of fish has been discovered in the waters around Mallorca.

A joint team from the Rijeka Natural History Museum in Croatia, the Balearic Oceanographic Centre (BOC) and the Bavarian State Zoological Collection discovered the species, which belongs to the goby family.

It was captured during several research missions led by the Spanish Oceanographic Institute, which studied the aquatic fauna found around the island. The fish has been named *Buenia massutii* in honour of Enric Massuti, a BOC researcher.

It grows to just three centimetres long and appeared in samples collected at a depth of 50-70 metres where the seabed is composed of deep sand on top of which grow beds of red algae which provides cover for the fish.

## Bikers united

MALLORCA will reverberate to the sound of motor bike engines on Sunday

# 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.

April 30 as 5,000 bikers take to the roads.

Those normally accustomed to seeing packs of cyclists on the road will see bikers from near and far congregate in Palma outside El Corte Ingles for the 41st International Mallorca Vuelta organised by local clubs and supported by the city council.

Joining the non-competitive 250-kilometre drive around the perimeter of the island will be special guest rider Laia

Sanz multi world champion and five times female Dakar Rally champion.

## Power dispute

THERE is considerable disagreement between power supplier Endesa and the Council of Mallorca over an old power station in Alcanada.

Whilst the council and other conservators want to keep the building as the

centre piece of a new park as it is considered to be of industrial interest, Endesa wants to knock it down as they believe it poses a potential hazard.

## Close ties

DURING a short visit to Mallorca, British Ambassador to Spain Simon Manley met with Francina Armengol, President of the Balearic Islands.

Accompanied by British Consul General Lloyd Milen, they discussed matters of mutual interest between Britain and the Balearics which have had close ties for so many years.

## People power fighting pollution

TRANQUIL hamlets and villages across Mallorca are already planning to thwart the invasion of thousands of tourist cars over summer. Last year Deia sneakily managed to block countless cars at the gates of the village by trapping them outside with emergency traffic lights.

Other places took note and soon there were judicious traffic control measures sprouting up in Valldemossa, Esporles and Soller. This year promises more of the same, only with the backing of the Balearic government.

Tourism minister Biel Barcelo praised the creative traffic mischief and said similar schemes are working wonders on Ibiza and Minorca. EU laws dictate you can't restrict the free movement of people, he said, but there's nothing in the law about restricting cars.

Fed up residents who deal with car fumes blighting the fresh air are now demanding limits on the number of cars allowed into villages on a given day. In Es Trenc they have reduced the number of parking spaces from 4,000 to 1,500.

## INSIDE VIEW

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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



## 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 marihuana.

• **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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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Beach grills**

SIX much-loved chiringuitos on the southern Es Trenc beach will be demolished under a new order from the Balearic government designed to protect pristine beaches from construction.

**Boozy teens**

A GROUP of 15 towns met in Soller to combat problem drinking among rowdy youths. Since Palma banned boozing youngsters they have flocked instead to Soller, Pollensa, Sineu and other spots to party.

**Sex trade**

PROSTITUTES in Palma are getting younger. A survey found that the proportion of 18-24-year-olds has doubled recently. More than half work in clubs and a quarter are here illegally.

# Sad irony of Brit's death

By Matthew Elliott

THE British cyclist killed on Mallorca by a drunk and drugged up driver was a well known campaigner for cyclist safety in the UK. It is an ironic twist to the tragic passing of Bryan Stout, who was hit from behind while cycling peacefully, and perfectly legally in Port d'Alcudia.

An outpouring of praise and respect for the 86-year-old has been expressed in cycling communities across the UK following his death. Stout was a member of Stop Killing Cyclists and was on a month-long biking holiday to Mallorca when he was killed by a local man on April 18.

The 48-year-old driver tested positive for alcohol and cocaine. He fought with police and claims to have been grieving the death of his mother the day before. Mr Stout died at the scene from his injuries.

Active in the London Cy-



**BRYAN STOUT: Tireless safety campaigner tragically killed.**

cling Campaign and the vice-president of the Catford CC. Stout has been described as a stalwart of the British cycling world and an impassioned fighter for safe-

ty on the roads.

In honour of his life, Stout's two children have set up a Just Giving page for Brake, a British road safety charity.



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# Air disaster averted

A FEARLESS flight attendant helped land a plane carrying 195 passengers from Hannover to Palma after the co-pilot suddenly fell ill. The cool headed stewardess played an essential role in preventing disaster, working with the captain to safely land the plane at Son Sant Joan.

The facts have now been released by German investigators. The near escape occurred on Octo-

ber 11, 2016 while the aircraft, a Boeing 737-800, was still in French airspace.

A sudden onset of low blood pressure at around 5.30am caused the co-pilot to pass out. Descent to Mallorca had just begun and the captain called in the flight attendant to help guide the manoeuvre.

The plane landed smoothly in Palma, with passengers on the Tuifly flight none the wiser.



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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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## NEWS EXTRA

### Cycling cafe

A NEW café is entirely dedicated to cycling. Rapha in downtown Palma sells coffee, cake and cycling gear. It offers useful information about local routes and upcoming events.

### Airport fire

BRITISH tourists were among thousands forced to evacuate Ibiza airport courtesy of a power outage and reports of a fire and the stench of smoke within the terminal on Saturday April 21.

### Painter dies

A FAMOUS painter has died at his Port d'Andratx home. Jorge Bascones Gleave, who held countless exhibitions across Mallorca, fell down his stairs. Police ruled out any suspicious circumstances.

### Don't care

A SURVEY on Earth Day found that Balearic residents care less about the environment than almost anywhere else in Spain, despite being among the most vulnerable to climate change.

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By Matthew Elliott

MOUNTAIN rescue experts warned that there are simply not enough troops or medics to cope with the huge number of high altitude accidents which occur each year on Mallorca.

The Guardia Civil has its own specialist Mountain Rescue and Intervention Group (GREIM). Di-

rector Pere Perello has admitted that his men are overwhelmed by the sheer volume of accidents they have to attend.

Last year GREIM agents worked with firefighters to intervene in 156 rescue operations, al-

most one every two days. That makes them the busiest mountain rescue force in all of Spain, carrying out even more rescues than units in the Pyrenees.

This year is shaping up to be even busier with 40 rescues al-

ready taking place. Four people have died on Mallorca's mountains since January. With spring arriving and millions set to hike, swim, climb and cave dive over the coming months, GREIM is concerned that it doesn't have the

manpower to properly do its job.

The vast majority of incidents are concentrated around summer weekends, meaning there can be four or five a day. Some are mild, involving twisted ankles or disorientated tourists. But others, including frequent heart attacks and falls, require substantial rescue operations, often in difficult locations.

## Five evil fraudsters face jail

TWO university professors accused of fleecing desperate families out of their life savings selling scam 'miracle' drugs will not be charged with crimes against public health. Investigators found that the supposed cancer and Alzheimer's cures are harmless and therefore posed no threat to the victims or general public.

The prosecution will instead focus on claims that the experimental drugs allegedly peddled by Pablo Escriba, Xavier Busquets and three others, were fraudulently marketed as miracle drugs. They are accused of selling the useless pharmaceuticals to desperate sufferers and their families at an enormous mark up, pocketing more than €600,000 profit.

State lawyers are developing a case to prove that the University of the Balearics professors were instrumental members of a large scale, long-term and sophisticated scam terrifying clueless patients into paying huge sums for the drugs.

Some individuals paid as much as €25,000 for small batches.

The five accused who, as *EWN* reported, were arrested in early April, have reportedly exercised their right to silence. If found guilty of aggravated fraud they each face between six and eight years in prison.

# Rescue danger warning

## Five evil fraudsters face jail

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By Matthew Elliott

# Extra eco-tax floated

ANOTHER eco, or tourist, tax might be imposed on Mallorca. The Balearic government is floating the idea of an extra levy on rental cars.

There are between 50-70,000 rental cars on Mallorca each year which, due

to a quirk of bureaucracy don't actually pay taxes to the region. Instead the millions of euros in taxes goes to the mainland. Only around 30,000 cars pay

their taxes on the islands.

The majority of rental cars are registered on the mainland, which leeches the tax money while Mallorca suffers the catastroph-

ic congestion and pollution. An additional tax would ensure that the Balearics get at least some cut of the action.

Tourism minister Biel

Barcelo announced that the government is looking into the legality of a new eco tax given strict Spanish and European regulations. He claims that Mallorca is under pressure to reduce the rental fleet operating on the island and that a tax is the best option.

Rather than targeting drivers, the proposed tax would be imposed on mainland rental companies and vary depending on the size of their fleet. Major operators have up to 20,000 mainland registered cars on Mallorca.

The tax would therefore help tackle unfair competition brought by the bigger Spanish companies, and give local rental firms a chance to flourish. But it is likely to be strongly opposed by both the industry and potentially tourists, who may find themselves paying two different eco taxes each summer.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Fiery speech

FORMER Socialist leader Pedro Sanchez visited Palma to whip up support for his campaign to take back control of the PSOE. He is battling Andalucia president Susana Diaz for the party leadership.

### Panic attacks

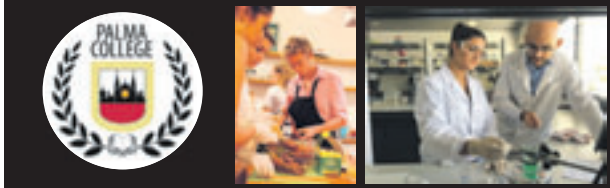
SCHOOL students across the Balearics are more worried about getting bad results than anywhere else in Spain. More than 88 per cent panic about results while 55 per cent suffer exam anxiety.

### Cosy plaza

A GROUP of young architects have been furnished with €1 million to transform Inca's grey and dreary Plaza Mallorca into a vibrant green paradise with pergolas and cosy chairs.

### Silent sirens

MOUNTAIN police in Valldemossa are whizzing around in a new Nissan Leaf, the first completely electric police car and among just a handful across all of Spain.



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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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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Smart taxes**

THE treasury has already returned €16.8 million to Balearic taxpayers in the first two weeks of the Renta tax refund scheme which allows residents to file their tax returns online.

**Family feud**

SIX members of a violent gypsy clan from Palma's Son Roca slum were convicted of stabbing and beating two women from a rival family.

**Top spot**

NEW research shows that Mallorca and Ibiza are among the most popular destinations in Europe for May holidays. Palma dominates the rankings as Paris falls behind.

# Fury over bike invasion



**ICYCLISTS:** Accused of making Mallorca a vast velodrome.

EVEN cycling is contributing to environmental devastation on Mallorca according to local activists.

Two major ecological groups have denounced the Mallorca 312 cycling tour, accusing organisers of making the island their own personal velodrome.

On Saturday April 29 almost 7,000 cyclists will begin a 300km route that encompasses almost the entire northern half of Mallorca, passing through Pollensa, Andratx, Sa Pobla and Arta.

GOB, the Balearics most

prestigious environmental group says the route will practically shut down key Mallorcan roads, putting cyclist's desires for a dream

ride ahead of residents daily needs.

