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LUCKY ESCAPE: Maria and Shaza have arrived safely back in Torrox and even met the mayor.

Happy ending

Relief after Dubai dad kidnap bid and Turkish prison

By Matt Ford

A Torrox woman who disappeared in Turkey will marry her partner following their dramatic return to Axarquia.

Maria Jimena Rico, 28, vanished last week alongside her Egyptian girlfriend Shaza Ismail after the pair escaped from the latter's disapproving family in the United Arab Emirates.

"After all we have lived through, we want to tie the knot in two or three weeks," Maria told a rapturous crowd in the town's central square yesterday (May 3), before exchanging hugs with a smiling Shaza.

The Argentine lived in Torrox for more than a decade before moving to London four years ago, where she met her wife-to-be.

They were lured to Dubai after Shaza's father lied about her mother being seriously ill, the family determined to ensure their daughter never returned to

the UK.

After discovering the truth the couple fled to Georgia, from where they booked flights to London, but at the airport Shaza's father burst in before faking a heart attack and ripping up his daughter's passport and threatening to kill her.

The Local Police became involved, and after refusing to arrest the irate parent they escorted the women to the Turkish border, which they successfully crossed because only Shaza's old documentation had been destroyed.

Their bad luck continued,

however, after they were arrested on suspicion of terrorism having made it to the Turkish capital Istanbul, although Maria is convinced that homophobia played a part.

They spent three days languishing in prison, and were not offered food for the first 48 hours, before Maria managed to phone her family.

"It was the worst moment of my life," Maria told the crowd, insisting that they would still be behind bars were it not for "the pressure of the media," after the story was picked up by major international news agen-

cies leading to the women's release.

"Now I want Shaza to start learning Spanish and enjoy the freedom we have here," concluded the heroine after revealing that her partner will apply

Banderas bounces in

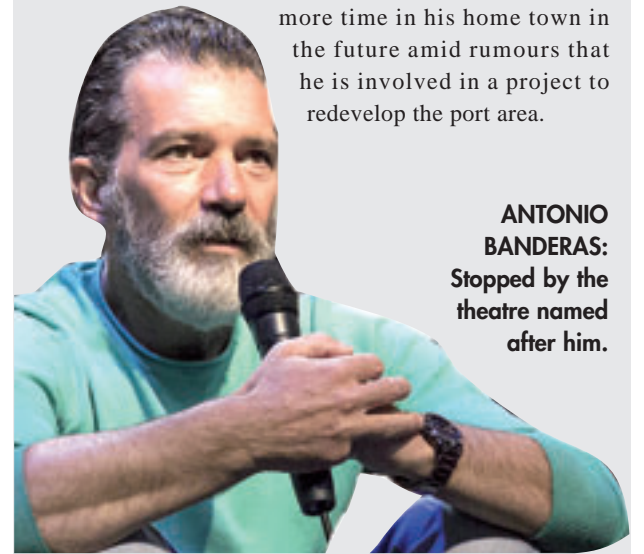
HOLLYWOOD superstar Antonio Banderas set hearts aflutter as he visited a theatre named after him for the first time.

Accompanied by his stunning 37-year-old partner Nicole Kimpel, the Malaga-born actor looked the picture of health as he toured the Malaga School of Performing Arts (ESAEM) after suffering a heart attack in January.

Banderas had been planning the visit for months after ESAEM named their young artists' theatre in his honour, and the beaming legend appeared delighted.

"It's very exciting, because when I was 18 or 19 there was nothing like this in Malaga, and now I have just seen what I dreamed back then," he said.

The visit follows his recent purchase of a penthouse apartment in the city's historic old centre, and the 56-year-old is seemingly set to spend more time in his home town in the future amid rumours that he is involved in a project to redevelop the port area.



ANTONIO BANDERAS: Stopped by the theatre named after him.

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NEWS EXTRA

Land payment

RINCON DE LA VICTORIA Council has been ordered to dish out €633,140 in compensation to a family who were never fully paid for land acquired from them in 1992.

Shock fix

ENDESA has upgraded its network in the Paseo del Attilio neighbourhood of Almuñecar, following several power outages in the town over the Easter holidays.

Sand shifts

LA HERRADURA'S beach has benefited from a new submerged breakwater to cope with future storms, after the latest round of bad weather saw sand pile up at the mouth of the Rio Jate.

Holy smoke vicar!

Firebomb attack on Velez-Malaga church ends in failure

By Matt Ford

THE latest in a spate of recent attacks on religious icons in Axarquía has sparked a public outcry.

A Molotov cocktail was launched at the Virgin de los Desamparados [Virgin of the Helpless] in the San Francisco church, Velez-Malaga, leaving investigators baffled as to the motive behind the strike.

The home-made

Partial damage to the Virgin.



incendiary failed to explode, although leaking petrol damaged "a good portion of the skirt and cloak worn by the virgin," according to a shocked Francisco Ruiz, elder of the Huerto y los Desamparados brotherhood.

"The plinth has also been stained by petrol, but thanks to God that the image of the pain of Christ, which is in the same chapel, was not damaged," he continued.

One of the priests on duty at the time of the attack heard a noise and as he entered the nave spotted a 'young lad running away,' although he was unable to confirm if the youth was responsible for the attack.

Fury over drought

THE drought affecting Axarquía has not abated, with Lake Viñuela now containing just a third of its capacity.

Farmers are being forced to stop watering their crops one day a week, which they say is affecting productivity.

The ban is expected to continue until at least September, but the exasperated growers have asked whether water could be diverted from the Rio Guadiaro near Gibraltar.

As previously reported in the *Euro Weekly News*, this would potentially double the supply but could have irreversible consequences for the river's ecosystem.

Politicians are now at war over the subject.



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EWNMG: Michel and Steven Euesden.

EWNMG set to launch new paper

A NEW free weekly English-language newspaper is to be launched tomorrow (Friday) on the Costa del Sol.

The first edition of the 64-page RTN Costa del Sol will be available from numerous key local distribution points from Torremolinos to Sotogrande.

The RTN brand of community newspapers was launched successfully on the Costa Blanca 18 years ago.

The brand with various editions covering the Valencia, Alicante and Murcia regions was earlier this year taken over by EWN Media Group (EWNMG), publishers of six editions of this newspaper, and also the Sol Times brand.

Now with tomorrow's launch on the Costa del Sol, the brand further increases its footprint area and provides readers and advertisers increased choice.

RTN Costa del Sol will increase the number of weekly publications owned and handled by EWNMG to 13, and further expansion is also on the cards.

Ferry fail

A FERRY has crashed into one of Malaga Port's docks, causing the Melilla-Malaga route to be closed until at least tomorrow (Friday May 5).

It is believed a steering malfunction led to the Pinar del Rio boat to smash into the Levante Dock, in the ADL zone, according to the Port Authority.

Witnesses say minutes after the impact, two stowaways jumped into the water to escape. They, along with five others found inside the ship, were detained by police.

None of the 143 passengers or crew were harmed in the crash, although the ferry suffered damages to its hull.

Balearia has diverted its routes to Algeciras while repairs are carried out to the Malaga dock.

Makeshift mobile home concern

RESIDENTS of a Malaga City street are worried about a woman apparently living in her car.

She has been seen parked in the same space since December last year and appears to be residing in the vehicle with a dog, cooking in the back with a camping stove.

As the vehicle has a foreign number plate, it is assumed that she is not Spanish, and while some locals feel that her presence is damaging for the image of

the area, others fear for her safety in the event of a fire.

The car was previously parked further along the street but was moved to a new, brighter spot that is closer to the local supermarket.

As the car is parked legally, there is little that local authorities can do and she is not causing trouble, although the windows of the car are covered and the dog tends to bark from time to time.

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...11

Driving force

SEAT is now part of the massive Volkswagen Group, but was founded in 1950 as a state-owned Spanish company

Based in Martorell, not far from Barcelona, the present SEAT (Sociedad Espanola de Automoviles de Turismo) headquarters, which has the capacity to annually produce around 500,000 vehicles, was opened in 1993 by King Juan Carlos.

As the nation's only major car manufacturer able to develop its own designs in-house, its range of models are frequently named after places in Spain, and include Ibiza, Leon, Toledo, Alhambra and Altea.

A number of town halls are now competing to have a new model named after their municipality.

SEAT, with a workforce of more



SEAT: Was opened in 1993 by King Juan Carlos.

than 14,000, showed a €6 million after tax profit in 2015.

With around 80 per cent of its cars exported, SEAT also has manufacturing plants in Portugal, Germany, and Slovakia.

However Martorell produces vehicles and is also home to the brand's technical centre, research facilities, development and design branch, cus-

tomor services division, and a genuine parts factory for SEAT, in addition to 'stablemate' brands Volkswagen, Audi and Skoda.

Meanwhile Barcelona's Zona Franca site, the original home of SEAT, boasts the company's training centre, and manufactures stamped body parts and gearboxes for all VW group cars.

The iconic SEAT 600

SEAT produced the classic 600 city car in Spain from May 1957 to August 1973 with nearly 800,000 made, including many for export.

The model kickstarted the economic boom known as the 'Spanish miracle' that ended the country's slow recovery from the Civil War.

Made under licence through a partnership with Italian manufacturer Fiat, it was relatively inexpensive and frequently the only car within the economic means of many Spanish families.

Walk around any Spanish town and the chances are a SEAT 600 can be spotted, often lovingly restored.



SEAT 600: Kickstarted the economic boom.

Concrete jungle

RESIDENTS in Torre de Benagalbon have amassed 6,000 signatures protesting council plans to concrete 3.4 kilometres of the seafront.

Opponents claim the plan would destroy natural plants and other wildlife in the area, and a spokesman said: "We think it is outrageous to get rid of one of only three coastal areas that

still have dunes."

Another member added: "The recent storms have shown how a natural beach like this regenerates itself in a few hours without the need for bricks."

Fascist probe

NERJA Council has joined forces with the Junta de Andalucia in probing whether fascist salutes performed

at the funeral of an ex-minister breached the Law of Democratic Memory.

Mourners performed the gestures while singing the Falange party anthem, 'Cara al Sol,' at the funeral of Jose Utrera Molina, who died aged 91 last week and was a minister under Spanish dictator General Franco.

Nerja's mayor, Rosa Arrabal, has said she is keen to ascertain whether the salute constituted "an act of Francoist appreciation."

The Falange party was the political movement led by Franco from 1937 until its dissolution in 1977, shortly after his death.

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Postscript to ponder

18.6% Spain's unemployment rate is expected to fall in 2017 and 2018 reports the IMF, although youth unemployment is 40 per cent. GDP is rising but more work is needed to recover from 'La Crisis.'

Cold threat to wine crop

THE entire wine harvest of northern Spain is under threat after temperatures plummeted to -5°C before the weekend.

Some growers in the Ribera del Duero, Castilla y Leon, resorted to hiring a helicopter to fly above their vines and prevent frost from forming, but others suffered significant losses.

A state of catastrophe has been declared in the Bierzo area, Leon, where 70-80 per cent of the harvest was lost, Galician growers have lost an estimated 21.7 million bottles of wine with a market value of €72 million, with up to 95 per cent of vines affected in places.

Need for speed

A TOTAL of 31,086 drivers were handed speeding fines by the Spanish Directorate General of Traffic (DGT) from April 17-23.

The penalties came after a week-long monitoring and control campaign during which the Guardia Civil stopped 581,294 vehicles after zapping them with fixed or mobile radars.

Four motorists were arrested for exceeding the speed limit by more than 80 km/h and may face three-to-six month prison sentences, while the remaining offenders must pay fines ranging from €100-€600.

Noise annoys

ONE in four Spaniards are exposed to unsafe levels of noise pollution caused by levels of traffic on the roads, a new EU report reveals.

It claims around 12 million of the population, about 26 per cent, suffers high noise levels, defined as being



Postcard from Burgos



EL CID, the Castilian nobleman, military hero, and diplomat, is a historical hero of Burgos, being born near-by and raised and educated in the northern city.

At the edge of the Iberian central plateau, the Gothic beauty of the Cathedral plus a large numbers of churches, palaces and other buildings from medieval times saw the city declared a World Heritage Site in 1984.

With a population of around 180,000 and once the capital of the Crown of Castile, the city forms a crossroads on the historic route of the pilgrimage Camino de Santiago, which runs parallel to the River Arlanzon.

Early humans made their home in the area as long as 800,000 years ago, the Romans occupied the city, and in the 5th century, the Visigoths conquered.

The Moors occupied almost all of Castile in the 8th century but only for a short time and there is little sign of their influence, while in the middle of the 9th century King Alfonso III the Great of Leon took it and built a castle 'in defence of Christendom,' giving the region its name 'land of castles.'

Founded in 884 Burgos was an outpost of the expanding Christian frontier and the start of the reconquest of Spain.

With the Duke of Wellington besieged and forced to retreat with his allied army in the Peninsula War, the city was the scene of battles during civil wars of the Spanish succession, and during the Spanish Civil War, was the base of General Franco's Nationalist government.

above a daily average of 55 decibels.

The report shows railways are the second main source of noise, with 19 million affected; the third cause is air traffic, affecting 4.1 million living near airports.

Not so popular

HUNDREDS of people demonstrated outside the Madrid headquarters of the ruling Partido Popular to protest against corruption.

The protest was organised through social media and was not officially sanctioned. People were warned they could face fines under Spain's controversial new Citizen Security Law; labelled 'the Gag Law' because of its clampdown on public protest.

Power down

IBERDROLA, Spain's largest power company, blames a fall on its first quarter profits partly on the weakness of Sterling following the Brexit vote.

The energy giant - which generates a quarter of its earnings in Britain where it owns Scottish Power - said net profit from January to March fell by 4.7 per cent to €827 million.

Grotty grub

EUROPEAN police have seized around €230 million of 'potentially harmful' counterfeit food and drink in a four month operation.

Almost 10,000 tonnes of counterfeit or harmful food and drink were grabbed by officers following around 50,000 checks at shops, markets, airports, seaports, and industrial estates.

In Spain 530kg of clams 'unfit for human consumption' were found, across the border in Portugal more than 300,000 cans of sardines in tomato sauce were seized among 13 million items taken into custody.

Birthdays

• Rory McIlroy (28), May 4, Professional Golfer

This Northern Irish golfer has won four major championships - the 2011 US Open, 2012 PGA Championship, 2014 Open Championship and the 2014 PGA Championship. He is one of only three players to have won three majors before the age of 25 and has twice been named RTE Sports Person of the Year, in 2011 and 2014.

• Adele (29), May 5, Singer

Award-winning English singer-songwriter whose many hit songs include Hello, Someone Like You and Rolling in the Deep. Her debut album has been certified seven times platinum in the UK and three times platinum in the US. She is one of the best-selling recording artists in the world having sold more than 100 million records.

• Tony Blair (64), May 6, Politician

Former UK prime minister who held office from May 1997 until June 2007 after the Labour party won a landslide victory at the General Election. He became the youngest prime minister, at the age of 43, since 1812. During his term his government introduced the National Minimum Wage Act, the Human Rights Act and the Freedom of Information Act.



• David Attenborough (91), May 8, Broadcaster

Much-loved English broadcaster and naturalist who has presented many popular nature documentary series for the BBC including The Blue Planet, Planet Earth, Frozen Planet and Life. During the 60's and 70's he was director of programming for the BBC. In 1985 was bestowed a knighthood for his services to television.

• Billy Joel (68), May 9, Singer

American singer and songwriter whose career has spanned five decades and seen him sell more than 150 million records worldwide. His hit songs include Uptown Girl, Tell Her About It and We Didn't Start the Fire. He has been nominated 23 times for a Grammy Award and has won six.

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OUR VIEW

Freedom of the Press

WITH World Press Freedom Day falling on May 3, it is perhaps appropriate to consider the situation as it currently exists in Spain.

When in 2015, the government - which at that time had a significant majority - introduced the Citizen Safety Law it received a great deal of criticism and was nicknamed the 'Gag Law'.

It is argued that due to the problems then with the Spanish economy, it was considered a useful way for the authorities to crack down on impromptu demonstrations which were being organised quickly through social media.

Generally speaking, there wasn't any significant gagging of the press although it is no longer acceptable to show the faces of members of the various police forces in an apparent effort to protect the identities of the officers and their families.

Indeed just one journalist was charged with a breach of the law in 2016 and fined €601 but after a 12 month review, just one week before his appeal the government reversed the fine saying that there had been irregularities in the paperwork.

Both the PSOE and Basque parties have now tabled motions in the Spanish Parliament calling for amendments in the law and it is anticipated that some changes may take place by 2018.

Now we want to hear your views.
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Killer crash

By Sally Underwood

A PLANE carrying three people has crashed in the Sierra Tejeda above Alcaucin, killing all those on board.

The aircraft, which was carrying a couple of around 60 years of age and a 45-year-old woman, all German, was taking part in a rally between Germany and Morocco when it experienced unknown difficulties and crashed.

The three were completing the penultimate stage of the rally and expecting to land at Granada airport when they lost contact with air traffic control, near Nerja. The plane's on-board search device was activated, allowing it to be located in the Los Pradillos area, at around 1,600 metres above sea level.

Guardia Civil helicopters normally used to extinguish forest fires were brought in to transfer rescue workers to the remote scene, and confirmed the deaths of those on board, who have not yet been named by authorities. Investigators are now working to ascertain the cause of the accident.



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KÖMMERLING

Leo the Lion flies back to Spain for welcome home party



BRAVE four-year-old Leo Bermejo from Almeria has finished his 31 sessions of proton beam therapy in Oklahoma and is on his way home to Spain via Toronto and Manchester.

The proton treatment in the States followed Leo's fourth brain tumour operation in the Alder Hey Children's Hospital in the UK.

On Sunday (May 7) supporters of Leo the Lion will gather in Vera, Almeria for a welcome home party and a belated ninth birthday party for his sister Sofia.

Mum Karen said: "Everything has been like a whirlwind over the last few months and things have progressed so quickly. I do not think we have really had time to sit down and comprehend

everything that has happened.

"We have achieved the unbelievable. Leo has proven to us all yet again that he is not ready to give up and he still continues to give us all a smile that lightens up people's lives."

She went on to praise Team Leo who helped raised thousands of euros to fund Leo's specialist treatment to give Leo the chance in life he deserves.

And she offered a big 'thank you' to the anonymous donor who paid the balance to reach the fund's target.

She said: "I hope you are reading this and continue to follow Leo's story and progress. We cannot thank you enough. Reaching the target before Leo's operation meant that we could relax and enjoy the time with him

without stressing about the fundraising. I have no idea who you are or where you live but my whole family thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

Karen told us how happy it makes her to share every step of Leo's journey knowing it has brought people together, changed people's mentality of life, and made people realise that the little silly things in life do not really matter any more, odds can be defeated, living life to the fullest is the most important thing in the world.

"If a little four-year-old boy can still smile every single day whilst going through horrific, cruel treatment then everyone can smile a bit more every day.



"We have met the most amazing inspirational people on this journey, people who will be friends for life.

"I feel like we have also learned some lessons ourselves and who are our true friends through the good and bad times, people who have stuck by

and supported us no matter what." You can follow Leo's journey on the fund's new Facebook page: www.facebook.com/leothelionsfight/

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NEWS EXTRA**Mental health**

OVER 100 healthcare professionals have met at Motril's tourist centre to commemorate World Mental Health Day. Participants said it was important to remove the 'stigma' surrounding mental illness.

Animal ID

TORROX'S Council has unanimously voted to work with Malaga's College of Vets to create an animal identification database to identify potentially dangerous pets.