They are joined by Ter-raferida, activists who regularly expose environmental crimes on the islands. Both accuse the 312 tour of helping convert Mallorca into an 'island hotel.' Together they will launch a new social media campaign fighting back against this and any future mass cycling frenzies with the hashtag #HotelMallorca.

Critics have argued that cyclists are generally far more environmentally conscious travellers than the regular summer hordes and

should be welcomed rather than protested.

But Terreferida claims its real battle is against the conversion of Mallorca into a giant amusement park, regardless of who the tourists

are. There is also anger that Mallorca 312 will donate €2 for every registered cyclist to UNICEF, rather than to helping repopulate trees in the Tramuntanas, as is usually the case.



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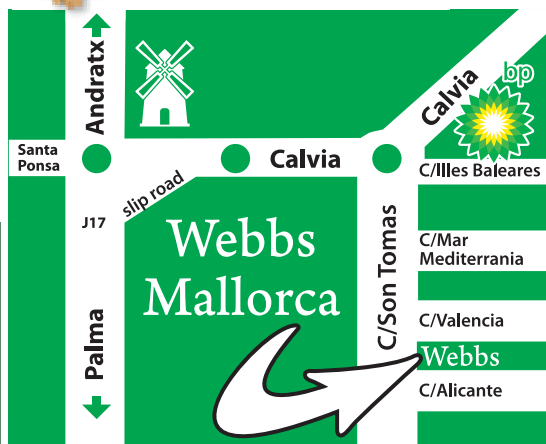
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## Commentary by Moneycorp

### EUR weekly currency update

In view of the potentially worrying developments over the last fortnight investors have been remarkably sanguine in their attitude to risk. North Korea, Syria and Ukraine are just three of the areas investors are refusing to worry about.

They were positively joyful when the British prime minister announced a general election at short notice, even though they can have no idea what she intends to do, Brexitwise, with her presumably increased majority. Over the two weeks the euro strengthened by two thirds of a US cent and lost two and a quarter cents to the charging pound.

There is a degree of unease about this weekend's first round of voting in the French presidential election. It is possible that two anti-euro candidates - Jean-Luc Mélenchon and Marine Le Pen - could survive to fight it out in round two. Were that to happen the euro would likely come under pressure.

### USD weekly currency update

Although the US dollar had a better fortnight than its northern neighbour it did not do particularly well, losing two thirds of a cent to the euro and three and a quarter cents to sterling. It was not that investors became suddenly concerned about the US economy, more that they struggled to be enthusiastic about it. Jobs, inflation and re-

tail sales data all failed to meet expectations. The White House is still banging the drum about tax cuts but, after the fiasco of the health care bill, the market will believe them when it sees them.

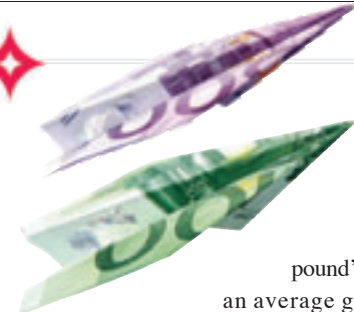
Sterling had its best result in ages after the British prime minister called an early general election. Investors are not quite sure what she will do with her perceived increased majority in the Commons but they are hopeful that it will strengthen her hand in the Brexit negotiations.

### CAD weekly currency update

The shape of the Loonie's movement over the last two weeks bore a striking similarity to the direction oil prices were taking; initially higher then lower. It was the weakest among the major currencies losing half a US cent and falling by five and a quarter cents against the resurgent pound. The Canadian economic data looked reasonable enough, though the Bank of Canada governor did not wholly agree. One Canadian economist described Stephen Poloz as having a 'cup half empty view of the economy.'

Sterling leapt ahead after the British prime minister called a general election at short notice. Investors expect her to win a much-increased majority. That, in turn, should give her more clout in the Brexit negotiations and so allow her to secure a better deal than she would otherwise

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have been able to achieve. At worst, a bigger majority would banish any fears of a government defeat in the Commons.

### AUD weekly currency update

For the Aussie the two most striking moves were the way it strengthened last Thursday and weakened a couple of days later. The upward move was prompted by an unexpectedly strong set of Australian employment figures. The subsequent decline, which gave back most of the gain, came ironically after the Reserve Bank of Australia expressed concern about the labour market. Over the fortnight the Aussie was unchanged against the US dollar and it lost four and a half cents to sterling.

The pound's success - an average gain of 2%

over the two weeks - came after the British prime minister called an early general election. Investors believe she will win comfortably with a commanding majority in the Commons. It will strengthen her hand in the forthcoming Brexit negotiations and so, they hope, allow her to come away from Brussels with a better deal.

### NZD weekly currency update

The NZ dollar performed slightly better than the other commodity-oriented currencies, all of which were hampered by mostly lower energy and commodity prices. It added a quarter of a US cent and lost four cents to the pound. The few NZ ecostats were generally helpful to the Kiwi: private sector businesses were more upbeat, milk prices moved higher and inflation accelerated from 1.3% to 2.2% in the first quarter of the year.

The pound shot higher when Theresa May called an early general election. The assumption is that she will win a much-enhanced majority in the commons, neutralising the threat of opposition from within her own party and from the Opposition itself. With her hand strengthened in parliament investors hope she will be able to come away from the forthcoming Brexit negotiations with a better deal than she might otherwise have been able to secure.

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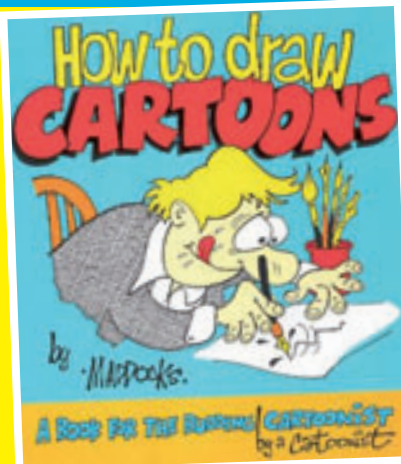
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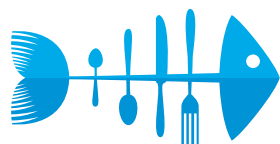


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# British Ambassador's statement on Brexit

DURING what will possibly be his last statement on Brexit prior to the General Election,

British Ambassador Simon Manley addressed an audience in Palma.

The presentation which had been arranged prior to the announcement of the forthcoming election was organised to allow him to explain to business people, politicians and residents both Mallorcan and British about the government's current position.

In accordance with speeches made in other parts of Spain to similar audiences, he made it clear the government will be attempting to guarantee the rights of all expatriates whilst negotiating an exit which would be reasonable for Britain and the European Union.

He made it clear that as long-term trading partners, Britain and Spain needed to be able to work closely with each other and reminded everyone that although Britain is leaving the European Union, it is still very much a part of Europe.



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## NEWS EXTRA

### Tough gig

POLICE in Cala Ratjada are refusing to work overtime in protest at a lack of personnel to deal with huge summer crowds. There are just 37 officers in an area often swarmed with 50,000 people.

### Squid play

NEWBORN babies at Son Llatzer hospital are playing with toy octopuses. Tentacles of the colourful creatures remind babies of the umbilical cord and help them relax.

### Missing sun

AFTER a balmy few days temperatures are expected to drop from today with rains and strong winds spreading across Mallorca until at least the weekend.

### Sex survey

A SURVEY of sexual abuse victims on Mallorca found the number of men being targeted has shot up. An estimated 72 men were abused last year, the majority aged 14 to 22.

### Paint revolt

ANONYMOUS saboteurs daubed new traffic signs in Soller with black paint, possibly in protest against controversial new road reforms that have proven unpopular.

### Busy island

POPULATION expansion across Mallorca and the Balearics will see an estimated 365,000 new residents in the next 30 years, an increase of one third, and 144,000 new homes.

### Main lady

A SEAMSTRESS who became a Communist hero during the Spanish Civil War before being executed has been declared Mallorca's favourite daughter. Aurora Picornell was born in Palma in 1912 and died aged just 34.



# Special treatment for new alliance

A NEW lobby fighting for the rights of European islands will emerge from the Smart Island World Congress held in Magaluf. With the support of the EU secretary of state, Jorge Toledo, the new alliance will demand special treatment for the unique economies and habitats of the continents' islands.

More than 1,000 delegates from islands around the planet gathered in Magaluf for the conference, the first of its kind.

They discussed sustainability, tourism, connectivity, food supply and other challenges unique to island residents.

European representatives agreed to form a common front to lobby the EU for special needs, such as oil producing countries or agricultural companies do on a daily basis.

Toledo noted that 15 million Europeans today live on islands and contribute 3 per cent of the EU's total GDP. Presumably

the UK, Ireland and Iceland are not included in his definition, which appears to be limited to the Mediterranean.

The decision harks back to moves made last year to establish a western Med island union with Mallorca, Corsica and Sardinia. An agreement was signed in Palma to establish a united front in dealing with EU regulations on fishing and other topics with a profound impact on island economies.

## Looking for posh punters

PLANS to transform Magaluf from a budget tourist wonderland into a plush resort for the more discerning guest will begin with more green spaces.

Calvia's latest urban planning initiative talks boldly of parks, pedestrians, bike lanes, beach connections and massively reduced traffic.

The city council is hoping to woo local hotels, restaurants, and resident's associations with its long-term strategy of moving away from cheap pampering trips to luxury tourism.

It is hoped Magaluf can be converted into a mini-utopia and ditch its bad boy image.



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## Private firms taking over

THE Spanish government has pulled out of the consortium formed to modernise the Playa de Palma. National tourism secretary Matilde Asian broke the news in Santa Ponsa, saying that state treasurers couldn't justify the expense.

The consortium was set up 10 years ago to pool public and private investment in transform-

ing the iconic seafront into a stylish promenade befitting of the new cosmopolitan Palma.

Almost all of the public funding has now been withdrawn. Private enterprises, especially hotels have stepped in to fill the void and undoubtedly shape Palma according to their own vision.

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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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# 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



### 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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# LONDON - FTSE 100

**CLOSING PRICES APRIL 24**

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,132.00	14.50	1.30	15,963.24
Associated British Foods	2,844.50	30.50	1.08	21,850.21
Admiral Group	2,024.00	17.00	0.85	5,724.13
Ashtead Group	1,611.50	27.50	1.74	7,887.77
Antofagasta	826.50	8.00	0.98	8,143.18
Aviva	525.25	15.25	2.99	20,606.44
AstraZeneca	4,630.75	64.75	1.42	58,148.09
BAE Systems	629.25	8.75	1.41	19,688.92
Babcock International Group	905.50	2.50	0.28	4,449.25
Barclays	215.10	7.15	3.44	35,275.40
British American Tobacco	5,263.50	63.50	1.22	97,283.31
Barratt Developments	582.25	8.25	1.44	5,800.14
British Land Co	656.75	12.25	1.90	6,672.90
BHP Billiton	1,209.75	18.25	1.53	25,408.22
Bunzl	2,357.00	21.00	0.90	7,753.07
BP	449.73	8.33	1.89	87,905.50
Burberry Group	1,598.50	16.50	1.04	6,979.02
BT Group	315.78	4.83	1.55	31,031.74
Coca-Cola HBC	2,115.00	18.00	0.86	7,619.84
Carnival	4,621.50	70.50	1.55	9,714.28
Centrica	197.85	-9.85	-4.74	11,319.83
Compass Group	1,513.50	-0.50	-0.03	24,731.20
Croda International	3,582.00	41.00	1.16	4,615.98
CRH	2,789.00	80.00	2.95	22,358.38
ConvaTec Group	298.00	2.50	0.85	5,669.03
DCC	7,232.50	87.50	1.22	6,274.88
Diageo	2,231.75	23.75	1.08	55,479.21
Direct Line Insurance Group	341.85	3.95	1.17	4,677.75
Experian	1,611.00	15.00	0.94	14,950.00
easyJet	1,159.50	24.50	2.16	4,480.51
Fresnillo	1,462.50	-35.50	-2.37	11,178.68
GKN	360.50	9.20	2.62	6,025.96
Glencore	301.73	3.08	1.03	43,249.00
GlaxoSmithKline	1,583.25	17.75	1.13	76,832.81
Hikma Pharmaceuticals	1,838.00	17.00	0.93	4,427.61
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,373.00	17.00	1.25	6,422.27
Hammerson	596.25	8.25	1.40	4,683.78
HSBC Holdings	635.45	11.45	1.83	123,393.14
International Consolidated Air	554.50	12.50	2.31	11,512.37
InterContinental Hotels Grp	3,993.00	74.00	1.89	7,717.11
3i Group	788.00	13.00	1.68	7,524.67
Imperial Brands	3,792.50	47.50	1.27	35,980.42
Informa	640.25	5.75	0.91	5,253.03
Intu Properties	278.05	3.75	1.37	3,723.65
Intertek Group	3,976.00	26.00	0.66	6,366.86
ITV	219.20	2.70	1.25	8,755.27
Johnson Matthey	2,919.00	63.00	2.21	5,614.41
Kingfisher	344.00	15.80	4.81	7,358.02
Land Securities Group	1,115.50	18.50	1.69	8,769.41
Legal & General Group	258.30	3.80	1.49	15,072.54

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	65.61	1.24	1.93	45,777.25
London Stock Exchange Grp	3,280.00	68.00	2.12	11,163.84
Micro Focus International	2,480.50	13.50	0.55	5,732.05
Mediclinic International	737.50	13.00	1.79	5,374.51
Merlin Entertainments	476.25	1.15	0.24	4,828.14
Marks & Spencer Group	365.55	5.05	1.40	5,746.66
Mondi	1,979.50	35.50	1.83	9,400.32
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	235.85	4.55	1.97	5,416.27
National Grid	1,011.75	9.75	0.97	37,134.90
Next	4,336.50	57.50	1.34	6,299.90
Old Mutual Group	195.50	4.10	2.14	9,475.40
Provident Financial	3,185.50	48.50	1.55	4,627.21
Paddy Power Betfair	8,450.00	130.00	1.56	7,007.48
Prudential	1,685.50	45.00	2.74	42,559.62
Persimmon	2,291.00	35.00	1.55	7,023.42
Pearson	640.00	11.50	1.83	5,161.73
Reckitt Benckiser Group	7,247.00	32.00	0.44	50,968.28
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	246.15	6.35	2.65	28,362.48
Royal Dutch Shell	2,040.25	47.75	2.40	89,578.68
RELX	1,569.50	7.50	0.48	16,775.38
Rio Tinto	3,105.75	47.25	1.54	42,439.97
Royal Mail	416.50	3.20	0.77	4,150.00
Rolls-Royce Group	807.50	1.00	0.12	14,813.08
Randgold Resources	6,777.50	-292.50	-4.14	6,644.69
RSA Insurance Group	583.50	10.50	1.83	5,820.20
Rentokil Initial	239.45	0.25	0.10	4,453.70
Sainsbury (J)	269.25	3.25	1.22	5,813.03
Schroders	3,118.00	49.00	1.60	6,945.67
Sage Group (The)	658.75	3.75	0.57	7,079.63
Shire	4,537.25	39.75	0.88	40,334.75
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,042.00	59.00	2.98	4,646.07
Sky	983.75	4.25	0.43	16,915.13
Standard Life	365.55	5.55	1.54	7,113.56
Smiths Group	1,606.00	25.00	1.58	6,291.63
Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt	368.15	5.95	1.64	4,913.94
Smith & Nephew	1,252.50	14.50	1.17	10,745.70
SSE	1,409.00	-36.00	-2.49	14,502.58
Standard Chartered	709.45	23.55	3.43	22,534.57
St James's Place	1,101.50	15.50	1.43	5,695.75
Severn Trent	2,325.00	5.00	0.22	5,515.69
Tesco	177.45	3.65	2.10	14,240.92
TUI AG	1,127.50	22.50	2.04	6,439.81
Taylor Wimpey	203.00	2.90	1.45	6,615.34
Unilever	4,022.50	85.00	2.16	50,696.65
United Utilities Group	979.00	3.50	0.36	6,665.46
Vodafone Group	202.20	3.45	1.74	53,057.80
Wolseley	4,869.50	70.50	1.47	12,148.18
Worldpay Group	301.50	3.10	1.04	6,000.00
WPP Group	1,714.50	20.50	1.21	21,753.68
Whitbread	4,289.50	85.50	2.03	7,736.57

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COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	191,500	+0.18%	0.340	114M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	79,5900	-0.54%	-0.4300	71M
APPLE	142,270	-0.12%	-0.170	746M
BOEING CO	180,380	+0.60%	1.080	109M
CATERPILLAR	94,320	-0.36%	-0.340	55M
CHEVRON	104.89	+0.01%	0.01	198M
CISCO SYSTEMS	32,820	-0.03%	-0.010	164M
COCA-COLA	43.07	-0.05%	-0.02	184M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	78,6500	+0.46%	0.3600	68M
EXXON MOBIL	80.69	-0.40%	-0.32	342M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	29,5500	-2.38%	-0.7200	257M
GOLDMAN SACHS	216.86	-0.55%	-1.20	86M
HOME DEPOT	150,0000	+0.86%	1.2800	180M
IBM	160.38	-1.18%	-1.92	151M
INTEL CORP	36,3200	+0.39%	0.1400	171M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	84,5200	-1.20%	-1.0300	300M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	121,7600	-0.09%	-0.1100	330M
MC DONALD'S CORP	133,4100	+0.11%	0.1400	108M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	61.89	-1.06%	-0.66	169M
MICROSOFT	66,400	+1.37%	0.900	513M
NIKE	55.85	-0.98%	-0.55	73M
PFIZER	33,6400	-0.30%	-0.1000	200M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	88,620	-0.79%	-0.710	226M
TRAVELERS CIES	119.10	+0.19%	0.22	33M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	114.99	+0.92%	1.05	92M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	171.16	-0.22%	-0.38	163M
VERIZON COMMS	47.25	-2.40%	-1.16	192M
VISA	91.15	+0.00%	0.00	169M
WAL-MART STORES	74,9400	+0.19%	0.1400	227M
WALT DISNEY CO	114,4400	-0.30%	-0.3500	180M

# NASDAQ

**CLOSING PRICES APRIL 24**

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
Covenant Transportation Group, Inc.	\$ 19.28	2.22 ▲ 13.01%
Virco Manufacturing Corporation	\$ 4.45	0.5001 ▲ 12.66%
Pernix Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.	\$ 3.71	0.41 ▲ 12.42%
Cidara Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 7.05	0.75 ▲ 11.90%
Rocky Brands, Inc.	\$ 12	1.10 ▲ 10.09%
Hydrogenics Corporation	\$ 7.20	0.65 ▲ 9.92%
Proofpoint, Inc.	\$ 77.65	6.65 ▲ 9.37%
Changyou.com Limited	\$ 30.54	2.60 ▲ 9.31%
Northwest Pipe Company	\$ 14.21	1.18 ▲ 9.06%
Marten Transport, Ltd.	\$ 23.95	1.95 ▲ 8.86%
PC-Tel, Inc.	\$ 7.89	0.60 ▲ 8.23%
<b>Most Declined</b>		
XBiotech Inc.	\$ 10.23	6.79 ▼ 39.89%
Flex Pharma, Inc.	\$ 3.08	0.50 ▼ 13.97%
Mattel, Inc.	\$ 21.79	3.42 ▼ 13.57%
Electronics for Imaging, Inc.	\$ 44.16	6.69 ▼ 13.16%
Immunomedics, Inc.	\$ 5.20	0.78 ▼ 13.04%
Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.	\$ 16.90	2 ▼ 10.58%
Applied Genetic Technologies Corporation	\$ 5.575	0.625 ▼ 10.08%
Real Industry, Inc.	\$ 2.025	0.225 ▼ 10%
Manhattan Associates, Inc.	\$ 45.76	4.82 ▼ 9.53%
China TechFaith Wireless Com Tech Limited	\$ 2.22	0.21 ▼ 8.64%
InVivo Therapeutics Holdings Corp.	\$ 3.90	0.35 ▼ 8.24%

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Price Movement

## Accumulating Funds

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

DEALING PRICE

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**£1.1372**..... **-£0.0104**  
**€1.0673**..... **-€0.0099**  
**£1.2648**..... **-£0.0177**  
**€1.1768**..... **-€0.0169**  
**£1.3814**..... **-£0.0260**  
**€1.2921**..... **-€0.0251**

Price Movement

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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*