Organ donor

FRIGILIANA is hosting an event to test for possible bone marrow donors on May 16 and 17. Those interested can take a simple blood test at the Multipurpose Centre to put themselves onto a donor database.

Rained off

ALGAROBBO'S Council was forced to suspend one day of its sixth annual local art show due to heavy rains and fog at the end of last week. The event had been planned to run from April 24 to 29 but was rained off on 28.

Car wars

NERJA Council has opened a new car park on Calle Almirante Carranza. The lot will provide 45 free spaces and will be accessible 24-hours a day.

Dance off

ALMUNECAR'S Juan Pablo Garcia Dance School has celebrated International Dance Day with a day of fun for their students aged three to 17 years old. The children practised various different styles such as classic ballet, hip hop, Spanish and modern dance.

New direct flights to Costa del Sol

By John Smith

THE first direct flight between Malaga and Tel Aviv will start on May 28 with two services a week according to operator El Al.

The route will initially operate until the end of October and the airline is ex-

pecting to run the flights at high capacity as the Costa del Sol is an attractive destination for Israeli tourists.

Walter Wasercier, El Al director for Spain and Portugal, said "There are six tour operators marketing this route, in which 70 to 80 per cent of travellers will be Israeli and the rest

will be Andalusian tourists."

The flights will take five hours and the route will be serviced by Boeing 737-800 aircraft, which can carry 185 passengers split between economy and business class.

Flights will operate on Thursday and Sunday until October 26 with departures

from Malaga at 11.55pm and from Tel Aviv at 6.05pm

The airport will be keeping with the tradition of spraying water from fire tenders when the first flight arrives and for this particular celebration, water taken from the River Jordan has been shipped over from Israel.

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Crackdown on binge drinking

MOTRIL'S Council is cracking down on underage and binge drinking by outlawing bottled alcohol in the street.

Maria Angeles Escamez, councillor for Citizen Security, explained, "on weekends, health services are saturated by teenagers aged between 12 and 16, who have drunk too much alcohol. It is not the best education for our sons and daughters, nor should we allow them to see this as a kind of culture."

She added, "those who drink in the street will be prosecuted and fined." Fines for those who are caught could reach between €600 and €21,000.



MARIA ANGELES ESCAMEZ: Launches the ban.

Aid for families in need

VELEZ-MALAGA Council has approved a measure to gift €4.3 million in help to families struggling to pay their property tax, known as IBI.

The move is expected to help 26,000 families, who have been unable to find the money to pay the tax.

Those eligible for the aid are those who rent or own a home in the Velez-Malaga area who missed paying their tax in any year between 2012

and 2016. The council is prepared to pay up to 100 per cent of a person's property tax, with a maximum value of €500.

The councillor for Economy and Finance, Juan Carlos Márquez, commented, "this government has made a particular effort to fit this aid into our budget." Those interested in receiving help in paying their property tax should visit Velez-Malaga Town Hall on Plaza Carmelitas.

NEWS EXTRA

Animal control

TORROX Council has unanimously voted to work with Malaga's College of Vets to create an animal identification database to identify potentially dangerous animals.

Social care

ALMUNECAR'S councillor for Social Services, Maria del Carmen Reinoso, has signed an initiative guaranteeing council funds to help families with children at risk of violence.

Well read

NERJA has ranked in the top 10 most well read towns in Andalucia, according to statistics released by Amazon. The book retailer measured how many books were bought in all towns with over 15,000 citizens.

Help group

VELEZ-MALAGA has launched Axarquía's first association for people with diabetes. The group will provide information and support on how to avoid or cope with the disease.

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PRIZE DRAW: Steven Euesden with Ian Radford of the Sala Group and footballer Steven Carr.

EWN presents €15,000 car reader survey *Smiling Virginia*



It was a day of lasting smiles for Virginia de la Torre Unceta.

Thanks to the *EWN* Virginia is now the owner of a new Dacia Sandero Ambiance car, complete with a year's insurance.

She collected her prize in a special presentation at the Rombosol Renault showroom in Fuengirola after her number had earlier been picked to find the winner of the *EWN* 2017 Win-a-Car Readers' Survey prize draw.

The prize, worth €15,000 in total, also included a fabulous meal-for-two at La Sala

Banus in Marbella.

"I still can't believe it!" Virginia said as she was handed the keys to her prize car.

"When you called on Friday I thought it was a joke and only started to believe it when I checked Facebook!"

Virginia's number was drawn by Sala Group Chairman Ian Radford and international footballer Steven Carr in a glittering draw also attended by *EWN* Publisher Steven Euesden.

It was the first time an English-language newspaper in Spain has ever given a car as a



PRIZE CAR: Nicki from *EWN* hands over the keys to Virginia.

sents prize in y contest ia wins

prize, with this including the bonus of tax supplied by EWN Media Group in addition to one year's insurance from Abbeygate.

"It really is wonderful," added Virginia. "I move up and down the coast a lot to sell property and now I have my own car to use!"

An avid *EWN* reader, Virginia moved to the United States more than 20 years ago when she was 19, where she became fluent in English.

Since returning to Spain and to Marbella where she lives "I read the paper every week and spend quite a lot of time doing so. I therefore decided to enter the Survey Win-a-Car draw because I wanted to give my opinion.

"What a good investment those few minutes turned out to be!"

Thousands of entries were submitted in the eight weeks that the highly successful readers' survey ran, with the information and suggestions received now being studied.

Once fully monitored some further improvements to the *EWN* will be introduced as the EWN Media Group, the parent company of three newspapers brands - the *EWN*, *RTN* and *Sol Times*, plans further expansion later in the year.



DACIA SANDERO
AMBIANCE: The prize car.



WONDERFUL: Virginia
just can't believe it!

Special thanks from all at the EWN Media Group to Peter Sheppard, Managing Director of Abbeygate Insurance Group and his team, plus La Sala Group Chairman Ian Radford and his team at La Sala Banus for their support.



Good food

AROUND 40 businesses in Alcaucin have grouped together to collect food for those in need.

The collection took place at a festival to celebrate May Day, which featured musical performances from choir Las Flores and Grupo de Baile Romero.

Organisers asked that those attending contribute to the collection, saying, "the only thing we ask residents of Alcaucin, as well as visitors who are joining us, is that they contribute one kilogramme of non-perishable food."

The San Sebastian cooperative, as well as several bars and restaurants, all donated food.



RENTAL CONTRACT: Councillors and tenants meet to sign tenancy agreements.

Home sweet home

SEVEN elderly families in Almuñecar have received the keys to their new homes in a complex for the elderly.

The families will enjoy better living conditions in the municipal building located on Tetuan Street, next to the bus station.

The successful candidates, who were se-

lected by the council's Department for the Elderly, will join 60 others already living in the complex.

Almuñecar's mayor, Trinidad Herrera, congratulated the lucky elders and wished them well, saying she hoped, "they would enjoy their home for many years to come."

Health centre finally reopens

TORRE DE BENAGALBON'S disused health centre is due to reopen on May 8, five years after it closed its doors.

Six hundred new patients have already joined the practice, which is set over 489 square metres and will use digital technology such as electronic prescriptions.

Rincon de la Victoria's council had previously proposed other dates for its re-

opening, none of which were met, prompting residents and politicians to protest delays.

Following a petition, it seems the council have now committed to a firm opening date.

The clinic is the 24th opened in Andalusia since 2008, following investment of €30 million, allowing 170,000 patients to be treated.

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German paper says Britain and Europe at loggerheads



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

MUCH is being made in the UK of a report in a German newspaper of the recent meeting between Theresa May and Jean-Claude Juncker.

According to the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, Prime Minister May and EU Commission President Juncker found little to agree on and supposedly after the meeting, Mr Juncker called German Chancellor Angela Merkel and told her that Mrs May was “living in another galaxy” and was “deluding” herself.

Reportedly, he told Mrs May “I’m leaving Downing Street 10 times more

sceptical than I was before” as they disagreed on so many matters crucial to each side.

The main areas of disagreement cover the time it will take to settle the rights of EU citizens in Britain and British migrants in the EU which Mrs May believes can be resolved by the end of June.

The other main ‘bone of contention’ raised during the meeting concerned Britain’s ongoing financial obligations to the European Union once it leaves which has been cited by EU representatives as being between €50 million and €60 million.

According to the report, the prime minister said that the UK had no legal obligation to make any payments to cover expenses such as pensions once it

leaves the Union which left Mr Juncker saying that unless Britain agreed to pay what the Union believed it owed, there would be no trade deal.

Finally, there also appeared to be a major difference over confidentiality and the negotiations which the British side wish

to keep secret until the last minute whilst the EU intends to

report details regularly.

Mrs May has dismissed this report as being “Brussels gossip” but took the opportunity to confirm that talks are likely to be tough and that she is the only politician strong enough to be able to cope with the demands of the 27 states which form the European Union.



MRS MAY: With Mr Juncker outside 10 Downing Street.

Photo by © Crown Copyright, Jay Allen

EU Brexit strategy

EUROPEAN COUNCIL president Donald Tusk wrote to the heads of the 27 states meeting in Brussels to discuss Brexit terms on April 29.

In this letter, delivered prior to the physical meeting, he made it clear that three matters in particular had to be agreed with Britain prior to negotiations over future relationships with the UK and these were “people, money and Ireland.”

He expects to see guarantees over the safeguarding of the rights of EU citizens in the UK, an agreement from Britain to honour long-term financial obligations which may amount to €60 billion and the rights of movement between the Republic and Northern Ireland.

It took minutes for the leaders to confirm their agreement to the negotiating guidelines issued by Mr Tusk on March 31 and he tweeted after the event that a “firm and fair political mandate” for the talks had been agreed.

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The history of Faber and Faber

THE next Nerja Decorative and Fine Arts Society lecture will take place on Tuesday May 9 at 6pm.

Entitled 'Faber and Faber: 90 years of excellence in cover design' it will be presented by lecturer Tony Faber. Tony will

trace the history of Faber and Faber, one of London's most important publishing houses, through its illustrations, covers and designs. It will feature artists from Rex Whistler and Barnett Freedman to Peter Blake and Damien Hirst.

The venue for the lecture will be the Cultural Centre, Calle Granada in Nerja and visitors are welcome to attend. The cost is €10. For more information please visit www.nerjadfas.com or call Helen Sijlsing on 952 533 373.

Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar

COMING up soon is Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar's coach excursion to Gibraltar on Thursday May 18.

Why not join in with the visit to Gibraltar? There will be a chance to take a cable car to the top of the Rock and see the Unique Barbary Apes amongst other interesting activities.

In addition there will be an opportunity to buy duty free items and typical English foods from the Morrisons supermarket.

Tickets for the trip cost €12, are available from the centre and the proceeds will go towards fundraising.

Departure times: Puente don Manuel (Bar Mis Tapietas) 6.45am, Algarrobo (Lidl) 7.15am, Caleta (Vets) 7.20am and Torre Del Mar (Bus Station) 7.30am.

The coach departs Gibraltar at 3.30pm. Please re-

member that you are required to take your passport/ID for this trip.

A reminder that Friday May 19 will be the centre's grand open day from 11am-5pm where you can go along and find out more about Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar.

Then later in the evening at 8.45pm the Taize Prayer will be held where you can go along and meet friends of the Spanish Evangelical Church (Presbyterian) and Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre at the San Andrés Parish Church (Parish rooms), Torre del Mar.

For more information about Lux Mundi call 952 543 334, email luxmundi@lux-mundi.org or visit www.lux-mundi.org. Please note you are unable to make bookings through the website and sorry cards cannot be accepted.

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41 Club Nerja



HANDING OVER: Past chairman Jim Skinner and new chairman Martin Urban.

AT the AGM of 41 Club Nerja Jim Skinner from England handed over the chairman's jewel to Martin Urban from Austria.

Jim was thanked for his fun-packed year which resulted in nine new members. Martin informed of his plans for the next 12 months which includes a boat trip, BBQ, ladies night and many other events. He plans to involve the ladies more than usual which went down very well with the members. His year plan can be seen on the website.

41 Club Nerja now has 45 members from

nine different countries and is truly an international club. It meets twice every month with a meeting on the first Thursday of the month at lunch time with the ladies called 'Munch Bunch,' and on the third Thursday of the month it is the 'normal' meeting where many of the events listed will happen.

Most of the members are only in Spain for short stays during the year so please if you are an ex-Round Tabler visiting Nerja or nearby now and then get in touch and join in the fun. Visit www.41clubnerja.org or call Alfie on 626 998 626.



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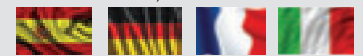
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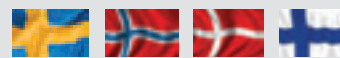
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DO ALL INSURANCE COMPANIES USE OEM PARTS?

At the time of publishing this article, no other insurance company in Spain guarantees the exclusive use of OEM parts in their repairer network. Some insurance companies rely on after market parts and used parts to keep the repair costs to a minimum, only paying for OEM parts if no other parts are

available. After-market parts are parts made by a company other than your vehicle's manufacturer. They are new and the spec should be very close to the original specs. However, some minor fitting adjustments may be required by the body shop. Used parts come from the scrap yard. Cars involved in accidents, engine trouble or age, mean that scrapped cars will have some working parts, which can be resold. The used parts are usually OEM parts.

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We hope the information provided in this article is of interest.

*If you would like to contact Línea Directa please call 902 123 309
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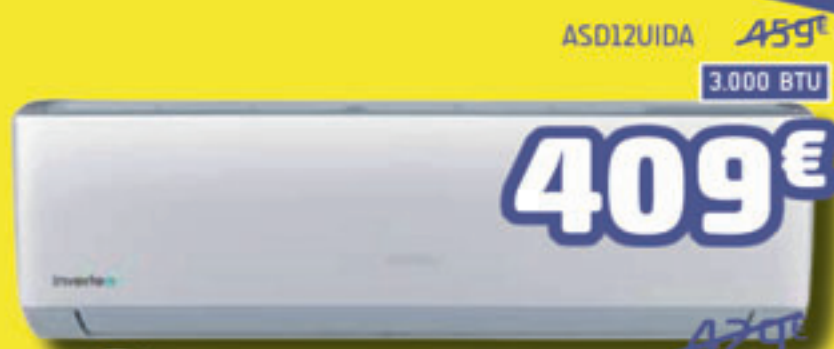
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HIGH PRICE: Avocados are in high demand.

Record highs

AVOCADO prices have hit a record high of €4.5 a kilo as the growing season comes to an end.

Prices have been growing for several months following high demand over February's Super Bowl, the American football championship which sees sales of guacamole peak.

Farmers are now requesting better irrigation to increase crop yield. Benjamin Fauli, Asaja's General Secretary in Malaga, commented, "farmers have been asked to stop irrigating one day a week and the Junta hoped this would save 10 per cent of water, but so far it has only saved 3 per cent%."

"Farmers tell us a definitive solution must be found."



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Rental rates rise across Spain

A REPORT from a Spanish property portal suggests that the price of renting a property is shooting up.

With hundreds of thousands of properties rented out during the past 12 months the company Fotocasa produces a quarterly report on the state of the rental market and finds that average rents in Spain have increased by 5.9 per cent in the first quarter of 2017.

Although rental prices have fallen by 21.7 per cent overall since their peak in 2007, this increase is actually the highest quarterly rise since

€ 7.93

is the average cost per square metre to rent property across Spain.

records were started in 2006.

There is an enormous difference in the cost of rents across the country, with Catalonia seeing average costs of €11.22 per square metre, compared to rents in Extremadura which are the

lowest in Spain at €4.77 per square metre.

Madrid and the Basque Country have seen significant increases over the national average and the main reason appears to be the fact that there are

more prospective tenants than there is available property.

According to the report, it would appear that Spain is beginning to question the long-held tradition of property ownership especially as so many people are still worried about their long term job prospects and the availability of mortgages at affordable rates.

It looks therefore that those property owners who have been deterred from short term holiday lets due to new legislation may well drift towards the long term residential letting market.

No case to answer

SAID by Spanish police to be 'one of the biggest swindlers in Spain,' Antonio Arroyo has won the first case brought against him.

Hundreds of alleged victims who were leant money by his firm and then charged enormous amounts of interest before losing their properties had been waiting for the first case to be brought against him, but sadly for them it was dropped by the court as it had exceeded the statute of limitations.

Victims of his alleged scam were waiting outside the court in Madrid and roundly abused him as he left, accusing him of being a 'thief and con artist with blood on his hands.'

More private prosecutions are due to follow.

Quote of the Week

Why does Esperanza Aguirre resign and not Mariano Rajoy? former PSOE leader Pedro Sánchez after former Madrid PP leader resigns over corruption.



Unemployment on the increase



NEWLY UNEMPLOYED: The majority are women.

By John Smith

UNEMPLOYMENT in Spain rose during the first quarter of 2017 according to the Institute of National Statistics (INE).

To some extent this was expected as the major losses were in the private sector and many people had been employed on short term contracts in the lead up to the busy Christmas and New Year periods.

There are now 4,255,000 people unemployed in the country which represents 18.75 per cent of the working population but the good news for Andalucía is that it

currently has seen major employment growth during the last 12 months.

The other good news is that over the last year, although temporary contracts have increased, there are an additional 195,600 people in full time employment.

The number of self-employed has dropped slightly but self-employed foreigner figures have remained basically static.

One figure that does deserve mention is the majority of those newly unemployed are women which won't be encouraging news for those looking to promote equality in the workplace.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Helping to see

EXPERIMENTAL Spanish company Eyesynth has created an audio visual system for the blind to help them 'see.' The concept which transmits images to sound via a computer is said to give a 3D sense of perception and development is now being backed financially by the European Union.

Book sales

ALTHOUGH the sale of e-books has dropped in the UK the kindle still holds attraction to those in Spain. The cost of English language novels is still very high and apart from the odd bookshop it is often easier to simply download and keep novels on a tablet, although many will still want to purchase printed non-fiction.

Spain penalised

THE US is to introduce anti-dumping duties on Spanish exporters of finished carbon steel flanges. The US Department of Commerce announced it has identified these flanges, used to connect pipes, had been sold by Spanish exporters at prices below those charged to the domestic market. Duties will be between 18 and 25 per cent.

Invest in Unicaja shares

FOR those who believe that the banking sector in Spain is bouncing back, there will soon be a chance to invest in Unicaja.

A shareholders meeting held in Malaga approved the issue of 625 million new shares as

the bank is to be listed on the Spanish stock exchange. Initially, the shares which have a nominal value of €1 each will be sold only to qualified investors, but should eventually be traded freely on the Bourse.