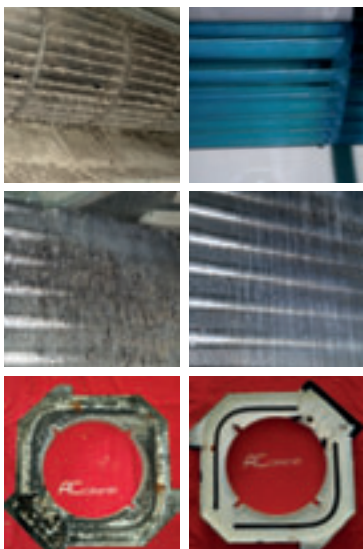
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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1							
27 APRIL	6:15pm	Pointless	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	6:30pm	Neighbours	5:00pm	Ringside Special	
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:30pm	Debatable	8:00pm	Emmerdale	6:00pm	Couples Come Dine with Me	7:00pm	Home and Away	6:00pm	Sporting Triumphs	
	7:30pm	BBC London News	8:00pm	Snooker	8:30pm	Tonight	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	6:30pm	Joshua/Klitschko: The Knockouts	
	8:00pm	The One Show	9:00pm	The World According to Kids	9:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	8:00pm	Secrets of Great British Castles	7:00pm	Ffc: Merse Meets Carrick	
	8:30pm	EastEnders	10:00pm	The Last Kingdom	9:30pm	Joanna Lumley's Postcards	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:00pm	On Benefits	8:00pm	Football <i>Manchester City v Manchester United</i>	
	9:00pm	MasterChef	11:00pm	Live at the Apollo	10:00pm	The Detectives	9:00pm	The Supervet	10:00pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	11:30pm	Carling: In Off the Bar Factual	
	10:00pm	Mind Over Marathon	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm	Born to Kill?	11:00pm	Murder on the Internet	12:00am		
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	12:15am	World Championship Snooker Highlights	11:30pm	ITV News London	11:00pm	Locked Up	12:05am	Me... And My Body			
	11:30pm	BBC London News	1:05am	Top Gear	11:40pm	Piers Morgan's Life Stories	12:05am	One Born Every Minute					
	11:45pm	Question Time			12:40am	Tipping Point							
12:45am	This Week												
FRIDAY 28 APRIL	7:30pm	BBC London News	7:00pm	Eggheads	8:30pm	Coronation Street	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	6:00pm	5 News at 5	6:30pm	Joshua/Klitschko: The Countdown	
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:30pm	Debatable	9:00pm	Judge Rinder's Crime Stories	6:00pm	Couples Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	7:00pm	Ffc: Merse Meets Carrick	
	8:30pm	A Question of Sport	8:00pm	Snooker	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	8:00pm	Football	
	9:00pm	EastEnders	10:00pm	Versailles	10:00pm	Lethal Weapon	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	8:00pm	The Gadget Show	11:15pm	Joshua/Klitschko:the Countdown	
	9:30pm	MasterChef	11:00pm	QI	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:00pm	Barging Brits in the Sun	11:45pm	Froch and McCracken: Back in the Ring Factual	
	10:00pm	Have I Got News for You	12:05am	Later... with Jools Holland	11:30pm	ITV News London	8:30pm	Unreported World	10:00pm	Spectacular Spain with Alex Polizzi	12:00am		
	10:30pm	Hospital People	1:05am	Snooker Highlights	11:40pm	Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous	9:00pm	Posh Pawn	11:00pm	The Bruce Forsyth Story			
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	2:55am	Doctor Who	1:45am	Jackpot247	10:00pm	Gogglebox	12:30am	Peter Kay: The Early Years			
	11:25pm	BBC London News					11:00pm	Sarah Millican					
	11:35pm	The Graham Norton Show					12:05am	First Dates					
12:25am	Witless												
SATURDAY 29 APRIL	7:20pm	Regional News	5:30pm	Snooker	7:15pm	Local News and Weather	6:35pm	Location, Location, Location	6:10pm	Can't Pay Special: Secrets and Lies	12:30pm	Football	
	7:25pm	Weather	6:30pm	The Crucible: 40 Golden Snooker Years	7:25pm	ITV News and Weather	7:35pm	Channel 4 News	7:10pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	3:30pm	Sporting Triumphs	
	7:30pm	Pointless	7:30pm	Dad's Army	7:45pm	Take Me Out	8:00pm	Resto Revisit	8:05pm	NCIS: Los Angeles	3:45pm	Rugby Gold	
	8:20pm	Doctor Who	8:00pm	Snooker	9:00pm	Britain's Got Talent	9:00pm	Walking Through Time	9:00pm	5 News	3:55pm	Rugby Union	
	9:10pm	Casualty	10:30pm	St. Stephen's Night Calvary	10:20pm	Through the Keyhole	10:00pm	Transformers: Dark of the Moon	9:55pm	Football on 5	6:15pm	Football	
	10:00pm	BBC News	12:05am	Versailles	11:15pm	ITV News and Weather	12:20am	Zombieland	10:00pm	Football on 5	9:00pm	Scottish Football Highlights	
	10:15pm	Weather	1:05am	Rabbit-Proof Fence	11:30pm	Yes Man	2:00am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	11:00pm	The Expendables 2	9:30pm	Nissan Game of the Day	
	10:20pm	All Round to Mrs Brown's	2:30am	This is BBC Two	1:20am	Jackpot247			11:15pm	Super Casino	11:30pm	Nissan Match Choice	
	11:20pm	Match of the Day							1:05am		12:30am	Football	
	12:30am	Murder in Successville											
SUNDAY 30 APRIL	7:50pm	Regional News	12:45pm	Simply Nigella	7:35pm	Local News and Weather	4:10pm	Formula 1	10:45am	Football on 5	8:00pm	EFL Goals	
	7:55pm	Weather	1:15pm	MOTD2 Extra	7:45pm	ITV News and Weather	5:30pm	The World's Most Expensive Cars	11:00am	Great Birmingham 10k	8:30pm	La Liga Gold	
	8:00pm	Countryfile	2:00pm	Athletics: World Relay Championships Highlights	8:00pm	Bigheads	6:30pm	George Clarke's Old House, New Home	1:00pm	Michael	8:40pm	Football	
	9:00pm	Antiques Roadshow	3:00pm	Snooker	9:00pm	The Durrells	7:30pm	Channel 4 News	3:00pm	Getting Even with Dad	10:40pm	La Liga Gold	
	10:00pm	Line of Duty	7:00pm	Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby	10:00pm	Grantchester	8:00pm	The Supervet	5:00pm	Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves	10:50pm	La Liga Gold	
	11:00pm	BBC News	8:00pm	Snooker	11:00pm	ITV News and Weather	9:00pm	Escape to Costa Rica	7:00pm	5 News	11:00pm	Football	
	11:20pm	Regional News	12:00am	Drive	11:20pm	Lethal Weapon	10:00pm	Carol	9:55pm	Greatest Ever 90s Movies	11:30pm	Football	
	11:25pm	Weather	1:35am	Question Time	12:20am	Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	12:20am	Gogglebox	10:00pm	Football on 5	12:00am	Football	
	11:30pm	Match of the Day 2					1:25am	Mud	12:50am		12:30am	Goals on Sunday	
	12:50am	The Women's Football Show											
MONDAY 01 MAY	8:00pm	The One Show	11:25am	Talking Pictures	8:00pm	Emmerdale	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	7:30pm	Home and Away	7:30pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17	
	8:30pm	MasterChef	12:10pm	Around the World in Eighty Days	8:30pm	Coronation Street	8:30pm	Travel Man: 48 Hours in Vienna	8:00pm	FIA World Rally Championship Highlights	8:00pm	Football	
	9:00pm	EastEnders	3:00pm	Snooker	9:00pm	Devon and Cornwall Cops	9:00pm	Britain's Biggest Hoarders	9:00pm	Police Interceptors	12:00am	Watford v Liverpool	
	9:30pm	Saving Mr. Banks	7:00pm	Top Gear	9:30pm	Coronation Street	10:00pm	The Island with Bear Grylls	10:00pm	The Miranda Hart Story	12:15am	Scottish Football Round Up	
	11:30pm	BBC News	8:00pm	Snooker	10:00pm	Little Boy Blue	11:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	11:30pm	The Most Shocking Celebrity Moments of 2016	12:45am	Premier League Legends	
	11:50pm	Regional News	12:00am	Margin Call	11:20pm	Don't Ask Me, Ask Britain	12:00am	Confessions of a Junior Doctor	2:15am	Super Casino	1:00am	Football Gold	
	11:55pm	Weather									2:00am	Mnf Pre-Game Show	
	12:00am	All Round to Mrs Brown's										2:00am	Football
	1:00am	Have I Got a Bit More News for You											
TUESDAY 02 MAY	4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League	6:15pm	Flog It!	6:00pm	Babushka	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	7:30pm	5 News	10:30am	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17	
	8:30pm	Top 14 Highlights	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	6:30pm	Extreme Cakemakers	8:00pm	Police Interceptors	11:00am	Premier League Daily	
	9:00pm	Indian Premier League	7:30pm	Debatable	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:00pm	The Simpsons	9:00pm	The Yorkshire Vet	12:00pm	Football	
	1:30am	Super League	8:00pm	Great British Menu	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	10:00pm	Elizabeth I	3:55pm	Cricket	
	2:00am	Fulltime 2017	9:00pm	Bake Off Crème de la Crème	8:30pm	Save Money Good Food	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	11:00pm	The Last Days of Mary Queen of Scots	11:00pm	La Liga World	
	3:00am	Sky Sports Originals	10:00pm	Horizon	9:00pm	Don't Ask Me Ask Britain	9:00pm	Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners	12:00am	Restless Legs Syndrome: Desperate for Help	11:30pm	Scottish Football Round Up	
	3:30am	Top 14 Highlights	11:00pm	Later Live... with Jools Holland	10:00pm	Paul O'Grady	10:00pm	One Born Every Minute	1:00am	Spectacular Spain with Alex Polizzi	11:45pm	Football Gold	
			11:30pm	Newsnight	11:40pm	ITV News	11:00pm	First Dates			12:00am	Premier League Review	
			12:10am	Weather	1:35am	The Chase	12:05am	The Break-Up					
WEDNESDAY 03 MAY	6:15pm	Pointless	4:50pm	Red Rock	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	2:45pm	Football Gold	
	7:00pm	BBC News	6:15pm	Flog It!	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News	3:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	7:30pm	Regional News	7:00pm	Celebrity Eggheads	8:00pm	Emmerdale	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	Chris Tarrant: Ice Train to Nowhere	3:30pm	Football Gold	
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:45pm	Debatable	8:30pm	Coronation Street	9:00pm	How to Live	9:00pm	GPs: Behind Closed Doors	3:45pm	Football Gold	
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	10:00pm	Panorama	10:00pm	Trust Me I'm a Vet	10:00pm	Benidorm	11:00pm	Confessions of a Junior Doctor	11:00pm	One Night with My Ex	11:00pm	Barclays Premier League World Review	
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	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												



Advertising feature

# Yearly Travel Insurance dilemma unravelled

**Christina Sharp**

**GLOBELINK INTERNATIONAL**

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**TRAVEL INSURANCE: What's best for you?**

Comments from our customers:

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“ 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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# 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](mailto:mikesenker@gmail.com).

## 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 Torre Vieja, 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](http://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](mailto:Ask@lawtaxspain.com), or call 952 667 090.

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## LETTERS

## YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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# 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](mailto: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.

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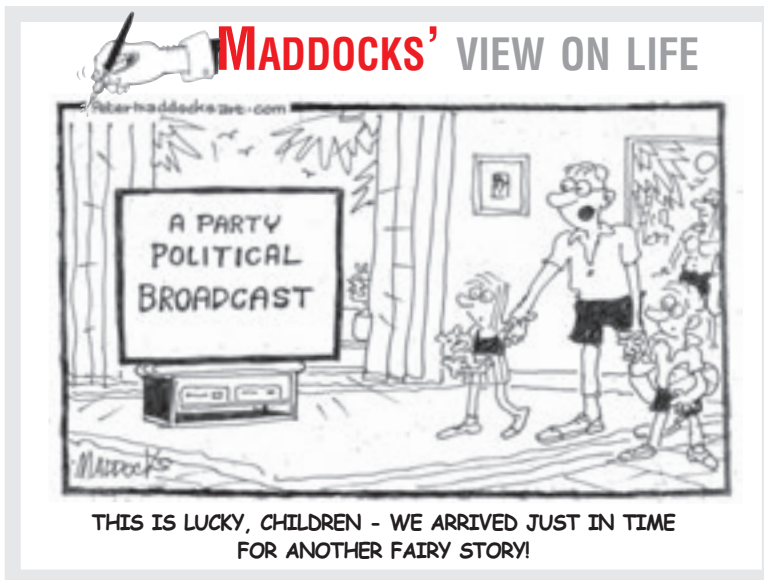
## Kakuro

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	17	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

## LOTTERY

### UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday April 22

4	6	34
37	42	52

BONUS BALL  
24

### IRISH LOTTO

Saturday April 22

13	17	18
25	26	27

BONUS BALL  
12

### EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday April 18

17	22	31
38	45	

BONUS BALL  
5  
12

Friday April 21

2	13	16
22	49	

BONUS BALL  
4  
5

### LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday April 22

1	11	16
26	45	47

BONUS BALL  
41  
4

### EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday April 23

4	5	7
10	42	

BONUS BALL  
0

## 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.

## 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

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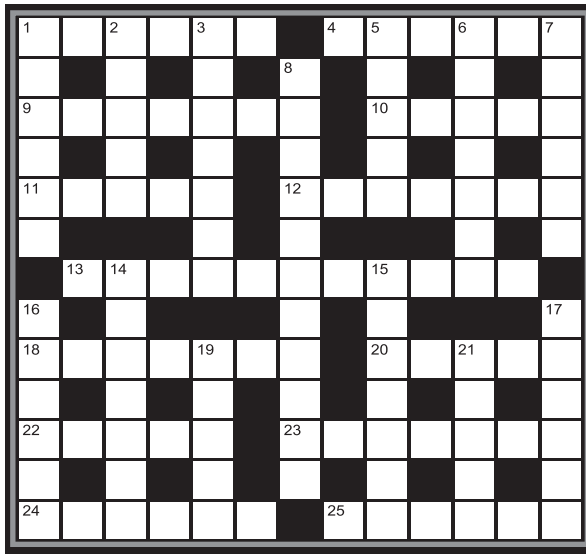
## Crossword

page

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

### Cryptic



**Across**

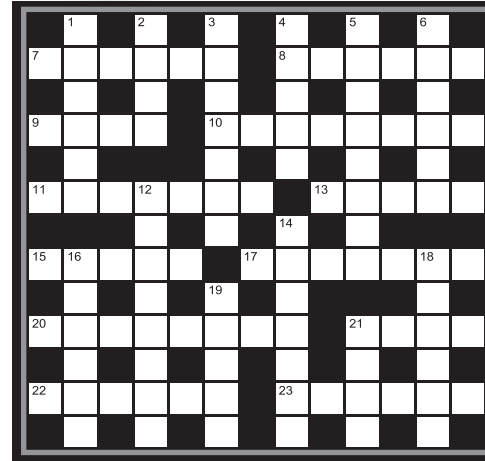
- 1 Row made by fiddle (6)
- 4 Opts for the soft pieces (6)
- 9 Whirlwind rent-a-party (7)
- 10 Sailor, dry, disheartened and late (5)
- 11 Bird hiding in farmhouse loaf (5)
- 12 The lion made a stone tool (7)
- 13 Characters can't mention policy (11)
- 18 Upset by putting it in quartz (7)
- 20 Tremble 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:**

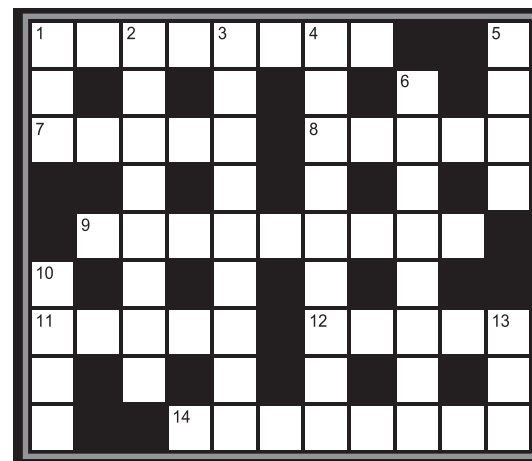
- 1 Lamparas, 8 Grito, 9 Suiza,
- 10 Fat, 11 Olive, 12 Racha,
- 13 Ski, 14 Aviso, 15 Listo,
- 16 Sea horse.

**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**

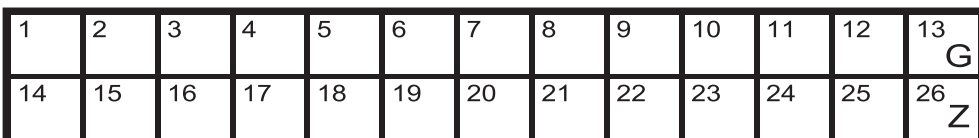
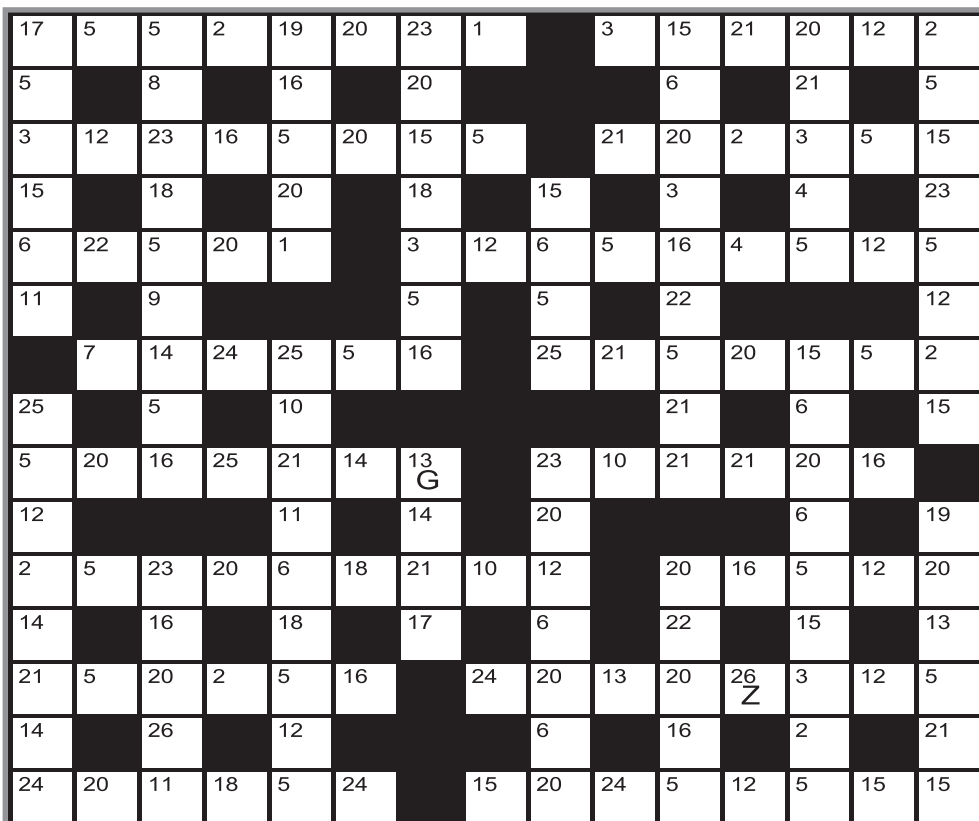
- 1 Souvenir (8)
- 7 Where (5)
- 8 Siete (5)
- 9 Sillones (9)
- 11 Desván (5)
- 12 Vaso (para beber) (5)
- 14 Timbre (8)

**Down**

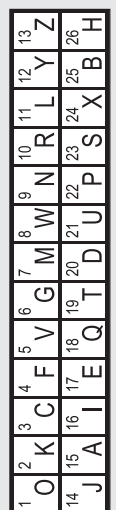
- 1/5 Vino tinto (3,4)
- 2 Hormigón (8)
- 3 Exercise (physical) (9)
- 4 To unload (9)
- 5 See 1
- 6 Adelantar (vehículo, rival) (8)
- 10 Lighthouse (4)
- 13 Sun (3)

### 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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## 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.

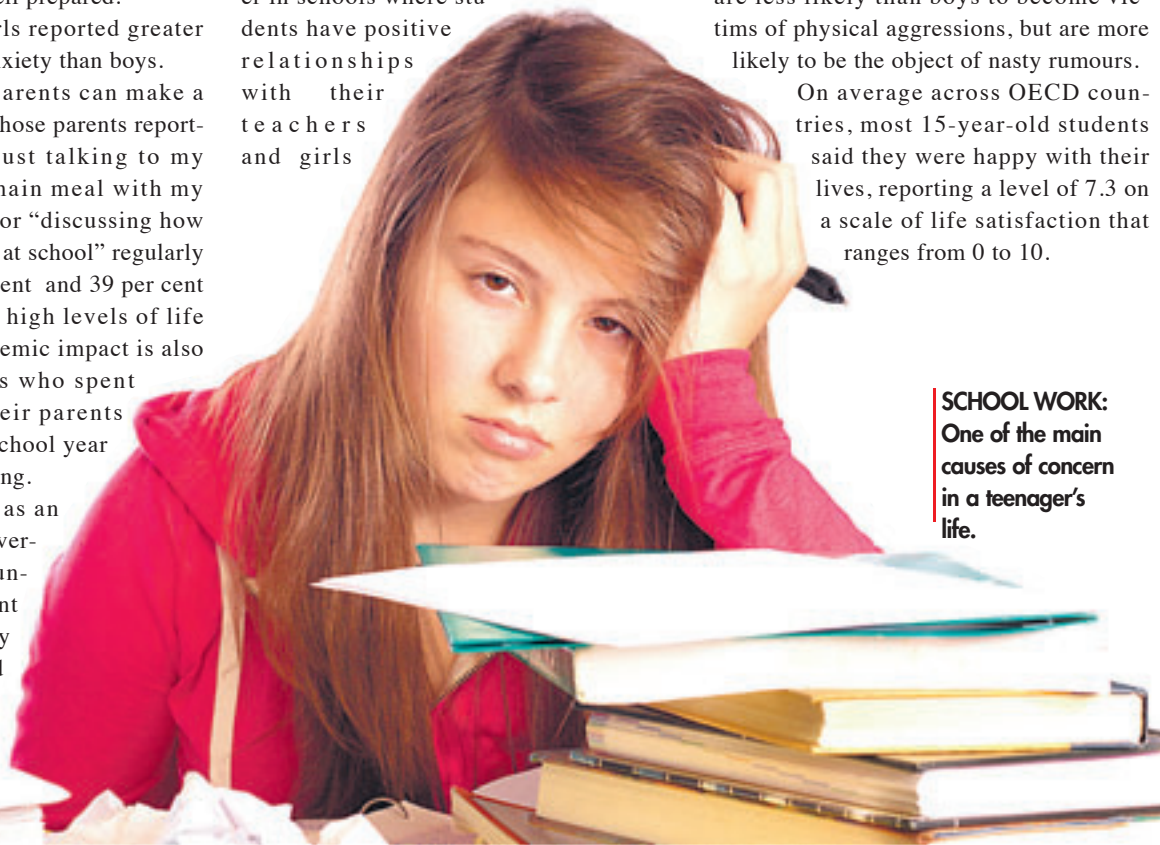
But teachers and parents can make a difference. Students whose parents reported "spending time just talking to my child," "eating the main meal with my child around a table" or "discussing how well my child is doing at school" regularly were between 22 per cent and 39 per cent more likely to report high 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 low-

er 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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Dr. Andreas Ludwig Jenke



## Ask the Optician: How can I protect my eyes from allergies this spring?

By Andrés Román Romero, Store Director, Specsavers Opticas Santa Ponça

Unfortunately, allergies are becoming more common and the World Health Organization 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 effects 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.