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CLOSING PRICES MAY 1

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,106.50	21.77	2.00	15,282.01
Associated British Foods	2,810.00	-18.32	-0.65	22,420.21
Admiral Group	2,011.00	-14.86	-0.73	5,769.69
Ashtead Group	1,631.00	-0.71	-0.04	8,122.40
Antofagasta	838.00	18.52	2.26	8,069.24
Aviva	524.50	0.13	0.03	21,481.15
AstraZeneca	4,637.50	-60.83	-1.29	59,457.99
BAE Systems	627.50	-3.21	-0.51	20,054.41
Babcock International Grp	899.00	-7.09	-0.78	4,603.46
Barclays	212.25	-11.93	-5.33	38,026.12
British American Tobacco	5,215.00	-30.26	-0.58	97,618.90
Barratt Developments	580.00	-8.51	-1.45	5,920.98
British Land Co	656.50	-3.23	-0.49	6,817.07
BHP Billiton	1,175.00	21.50	1.86	24,362.75
Bunzl	2,408.00	13.50	0.56	8,085.34
BP	442.50	1.26	0.28	87,118.25
Burberry Group	1,614.00	4.33	0.27	7,057.92
BT Group	304.75	-3.33	-1.08	30,688.11
Coca-Cola HBC	2,142.00	-20.88	-0.97	7,855.92
Carnival	4,766.00	65.07	1.39	10,017.72
Centrica	197.90	-1.33	-0.67	10,913.59
Compass Group	1,558.00	14.95	0.96	25,487.60
Croda International	3,764.50	-13.23	-0.35	4,969.04
CRH	2,818.50	-3.14	-0.11	23,611.65
ConvaTec Group	307.25	-0.69	-0.22	6,004.68
DCC	7,130.00	-123.42	-1.70	6,434.75
Diageo	2,246.50	-9.33	-0.41	56,775.57
Direct Line Insurance Group	349.20	3.12	0.90	4,757.50
Experian	1,658.50	-8.71	-0.52	15,732.87
easyJet	1,168.00	13.53	1.17	4,587.75
Fresnillo	1,452.00	16.12	1.12	10,581.79
GKN	358.90	5.05	1.43	6,077.48
Glencore	303.73	5.03	1.68	43,133.84
GlaxoSmithKline	1,550.00	-8.16	-0.52	76,636.12
Hikma Pharmaceuticals	1,937.00	-21.94	-1.12	4,717.98
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,378.00	-27.60	-1.96	6,668.92
Hammerson	587.50	-8.06	-1.35	4,727.41
HSBC Holdings	636.50	-1.68	-0.26	127,021.18
International Consolidated Air	560.00	6.89	1.26	11,575.68
InterContinental Hotels Grp	4,096.00	16.07	0.39	8,090.16
3i Group	793.50	-11.44	-1.42	7,831.11
Imperial Brands	3,782.00	-38.06	-1.00	36,622.76
Informa	642.00	1.71	0.27	5,290.11
Intu Properties	275.75	-2.35	-0.84	3,771.08
Intertek Group	4,066.00	-27.62	-0.68	6,594.42
ITV	210.00	-0.50	-0.24	8,473.49
Johnson Matthey	2,979.00	-20.79	-0.69	5,806.00
Kingfisher	341.20	4.91	1.46	7,505.54
Land Securities Group	1,106.00	-12.00	-1.07	8,840.58
Legal & General Group	246.10	-0.80	-0.32	14,703.32

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	69.20	0.18	0.26	49,285.94
London Stock Exchange Grp	3,383.00	-8.84	-0.26	11,874.72
Micro Focus International	2,588.00	36.44	1.43	5,853.67
Mediclinic International	821.00	-38.00	-4.42	6,332.92
Merlin Entertainments	506.00	0.04	0.01	5,134.92
Marks & Spencer Group	366.40	2.35	0.64	5,951.38
Mondi	2,001.00	2.21	0.11	9,779.05
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	240.10	5.66	2.41	5,474.66
National Grid	1,000.00	-15.45	-1.53	37,761.13
Next	4,301.00	-0.13	0.00	6,327.84
Old Mutual Group	194.10	-1.50	-0.77	9,638.09
Provident Financial	3,204.00	-35.35	-1.09	4,809.51
Paddy Power Betfair	8,600.00	10.56	0.12	7,247.23
Prudential	1,717.00	-12.06	-0.69	44,938.41
Persimmon	2,332.00	-4.16	-0.18	7,220.91
Pearson	639.00	1.03	0.16	5,252.22
Reckitt Benckiser Group	7,111.00	-78.86	-1.10	50,400.80
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	265.40	11.74	4.63	30,008.57
Royal Dutch Shell	2,003.50	-2.35	-0.12	90,003.96
RELX	1,566.00	-9.57	-0.61	16,969.19
Rio Tinto	3,062.00	32.21	1.06	41,914.31
Royal Mail	402.50	-16.34	-3.90	4,189.00
Rolls-Royce Group	812.00	4.97	0.61	14,886.69
Randgold Resources	6,805.00	90.80	1.36	6,296.95
RSA Insurance Group	596.00	-0.27	-0.05	6,044.64
Rentokil Initial	248.95	0.09	0.04	4,584.15
Sainsbury (J)	275.40	0.99	0.36	5,994.69
Schroders	3,187.00	-3.78	-0.12	7,244.02
Sage Group (The)	670.00	1.09	0.16	7,241.76
Shire	4,538.75	-60.20	-1.31	41,731.07
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,062.00	-12.47	-0.60	4,925.49
Sky	992.00	3.07	0.31	17,001.08
Standard Life	363.90	2.82	0.78	7,157.10
Smiths Group	1,640.00	3.10	0.19	6,477.49
Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst	375.00	1.55	0.42	5,077.06
Smith & Nephew	1,270.00	-3.90	-0.31	11,139.48
SSE	1,391.00	-9.19	-0.66	14,157.28
Standard Chartered	721.20	-17.49	-2.36	24,351.14
St James's Place	1,148.00	14.39	1.26	6,018.05
Severn Trent	2,325.00	5.00	0.22	5,468.55
Tesco	183.25	0.99	0.54	14,919.45
TUI AG	1,123.00	-4.96	-0.44	6,639.40
Taylor Wimpey	200.00	-1.51	-0.75	6,595.71
Unilever	3,972.00	3.22	0.08	50,934.09
United Utilities Group	972.50	-11.13	-1.13	6,709.78
Vodafone Group	199.05	-3.09	-1.53	53,816.53
Wolseley	4,904.00	-8.04	-0.16	12,461.81
Worldpay Group	300.00	-0.41	-0.13	6,074.00
WPP Group	1,653.00	-26.27	-1.56	21,485.12
Whitbread	4,034.00	-17.15	-0.42	7,426.66

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CLOSING PRICES MAY 1

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	195,830	-0.14%	-0,280	116M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	79,2500	-1.34%	-1,0800	71M
APPLE	143,650	-0.10%	-0,140	753M
BOEING CO	184,830	+0.88%	1,610	111M
CATERPILLAR	102,260	-0.41%	-0,420	60M
CHEVRON	106,70	+1.17%	1,23	202M
CISCO SYSTEMS	34,070	+0.95%	0,320	170M
COCA-COLA	43,15	+0.33%	0,14	184M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	79,7500	-0.47%	-0,3800	69M
EXXON MOBIL	81,65	+0.48%	0,39	346M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	28,9900	-0.31%	-0,0900	252M
GOLDMAN SACHS	223,80	-0.89%	-2,01	89M
HOME DEPOT	156,1000	-0.01%	-0,0200	187M
IBM	160,29	-0.02%	-0,03	150M
INTEL CORP	36,1500	-3.42%	-1,2800	170M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	87,0000	-0.70%	-0,6100	309M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	123,4700	-0.22%	-0,2700	334M
MC DONALD'S CORP	139,9300	-0.67%	-0,9400	114M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	62,33	-0.40%	-0,25	170M
MICROSOFT	68,460	+0.28%	0,190	529M
NIKE	55,41	-0.11%	-0,06	73M
PFIZER	33,9200	+0.18%	0,0600	201M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	87,330	-0.41%	-0,360	223M
TRAVELERS CIES	121,66	-0.41%	-0,50	33M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	118,99	+0.18%	0,21	95M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	174,88	+0.14%	0,25	168M
VERIZON COMMS	45,91	-1.63%	-0,76	187M
VISA	91,22	-0.41%	-0,38	168M
WAL-MART STORES	75,1800	-0.34%	-0,2600	227M
WALT DISNEY CO	115,6000	-0.21%	-0,2400	182M

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES MAY 1

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
Strattec Security Corporation	\$ 32.15	7.45 ▲ 30.16%
The Bancorp, Inc.	\$ 6.45	1.39 ▲ 27.47%
eHealth, Inc.	\$ 14.18	2.44 ▲ 20.78%
Synchronoss Technologies, Inc.	\$ 16	2.71 ▲ 20.39%
Cowen Group, Inc.	\$ 15.90	2.40 ▲ 17.78%
Olympic Steel, Inc.	\$ 22.55	3.32 ▲ 17.26%
P.A.M. Transportation Services, Inc.	\$ 18.77	2.47 ▲ 15.15%
Tivity Health, Inc.	\$ 33.60	4.05 ▲ 13.71%
SteadyMed Ltd.	\$ 7.20	0.85 ▲ 13.39%
trivago N.V.	\$ 17.12	1.90 ▲ 12.48%
Align Technology, Inc.	\$ 134.62	14.53 ▲ 12.10%
Most Declined		
Matrix Service Company	\$ 11.75	5.125 ▼ 30.37%
athenahealth, Inc.	\$ 98.01	23.44 ▼ 19.30%
PDF Solutions, Inc.	\$ 19.02	4.12 ▼ 17.80%
Proteostasis Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 6.045	1.205 ▼ 16.62%
PCM, Inc.	\$ 25.20	4.95 ▼ 16.42%
Cohu, Inc.	\$ 18.73	2.54 ▼ 11.94%
Rocket Fuel Inc.	\$ 5.025	0.495 ▼ 8.97%
ABAXIS, Inc.	\$ 45.03	4.32 ▼ 8.75%
Digirad Corporation	\$ 4.70	0.45 ▼ 8.74%
Spok Holdings, Inc.	\$ 17.95	1.65 ▼ 8.42%
Beasley Broadcast Group, Inc.	\$ 13.15	1.20 ▼ 8.36%

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DEALING PRICE

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€0.9627.....-£0.0002

£1.1427.....£0.0055

£1.0719.....£0.0046

£1.2804.....£0.0156

£1.1907.....£0.0139

£1.4074.....£0.0260

£1.3156.....£0.0235

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GBP/EUR down from 2017 highs on French election result

Ask the expert

Peter Loveday



Currencies Direct

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AFTER an exciting end to March (with the long-awaited activation of Article 50) the first couple of weeks of April were a little flat in terms of currency market movement.

While the week beginning April 17 was expected to be a fairly quiet one in terms of currency news too, markets actually opened with a bang after the Easter break. Surprising political developments saw GBP/EUR rocket from €1.1799 to €1.1990 – its best levels for nearly 10 months.

Meanwhile, the euro was kept under pressure ahead of the first round of voting in the French Presidential election, leaving the EUR/GBP exchange rate to slide from £0.8628 to a low of £0.8339.

However, with the French election resulting in the outcome economists hoped for, the pound dropped by over 1 per cent against the euro, with the common currency surging across the board.



POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: Saw GBP/EUR rocket to its best level in 10 months.

What's been happening?

Without doubt, UK PM Theresa May's unscheduled announcement on Tuesday April 18 was the news grabbing the most headlines. The PM shook the currency market when she declared her intention to call for a June 8 general election.

The general belief that the election will see the Conservative party increase its majority (an outcome which could improve May's negotiating power during Brexit discussions) was the driving force behind the

pound's gains.

But the euro fought back in the wake of the first round of the French Presidential election. Centrist Emmanuel Macron and far-right Marine Le Pen secured the largest proportion of votes.

As Macron is expected to trump Le Pen in the second round, the odds of France remaining part of the EU were seen to increase and demand for the euro surged.

What do you need to look out for?

Both the pound and euro are more likely

to be driven by political news than economic news over the next few weeks, with polls relating to the UK General Election and French Presidential Election having the potential to create volatility for both currencies.

If it looks like the Conservatives will secure a greater majority in June, the pound may return to its recent highs. However, if French polls continue favouring a Macron victory, the prospect of economic and political stability in the Eurozone's second largest economy would limit GBP/EUR gains. Conversely, any sign that Le Pen is pulling ahead would be euro-negative.

In terms of economic news, the most influential developments on the horizon include the European Central Bank (ECB) interest rate decision and UK GDP data for Q1.

Hints of a rate cut from the ECB could send the euro lower, while the pound could suffer if UK growth slowed considerably in the first quarter of 2017.

At Currencies Direct we're here to talk currency whenever you need us, so get in touch if you want to know more about the latest news or how it could impact your currency transfers.

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Newcastle United and West Ham United offices raided by HMRC

By John Smith

TAX authorities around Europe are cracking down on football clubs suspected of helping players or agents to avoid paying tax.

After Lionel Messi faced a very high profile investigation and significant fine by Spanish authorities and subsequent ongoing probes into the affairs of Neymar and other players, the spotlight has now moved to England and France.

Officers from HMRC (UK tax office) descended on both Newcastle United and West Ham United looking for evidence linking those two clubs with financial irregularities which are also being investigated in France.

There has been a number of transfer deals between the two Premier League clubs and Marseilles which is reportedly the seat of investigations in France undertaken at the request of HMRC.

The managing director of Newcastle United Lee Charnley was one of a number of people arrested and questioned during the raids, although he was later released without any charges being laid.

This sudden investigation must have come as something of a surprise and disappointment to Newcastle manager Rafael Benitez who has seen the club gain promotion back into the lucrative Premier League at its first attempt.



Photo by Ben Sutherland Wikimedia flickr

RAFAEL BENITEZ: Spanish manager of Newcastle United.

Chelsea were also visited by some of the 180 HMRC officers involved in this investigation although officials at that club have gone to great length to explain that it was asked to hand over documents relating to players or individuals who are being investigated and are not directly connected with the club.

Football is big business which attracts the mega rich to take over different clubs with Mike Ashley of Sports Direct owning Newcastle United and West Ham United owned by David Sullivan former owner

of the *Sport* and David Gold owner of Ann Summers.

Marseilles, which had been going through serious financial difficulties, was taken over by American billionaire Frank McCourt in late 2016 and it is thought that the investigations may well be into transactions that occurred prior to his involvement.

Whilst no specific targets of the investigation have been named, the HMRC has confirmed that their enquiries are directed to what they believe may be a £5 million (€5.9 million) income tax and national insurance fraud.

Power giants do not agree

THERE is a serious difference of opinion between the two main shareholders in the Santa María de Garoña nuclear power plant in Burgos.

Currently, as it is not producing electricity due to financial constraints, the president of Iberdrola, Ignacio Sánchez Galán, one of the two companies owning Nuclearor the power plant management company, wants to see it decommissioned.

Borja Prado, president of other shareholder Endesa disagrees and whilst respecting Iberdrola's position will not sanction any closure at this stage as there is to be a government review of whether it would be viable to extend the life of the facility.

As the government decision is due by August of this year, Endesa believes it sensible to await the review and seems to favour the possibility of the plant coming back on line, but Iberdrola simply doesn't consider that this is a viable option as it claims that the cost of production is too high.

Bidding for European Medicines Agency

By John Smith

SPAIN is making a determined bid to move the headquarters of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) from London to Barcelona.

Firstly, Minister of Health Dolors Montserrat spoke at an information breakfast organised by the Nueva Economía Forum to put forward Spain's claim for the siting of the new headquarters and was supported by European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Vytenis Andriukaitis.

She recognised that there were some obstacles such as the question of Catalan sovereignty and the fact that Barcelona already has four European agencies, but believed that the city was ready to take over this agency with a seamless transfer.

Spain has one of the best health services in Europe and Barcelona is an international city,



DOLORS MONTSERRAT: Speaking at the breakfast.

with space available to host this prestigious body.

Subsequent to this, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy sent a formal offer to host the agency to the President of the European

Commission Jean-Claude Juncker and the President of the European Council Donald Tusk and it is believed that the Spanish offer is the only one that is being supported by its government.

Spain economic forecast ready

ALL members of the European Union are required to supply annual economic forecasts to Brussels each April and Spain is now readying its presentation.

Having had some difficulties over the past two years and facing threats of significant fines, the government is now in a much more comfortable position as it considers the economic situation

from 2017 to 2020.

It will upgrade its economic growth forecast for 2017 from 2.5 per cent to 2.7 per cent and it is content to assume continued average growth of 2.5 per cent for the following three years.

Coupled with this growth is an undertaking to continue to drastically cut unemployment and the expectation that the value of exports will continue to ex-

ceed the cost of imports.

In addition, the government is confident that there will be a general reduction in consumer debt and all of this will help to lead to a stable economy.

At this stage there is no suggestion that there will be any increases in taxation or any new taxes, although there may be action against high sugar content drinks at some time in the future.

Better salaries for some Spanish workers

MAJOR employers in Spain such as El Corte Ingles and Carrefour who are members of the trade body Anged have agreed staff pay rises.

Employing between them 230,000 people they have said that they will increase contracted staff salaries by 2.5 per cent backdated to January 2017.

This falls short of the 3 per cent requested by the unions but is an increase over the initial offer.

In addition and as part of a four-year agreement, employers will increase salaries by at least 1 per cent each year from 2018 to 2020

regardless of the performance of the stores or the economy.

As more stores wish to open on Sundays and public holidays, the employers have also agreed to establish a maximum number of unsociable working days although staff will be allowed to volunteer if they wish to work additional 'rest days' and receive enhanced payment.

There will also be improvements in the number of days that may be taken to care for close relatives who fall sick with full salary being paid in the case of serious illness such as cancer.

Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

by Stone King

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at international@stoneking.co.uk



MANY UK expatriates living in Spain own properties in the UK and have pensions and investments in the UK. They rely on their UK assets to maintain their lifestyles (and those of their families) in Spain. If they can no longer manage their affairs in the UK due to a loss of mental capacity, it can cause many difficulties.

“ You can choose a person or people, who you trust, to act for you when you are no longer able. ”

The best way to avoid the legal and practical difficulties that can occur with the loss of mental capacity is to plan for it in advance by drawing up a document called a 'Lasting Power of Attorney' ('LPA').



An LPA must be made while you have full mental capacity.

What is an LPA?

An LPA is a legal document that enables you to appoint one or more attor-

neys to act for you when you are no longer able to act for yourself.

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

There are two types of LPA: 'Health and Welfare' or 'Property and Financial Affairs'

An LPA must be made while you have full mental capacity. It is therefore important to make one while you are in good health.

Why should you get an LPA?

You can choose a person or people, who you trust, to act for you when you are no longer able.

If you lose your mental capacity and do not have an LPA, then your family (or the authorities) will have no choice but to make an application to the Court of Protection to appoint a 'deputy' to look after your affairs, which can be time consuming and costly.

Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

Unfortunately there is no international type of LPA which is guaranteed to work in both the UK and Spain.

The advice we give to our clients at Stone King, is that if you have assets in both Spain and the UK, your only safe option is to appoint attorneys in both jurisdictions.

If you would like to discuss LPAs contact Charlotte Macdonald or Dan Harris at Stone King LLP by email international@stoneking.co.uk or by telephone on +44 (0)1225 337599.



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Let's consider the alternatives

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



AS far as I'm concerned, the answer to the North Korean problem would have been to drop a half dozen 'Mother of all' bombs right in the middle of their recent 'birthday celebrations.'

A few well-placed hits from this mighty non-nuclear deterrent, would have wiped out a large chunk of their military hardware, a good percentage of their army personal and most, if not all, of their despotic regime leaders. Job done.

OMG I hear the luvvies bleat. How can this old hack condone the slaughter of all those Fathers, Mothers and fellow human beings? How can he encourage violence and death on such a vast scale? Has he finally proved to his superiors that he has now lost it and should be put out to grass among all the other mentally spent scribblers of yore?

Well, before we decide, let's



NORTH KOREA:
What action will America take?

consider the alternatives. To my mind, with the emergence of Kim Jong-un, the human race faces one of the biggest threats to its survival since the Ice Age. This demented man/boy psychopath, has turned PlayStation fantasy into grim, terrifying reality and MUST be dealt with. Forget the simpering, Corbyn inspired seekers of 'diplomatic' solutions. Any approaches from that

angle will get us all killed.