Specsavers Opticas is located in Avda. Rei Jaume I 117 Locales 14 Y 15, Santa Ponça. Visit your optician if allergies are causing you problems with your eyes and they can give you the best advice. [www.specsavers.es](http://www.specsavers.es)

## 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 Re-

habilitative 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 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.

## 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.

## Ask The Doctor

Brought to you by



## 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@helicopterossanitarios.com](mailto:jefemedico@helicopterossanitarios.com)

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## Loving the 90's

DANCE classics from the 1990s will be back at their loudest in Port Adriano, south-west Mallorca, when a new music festival arrives this summer. 'Love the 90's' will embrace some long lost disco classics and even see some real life stars from that golden era in attendance.

Jenny from Ace of Base will be there alongside Corona, and Spanish 90's group OBK. Love the 90's is part of a series of shows that will take place across Spain from May onwards, beginning in Barcelona. It will arrive at Port Adriano on August 4 right in the middle of summer.

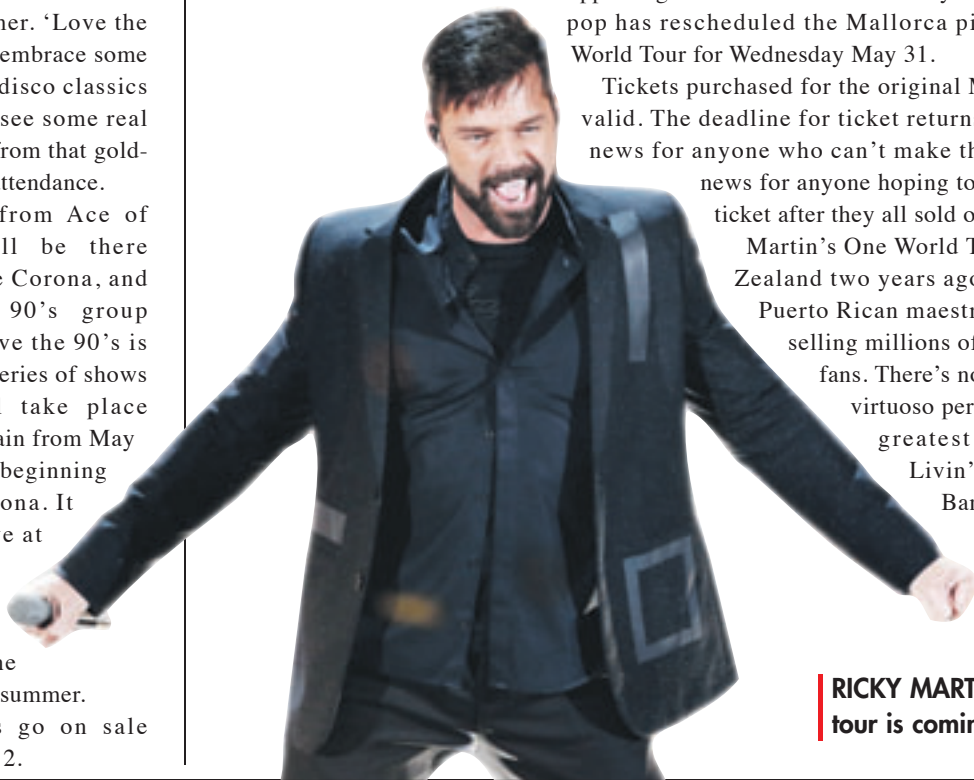
Tickets go on sale from May 2.

## La Vida Loca at long last comes to Palma

RICKY MARTIN'S much awaited Palma concert has been delayed for two weeks. Instead of appearing at the Palma Arena on May 17, the king of Latin pop has rescheduled the Mallorca pit stop on his One World Tour for Wednesday May 31.

Tickets purchased for the original May 17 gig remain valid. The deadline for ticket returns has expired, bad news for anyone who can't make the new date, great news for anyone hoping to grab a last minute ticket after they all sold out.

Martin's One World Tour began in New Zealand two years ago and has seen the Puerto Rican maestro travel the globe selling millions of tickets to adoring fans. There's no new album, just a virtuoso performance of all his greatest hits, including *Livin' la Vida Loca*, *She Bangs*, and *Adios*.



**RICKY MARTIN: His world tour is coming to Mallorca.**

## Visit glorious palace gardens

THE official residence of the Spanish royal family on Mallorca is now open for public visits. The Marivent Palace gardens are open for free exploration. The government is also working on a schedule of visits and guided tours for the interior.

The spectacular gardens are on a raised cliff overlooking the gorgeous panorama of Cala Major. They cover almost 10,000 square metres, contain dozens of exotic plant species and have seen some illustrious world figures stroll through over the years.

Prince Charles and the late Diana were famously snapped meandering around the gardens, as were the Clintons, Mikhail Gorbachev and Emperor Michiko of Japan.

The palace itself was built

in 1923 for the famous painter Saradakis. His widow donated it to the government in 1966 and it was granted to the royals, who use it as a summer getaway, in 1973.

Opening the Palace to the public was the brainchild of left-wing party Podemos who convinced King Felipe VI that since €1.3 million is spent on maintenance each year, people have a right to explore the grounds.

Almost €400,000 has been spent on adapting the gardens for tourism with signposting, toilets, bins and benches.

From May 1 until July 15, and between September 15 and 30, the gardens will be open from 9am until 8pm. They will be closed in summer when the royals visit for their annual holidays.

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# Super festival on way

THE Charlatans, Placebo and Mala Rodriguez are among the biggest stars performing at the 2017 Mallorca Live Festival in Calvia this May. One of the biggest festivals on the island, more than 10,000 people are expected to attend this year's edition, from May 12 to 13.

Mallorca Live takes place close to the beach at the old Aquapark in Calvia. The fantastic lineup includes an outstanding variety of top international indie, rock, electronic and alternative artists. There will be more than 20 hours of live music, a food and design market, and an arts and chill out zone.



STAR: Mala Rodriguez coming to Mallorca Live.

Credit: imgustavo, wikipedia.

More family friendly than the drug-fuelled frenzies seen on neighbouring Ibiza, the Mallorca Live Festival is open to children, even allowing those

under 10 in for free. Adult tickets begin at €30 for a one day pass and can be purchased online at [www.mallorcalivefestival.com](http://www.mallorcalivefestival.com).

## Alive with passion

ON Sunday April 30 Santa Maria will be alive with music, art and dance as the town celebrates its Fira 2017. The festival is a key part of the run up to May's Moors and Christians events which will shortly take over every square inch of the island.

Some 50 different events are scheduled for Santa Maria, sandwiched just between Palma and Inca, over the course of the weekend. The main party is on Sunday when musicians will parade the streets, delicious food will be out in force and thousands will celebrate what is one of Mallorca's most enduring street festivals.

There will also be art exhibitions, stalls, games, sport competitions and children's activities to keep everyone occupied during a great day out.

**What's on!**

**DO YOU HAVE ANY IMPORTANT EVENT LISTING TO SHARE?**

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# TripAdvisor reviews go over 500 million

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**T**RIPADVISOR 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. Having

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!!

**| Taken from my own 'cellar.' I've had it for more than 20 years.**



**I cook with wine - sometimes I even add it to the food."**

*W C Fields*



<http://pintof45.blogspot.com.es>

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



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# PROPERTY

## SPECIAL

# Becoming your vision

By *Matthew Elliott*

MALLORCA is seeing a flourish of international attention in what is clearly an excellent time to consider buying property in the Balearic Islands.

The historical capital Palma, and the coastal resorts of Port D'Andratx, Cala D'Or and Camp de Mar, have all seen avid interest from property specialists, investors,

and expats from Britain and Germany.

Prospective buyers and sellers now have an astonishing arsenal of information, protection and financial security on their side with a modern weaponry of internet resources, mobile applications, guidebooks and local expertise.

The market's emphasis has rightly shifted to the consumer's side and Mallorca is

extremely fortunate to have a community of estate agents and property specialists who acknowledge and respect this development.

These men and women are the backbone of Mallorca's thriving expatriate community which is why the advertisers featured throughout these pages have been especially selected for the benefit of our readership. They have devoted their working lives to helping Mallorca grow and become a secure, prosperous environment for ourselves and our children.

On a broader scale, record-breaking improvements in sales and transactions, as well as healthy national measurements and indicators in related markets, including the rental, construction and legal sectors, all point towards a property economy

standing on firm foundations.

The good news for those considering buying property in Spain, whether in cosmopolitan Palma, with its international school and community, or the more rustic regions, is that the property market recovery is progressing with a stability not seen for many years. The headlines of 2016 thus far reflect the solid figures coming through from last year and offer a genuine cause for real optimism.

Purchasing or selling a home is a very serious and significant decision for an individual, couple or family, one which must take into account a huge variety of key factors. The wonderful uniqueness of Mallorca, however, sees those factors remain remarkably stable.



**FLOURISHING MALLORCA: Secure and prosperous.**

There is high demand, a strong community, just the right amount of ebb and flow to keep businesses vibrant, excellent transport links, international investment, but also a great potential for future growth.

The possibilities here in Mallorca are evidently vast, with plenty of room to make

a profit while enjoying life, whether of the retired, family, or investing variety. So as you consider whether it is time for you to make your move, cast your eye across the pages of our property special and remember that the names and businesses here specialise in getting you the very best of deals.

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

**Ref 3052, Lluçmajor, 280,000€**

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



**Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€**

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



**Ref 3030, Randa, 290,000€**

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



**Ref 2194, Vallgornera, 180,000€**

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



**Ref 2997, Lluçmajor, 175,000€**

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



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



## Enduring love affair



**DREAM HOMES: Interest in Spanish properties seems to be encouraging.**

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 into 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.

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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.

At Currencies Direct, we've helped over 150,000 customers save on their currency transfers since 1996. We're authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority as an Electronic Money Institution under the Electronic Money Regulations 2011.

Just pop into your local Currencies Direct branch or give us a call to find out more about how you can save money on your currency transfers.