How can I excuse the use of such lethal and destructive force against this evil regime? Ask me that same question, when - if not stopped, they drop a nuclear device on Seoul, Tokyo or the shores of California. Ask me when millions of men, women and children are vapourised in an instant.

Ask me when newly released

clouds of toxic radiation spread across the planet, causing agonising tumours and death to a billion more human beings. Well I'll tell you, if this nightmare scenario does unfold, dropping a few 'Mothers' on some birthday celebrations, will seem like a grain of sand in the desert, compared to the ensuing Holocaust that could ultimately engulf the human race.

Of course, the chance may be lost. We may never again see such a gathering of North Korea's armaments and military hierarchy in the same place at the same time. If this does prove to be the case, then heaven help us.

Finally, you may wonder - should America decide on this course, what reaction could they expect from the rest of the World? Well in my opinion, it will take the form of bluster, condemnation, shocked disbelief and high handed moral indignation - for about a month. After that, with great sighs of private relief and a few peaceful nights' sleep, the World will return to the far less threatening, but none the less equally important job of Islamic extremist annihilation.

In the words of my American Gunn'y Sergeant friend. 'I believe totally in peace and love in the world, I also believe that some of us are put here to preserve it - by whatever means necessary!'

Keep the faith

Love Leapy

leapylee2002@gmail.com

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THURSDAY - 04 MAY

BBC ONE BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am Breakfast	7:00am Flog it! Trade Secrets	8:00pm 100 Days+	7:00am Countdown	8:50am Paw Patrol
10:15am Rip Off Britain	7:30am Garden Rescue	8:30pm Top of the Pops	7:45am Will and Grace	9:05am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	8:15am Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	<i>Andy Peebles and Janice Long present the pop chart</i>	8:10am Will and Grace	9:15am Digby Dragon
12:00pm The Wanted	9:00am Gardeners' World	<i>programme, first broadcast on 20 October 1983.</i>	8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:30am Peppa Pig
12:45pm Claimed and Shamed	9:30am Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands	9:00pm Sailors, Ships and Stevedores: The Story of British Docks	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:40am Peppa Pig
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	10:00pm Arena	9:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:50am Wisper
2:00pm BBC News at One	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	<i>A tribute to Liverpoolian comic Ken Dodd, in which he discusses his 50-year career and the influences on his comedy style.</i>	10:05am Frasier	10:00am Wanda and the Alien
2:30pm BBC London News	1:00pm The Daily Politics	<i>relationship on a bucket list road trip to resolve the past that has made their present tense.</i>	10:35am Frasier	10:15am The Wright Stuff
2:45pm Doctors	2:00pm Two Tribes	11:00pm Bucket	11:05am Car S.O.S	12:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
3:15pm The Boss	2:30pm Countryfile	11:25pm The Undiscovered	12:05pm Ramsay's Hotel Hell	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
4:00pm Escape to the Country	2:50pm Natural World	12:00am Peter Cook	1:00pm Channel 4 News	1:15pm On Benefits
4:45pm Garden Rescue	3:50pm Who Do You Think You Are?	12:25am Wild Ireland	1:05pm The Question	2:15pm Home and Away
5:30pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	4:50pm Red Rock	1:25am Top of the Pops	2:05pm Posh	2:45pm Neighbours
6:15pm Pointless	5:30pm Red Rock		3:10pm Pawntesters	3:15pm NCIS
7:00pm BBC News at Six	6:15pm Flog It!		4:00pm Fifteen to One	4:15pm Love, Again
7:30pm BBC London News	7:00pm Celebrity Eggheads		5:00pm A Place in the Sun	6:00pm 5 News at 5
8:00pm The One Show	7:45pm Debatable		6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away
8:30pm EastEnders	8:30pm Great British Menu		6:30pm Extreme Cake Makers	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
9:00pm MasterChef	9:00pm The World According to Kids		7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm Secrets of Great British Castles
10:00pm The Truth About Stress	10:00pm The Last Kingdom		7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm On Benefits
11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm Match of the Day		8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Nightmares
11:30pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight		9:00pm The Supertent	10:00pm Tenants, Slum Landlords
11:45pm Question Time	12:15am Horizon		10:00pm Born to Kill	11:00pm Mind the Age Gap
12:45am This Week	1:15am The People v OJ		11:00pm How to Get a Council House	12:05am Danniella Westbrook: In Therapy

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky SPORTS 1

9:30am Lorraine	8:20am The Ellen DeGeneres Show	7:00am In Loving Memory	7:00am Ax Men	7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show	9:00am Emmerdale	7:25am Heartbeat	7:45am The Saint	7:45am The Saint
11:30am This Morning	9:30am Coronation Street	8:25am Where the Heart is	8:45am Ironside	8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
1:30pm Loose Women	10:00am You've Been Framed!	9:25am The Royal	9:50am The Sweeney	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News	10:35am Psych	10:30am Judge Judy	10:50am Minder	10:00am Barclays Premier League World
2:55pm ITV News London	11:25am Below Deck	10:55am Judge Judy	11:55am Ax Men	10:30am Premier League 100 Club
3:00pm Judge Rinder	12:20pm Who's Doing the Dishes?	11:25am Judge Judy	12:50pm Cash Cowboys	11:00am Premier League Daily
4:00pm Culinary Genius	1:25pm Emmerdale	11:50am Road to Avonlea	1:50pm Pawn Stars	12:00pm Barclays Premier League World
5:00pm Tipping Point	1:55pm Coronation Street	12:55pm The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	2:50pm Pawn Stars	12:30pm Premier League 100 Club
6:00pm Babushka	2:30pm You've Been Framed!	2:05pm Heartbeat	3:55pm The Saint	1:00pm Premier League Daily
7:00pm ITV News London	3:00pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	3:10pm The Royal	3:55pm Ironside	12:00pm Barclays Premier League World
7:30pm ITV Evening News	3:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	4:15pm Where the Heart is	<i>American drama series about a wheelchair-bound cop who works for the San Francisco Police Department.</i>	1:00pm Football Gold
8:00pm Emmerdale	4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	5:20pm Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green	5:00pm Minder	1:15pm Football Gold
8:30pm How Safe is Your Pension?	5:50pm Love Your Garden	5:50pm Love Your Garden	6:00pm The Sweeney	1:30pm Football Gold
9:00pm Emmerdale	6:00pm Judge Rinder	6:55pm Heartbeat	7:00pm Cash Cowboys	1:45pm Football Gold
9:30pm Joanna Lumley's Postcards	7:00pm Totally You've Been Framed!	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:00pm Pawn Stars	2:00pm Great Sporting Moments
10:00pm Car Crash	8:00pm You've Been Framed!	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	8:30pm Pawn Stars	3:00pm Premier League Legends
11:00pm Britain Caught on Camera	9:00pm Two and a Half Men	11:00pm Law and Order: UK	9:00pm The Chase	4:00pm Live Indian Premier League
11:30pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:30pm Two and a Half Men	12:00am Wire in the Blood	10:05pm Mission: Impossible	8:30pm Live EFL Football
11:40pm UEFA Europa League Highlights	10:00pm Mom	1:05am The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	11:10pm Mission: Impossible	11:00pm School of Hard Knocks
12:40am Tipping Point	10:30pm Mom		12:15am Another 48 Hrs	12:00am Premier League
1:30am Jackpot247	11:00pm Celebrity Juice		1:15am FYI Daily	
	12:00am Family Guy		1:20am Another 48 Hrs	
			2:15am The Classic Car Show	

FRIDAY - 05 MAY

BBC ONE BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	7:00am Flog it! Trade Secrets	8:00pm World News Today	7:45am Will and Grace	9:15am Digby Dragon
12:00pm The Wanted	7:30am Garden Rescue	<i>The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.</i>	8:10am Will and Grace	9:30am Peppa Pig
12:45pm Claimed and Shamed	8:15am Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	9:00pm Top of the Pops	8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:50am Wisper
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	9:00am Gardeners' World	<i>Peter Powell and Mike Read present the pop chart</i>	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:00am Wanda and the Alien
2:00pm BBC News at One	9:30am Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands	10:05am Frasier	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:15am The Wright Stuff
2:30pm BBC London News	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	10:35am Frasier	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
2:45pm Doctors	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	11:05am Car S.O.S	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
The Boss	1:00pm The Daily Politics	12:05pm Ramsay's Hotel Hell	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	1:15pm On Benefits
Escape to the Country	2:00pm Two Tribes	1:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	2:15pm Home and Away
Garden Rescue	2:30pm Countryfile	1:05pm The Question	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	2:45pm Neighbours
Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	2:50pm Natural World	2:05pm Posh	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	3:15pm NCIS
Pointless	3:50pm Who Do You Think You Are?	3:10pm Pawntesters	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	4:15pm Love, Again
BBC News at Six	4:50pm Red Rock	4:00pm Fifteen to One	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	6:00pm 5 News at 5
BBC London News	5:30pm Red Rock	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	7:00pm Home and Away
News	6:15pm Flog It!	6:00pm Four in a Bed	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
The One Show	7:00pm Celebrity Eggheads	6:30pm Extreme Cake Makers	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	8:00pm Secrets of Great British Castles
EastEnders	7:45pm Debatable	7:00pm The Simpsons	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:00pm On Benefits
MasterChef	8:30pm Great British Menu	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:00pm Nightmares
The Truth About Stress	9:00pm The World According to Kids	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:00pm Tenants, Slum Landlords
BBC News at Ten	10:00pm The Last Kingdom	8:00pm The Supertent	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	11:00pm Mind the Age Gap
BBC London News	11:00pm Match of the Day	9:00pm The Supertent	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:05am Danniella Westbrook: In Therapy
Question Time	11:30pm Newsnight	10:00pm Born to Kill	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	
This Week	12:15am Horizon	11:00pm How to Get a Council House	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	
	1:15am The People v OJ	12:00am First Dates	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	
		1:05am One Born Every Minute	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	

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7:00am Good Morning Britain	7:00am The Hot Desk	7:00am In Loving Memory	7:00am Ax Men	7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
9:30am Lorraine	7:10am You've Been Framed!	7:25am Heartbeat	7:45am The Saint	8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show	7:35am Below Deck	8:25am Where the Heart is	8:45am Ironside	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
11:30am This Morning	8:20am The Ellen DeGeneres Show	9:30am The Royal	9:50am The Sweeney	10:00am Premier League 100 Club
1:30pm Loose Women	9:00am Emmerdale	10:30am Judge Judy	10:50am Minder	10:30am Premier League 100 Club
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News	9:30am Emmerdale	11:55am Road to Avonlea	11:50am Ax Men	11:00am Premier League Daily
2:55pm ITV News London	10:00am You've Been Framed!	12:55pm The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	12:50pm Cash Cowboys	12:00pm Barclays Premier League World
3:00pm Judge Rinder	10:35am Psych	2:05pm Heartbeat	1:50pm Pawn Stars	1:00pm Premier League Daily
4:00pm Culinary Genius	11:25am Below Deck	3:10pm Wild at Heart	2:50pm Pawn Stars	12:00pm Barclays Premier League World
5:00pm Tipping Point	12:20pm Who's Doing the Dishes?	4:10pm Where the Heart is	3:50pm Ironside	1:00pm Premier League Daily
6:00pm Babushka	1:25pm Emmerdale	5:15pm Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green	4:55pm Minder	2:00pm Football Gold
7:00pm ITV News London	1:55pm Emmerdale	5:50pm Love Your Garden	5:55pm The Sweeney	3:00pm Premier League Legends
7:30pm ITV Evening News	2:30pm You've Been Framed!	6:55pm Heartbeat	7:00pm Cash Cowboys	3:30pm Premier League Legends
8:00pm Emmerdale	3:00pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:00pm Pawn Stars	4:00pm Spanish Football Gold
8:30pm Coronation Street	3:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	8:30pm Pawn Stars	4:15pm Spanish Football Gold
9:00pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories	4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	11:00pm Law and Order: UK	9:00pm The Chase	4:30pm Football Gold
9:30pm Coronation Street	5:50pm Love Your Garden	11:05pm The Game of Death	10:05pm Mission: Impossible	5:00pm Football's Greatest
10:00pm Lethal Weapon	6:00pm Judge Rinder	11:00pm The Game of Death	11:10pm Mission: Impossible	6:00pm Boxing Gold
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:00pm You've Been Framed!	12:05am The Devil's Advocate	12:00am Wire in the Blood	6:30pm Barclays Premier League Preview
11:30pm ITV News London	8:00pm You've Been Framed!	1:05am FYI Daily	12:20am Wire in the Blood	7:00pm The Fantasy Football Club
11:40pm American Gangster	9:00pm Two and a Half Men	1:10pm The Devil's Advocate	1:25am The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	8:00pm Carling: In Off the Bar
2:20am Jackpot247	9:30pm Two and a Half Men	2:55am Better Late Than Never	2:30am The Knock	11:30pm Carling: In Off the Bar
4:00am Storage Hoarders	10:00pm Delivery Man	3:35am Football Rivalries		12:00am The Fantasy Football Club
	12:10am Family Guy	3:45am ITV4 Nightscreen		
	12:35am Family Guy			

Travel



THE OLD CITY: Melilla is an interesting destination.

Adventures in Africa

ONE of the best perks about living in southern Spain, or visiting there often, are the amazing travel opportunities to exotic destinations. Madrid, Barcelona, Galicia, Granada, Ibiza, Portugal and France are all completely different from one another yet right on your doorstep.

But what about Africa? A quick glance on the map tells you that a vast continent is just a sail away, or even a swim if you're fit enough. But travelling there for the first time can be quite a daunting prospect, especially with visas, vaccinations and language issues.

Enter the Spanish enclaves of

Ceuta and Melilla. Just as the UK has maintained Gibraltar, Spain has its own overseas territories, both claimed by Morocco. Ceuta is an old Spanish penal colony with a fascinating history, while Melilla has been under the Spanish flag for more than 500 years.

Both are excellent travel destinations in their own right and, by travelling to Africa, you can certainly tick off the 'something different' box.

Ceuta and Melilla are not in the same region. Ceuta is near the Moroccan port of Tangier, about a six-hour drive from Melilla to the east.

Ceuta doesn't have its own airport but you can fly from Malaga by helicopter if you're feeling adventurous. Most people opt for the fast ferries from Algeciras which run several times a day and take just 45 minutes.

Melilla is less touristy but does have its own airport with flights arriving from Malaga, Madrid, Almeria, Granada, Valencia and Barcelona. A more leisurely option for those who don't get sea sick are ferries from Malaga, Almeria and Motril, which take from three to seven hours and offer a perfect easing in to your African adventure.



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SATURDAY - 06 MAY

SUNDAY - 07 MAY

one	TWO	FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	7:25am That's Entertainment! 3	8:00pm Dan Cruickshank: At Home with the British	9:25am Frasier	7:00am Milkshake!
12:00pm The Wanted	9:20am Talking Pictures	9:00pm BBC at War with Jonathan Dimbleby <i>Documentary looking at the role the BBC played in the second world war.</i>	9:55am Frasier	11:15am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
12:45pm Claimed and Shamed	10:05am Silk Stockings	10:00pm Hinterland	10:25am The Big Bang Theory	11:50am Access
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	12:00pm Monty Halls' Great Hebridean Escape	11:30pm Top of the Pops	10:55am The Big Bang Theory	11:55am Criminals Caught on Camera
2:00pm BBC News at One	1:00pm Great British Menu	12:10am Top of the Pops	11:25am The Simpsons	12:20pm Police Interceptors
2:30pm BBC London News	1:30pm Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	12:45am Genesis: Together and Apart	11:55am The Simpsons	1:15pm On Benefits
2:45pm Doctors	2:00pm Great British Menu	2:00am Top of the Pops 2 <i>Top of the Pops 2 dips into the archives to explore both classic collective hits and smash solo singles spanning 20 early years of Genesis history.</i>	12:30pm The Simpsons	2:15pm On Benefits: Breadline
3:15pm The Boss	2:30pm Four for Texas	3:05am Prog at the BBC	1:00pm Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	3:15pm Brummies
4:00pm Escape to the Country	4:20pm Trust Me I'm a Vet		1:55pm Come Dine with Me	4:15pm Nightmare
4:45pm Garden Rescue	5:20pm Flog It!		2:25pm Come Dine with Me	5:15pm Nightmare
5:30pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	5:55pm Gardeners' World <i>More handy horticultural tips from the gardening experts.</i>		2:55pm Come Dine with Me	6:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
6:15pm Pointless	6:25pm Springwatch		3:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:10pm We'll Take it Away!
7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:25pm Japan's Northern Wilderness		4:00pm Come Dine with Me	8:00pm NCI: Los Angeles
7:30pm BBC London News	8:20pm Trump and Culture: Brave New World		4:35pm A Place in the Sun	9:00pm NCI: 5 News
8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm New Tours of Scotland		5:35pm Big House, Little House	10:00pm Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves
8:30pm A Question of Sport	9:30pm Dad's Army		6:35pm Location, Location, Location	12:45am Football on 5 Goal Rush.
9:00pm Enders	10:00pm Nightcrawler		7:30pm Channel 4 News	
9:30pm MasterChef	11:55pm QI XL		8:00pm The Restoration Man	
10:00pm Have I Got News for You	12:40am Versailles		9:00pm Walking Through Time	
10:30pm Hospital People	1:40am The Big Kahuna		10:00pm The Fault in Our Stars	
11:00pm BBC News at Ten	3:05am This is BBC Two		12:30am Ghost	
11:25pm BBC London News				
11:35pm The Graham Norton Show				
12:25am Witless				

one	TWO	FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
7:00am Breakfast	7:15am A to Z of TV Gardening	8:00pm Birth of British Music	7:15am King of Queens	11:30am Football on 5
8:35am Match of the Day	8:00am The Instant Gardener	9:00pm The Secret Life of the Motorway, the Honey Moon Period	7:40am King of Queens	11:55am Criminals Caught on Camera
10:00am The Andrew Marr Show	8:45am The Beechgrove Garden	10:00pm Betroffenheit From Sadlers Wells	8:05am King of Queens	12:25pm Police Interceptors
11:00am The Big Questions	9:15am Gardeners' World	11:50pm Seven Ages of Starlight	8:30am Everybody Loves Raymond	1:20pm Police Interceptors
12:00pm Sunday Politics	9:45am Countryfile	1:20am The Story of Maths	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	1:30pm Agent Cody Banks
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	10:45am Saturday Kitchen	2:20am BBC at War with Jonathan Dimbleby	9:30am Frasier	2:20pm Cats and Dogs Puppies Make You Laugh Out Loud
2:00pm BBC News	12:15pm Great British Menu	3:20am Britain's Nuclear Secrets: Inside Sellafield	10:00pm Frasier	4:00pm You Laugh Out Loud
2:10pm Weather for the Week Ahead	12:45pm Great British Menu	4:00pm Captain America: The First Avenger	10:30pm Frasier	5:00pm Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 3
2:15pm Homes Under the Hammer	1:15pm MOTD2 Extra	5:00pm Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	1:30pm Eat the Week	6:00pm Journey 2: The Mysterious Island
3:15pm Wanted Down Under	2:00pm Rugby League	5:30pm George Clarke's Old House, New Home	2:30pm The Simpsons	7:00pm 5 News
4:00pm Points of View	3:00pm Equestrian	6:40pm George Clarke's Old House, New Home	3:00pm The Simpsons	7:05pm Journey 2: The Mysterious Island
4:15pm Escape to the Country	5:00pm Rowing	7:35pm Channel 4 News	3:30pm Ghostbusters II	8:00pm One Day International Cricket
5:15pm Songs of Praise	6:30pm Flog It!	8:00pm Escape to Costa Rica	3:30pm World's Most Expensive Cars	9:00pm Football on 5
5:50pm Pointless	7:00pm Inside the Factory: How Our Favourite Foods are Made	9:00pm Captain America: The First Avenger	5:30pm World's Most Expensive Cars	9:55pm Comedy Gold: TV's Funniest Ever Sketches
6:35pm BBC News	8:00pm Dragons' Den Mexico	9:00pm Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	6:40pm George Clarke's Old House, New Home	11:30pm When Magic Goes Wrong
6:50pm Regional News	10:00pm Dara and Ed's Road to Mandalay	12:30am Millionaires' Mansions	8:00pm Channel 4 News	12:30am Football on 5 Bangkok Dangerous
6:55pm Weather	11:00pm Kajaki - The True Story		8:00pm Escape to Costa Rica	
7:00pm Countryfile	12:40am The Reluctant Fundamentalist		9:00pm Captain America: The First Avenger	
8:00pm Antiques Roadshow	2:40am Question Time		9:00pm The Avengers	
9:00pm Babs			11:25pm Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	
10:30pm Mrs. Brown's Boys			12:35am Millionaires' Mansions	
11:00pm BBC News				
11:20pm Regional News				
11:25pm Weather				
11:30pm Match of the Day 2				
12:40am The Women's Football Show				

The schedules for the television programme pages are provided by an external company: we regret that any changes or errors are not the responsibility of Euro Weekly News.

Elton played at my 21st

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



FROM the amount of emails I receive I know that the readers of this rambling old grumpy sod's column are more mature in years and we remember how things used to be.

For instance, a stag night was a visit to the pub to get the groom suitably inebriated and to try and return him home with enough time to scrub off the marker pen and get rid of the ladies underwear we had stuffed in his pockets.

Hen nights were pretty much the same but with a male stripper gram chucked in who usually started off as a policeman. The cost involved was a few quid and all was done and dusted in a few hours.

Let's jump forward to now. Dr S is maid of honour for her friend's wedding and it's up to her to organise the hen do. Down the pub is now an absolute non-starter. They were looking at going abroad for a few days. Why? I haven't a clue. These are all young ladies just starting out in life and all dating and getting married and now every time one of them decides to get cut and carried (married) it costs all their friends a fortune!

I'm talking about paying for flights, hotel bills etc, etc. We see hen parties all the time

here tottering about the streets of the Costa del Sol usually in stupid t-shirts with dumbass remarks on them and the bride having to wear a veil as well and, most likely, carrying a blow up something. What a waste of money they can mostly all ill afford.

Not only that, what about the pressures of organising the whole event? I know for a fact that it's stressful and trying to make sure that everything goes to plan is an absolute nightmare. In the end the girls decided that it was too expensive to go abroad so they are now staying in the UK and doing a weekend of celebrations. It's still expensive but common sense prevailed to a certain degree.

Last year was my Godson's 21st birthday. What did we do? We went to Miami for a week and had the most fantastic time. When I was 21 I had a party in a club called the Speakeasy in the West End of London.

Well I say a party; I went there with two mates and had a spag bol and apple pie and cream with a candle in it. It was a club. Well musicians came there after their gigs and then whoever was there got up and played. That night it was Elton John and for years I have told people that Elton John played at my 21st which, although technically true he didn't have a clue it was my birthday or even a clue I was there! And he certainly did not know who I was. But, hey ho!

Email me: mikesenker@gmail.com.



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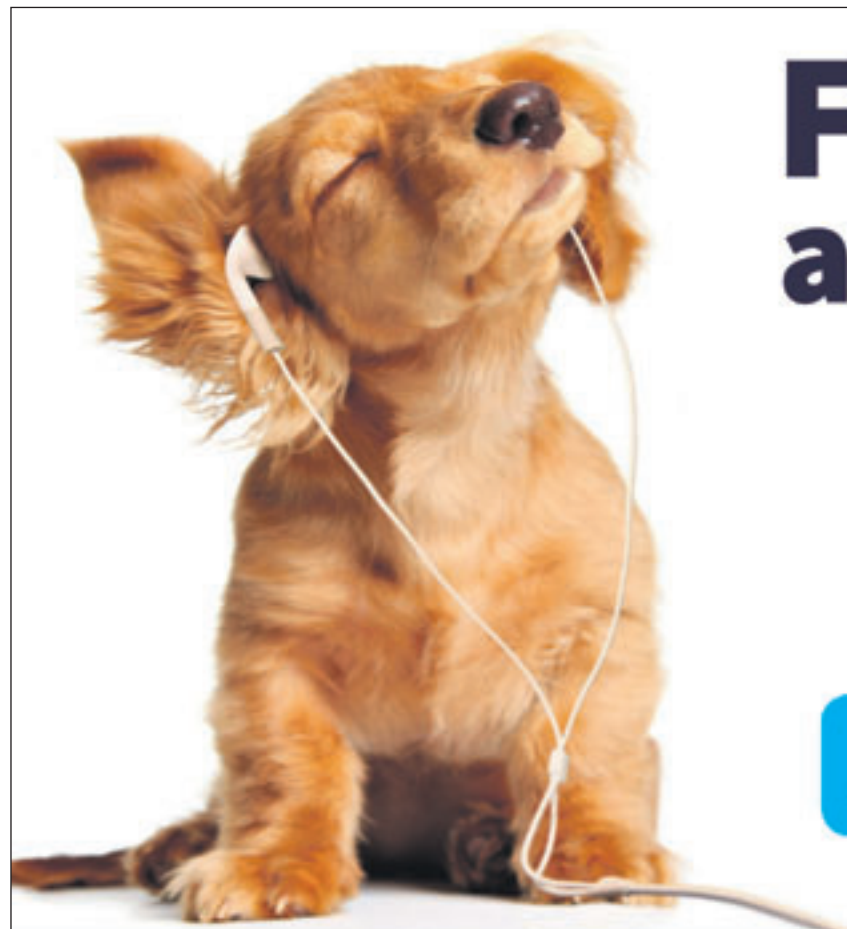
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MONDAY - 08 MAY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

4:45pm Garden Rescue	1:00pm The Daily Politics	8:00pm 100 Days +	3:10pm Countdown	1:10pm 5 News
5:30pm Put Your Money	2:00pm Athletics	8:30pm Handmade on the	4:00pm Fifteen to One	1:15pm Can't Pay? We'll
6:15pm Pointless	3:00pm Natural World	9:00pm Mud, Sweat and	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	2:15pm Home and Away
7:00pm BBC News	3:50pm Who Do You Think	9:00pm Tractors: The	6:00pm Four in a Bed	2:45pm Neighbours
7:30pm Regional News	4:50pm Red Rock	9:00pm Story of	6:30pm Extreme	3:15pm NCIS
8:00pm The One Show	5:30pm Red Rock	9:00pm Agriculure	7:00pm The Simpsons	4:15pm The Perfect
8:30pm Panorama	6:15pm Antiques Road	10:00pm Barcelona: An Art	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm 5 News
9:00pm EastEnders	7:00pm Trip	10:00pm Lovers' Guide	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours
9:30pm Room 101	7:00pm Celebrity	11:00pm The Incredible	8:55pm Party Election	7:00pm Home and Away
10:00pm MasterChef	7:45pm Eggheads	11:00pm Story of Marie	9:00pm Broadcast	7:30pm 5 News
11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Debatable	12:00pm Antoinette's	9:30pm Dispatches	7:55pm Party Election
11:30pm Regional News	9:00pm Nature's Weirdest	12:00pm Watch with	10:00pm Food Unwrapped	8:00pm Broadcast
11:40pm Weather	10:00pm Events	12:00pm Nicholas Parsons	10:00pm The Island with	8:00pm MotoGP
11:45pm Match of the	10:00pm Amazing Hotels:	12:00pm Michael Palin's	11:00pm Bear Grylls	9:00pm Police Interceptors
12:15am Have I Got a Bit	11:00pm Life Beyond the	12:00pm Quest for	11:00pm Loaded	10:00pm Inside the Gang:
More News for	11:30pm Lobby	12:00pm Artemisia	11:55pm Gogglebox	10:00pm Young Blood
You	12:10am Mock the Week	12:00pm	12:55am Obsessive	11:00pm Mind the Age Gap
	12:10am Newsnight		12:55am Compulsive	12:00pm Rise of the Krays
	12:10am Weather		12:55am Cleaners	

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 SKY SPORTS 1

7:00pm Local News and	3:00pm The Ellen	11:55am Road to Avonlea	11:55am Ax Men	2:00pm Premier League
7:30pm ITV Evening	3:50pm DeGeneres Show	12:55pm The Adventures of	12:50pm Pawn Stars	3:00pm Premier League
8:00pm Emmerdale	4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle	2:05pm Sherlock Holmes	1:50pm The Sweeney	3:00pm Legends
8:30pm Coronation	5:55pm Show	3:10pm Heartbeat	2:50pm The Saint	4:00pm One2eleven
9:00pm Street	6:00pm Judge Rinder	3:10pm Where the Heart	3:55pm Ironside	4:00pm 2016/17
9:00pm Tonight: Election	7:00pm You've Been	4:10pm is	5:00pm Minder	5:00pm Football's Greatest
Special	7:00pm Framed!	4:10pm Wild at Heart	6:00pm The Sweeney	6:00pm One2eleven
9:30pm Coronation	9:00pm Two and a Half	5:15pm The Cruise Ship	6:00pm Cash Cowboys	6:00pm 2016/17
Street	9:00pm Men	5:50pm Love Your Garden	8:00pm Pawn Stars	6:30pm Football's Greatest
10:00pm Little Boy Blue	10:00pm Family Guy	6:55pm Heartbeat	9:00pm The Chase:	7:00pm Premier League
11:00pm ITV News	10:30pm The Great Indoors	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	9:00pm Celebrity Special	7:30pm Legends
11:50pm Don't Ask Me,	11:00pm American Dad!	9:00pm Doc Martin	10:00pm Mission:	8:00pm Soccer AM: The
Ask Britain	11:55pm Family Guy	10:00pm Rosemary and	10:00pm Impossible	8:00pm Best Bits 2016/17
12:50am Joanna Lumley's	12:25am The Cleveland	10:00pm Thyme	11:05pm FYI Daily	8:00pm Football
Postcards	12:25am Show	11:00pm Law and Order:	11:10pm Mission:	12:00pm Scottish Football
		12:00am UK	12:15am Impossible	12:00pm Round Up
		12:00am The Street	12:15am Bundesliga	

TUESDAY - 09 MAY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

5:30pm Put Your Money	2:45pm Natural World	8:00pm 100 Days +	2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers	1:15pm Can't Pay? We'll
Where Your	3:50pm Who Do You Think	8:30pm Handmade on the	3:10pm Countdown	1:15pm Take it Away!
6:15pm Mouth Is	4:50pm You Are?	9:00pm Silk Road	4:00pm Fifteen to One	2:15pm Home and Away
7:00pm Pointless	5:30pm Red Rock	9:00pm Eurovision Song	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	2:45pm Neighbours
7:00pm BBC News	5:30pm Red Rock	9:00pm Contest Semi-	6:00pm Four in a Bed	3:15pm NCIS: Los Angeles
7:30pm Regional News	6:15pm Antiques Road	9:00pm Finals	6:30pm Extreme	4:15pm A Bone to Pick: An
8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Trip	11:00pm Joy of Abba	6:30pm Cakemakers	5 News Aurora Teagarden
8:30pm EastEnders	7:00pm Celebrity	12:00pm Rome's Lost	7:00pm The Simpsons	Mystery
9:00pm Holby City	7:30pm Eggheads	1:30am Natural World	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm 5 News
10:00pm Our Friend	7:45pm Debatable	2:30am The Story Of...	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours
Victoria	8:30pm Great British	3:30am Joy of Abba	8:00pm Party Election	7:00pm Home and Away
11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Menu		8:55pm Broadcast	7:30pm 5 News
11:30pm Regional News	9:00pm Bake Off Crème		9:00pm Obsessive	7:55pm Party Election
11:40pm Weather	10:00pm de la Crème		10:00pm Compulsive	8:00pm Broadcast
11:45pm Football Abuse:	10:00pm Second Chance		10:00pm Cleaners	8:00pm Police Interceptors
The Ugly Side of	11:00pm Summer: Tuscany		10:00pm One Born Every	9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet
the Beautiful	11:00pm Later Live... with		11:00pm Minute	10:00pm Elizabeth I
Game	11:30pm Jools Holland		11:00pm First Dates	11:00pm Mind the Age Gap
12:45am The Truth About	12:10am Newsnight		12:05am Confessions of a	12:00pm 20 Moments That
Stress	12:10am Weather		Junior Doctor	Rocked Pop

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 SKY SPORTS 1

7:00pm Local News and	11:25am Below Deck	11:30am Judge Judy	10:50am Minder	9:00am Good Morning
7:30pm ITV Evening	12:20pm Who's Doing the	11:55am Road to Avonlea	11:55am Ax Men	9:00am Sports Fans
8:00pm News	1:25pm Dishes?	12:55pm The Adventures of	12:55pm Pawn Stars	10:00am Football
8:00pm Emmerdale	1:25pm Emmerdale	2:05pm Sherlock Holmes	1:25pm Pawn Stars	10:30am Soccer AM: The
8:30pm Save Money	1:55pm Coronation Street	2:05pm Heartbeat	1:50pm The Sweeney	Best Bits 2016/17
9:00pm Good Food	3:00pm The Ellen	3:10pm Where the Heart	2:50pm The Saint	11:00am Premier League
Don't Ask Me	3:50pm DeGeneres Show	3:55pm is	3:55pm Ironside	Daily
Ask Britain	3:50pm The Jeremy Kyle	4:10pm Wild at Heart	5:00pm Minder	12:00pm Live ATP Masters
10:00pm Long Lost	6:00pm Judge Rinder	5:15pm The Cruise Ship	6:00pm The Sweeney	1000 - Madrid
Family: What	7:00pm You've Been	5:50pm Love Your Garden	7:00pm Cash Cowboys	10:00pm Premier League
Happened Next?	7:00pm Framed!	6:55pm Heartbeat	8:00pm Pawn Stars	Review
11:00pm ITV News	9:00pm Two and a Half	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:30pm Pawn Stars	11:00pm La Liga World
11:50pm Little Boy Blue	9:00pm Men	9:00pm Midsomer	9:00pm River Monsters	11:30pm Scottish Football
12:50am Car Crash	10:00pm Hell's Kitchen	11:00pm Murders	10:00pm Benidorm	Round Up
Britain Caught	11:00pm Family Guy	12:00am Law and Order:	11:00pm Lethal Weapon	11:45pm Sporting Triumphs
on Camera	12:00am Family Guy	12:00am A Touch of Frost	12:00am Better Late Than	12:00am Premier League
			Never	Review

WEDNESDAY - 10 MAY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

12:00pm A1: Britain's	7:30am A1: Britain's	8:00pm 100 Days +	10:00am Frasier	7:00am Milkshake!
12:45pm Longest Road	8:15am Put Your Money	8:30pm Handmade on the	10:30am Frasier	10:15am The Wright Stuff
Claimed and	9:00pm Where Your	9:00pm Silk Road	11:00am Car S.O.S	12:15pm GPs: Behind
Shamed	9:00pm Mouth Is	9:00pm The Last Seabird	12:00pm Ramsay's Hotel	1:10pm Closed Doors
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	9:00pm Nature's Weirdest	10:00pm Summer	1:00pm Channel 4 News	1:10pm 5 News
2:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Events	10:00pm Shock and Awe:	1:05pm The Question Jury	1:15pm On Benefits
2:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Victoria	10:00pm The Story of	2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers	2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Doctors	10:00pm Derbyshire	10:00pm Electricity	3:10pm Countdown	2:45pm Neighbours
3:15pm The Boss	12:00pm BBC Newsroom	10:00pm Prof Jim Al-Khalili	4:00pm Fifteen to One	3:15pm NCIS
4:00pm Escape to the	12:00pm Live	10:00pm takes a	5:00pm A Place in the	4:15pm Still Life: A Three
Country	1:00pm The Daily Politics	10:00pm supercharged look	5:00pm A Place in the	6:00pm 5 News
4:45pm Garden Rescue	2:00pm Two Tribes	10:00pm at the lifeblood of	5:00pm A Place in the	6:30pm Neighbours
5:30pm Put Your Money	2:30pm Coast	10:00pm civilisation:	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away
Where Your	3:00pm Natural World	10:00pm electricity. This	6:30pm Extreme	7:30pm 5 News
6:15pm Mouth Is	3:50pm Who Do You Think	10:00pm opener tells of the	7:00pm Cakemakers	7:55pm Party Election
7:00pm Pointless	4:50pm Red Rock	10:00pm trailblazers who	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm Broadcast
7:00pm BBC News	5:30pm Antiques Road	10:00pm first unlocked the	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Chris Tarrant
7:30pm Regional News	6:15pm Trip	10:00pm enigma of	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm Extreme Railways
8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Celebrity	10:00pm Prof Jim Al-Khalili	8:55pm Party Election	9:00pm GPs: Behind
8:00pm MasterChef	7:00pm Eggheads	10:00pm takes a	9:00pm How to Live	9:00pm Closed Doors
9:00pm Panorama	7:45pm Debatable	10:00pm supercharged look	9:00pm How to Live	10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll
10:00pm BBC News	8:30pm Great British	10:00pm at the lifeblood of	10:00pm How to Live	10:00pm Take it Away!
11:00pm Regional News	8:30pm Menu	10:00pm civilisation:	10:00pm Mortgage Free	11:00pm Mind the Age Gap
11:30pm Weather	9:00pm Trust Me I'm a Vet	10:00pm electricity. This	10:00pm with Sarah Beeny	12:05am Violent Child,
11:40pm A Question of	10:00pm King Charles III	10:00pm opener tells of the	11:00pm Confessions of a	Desperate Parents
Sport	11:30pm Newsnight	10:00pm trailblazers who	11:00pm Junior Doctor	On Benefits
12:15am Teenage Knife	12:10am Weather	10:00pm first unlocked the	11:00pm Quadruplets and	2:00am Super Casino
Wars		10:00pm enigma of	Homeless	4:10am Top 20 Funniest
12:45am Home		10:00pm Prof Jim Al-Khalili	Gogglebox	