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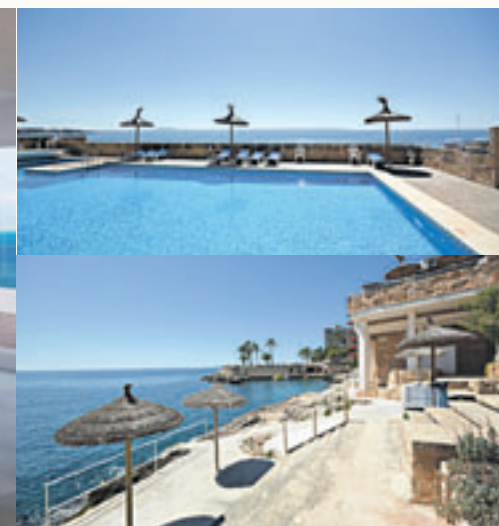


**Price: 3,200,000€**

This 2017 completely refurbished luxury duplex penthouse apartment in Illetas offers one of the most spectacular sea views in the south west of Mallorca. A lift leads directly to the entrance on the 12th floor. The total living area is about 300 m<sup>2</sup>. On the first floor are three spacious bedrooms with sea views (one bedroom with dressing room and bathroom en-suite), a fully equipped kitchen, a laundry room, another bathroom and a very large living / dining area with a size of approximately 40 m<sup>2</sup>. A staircase leads to the upper level, where a library with panoramic sea views is located. From here you have access to the highlight of the property, the separate upper floor: on another 100 m<sup>2</sup> living area, there is another large bedroom with great sea views, with a fully equipped dressing room and an en-suite bathroom, as well as a separate lounge with an open kitchen and a guest toilet. From the approximately 80 m<sup>2</sup> big roof terrace you can enjoy an outstanding panoramic sea view. The roof terrace runs halfway up the upper floor from south-east to north-west, and you can follow the sun from sunrise to sunset. The greening of the terrace is provided by an automatic irrigation system. A sound system from Sonos provides musical background in the lounge and on the terrace. This penthouse offers unrivalled privacy.

The house technology (air conditioning, underfloor heating and light) is controlled by Zennio. The frameless interior doors are from Linvisibile, the floors are made of large, white tiles from Cifre, the wine refrigerator is from Liebherr, the kitchens are equipped with Miele appliances and the windows are mostly from Schüco. A double parking space in the adjoining parking garage, as well as all installation furniture (built-in wardrobes, dressing room etc.) are included in the price, movable furniture is available on request.

The apartment complex has a communal pool (with a private restaurant) and direct sea access. The complex is very well maintained offering a 24 hour porter service. The location is 1A. Beaches, supermarkets, restaurants etc. are within walking distance, Puerto Portals and Palma can be reached in a few minutes and the airport is only about 15 minutes drive away. Illetas is an exclusive place where only 4- or 5-star hotels are located. Convince yourself of this fantastic penthouse apartment and arrange a viewing with us!







Your Hermann Köppler

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130sqm      3      2      No

**Price: 595,000€**

This marvellous apartment with sea view is located in the centre of Palma de Mallorca. The elegant property has a living space of 130 sqm distributed into 3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (one of them en suite), a beautiful, fully equipped and furnished kitchen and a spacious and bright living room with wonderful sea views. This apartment has been renovated recently with materials of best available quality. It is situated in a demanded district of the city of Palma, close to the beach, only 10 walking minutes away from the centre and the old town. All the necessary services like shops, supermarkets, pharmacies and schools are located nearby. It is a perfect place to live!







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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.

## 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.

IT could be said that our homes are smart enough, with most members of the family already in possession of a smart phone, television and car. Installing a digital assistant could be a wise decision for many reasons.

The current use of digital assistants, including Amazon Echo's 'Alexa' is the beginning of interacting with technology.

## Smart homes are the future

Lives are busy and it would be comforting to know everything involved in running a household, could be taken care of using the voice to command a smart personal assistant.

Mintel research has revealed that Americans are mostly in-

terested in smart home products, including outdoor security, window and door sensors and even indoor security, as worried parents wish to keep an eye on their children and pets.

Having a smart home system is good for the environment,

which includes energy efficient products. If the technology is saving money and helping the environment and securing the home, then it's smart to invest.

Technology for practical living allows homeowners to have more freedom.



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## 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

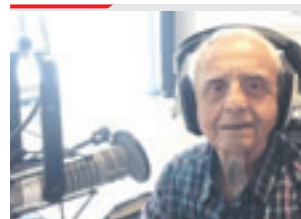
and her cat stay at home in the care of experienced house-sitters.

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 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](http://www.HousesitMatch.com) or call Lamia on 00 44 (0) 777 214 2742.*

## 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 ad-

vocate. 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.**



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**Clarkson  
Quote of the Week**

“You can't be a true petrol head until you've owned an Alfa Romeo.”

Some might say...



**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.

In celebration of crossing the €1 billion milestone, Classic Trader released a list of the 10 most popular models on its

website.

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 which is known as the impact bumper series. It is a 1980s favourite that is relatively cheap with

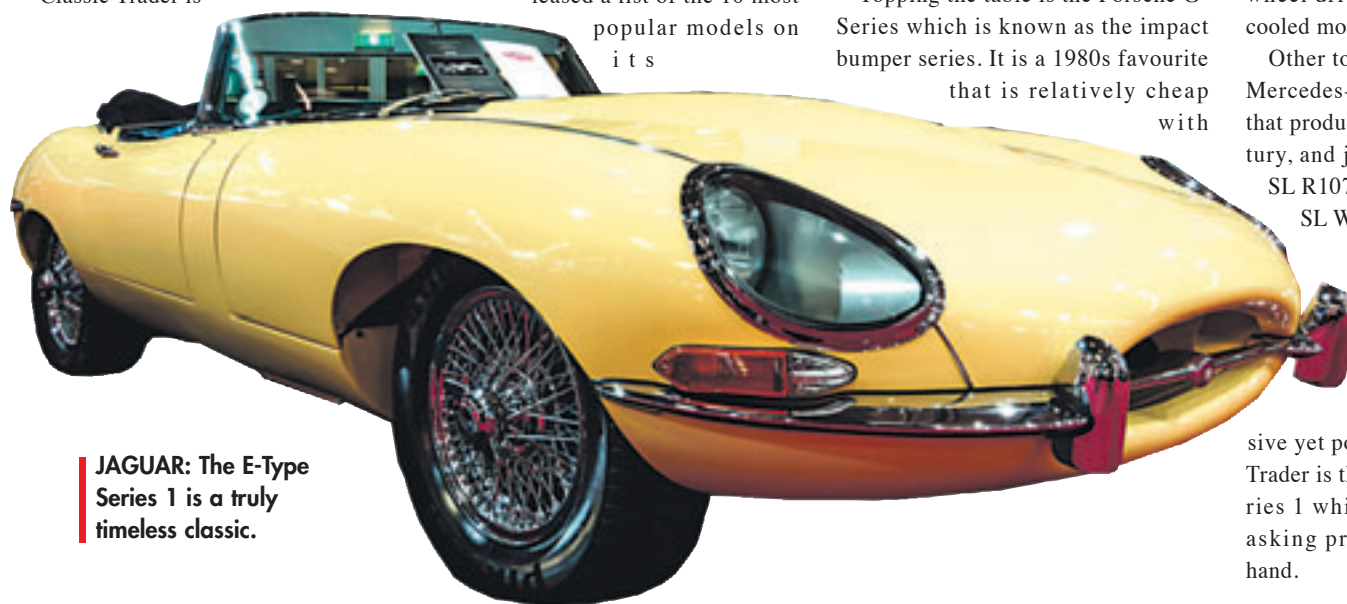
asking prices sitting around the €70,000 mark.

There are also 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.



**JAGUAR:** The E-Type Series 1 is a truly timeless classic.

# 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 be-

come 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.

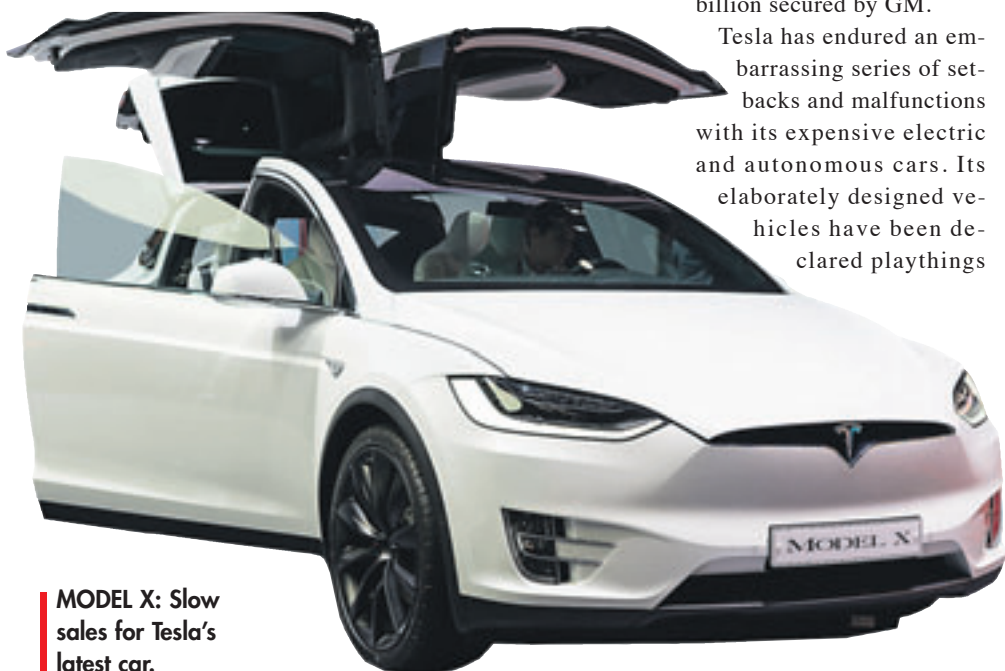
Tesla has endured an embarrassing series of setbacks and malfunctions with its expensive electric and autonomous cars. Its elaborately designed vehicles have been declared playthings

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 expected 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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Look no further for a boat. 4-page special starts here...

# Spain's largest Superyacht

By John Smith

THE largest Superyacht ever built in Spain, the 59-metre Maybe will be on show in Palma during the combined Boat and Superyacht shows.

In the centre of the yacht, is an impressive spiral staircase sweeping around a lift that connects each level. The main deck is home to a very spacious and inviting main saloon and a sophisticated dining area.

Above, there is another saloon with two separate seating areas, a cinema room, a double VIP stateroom with the bridge and captain's quarters forward. Outside is another dining area where guests can enjoy sheltered al fresco meals.

Designer Toni Colom has created an exceptionally contemporary and bright interior boasting all of the amenities one would expect to find on a custom built Superyacht.



**MAJESTIC MAYBE:** One of the largest Superyachts ever built in Spain.

Maybe can comfortably accommodate up to 12 guests in six luxurious bedrooms. Furthest forward

of the main deck is an extremely generous full beam master stateroom with a study, walk in

wardrobe and his and hers bathrooms. The remaining accommodation – two doubles and two

twins – can be found on the lower deck. In addition, there is accommodation for up to 16 crew members.