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 SKY SPORTS 1

7:00am Good Morning	11:25am Below Deck	7:00am In Loving Memory	7:00am Sports Fillers	7:00am Good Morning
7:30am Britain	12:20pm Who's Doing the	7:25am Heartbeat	7:15am Ax Men	7:00am Sports Fans
9:30am Lorraine	1:25pm Dishes?	8:25am Where the Heart	8:00am Cash Cowboys	8:00am Good Morning
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle	1:25pm Emmerdale	9:25am is	9:00am The Saint	9:00am Sports Fans
11:30am Show	1:55pm You've Been	10:30am Wild at Heart	10:05am Ironside	9:00am Good Morning
1:30pm This Morning	3:00pm Framed!	11:00am Judge Judy	11:05am Minder	9:00am Sports Fans
1:30pm Loose Women	3:00pm The Ellen	11:00am Judge Judy	12:05pm The Sweeney	10:00am Premier League
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime	3:50pm DeGeneres Show	11:25am Judge Judy	1:05pm Ax Men	Review
News	4:55pm The Jeremy Kyle	11:55am Road to Avonlea	2:00pm Pawn Stars	11:00am Premier League
3:00pm Dickinson's Real	4:55pm Show	12:55pm The Adventures of	2:30pm ITV Racing Live	Daily
Deal	5:00pm The Jeremy Kyle	2:05pm Sherlock Holmes	3:00pm Minder	12:00pm Live ATP
4:00pm Culinary Genius	6:00pm Judge Rinder	2:05pm Heartbeat	6:00pm The Sweeney	Masters 1000 -
5:00pm Tipping Point	6:00pm You've Been	3:10pm Where the Heart	7:00pm Cash Cowboys	Madrid
6:00pm Babushka	7:00pm Framed!	4:15pm Wild at Heart	8:00pm Cycling	11:30pm Barclays Premier
7:00pm Local News and	7:30pm You've Been	5:20pm The Cruise Ship	9:00pm River Monsters	League World
Weather	7:30pm Framed!	5:50pm Love Your Garden	10:00pm Benidorm	12:00am Premier League
7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm You've Been	6:55pm Heartbeat	11:00pm Better Late Than	Legends
8:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Framed!	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	12:00am Lethal Weapon	Legends
8:30pm Coronation Street	8:30pm You've Been	9:00pm Lewis	12:55am The Game of	Legends
Tonight at the	9:00pm Framed!	11:00pm Law and Order:	1:00am Death	1:00am Premier League
London Palladium	9:00pm Two and a Half	11:00pm UK	1:55am FYI Daily	100 Club
10:00pm Britain's Busiest	9:30pm Men	12:00am A Touch of Frost	2:00am The Game of	100 Club
Airport -	10:00pm The Expendables	2:05am The Knock	3:00am Death	2:00am Premier League
Heathrow	11:00pm FYI Daily	3:00am ITV3 Nightscreen	3:00am The Classic Car	Legends
11:00pm ITV News	11:05pm The Expendables	3:30am Teleshopping	3:45am ITV4 Nightscreen	Legends
11:50pm UEFA Champions	12:05am Family Guy		4:00am Teleshopping	2:30am Premier League
League Highlights				Legends
12:50am Sports Life Stories				The Premier
1:40am Jackpot247				League Years

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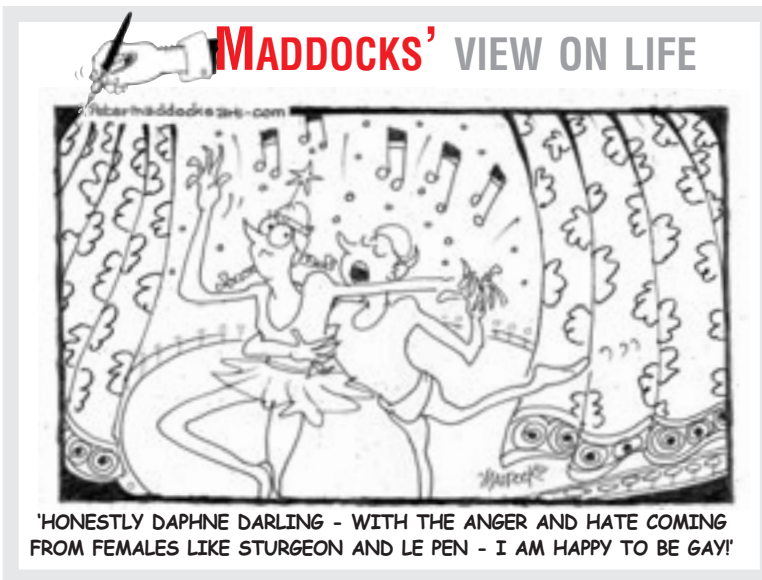
Kakuro

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.

	17	27	15		
22				32	
19					19
8			13		
11			14		
		20			
		18			

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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



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

D	E	W
I	R	E
N	O	D

TARGET:

- Average: 14 • Good: 19
- Very good: 28 • Excellent: 36

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

aeon ante earn erne etna nape neap near neat neep nope note open pane pant pean peen pent peon pone pont porn rant rent roan tarn teen tern tone torn antre apron atone eaten enate enter noter oaten panto paten preen prone raneer tenor toner enrapt entrap napper neater opener orate parent patron poteen reopen repent tarpon trepan operant pronate propane protean NOTEPAPER

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.

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday April 29

24	29	30	BONUS BALL
36	46	48	7

IRISH LOTTO

Saturday April 29

3	12	16	BONUS BALL
21	39	44	47

EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday April 25

9	11	19	BONUS BALL
32	43		9

Friday April 28

14	20	25	BONUS BALL
30	39		8

LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday April 29

3	12	22	BONUS BALL
24	35	46	2

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday April 30

6	15	30	BONUS BALL
34	44		1

YOUR STARS FOR 7 DAYS

GEMINI ♊ (May 22 - June 21)

Punchy Mars and the heady Sun are set for a scramble with touchy Pluto. You've been there before, so despite any administrative bumps, gossip whirls or curious rejections, don't be too sensitive. Add up what you've achieved, subtract your fears and keep your emotions under control.

CANCER ♋ (June 22 - July 23)

Upfront Mars and the upbeat Sun will be at loggerheads with powerful Pluto. You might not appreciate some of Friday or Saturday's antics, so be ready to use your charm, or perhaps your equally wicked sense of humour will do the trick. Whatever comes up for review, a cool rethink could inspire you with some useful tactics.

LEO ♌ (July 24 - August 23)

This is an intense week, and if you get stuck with a particular issue, jumble your words, or just can't seem to do anything right, it might be worth finding out if the grass is greener on the other side.

VIRGO ♍ (August 24 - September 23)

Quirky planetary niggles will surface without warning. A variety of talks, news and last-minute changes surround your family members, friends or colleagues. No matter what affects your personal or occupational activities, stay focused, decide what your goals are and, just as importantly, find the easiest way to move forward without losing your healing sense of humour.

LIBRA ♎ (September 24 - October 23)

Even the best-made plans can suddenly

TAURUS ♉ (April 21 - May 21)

Astrologically, it's not unreasonable to assume that when sparky Mars and the zesty Sun conflict with restless Pluto, life could become a tad frustrating. You might find it hard to tolerate hypocrisy and setbacks, but fortunately, it's all just a passing cloud. Regardless of any lack of continuity, concentrate on keeping going and prepare for next week's brighter outlook.

sink without a trace. Your dreams for a fresh start in one particular direction still need tender, cautious care, and you may equally need to be wary of overstepping the mark where money's concerned.

SCORPIO ♏ (October 24 - November 22)

You will need bucketloads of humour and understanding as impatient Mars and the sprightly Sun engage with touchy Pluto. Stay well clear if you want to escape potential power struggles.

SAGITTARIUS ♐ (November 23 - December 21)

If you suspect that some things are not what they seem, you could be right. Repel doubts, ban anxieties and stick to facts and tact. If certain individuals or situations continue to conspire against you, change course and do something entirely different. What goes around will come around quicker than you think.

CAPRICORN ♑ (December 22 - January 20)

Storms in tea-cups need loads of sweet-talking. Of course, if you can't be bothered with it all, fair enough; keeping quiet could be the best way to deal with problems, glitches or sudden backfires. If you can't take a break, at least chill out with whatever or whoever brings you the greatest pleasure.

AQUARIUS ♒ (January 21 - February 19)

You are about to tackle some tough tests. Work and personal hurdles could preoccupy you, but after the weekend you'll be able to sort out the ice from the cream. No matter how awkward things seem on Monday or Wednesday, trust your ability to wait for the right moment, rather than risk spoiling your plans.

PISCES ♓ (February 20 - March 20)

Feisty Mars and the fiery Sun are warring with changeable Pluto, so avoid any tearaway temptations on Thursday or Friday. You could be emotionally vulnerable, or even lulled into a false sense of security. However confusing the planets may seem, even out the odds as best you can by ensuring your worries take second place.

ARIES ♈ (March 21 - April 20)

Hassles and battles are on the cards. If things don't happen as fast as you'd expected, or domestic and workaday blips assail your patience, transform them into an opportunity to show your special qualities. Potent planetary influences urge you to look, listen, learn and refuse to allow petty stumbling blocks to undermine your confidence on Tuesday and Thursday.

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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

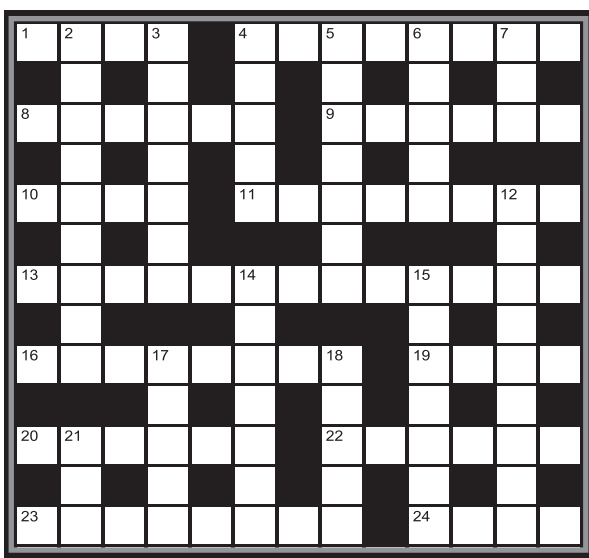
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Client has some EU services (4)
- 4 Tried SAS manoeuvre, but it was a catastrophe (8)
- 8 Roman emperor took vehicle around wild sea (6)
- 9 Song birds with no ribs broken (6)
- 10 French sea with English pond (4)
- 11 Tory with impenetrable contract (8)
- 13 Sailor convert at sea is doubtful (13)
- 16 Met green characters coming out (8)
- 19 Judge accepting Ecstasy and rocks (4)
- 20 Dogs one missed in French resort (6)
- 22 Plumbing fixture for a baby party (6)
- 23 Kitchen items made at stores (8)
- 24 Hardy character in United States Secret Service (4)

Down

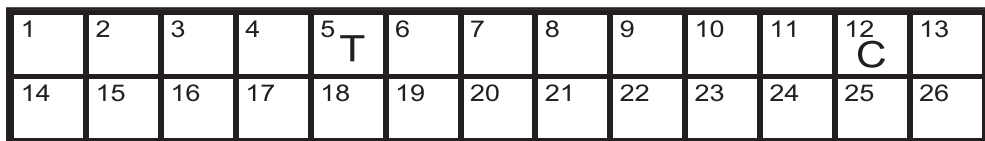
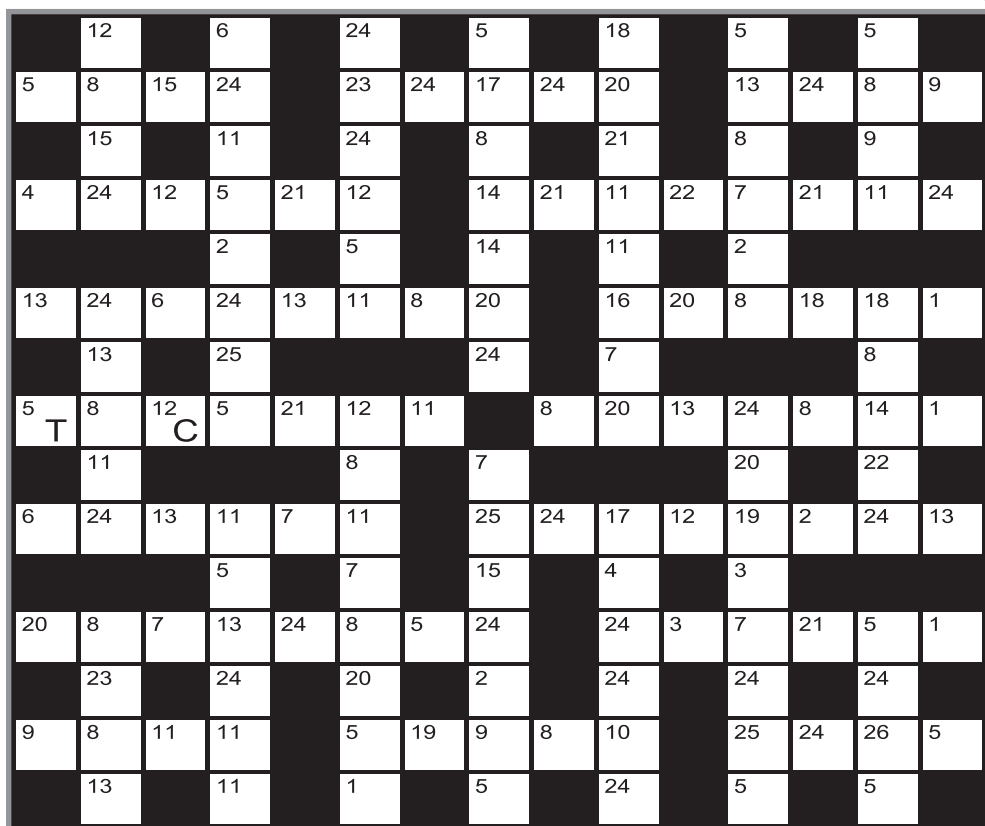
- 2 Arrange more toast for the guest cabin (9)
- 3 Honour pastor in cult after religious education (7)
- 4 In Colorado, rich men give the order (5)
- 5 Queer Street has scope (7)
- 6 Sale includes British fur (5)
- 7 A long time sheltering in Sierra Leone (3)
- 12 Cooking meals, she's audacious (9)
- 14 Keep an eye on past, understand? (7)



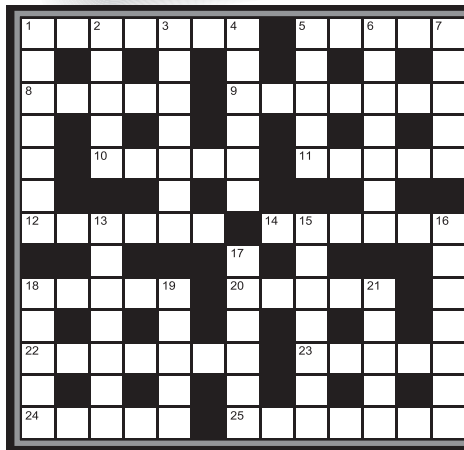
- 15 Arrange to tour school building (4,3)
- 17 Places stinking Stilton first (5)
- 18 Team leader requests jobs (5)
- 21 A bit of publicity that leads to nothing but trouble (3)

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 5 represents T and 12 represents C, so fill in T every time the figure 5 appears and C every time the figure 12 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



Quick



Across

- 1 Obstreperous (7)
- 5 Fragment (5)
- 8 Lawful (5)
- 9 Afro-Caribbean music (7)
- 10 Illumination (5)
- 11 Informed (5)
- 12 Become larger (6)
- 14 Thrust or throw into (6)
- 18 Lizard (5)
- 20 Precise (5)
- 22 Do away with (7)
- 23 Enthusiastic (5)
- 24 Wear away (5)
- 25 Italian rice dish (7)

Down

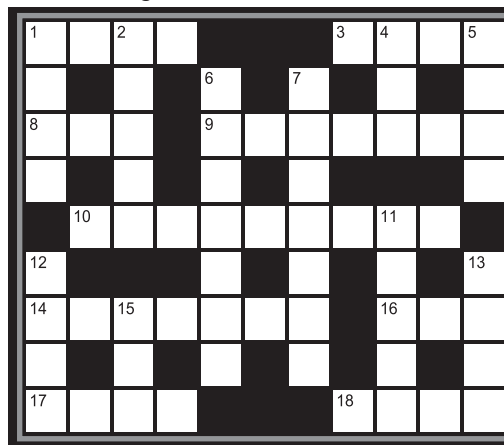
- 1 Raising of sunken or wrecked ships (7)

2 Royal (5)

- 3 Closed plane figure bounded by straight sides (7)
- 4 Sailing boats (6)
- 5 Bohemian folk dance (5)
- 6 Make plain and comprehensible (7)
- 7 Call out (5)
- 13 Small flute (7)
- 15 Heads (7)
- 16 Government order imposing a trade barrier (7)
- 17 Tie an animal with a rope or chain so as to restrict its movement: (6)
- 18 Glower (5)
- 19 Like a sheep (5)
- 21 Closely constrained (5)

English - Spanish

The clues are mixed, some clues are in Spanish and some are in English.



Across

- 1 Bandera (de país, ciudad) (4)
- 3 Gemelo (4)
- 8 Mentira (embuste) (3)
- 9 Poppy (7)
- 10 Gotas de lluvia (9)
- 14 Cencerro (7)
- 16 Mar (3)
- 17 Hormigas (4)
- 18 Ass (donkey) (4)

Down

- 1 Película (4)
- 2 Bee (5)
- 4 Quién (3)
- 5 Ordenado (4)
- 6 Pintor (7)
- 7 Barriles (7)
- 11 Raisins (5)
- 12 Minutes (of a meeting) (4)
- 13 Hand (4)
- 15 Mojado (3)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Racket, 4 Plumps, 9 Tornado, 10 Tardy, 11 Ousel, 12 Neolith, 13 Containment, 18 Agitate, 20 Shake, 22 Eland, 23 Climate, 24 Slides, 25 Zealot.

Down:

- 1 Ration, 2 Cards, 3 Epaulet, 5 Lotto, 6 Martian, 7 Scythe, 8 Coincidence, 14 Origami, 15 Misfire, 16 Ravens, 17 Select, 19 Addle, 21 Avail.

QUICK

Across:

- 7 Saline, 8 Survey, 9 Ripe, 10 Specimen, 11 Fantasy, 13 Petty, 15 Scary, 17 Capstan, 20 Macaroni, 21 Stay, 22 Severe, 23 Tamper.

Down:

- 1 Marina, 2 Dine, 3 Persist, 4 Asked, 5 Trainers, 6 Defect, 12 Threaten, 14 Variety, 16 Claret, 18 Azalea, 19 Coven, 21 Same.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Recuerdo, 7 Donde, 8 Seven, 9 Armchairs, 11 Attic, 12 Glass, 14 Doorbell.

Down:

- 1/5 Red wine, 2 Concrete, 3 Ejercicio, 4 Descargar, 6 Overtake, 10 Faro, 13 Sol.

CODE BREAKER



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

Plea to apartment dwellers

“ SPAIN has the highest proportion of apartment dwellers in Europe (65 per cent compared with 14 per cent in the UK), and for anyone who has visited or lived in a large Spanish town or city this is probably no great surprise.

Can all the noisy people please try to be a little bit quieter? I have elderly Spanish neighbours to the side of me. They like to invite people round most nights and make merry until between 1.30-2am.

When seeing their guests out they slam the front door, presumably waking every apartment dweller within a four-floor radius, and then begin moving their heavy table and chairs back into place.

Heaven knows what the noise is like for the people underneath. When they have finished I can at last begin to nod off, but not for long as my neighbour



above has other plans. Having been silent all day, between 2-2.30am, they start moving furniture directly above me.

Surely it is just common sense to understand that at 2am in the morning, there is a very good chance that the neighbour below you or to the side of you is trying to get to sleep?

But my plea is just for everyone to be considerate and remember you have neighbours who can probably hear every hard-heeled footstep. If just one person gets more sleep because of this article I can rest easy at night - assuming my neighbours let me of course.

Angus Silvie, Malaga

The naked ape

HELEN from Malaga (Dodgy walk April 13) is not alone with this naked men problem.

Here in Gran Alacant, where there are wonderful dunes for all the naturists, there are these men who hang about close to the life-guard's hut and then spring into action when anyone with young children appears.

There are no notices to inform you about the side of the beach accepted as the nudist colony but when these men make a point of strutting about on the open public beach and even queue up at the ice cream stalls where small young children are about, it is another matter.

Does Spain not have a problem with paedophiles? I never see any articles on the TV about this matter, although I understand not much publicity is given to children who disappear. Maybe it is one of these things they keep behind closed doors.

I wish they would do the same with these odd men. Perhaps someone can tell us if this is illegal in Spain.

*Ann Paterson
Gran Alacant, Elche*

Let us be entertained

WHATEVER has happened to Benalmadena? Elefante

and Bonanza used to be great with good entertainment. If you weren't there before 9pm you couldn't get a seat!

When you think that there are so many holidaymakers and those of us who live here that like to enjoy entertainment, but it all seems to be in Marbella or Puerto Banus.

*Jackie and Gordon Sharp,
Benalmadena*

Trump card

IT is obvious from reading Leapy Lee's comments on Donald Trump, that he is neither a woman, a disabled

person, a non-Caucasian, a refugee nor an asylum seeker.

If he even felt a minimal empathy or solidarity with any of these areas of society he would not make a remark that ennobles a person who has consistently humiliated and insulted them.

He would have some respect for the millions of people who have borne the anguish of seeing that other millions could actually support and elect such a candidate to the most powerful political post.

It is hurtful for those of us falling into these categories to acknowledge this situation; to extol it is a further insult to us all.

Nicola Barker

COMMENTS from EWN Online

» British woman dies from Balcony fall

TOO many people over the years have died from balcony accidents in Spain. Clearly there is a massive shortfall in building regulations there. Maybe the solution is to boycott the whole country for a full holiday season and force the Spanish authorities to realise that we demand change, they do after all earn billions of Euros every year from tourism and should take responsibility for changes to be made.

Robert Anderson

SO many people have died from balcony falls, and the reason for this is that the railings around them are not high enough. On our balcony the railings only come up to the bottom half of the hip and it would be easy to fall.

The Spanish builders need to raise these railings up to waist height at least. They just do not do their job properly.

Roy Peters

» Gibraltar could be Spanish in four years time

SPAIN and the rest of the EU need to start paying their proper contributions to NATO before any discussions can start. As an opening agenda, perhaps they would like to discuss with Morocco about handing over Melilla and Ceuta!

Saya Sendiri

HE makes some good points. Maybe the Gibraltar people will see some advantages in staying and not be as bigger saps as many in the UK are.

Peter

MANY people believe Spain is on the verge of bankruptcy, and that it owes a considerable amount of money to the EU. If that is actually the case, perhaps the minister is trying to promote a feeling of optimism in the Spanish people. Or perhaps he is hoping that Gibraltar will bail Spain out... He is certainly toeing the government line, perhaps trying to make his own job a little more secure?

Harry P

TO Saya Sendiri - I agree entirely with you, and to Peter - the bigger sap is you, along with all the other remoaners who cannot see how awful the EU is for everybody not only the UK.

Carl

INSTEAD of focusing on trying to get Gibraltar into Spanish hands maybe Mr Margallo should focus on sorting out his own challenges in Spain first. Why not try reducing the highest unemployment in Europe and the crazy outdated labour processes? There are areas 100 times the size of Gibraltar that are already in Spanish territory that need serious help first.

Stanbow

» No vote for long-term expats

SO we knew when we vacated the UK we wouldn't be eligible to vote after a period of time, since learning to Speak Spanish fluently and assimilating into the Spanish culture.

Then why bitch on and why call ourselves 'expats' not the 'Johnny foreigner' type eh? No, we are emigrants who have the privilege to live/work in another country. Oh I see why, it's the 'bremainers' unable to accept the democratic vote for a clean Brexit, seeking to cause mischief and division. ¡Qué sorpresa!

CJ

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

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

Are you in the know?

CURRENTLY, just two in every 10 Spaniards know that there is a vaccine to protect against pneumonia. That's the findings from a study carried out by the PneuVUE (Adult Pneumonia Vaccine Understanding Europe). Their results showed that in Spain, much work remains to be done in terms of knowledge of this disease and its prevention.

PneuVUE records the long road that remains to be covered in the knowledge of pneumonia in Spain. The study found that 84 per cent said they know what it is, and 85 per cent identify it as a lung infection. The problem, the study authors said, is it is not enough to know that pneumonia exists, but it has to be understood and there are gaps in the knowledge of the transmission of the disease, the risk factors for contracting it and the number of people

who die because of it. In relation to this last point, 41 per cent of the respondents considered that traffic accidents are the greater cause of death in Spain; compared with 3 per cent who selected pneumonia. In fact, pneumonia caused four times more deaths than traffic accidents at the time of the survey.

Sixty-one per cent of the population is unaware that pneumonia can be prevented in addition to being treated, and 78 per cent do not know that it is possible to get a vaccination.

Pneumococcal disease is one of the most common causes of pneumonia. In Spain, in 2011, 10,861 hospital admissions were recorded for pneumococcal disease in adults, with an estimated cost of €57 million. Of these, 92 per cent were exclusively for pneumococcal pneumonia and the infection

caused by pneumococcus could be prevented by a vaccination.



PNEUMONIA:
Protect against with a vaccine.

What protection do you need?

SUMMER is just around the corner so it's time to think about protection.

With the towel in one hand, book in the other as you head to the beach to take in some rays, which sun cream will be in your bag?

Although awareness about how important it is to protect skin from the sun is increasing, there are still many who forget to always have their faces protected to avoid wrinkles, blemishes and signs of early ageing, even as you go about daily life and are not consciously basking in the sun, stay protected.

But there are also many products on the market, so what should you choose to best protect yourself?

Skin with acne

In adolescence in particular, it is very important to take care of the face, not only to protect against future ageing, but with acne, exposure to the sun can lead to scarring and marks from spots. When using a cream

avoid oily lotions and use a high protection product with a dry touch finish.

Atopic skin

Those who suffer from atopic skin, which is skin which is prone to inflammation, redness or eczema, always need special care. The best option is a sunscreen with very high protection which is labelled as being suitable for fragile skins with atopic tendency, as these creams tend to be less sticky.

Anti age

The sun is the worst enemy for those who are getting a little older or are showing the signs of ageing, so whilst it is still important to enjoy an outdoor, active life, use a minimum factor 50 protection on the face, which protects against both UVA and UVB rays.

Pale skins

If you don't want to hit the beach looking too pale, but at the same time want to protect your face, try a light moisturising tint with an SPF in it.

Be gentle to keep your brain sharp

WANT to stay sharp during your retirement in Spain? Then book a tai-chi or yoga class as research has found gentle exercise can help boost the brain power of the over 50's.

Experts in Australia said they found that doing a 45-minute session at least once a week helped to improve cognitive skills such as thinking, attention and memory.

Other activities such as gentle aerobic activities like swimming and resistance training, are also beneficial, but it was the ancient Chinese art of tai-chi that was found to be particularly helpful as it was easier for older people to undertake.

It is estimated that around 200 million in China people practise the gentle sport daily

as the slow exercises and movements help build muscle and bone, improve balance and strengthen joints. It also requires concentration, which could be one of the reasons it helps brain health.

The team of researchers, from the University of Canberra tested the impact of exercise on the brain health of those over 50.

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Taking a risk

ARE you an over-protective parent? Well according to a new report, you could be limiting your child's happiness as a bit of rough and tumble is reported to be good for them.

Researchers from New Zealand had eight schools increase their 'risk' element in their outdoor areas. These included play areas that had more physically vigorous activities, less rules and more 'loose' parts such as tyres. Another eight schools kept their playgrounds the same.

These were in place for two years with questionnaires being completed by children, parents and teachers after the first and second year.

The scientists concluded that children in more risky environments reported being happier at school and playing with more children.

However, teachers at the schools with more risky playgrounds said they noted greater incidence of bullying, although there were few negative comments by children or parents except for more cases of pushing on the playground.



MALARIA: Vaccine is set to be tested on young children.

Trials for malaria vaccine

A MALARIA vaccine could be available next year.

A vaccine has been created, known as RTS,S which is reported to make the immune system attack the malaria parasite. It is set to be tested on around 120,000 children aged five to 17 months old in Kenya, Ghana and Malawi, where there is a high number of malaria cases. The treatment would require four doses of the vaccine, with the final one being some 18 months after the

200

million people are affected every year

first, before it would be completely effective.

The World Health Organisation said if successful, the treatment could potentially save tens of thousands of lives as the condition affects more than

200 million new people annually and around half a million people die every year from the disease, most of which are children.

Malaria is a serious tropical disease spread by mosquitoes which, unless treated promptly, can be fatal. It is mainly a problem in countries such as Africa, Asia, Central and South America, but can be prevented through the use of insect repellent, using mosquito nets and antimalarial medication.

Ask The Doctor

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Dealing with a personal problem



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

DEAR Doctor,

I have an embarrassing problem.

I am within the Spanish health system but I speak no Spanish and my doctor speaks no English so, on my visits to my doctor my translator is always there and knows everything I wish to discuss, this can be most embarrassing.

I'm a 70-year-old man and when I was 45 I developed Familiar Nervosa more commonly called essential tremor for which there has been no cure, but to some degree it can be controlled with varying success with one of only two drugs available.

I have tried both and Propranolol proved to help a bit, I currently take 40mg twice a day.

One of its side effects is impotence and, largely because of this my marriage failed 10 years ago and I'm now a reluctant single man because of my inability to have an erection.

I understand that a cure involving a small 10-minute brain operation has been achieved in USA & UK but it's not available yet to the public; that's no good to me.

At my age it appears there's no hope of a new relationship and I'm unable to even discuss it.

Dear Patient,

Essential tremor is a neurological illness which, although not particularly serious, can cause important disruption to daily life and activities. Some medications such as propranolol are useful to manage the symptoms, but can have unwanted side effects which include reduced libido and impotence.

If these effects seriously affect your life there are other types of treatment which could be tried including primidona, clonazepam, gabapentina or mirtazapine which may help control your symptoms while avoiding those unwanted side effects.

However if the propranolol is working well and controlling your symptoms, you could try another type of treatment for your erectile dysfunction such as Viagra or Cialis. Your doctor would have to supervise this treatment, after ruling out any possible reasons not to go ahead such as heart disease or other medications.

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

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It's time to get creative

VELEZ-MALAGA Council has announced this year's outdoor painting contest honouring the life and works of Axarquía artist, Juan Jorado Lorca.

The event was announced by councillor of Fairs and Festivals, Sergio Hijano, as well as the painter's widow, Oliva Lavado, who revealed the contest would take place at El Trapiche on May 13.

Mr Hijano said those participating were able to use whatever style and medium they liked but that the scenes painted should be inspired by Velez-Málaga. He invited, "both residents and visitors of El Trapiche and other towns to get involved in the event which is gaining prestige each year."

Oliva Lavado added, "painters throughout Axarquía should put the date in their di-



ART ATTACK: Ms Lavado and Mr Hijano launch the contest.

ary and thanks to his friends who are sitting on the jury as well as the council for organising the event."

Four prizes will be handed out on the day, including €1,000 to the outright winner, €750 for second place, €400

for third place and €400 for the best work by a local artist.

Entries can be made by email to feriasyfiestas@velezmalaga.es and those wishing to participate should provide their full name, ID number, email and contact

phone number.

The contest will be take place between 9am and 2pm, with the final hour given over to submitting works and deliberation by the jury, which is made up of cultural and artistic figures from the area.

'Contemporary Artists' exhibition

VELEZ-MALAGA'S El Posito building in Plaza e la Constitucion is due to host an exhibition entitled 'Contemporary Artists,' featuring works by 18 painters from the last third of the 20th century.

Cynthia Garcia, the town's councillor for Culture, reported the exhibition will be open until May 30 in the building, which dates from 18th century.

She explained the event, "promotes the artists and new artistic styles because of the wide variety of contemporary styles and movements displayed."

She added, the works "show a feminine quality, that inspires debate about the possible differences between the genders."

Ms Garcia invited, "residents and visitors to come to this exhibition located in the heart of Velez-Málaga, and which complements other museums and venues such as the Centre for Contemporary Art, the Muvel Museum, or the Cervantes Room, to name a few."

Among the artists exhibiting are, Maria



CYNTHIA GARCIA: At the exhibition which debates gender differences.

Antonia Sanchez Escalona, Carmen Aguado, Victoria Atencia, Concha Barreto, Laura Brinkmann, Pepa Caballero and Cristina Cañamero.

Event to promote healthy living

LA HERRADURA is set to host a healthy life event from May 4-10 for the second consecutive year.

The event will bring together professionals to promote various types of therapies, sports practices and healthy eating habits to promote healthy living.

Workshops at the event will offer prac-

tical advice, delicious homemade and healthy foods, free classes and different therapies.

According to the promoters, this year La Herradura Natural has extended the weekend programme to a full week of activities and interesting offers for those who want to live a healthy life.

The idea aims to show locals and visitors the health stores and therapy spaces available in the area. Activities will take place throughout the week in the town, where the shops will offer special promotions.

La Herradura Natural is an initiative by Flavia Di Luca, a teacher of Lu Jong.

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The UK government has suddenly woken up!

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



ACCORDING TO REPORTS, a Common's select committee has said they have found out that we waste millions of pounds a year by throwing away 'out of date' food stuffs and is urging the industry to change its classification on packeted goods to avoid customer confusion.

Now I'm not pretending that I aspire to be a Jeremy Paxman, I am but a humble columnist, but if any of you avid readers out there (apparently I have a few!) will recall that in the March 9 edition of this esteemed publication I wrote about exactly that. But now the Government has been told that it should establish a national food waste reduction target to drive efforts to reduce the food waste costing the average person in the UK £200 per year and supermarkets should publicly report data on the amount of food they bin and relax rules that prevent the sale of 'wonky vegetables' to combat food waste, the Environment Food and Rural Affairs Committee says in its report.

Committee Chair Neil Parish MP declared to the gathered throng that "one-third of food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted globally and in the UK over £10 billion worth of food is thrown away by households every year. Food waste has grotesque economic, social and environmental costs. Economically, food waste costs households hundreds of pounds a year and causes in-



AMUSING? But taste not waste!!

creased disposal costs to local authorities, pushing up council tax bills.

"Socially it is a scandal people are going hungry and using food banks when so much produce is being wasted. And environmentally it is a disaster, because energy and resources are wasted in production only for the food to end up rotting in landfills where it produces methane - a potent climate-changing gas.

"We commend Tesco for publishing its food waste data from across the supply chain. Sainsbury's is moving in the same direction, but needs more transparency. The fact that no other retailers have followed their lead shows that a voluntary approach is inadequate. The Government needs to step in and force other major supermarkets to be transparent about

food waste. We welcome the will shown by retailers to redistribute surplus food. However, we believe that more must be done. There is a huge amount of surplus food that is currently not being redistributed."

If the demand for 'straight' vegetables and 'round' fruits was removed from the scenario and supermarkets were to put them up for sale - at discounted prices if necessary - the wastage would be cut by millions. In another previous article I mentioned about the meat buyer for M&S who had to buy only the reddest meat as shoppers didn't like seeing the real colour of beef. If supermarkets won't sell them, then at least they could ship them round to the nearest food bank!!

THIS FOOD REALLY IS RUBBISH! Which could be the slogan for the restaurant started by the young entrepreneurial chef Adam Smith in Leeds. The Real Junkfood Project in the city of West Yorkshire, only serves meals created from food destined for landfill. Since opening, he has been joined by five more directors plus an army of volunteers,

The team approached restaurants and cafes across the city and asked them to give their leftover food to the project rather than throw it away. An army of volunteers drive around the city collecting food stuffs from shops, supermarkets and hotels. Numerous restaurants, supermarkets and cafes in the city have now got behind the scheme and donate food on a daily basis after they were approached by project leaders.

Volunteers collect the unwanted food and turn it into their own meals - which vary each day but normally include a meat and vegetarian option, sandwiches and sometimes a dessert. Unwanted food donated so far ranges from bread and broccoli to caviar, truffles, a kilo of smoked salmon, luxury cheeses, extravagant vegetables and spices.

Customers at the radical restaurant, thought to be the first in the country, then pay what they want for the food. The cafe is now open five days a week to serve breakfast and dinner. It has also started catering

for outside events.

One of the directors believes that this year his cafe has already saved more than a tonne of food from going to waste. Commenting, he said, "we get a real mix here from locals in the areas who come in and spend the day here to students. We are very busy and are probably doing between 15 to 30 meals a day. (Doesn't seem much - considering they're giving it away!!!)

The pay as you feel concept makes people think about what is on offer and what they think it is worth. "We like to think if somebody has a little more money they might pay a little more," he continued, "But if a person did not have the means to pay we are not going to not serve them, if they are hungry we are going to give them food."

Reminds me of a similar operation we wrote about a few months ago, 'The Robin Hood' in Madrid.



**Let's kiss goodbye
to wastage.**

WINE CORNER: ONE OF THE BEST UP AND COMING WINE MAKERS IN SPAIN

A native of Cognac, Olivier Riviere studied oenology in Bordeaux with an emphasis in biodynamic farming practices.

Olivier was always passionate about terroir expression, gaining valuable insights whilst working in Burgundy including at Domaine Leroy; however, Olivier's dream was always to set up his own project.

After years of hard work he was able to set up his winery and now with 25 hectares of land under vine (some owned, some rented) in Rioja Alta, Rioja Baja, Rioja Alavesa and in up and coming DO of Arlanza, Olivier is living out his dream.

One of his wines is Ganko, which comes from 60-90-year-old Garnacha and Mazuelo vines planted in sandy and red clay soils at a site 600 metres high. Olivier considers this wine to be his 1er Cru Rioja and he is not alone: Luis Gutierrez awarded it 94 points, stating in his tasting note that he 'almost fell out of his chair' when smelling it!

And why Ganko? Simply, Ganko is the nickname he was given by his Japanese importer. It means 'stubborn' which is apt to say the least... but as this wine shows, stubbornness can yield great things.

The featured wine here is El Cadastro; a blend made from four parcels of older vines that were planted in the 1930s and 1950s. Most of this cuvée comes from the sub-zone of La Tizona,



FOOD
1.- Buy it with thought
2.- Cook it with care
3.- Serve just enough
4.- Save what will keep
5.- Eat what would spoil
6.- Home-grown is best
DON'T WASTE IT

which Olivier feels gives this wine its innate floral aromatics, to which he adds a portion of fruit from the sub-zones of La Mula, El Amesado and La Quemado - the high plateau considered by most to be the Grand cru of Covarrubias.

TASTING NOTES COURTESY of Luis Gutierrez of Robert Parker (95 pts) 2 0 1 4 Vina del Cadastro, Olivier

"There is a lot more depth and complexity here; it's not heavy at all and it's very balanced, and it feels like a very good vintage for this wine. It was produced with extremely low yields, some 1,500 kilos of grapes from a hectare, but it doesn't have the astringency you often find in very low yields; the vines seem to have achieved very good balance.

It combines floral notes with some red and black wild berries and just a spicy twist. The wine opens up nicely with time in the glass. The tannins are very fine with the subtle austerity from the stony, deep gravel soils, coming through as extremely elegant and definitively fresher than 2012, with the alcohol pretty integrated despite having some 14.5 per cent by volume.

This is a superb Arlanza, by far the best wine I know from the small appellation. This isn't cheap, (around €30 a bottle) but for the quality, it still represents very good value. Six thousand bottles were filled in September 2016. Drink 2017-2024.