Outside, this tri-deck yacht boasts fantastic deck spaces. Her sundeck is complete with a gym-come-massage room complete with a sauna, offering the most incredible panoramic views. Moving out through the sliding glass doors, guests are welcomed at an outdoor bar and forward of the flybridge is a Jacuzzi surrounded by plush sun pads.

Her twin 2,682hp Caterpillar engines power her to reach a maximum speed of 17 knots. With a cruising speed of 14 knots, a long range of 5,000 nautical miles and a helipad this offers ideal living for the mega rich.

Maybe offers an adventurous experience at a reputed price of €34,950,000 and is available from Camper and Nicholson.



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# Superyacht or support vessel

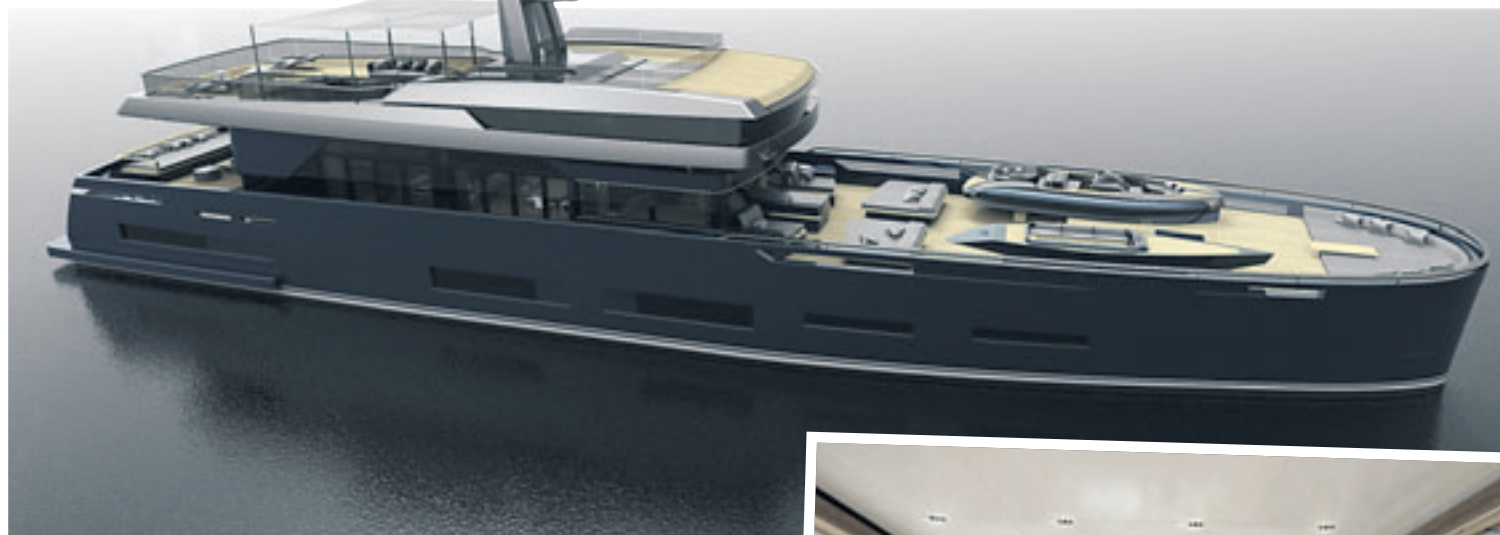
By John Smith

ITALY supports a number of designers and manufacturers of Superyachts but here is a new concept for cruising.

The new PY Heritage 45 M which is a first time collaboration between designers Zuccon International Project and Picchiotti Yacht. It could easily be classed as a Superyacht in its own right but it is also considered to be a suitable support vessel for one of the even larger Superyachts.

Paying tribute to the great yacht designer Gerhard Gilgenast and incorporating some of his concepts, this 45metre behemoth is crafted from steel and aluminium and offers a superb main deck which has room to accommodate two tenders (a sailboat and a motor yacht, both nine metres in length) and two jet skis.

This layout means it can act as a floating garage but with plenty of additional space on deck to allow for the owner and guests to relax in comfort, but if the two tenders are launched then the amount of recreational space freed up is tremendous.



Zuccon and Picchiotti

**PY HERITAGE 45 M: Exterior and interior images of the concept vessel.**

A distinctive feature of the yacht is the layout of the interior. The cross-section has been designed with a floor to ceiling height of three metres on the main deck and the extensive use of glass further simplifies the relationship with the outside world and merges seamlessly into the interior space.

The areas reserved for the owner and guests are all on the lower


deck. Here the owner has a large suite with a private terrace in the stern area, when this area isn't taken up entirely by the garage, it can be used as a stunning sea level terrace by the owner.

Although currently at concept stage, the PY Heritage 45 M can be produced at customer request with the advantage that a great deal of fittings can be custom made.









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# Evo43 on display at Palma International Boat Show

By John Smith

ONE of the many interesting exhibits at the 34th Palma International Boat Show will be the innovative Evo Yachts transformable day cruiser, Evo43.

This 13-metre staple of the Evo range has been specially upgraded for the show and visitors will be invited to not only go on board the state of the art vessel but some will also be treated to sea trials.

This ever expanding Italian company, first 'tested Spanish waters' at last year's Palma and Barcelona boat shows and was so impressed by the response from potential Spanish and Portuguese customers that it is continuing to promote its range in Iberia.

For those who couldn't visit Palma, the company has developed the new Evo43 app, which is designed to take users on a virtual on-board tour, letting them create their own 3D version of the yacht, choose different combinations of colours, cushions, upholstery and layout.

This is a well-designed and elegant-



DAY CRUISER: The Evo43 is well-designed and elegantly styled.

ly styled day cruiser which offers a range of top quality fittings and fixtures, extending side walls, a choice of shades and the revolutionary Transformer stern platform that can be used

as a bathing ladder, a diving platform or a tender lift.

With a large number of options for customisation, the Evo43 appeals to a very wide market.



Delegates attending the Singapore Conference.

## Gibraltar delegates promote the Rock

REPRESENTATIVES of the Gibraltar Yachting Business Development Association (GYBDA) attended the 2017 Singapore Yacht Show and Conference.

As Gibraltar becomes an increasingly more important mooring and ships chandlery destination for pleasure boats and Superyachts so the chairman and secretary general of the association wanted to promote the Rock as a destination for Asian owners and holiday makers.

Attending this prestigious event gave them an opportunity to speak positively about Gibraltar and the advantages

the jurisdiction offers namely, its strategic location, the port services, yachting facilities, the Gibraltar maritime flag, registrations, corporate structures and the berthing opportunities.

GYBDA has now been invited to be considered for full membership of the prestigious International Council of Marine Industry Associations (ICOMIA) which aims to bring together all the national boating federations and other bodies involved in the recreational marine industry, into a global organisation and to represent them at international level.



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## Renault and the America's Cup

MORE car manufacturers are getting involved in the world of boating and now Renault is supporting the French attempt on the America's Cup.

After launching the new all electric Twizy in Bermuda, the French company has delivered 10 of these two-seater vehicles to the Groupama Team France which will be flying the Tricolor flag for France in the America's Cup qualifiers in May of this year.

The top Challenger will meet defending champions Oracle Team USA in the 35th

America's Cup Match in Bermuda starting on June 17.

Bermuda is well-known for only allowing private cars on the island in 1946 and since then, visitors could only rent low capacity motor scooters in order to stop road congestion, but these snazzy little electric vehicles should be ideal for the local conditions whilst ferrying the crew to their mooring.

"Renault is proud to introduce this all-electric vehicle during the America's Cup," said Olivier Murguet, America Region Chairman.

## Viking Star cruises in

THE Viking Star, a cruise ship which can accommodate 944 passengers, has made its first ever visit to the Port of Malaga.

A regular visitor to Palma, the vessel will return to Malaga in October this year followed by the first visit of sister ship Viking Sun.

Mallorcan waters have a great attraction to the Viking group which carries mainly American passengers all over the world in luxury on a regular basis

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# Traditional Balearics boats to be featured

By John Smith

ONE thing that is reinforced each year with the Palma Boat and Superyacht Shows is the fact that Mallorca is wedded to the sea.

The organisers are very aware of this and whilst those looking to sell their vessels, there will be an area dedicated to the traditional boats of the Balearics, some of which have disappeared.

Those who have studied the history of the boats of the islands will remember the xabecs, llaüts viatgers, bergantins and fragates, but to others they will simply be names, assuming that they have heard of them at all.

It is only in the last hundred years or so that it has been possible to travel to the islands by any method other than the sea and the availability of cheap aircraft seats as well as new and stronger materials has led to an inevitable change in the way that the local boating industry operates.

These days, traditional boat building can be seen in the fleet of smaller handcrafted boats including pasteras, gussis and bots which will be on show in the Marina Tradicional zone at Boat Show Palma, a new area that seeks to



Photo Credit: Palma International Boat Show

ON DISPLAY: A partly constructed llaüt boat arriving for the show.

highlight the value of the boating tradition that was the forerunner of one of the island's emerging economic sectors.

The Marina Tradicional site, located at the entrance of the Pescadores zone and covering 240 square metres, is intended to be a space to revisit the sailing history of the region. It will also show that there is

still construction of traditional boats which will not only maintain a tradition but will also provide skilled employment.

Visitors to the Marina Tradicional zone will be able to see a gussi, a pastera and two bots together with two fine craftsmen Pep Florit and Joan Portell, who will work on

a six metre llaüt to demonstrate the skilled work of these professionals.

The Mestres d'Aixa Workshop is carrying out important educational work in schools to make children aware of their maritime heritage and will be undertaking the work in this zone during the extent of the show.

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THE Professional Footballers' Association announced that Chelsea's N'Golo Kante is the 2017 Footballer of the Year.

**TO READ MORE**

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

# A champion weekend for El Toro RC

ON the final weekend of the 2016/2017 rugby season all the hard work put in by El Toro RC coaches, players and supporters since last August came to a successful close in nearly every category.

El Toro RC men beat RC Ponent in Ibiza for the JJ Garcia Cup, winning a very close match by 28 points to 26. The girls team won one of their matches against Corsaris Rc and Sham-

rock RC to be declared Balears League champions having been four points ahead at the top of the league.

In the U18 Michel Rodier trophy, El Toro RC came out ahead against RC Ponent having led all season.

For the El Toro RC U14 team another win continued their almost unbeaten record to give them the trophy.

El Toro RC hosted a very successful final rugby day in Son Caliu in front of a large crowd of supporters who appreciated and added to the excitement of the final day. Shamrock RC and Union RFC

played in Pollensa to decide third and fourth place in the JJ Garcia Cup trophy with Shamrock beating the home team. RC Ponent took home the U16 trophy after a successful season.

The 10th Majorca Beach Rugby tournament takes place in Magaluf next weekend and with over 50 mens teams, 15 ladies teams and associated supporters it is now one of the biggest and well known beach rugby tournaments in Europe.

The fourth HM Palma Beach Rugby tournament this year runs alongside a volleyball series and takes place on the beach in front of Palma Aquarium including mens, ladies, veterans and U18 categories.



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