(Some content thanks to Daily Mail online.)

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@euroweeklynnews.com.

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Monthly gardening tasks - May

DICK HANDSCOMBE



AS I am still frequently asked some basic questions about Spanish gardens I decided to come out of retirement just once a month with a practical look at what needs to be done in our Spanish gardens each month.

As a result of my recent 80th birthday I can claim to have had a personal garden for 75 years and indeed eaten crops from them for that time as well as having sustained flower displays.

Although I have given up a large allotment and olive growth due to the long droughts of recent years, rising costs of agricultural water, increased thieving and the number of marauding wild boar, I still rarely need to buy vegetables and herbs.

The garden in Spain is almost 30 years old and has seen a few changes in plantings due to the changing patterns of rain falls which have ranged from thunderstorms every month in the



SOLAR COOKER: Kits are available online.

summer to 630 centimetres in a day one November and then some years later three years of almost total drought.

There have also been wide variations in temperatures from minus 15 to plus 47 degrees centigrade. Most of the early plants that have survived are essentially highly drought resistant or have been coached to be so.

Ten actions for May gardens

1. Trim off frost damaged leaves on succulents now that emergent new growth can be seen.

2. Prune out excess flowers on

citrus and olive trees to stimulate larger fruits.

3. Tidy up spring bulbs as their flowers and stems die back and put the prunings on the compost heap.

4. Start to cut lawns regularly.

5. If not done over Easter clean up and start using al fresco cooking facilities on a regular basis. For me, as illustrated in the photograph, that has meant the paella rings and pans, tagines, a Mexican cooker, an earthen ware Moroccan bread cooking plate and the one-metre diameter solar cooker.

All have now been used at least once. From now on most cooking will be done in the garden until the autumn rains. If you are tempted by a solar cooker kits are available from www.asoles.com.

6. If not done during April complete the spring trimming of all hedges.

7. Clean out the end of early cropped overwintered vegetable crops such as broad beans, peas and lambs lettuce and fill gaps with summer crops such as tomatoes, peppers and courgettes.

8. Recognise that the temperatures and moisture levels during May are normally perfect for germinating and stimulating the growth of weeds so keep on top of them.

If you have not done much mulching to control them continuously have a look at the list of 35 possible actions in chapter 4.7 of 'How to use less water in your garden.' Mulching also reduces watering needs. The book is easily obtained from Amazon Books along with Dick Handscombe's

other books still in print.

9. Cut off any new spikes on thorny shrubs and trees.

10. If the current dry spell continues start to gradually increase your watering around the garden.

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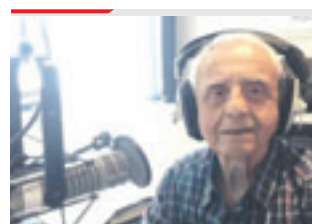
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POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS is most well-known as a disorder frequently experienced by elderly felines and canines however any survivor of trauma may experience the symptoms. Little is known about why some experience symptoms from mild to debilitating while others can be unscathed.

Extreme fear often results in altered perceptions of the event. Triggers associated with the fearful event do not engage the hippocampus, which is usually

Trauma in pets, part 2

responsible for memory, but rather the amygdala, which is responsible for emotions.

Strong flashbacks to the original panic state can be instantaneous, and are not under the pet's conscious control. Just as you're unable to control the contraction or dilation of your pupils when you feel strong emotions, a cat or dog experiencing Post Traumatic Stress symptoms such as this are unable to stop feeling the way they do in the moment.

Fear Fright and Bite

The triggers for this flashback state may not make logical sense. Scents, textures, certain movements, and even the time of day can all trigger this instant fear reaction.

While some triggers are easily explained like the first time I carry a rolled up newspaper into a room many dogs drop to

the floor or a cat runs away and hides if he smells alcohol on a visitor's breath, others are less easy to tease apart and may never be completely identified.

I knew a dog several years ago that would occasionally yelp when he was touched, but the vet could find nothing physically wrong and his quick fear reaction never manifested twice when the same area of his body was touched.

Whilst trauma can have lasting consequences due to its huge impact on the way the brain develops and processes information, patient behavioural modification and an environment of safety can have equally powerful effects.

Finally I would mention that about 12 years ago I saw a Rotweiler tied to a post attached to a restaurant on the beach. Some



EXTREME FEAR:
Can result in altered perceptions of an event.

youths were throwing sand and stones at her. I put a stop to that and cut the rope and took her home she is called Sheba.

In the first six years Sheba never wagged her tail and when

my wife or I asked her to come to us she could not do so without crawling and urinating. Now she is 14 so loving, happy, content, and wags her tail whenever we talk to her.

Bunny benefits

RABBITS can be beneficial to own since they don't need to be taken for a walk.

They are very quiet animals, have distinct personalities and are affectionate and interactive.

Rabbits can get very attached to their owners, in the same way that dogs and cats do. They recognise voices and their owner's appearance.

Rabbits don't need a lot of room, but in their cage they need enough for them to stretch out completely, leaving room for a litter tray and a feeding station.

They also need at least two hours of exercise each day, outside their cage.

Rabbits are easy to train and are eco-friendly, because their food can be grown in the garden and hay can be purchased from local farmers.

Exciting times ahead

THE first four months of 2017 have flown by and property experts now have enough information to make realistic predictions of what the end of the real estate year will look like.

Projections vary from gung ho optimism to 'substantial growth' and 'generalised recovery.' The only question it seems is, how good will 2017 turn out for Spanish property?

With one third of the year gone, statistical predictions made in January remain on course. BBVA believes that house prices will rise 3.5 per cent by December. Servihabitat is more optimistic, predicting 4.3 per cent. At the lower end of the scale is the, still healthy 3 per cent, estimated by the Spanish Association of Value Analysis.

On the sales front the early target of over half a million transactions by the end of the year is on course to become a reality. That would represent a minimum 12 per cent increase on 2016 sales. Tinsa estimates that between 450,000 and 600,000 new deeds will be signed.

Construction of new homes is expected to increase by an extraordinary 20 per cent to between 75,000 and 90,000 as the building sector propels real estate growth in both the commercial and residential spheres.



CONSTRUCTION: Of new homes expected to increase by 20 per cent.

Wider economic projections will have a profound impact on where the property market stands when we enter 2018. Assuming a trade war doesn't break out with China, or a nuclear one with North Korea, many experts are predicting Spain to benefit from a wider global recovery.

Domestically hundreds of thousands of jobs are set to be created, bolstering the middle class and conceivably leading to the return of 100 per cent mortgage loans. A

strong global economy will also see even more foreign buyers embrace the Spanish second home market.

Other key predictions still on target include the increase in fixed-term mortgages, the dramatic expansion of the rental market, especially among young professionals, and the continuation of Spain's 'two-speed' market which sees extreme divergence between coastal and cosmopolitan strongholds, and the rural interior.

Out with the old

SPANISH banks are embarking on a thorough clean up of €6.2 billion worth of toxic mortgage loans, real estate and other assets that continue to hinder their recovery from the crisis.

Ibercaja, BBVA and Bankia are leading the charge, partly inspired by Banco Popular's alarming example of how toxic real estate assets can bring an institution to its knees.

The collective move takes place now because property market conditions have improved so dramatically and are extremely stable. Enough so that the banks feel able to shift homes, land, hotels, offices and industrial space that would have been unsellable just a few years ago.

Many have been waiting for this moment for five years after Spain's path to recovery seemed certain, if a little cloudy.

The primary goal is to clean up balance sheets and embrace a new era of mortgage lending and property assets untarnished by debts and looming court cases.

It's a long term strategy that make take a few more years to bear fruit. Spain's banks are being pushed by the European Central Bank to get rid of toxic assets, a measure which might expose their real financial situation.

Until the banks return to the property game in full force, borrowers and buyers have plenty new options for mortgage loans at their disposal.

Hundreds of new entities, which blur the lines between realty, investment capital, and online loan providing, are offering new and competitive deals as Spanish property continues its impressive progress.

Mortgage consolidation taking place

SEVEN months of consecutive increases in the number of mortgage loans ground to a halt in February. Just shy of 25,000 loans were granted across Spain, less than in February of 2016. On a month by month level both the volume and total capital of mortgage loans fell from January to

February, the biggest drop since 2013.

Despite this, the average amount borrowed increased to €115,883, bringing the total borrowed capital to €2.82 billion. Interest rates fell to an average of 3.17 per cent with just six out of 10 owners now on variable-rate mortgages.

Profit potential

SPAIN'S property market is surging on all fronts but perhaps nowhere quite as strongly as the country's booming rental market. In key cities rental rates have risen by as much as 20 per cent in the last year alone.

Savvy investors are now embracing the buy-to-let market that created so many property millionaires in the UK from the 1990s onwards. The potential profits are increasingly difficult to ignore.

Spain's rental boom has three distinct branches. There is the controversial rise of tourist apartments whereby landlords prefer to rent out apartments for a few days or a week, charging tourists €300, rather than renting to a local family for one month



for the same price.

A swiftly growing student population is also contributing. There are over 100,000 foreign and Spanish students seeking accommodation each year, more than student lodgings and parental homes can keep up with.

Young professionals are also on the rental bandwagon.

Many have spent the past decade stuck at home or forced to move abroad while Spain recovered from the crisis. They are now older, employed and eager for their own space. But with hefty mortgage deposits and tighter rules, buying is no longer the simple process their parents enjoyed.

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State of the art

SOME of the sleekest supercars on the planet could be found at the incredible Top Marques Monaco show. A selection of the fastest, wildly designed supercars hiding in billionaires' basements today sped around the Principality's famous F1 circuit and wooed an exclusive crowd of buyers and journalists.

Among them were dozens of cars that, despite their impressive stats, are relatively obscure. There was the robotic sounding Sin R1 550 which is surprisingly built in Daventry, Northamptonshire. It is bright yellow with a carbon fibre body and seven litre V8 engine.

One powerful yet mysterious beast, reserved for the exclusive Monaco crowd, was the Calafiore C10, a hypercar hunk of black and gold which provides 1,000hp and supposedly merged super-sonic jet power with classic racing cars.

Prize for innovation went to the Slovak-built 'flying car,' the AeroMobil. More a sleekly designed small aircraft that can drive than a car which can fly it will cost a cool €1 million.

The Big One 2017

Largest collection of Classic Jaguars ever in Spain

by Eric Arnold

AFTER 18 months of planning The Big One 2017 actually happened.

A joint event between The Jaguar Enthusiasts Club, Spain, The Jaguar Enthusiasts Club, South of France, plus some very enthusiastic members from the JEC in the UK.

The result was 100 cars, but as a result of three breakdowns, only 97 fabulous Jaguars cleaned and polished to 'within an inch of their lives' actually made it with 201 very enthusiastic Jaguar owners.

The main event involving everybody took place on Saturday April 22 and Sunday April 23, but many of the participants took two or three days or more to travel to and from their home to the event in Parador de Leon in northern Spain.

Cars and owners came from all over Spain, France and the UK and finally congregated at the Parador de Leon Hotel. This is Parador's flagship five-star hotel, a stunning 16th century Military Headquarters that has been converted into a luxury hotel.

On the way up many members from the Costa Blanca re-



THE BIG ONE:
Fabulous selection
of Jaguars.

gion stopped off at Segovia to take the chance of seeing this World Heritage City. Members from the UK came from as far as Plymouth, Lancashire and North Wales with some round trips of around 3,500 miles for those who took the scenic routes over many days.

Special permission had been granted by Leon Town Hall to park this outstanding collection of Big Cats on the amazing St Marco's square in front of the hotel. If you want to see just some of them, visit the website www.jec-spain.com and see the Events and Gallery pages where you can see examples of 'just the best motors in the world!'



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CCCA Tour D'Algarve - A huge success!



This was to be the third running of the fabulous CCCA Tour D'Algarve. Five days of amazing scenery, 5-star hotels and restaurants, a night stop in Jerez, two in Val de Lobo on the Algarve and one in Sevilla, just in time for the opening of the famous Sevilla Feria.

of 'Bible' for the week! At 11.00am the course opening car, a 'modern classic' Jaguar XKR crewed by event organisers, Ian and Carol Giles, departed the start, heading for Ronda and then out onto the Sevilla road for a short while. A left turn near Montejaque took the crews past the stunning lakes of Zahara and then over the mountains and through the picturesque village of Grazalema.

A quick stop to take in the views, which were magnificent, then another fabulous climb before dropping down through El Bosque and on to a BBQ lunch stop at Arcos de la Frontera at hotel restaurante, Meson de Molinero, with views over the lake there enjoyed in the springtime sunshine.

A short run after lunch into Jerez, with plenty of time to explore the magnificent city, before meeting for cocktails and canapés in the bar of the hotel. A sumptuous dinner and party followed that with everyone dressed up in 'Roaring Twenties' style. A terrific way to end the first day.

The only casualty was the MGA of Frank Jolley and Stephanie Drewery, which had ignition problems, and was unceremoniously heaped onto a 'grua' the following morning. Undeterred, the crew decamped to Jan Alveemark's beautiful Jaguar XJ8 to continue the journey.



Outside Hotel Jerez, Start day 2.

tier bridge! There was little that could be done save arrange a rapid re-route that had to be quickly communicated to all following participants. Thank goodness for maps and mobile phones! All crews made it easily into Val de Lobo, on the Algarve, where a rest day awaited them after a magnificent dinner at one of the Algarve's very best restaurants

Most crews took lunch on the beach on their 'Rest Day' where fresh Dorada or Piri-Piri chicken with spicy rice were the popular orders of the day.

Day 4 was a fast and enjoyable run north from the coast, heading for Almodovar and Mertola and then further north through the old mining areas towards Serpa. Here crews turned eastwards and then south to arrive in Sevilla at the Barcelo Hotel, built on the site of Expo 92, in plenty of time to head off for the evening and enjoy the amazing atmosphere of the opening night of the Sevilla Feria. Very enjoyable, but this did necessitate a rather late start on Day 5 when crews headed back towards Ronda, finishing the event at the famous Molino del Santo in Benaolan with a superb lunch. Prizes of bottles

of Port were handed out for the best dressed 'Roaring Twen-



DAY 5: A late start.



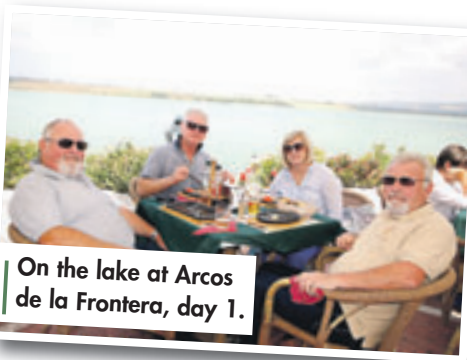
SEVILLA: At the hotel.

ties' at the Jerez dinner a few nights and many kilometres before!

It had seemed that, no sooner the event had started, than it was over!

That's probably just a very good sign that everyone had enjoyed themselves so much!

Ian Giles



On the lake at Arcos de la Frontera, day 1.

The cars and their enthusiastic crews gathered at Venta Los Almendros, just above San Pedro on the Ronda road, last Tuesday morning. Happy people enjoyed the formalities of 'signing on' with coffees and bacon 'sarnies' whilst beautiful, gleaming, classic cars sat waiting outside under the glare of umpteen flashlights and fascinated spectators.

Commemorative polo shirts had been produced for participants as they pored over the very professional 'Tulip' roadbooks which would guide them through their trip. A kind



The Roaring Twenties dinner.

Day 2 was a longish run, just under 400 kilometres, heading first for Sevilla, then out on the Huelva road before diving off cross-country, heading north west for the tiny border crossing into Portugal at Pomarao. Here was the first difficulty of the trip - a huge rockslide had completely blocked the road over the fron-



Tour Travel Tips



THE food, drink and hotels that were enjoyed on the Tour were generally superb, first class in fact, but one little place we can recommend if your journeying back from Portugal towards Sevilla on the N-433 is the fabulous, and so inexpensive, Bar Venecia at Galaroza.

Not only is this bar-restaurant beautifully and cleverly decorated, but the home-made food is just marvellous! Pata Negra to make your mouth water, Iberican meats grilled or casseroleed, revueltos of all kinds and all for very little money! Luis, el patron, and his wife, Inma, do an amazing job and the highlight for a hungry six of us was the artistic presentation of the hams and cheeses. Just amazing, like looking at a painting! Almost, but not quite, a

The Tour de Sands

TWO hardy CCCA members, Jerry Watson and Mac McCarthy, set off from Stamford in Lincolnshire last week to cycle

the 1,600 miles to Elviria here on the coast. All in aid of charity!

In fact, 57 cyclists also joined them for the first few days as they headed for Portsmouth and Caen to start the French leg of this fundraising cycle ride to honour the life of Jerry's wife, and stalwart CCCA



Honouring Life

member, Sandra Watson, who so sadly lost her fight to the vile Cancer disease last year.

The event will arrive on the Costa del Sol on Thursday, June 1 and a celebration finish party will be held at Avanto Beach Club on Saturday, June 3.

All CCCA members will receive an invite to this party soon and we will follow what happens to the riders in this paper.

Formula 1

IF you're following F1 you'll be pleased to see that there is now some competition at the front for Mercedes. Ferrari are doing very well and giving them a run for their money. So much so, that in Russia last weekend Lewis Hamilton didn't make the Podium for the first time in nine races.

Mercedes' new boy, Valtteri Bottas, won with the two Ferraris of Vettel and Raikkonen taking the

next two podium places.

What's interesting though is that McLaren-Honda are so far into the doldrums now that Spain's Fernando Alonso, their No 1, is going off to do Indianapolis this month, missing Monaco, and Honda are turning to arch-rivals Mercedes to get them to help solve their (Honda's) abysmal powertrain woes.

Imagine that....!!

Further information on Classic Car Club of Andalucia events can be found on the Club's website www.cccandalucia.com.

Membership of this vibrant club is open to anyone owning a genuine classic car here in Spain.

Saca tu coche clásico del garaje y diviértete con él.



MALAGA FC won an entertaining local derby 4-2 at La Rosaleda on Monday (May 1) to dent Sevilla's hopes of an automatic Champions League spot.

TO READ MORE

www.euroweeklynews.com

Axarquía's best guide to local sport

Golf International Nerja Society

IT was a great day on Friday April 21 in the Individual Stableford at Los Moriscos for GINS member Greg Harris who achieved a hole in on the notoriously difficult hole 3. A big well done to Greg, hope your bank manager was sympathetic!

Results

Ladies: 1st Diana Elliott Hcp 23, 36pts. 2nd Pat Lowe Hcp 28, 30pts.

Men: 1st Pepe Gil Hcp 10, 39pts. 2nd Mark Langley Hcp 21, 39pts. 3rd John Bollard Hcp 18,

36pts.

Twos: Greg Harris - hole in one on the 3rd, Pepe Gil on the 2nd and Diana Elliott on the 8th.

It was a Four Ball Texas Scramble on Monday April 23 at Añoreta where the winning team was Granville Hirst, Pete Thompson, Franck Stein and Francoise Stein with 59.4pts. In second place was Peter Verkleij, Frank Ferdinales, Malcolm McLeod and Stewart Green with 62.1pts.

On Tuesday April 25 at



BAVIERA: England v the rest of the world.



Baviera for St George's Day it was match play with England versus the rest of the world (almost!). England won 10 against the rest of the world's eight.

AÑORETA: The winning teams.



LOS MORISCOS: A great day.

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