



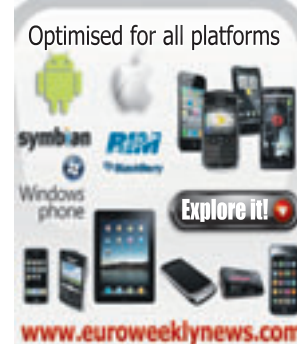
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News



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## Green new world City to roll out public bicycle system



**BIKING BANDWAGON:** Almeria is following other cities.

By Matthew Elliott

Almeria is finally jumping on the biking bandwagon.

The council will follow examples set by Murcia, Malaga and Madrid by installing hundreds of public bicycles at key points across the city.

The new scheme involves 400 bikes scattered around 61 locations which can be accessed by a one-off card payment, or by paying €40 for an annual pass.

With the pass users can ride 30 minutes for free, allowing them to hop on, ride to a market, and hop off

again at the nearest bike station.

On a pay-as-you-go basis bikes will cost just €1 for a half hour ride, with a €10 maximum fee for 24 hours use. The total investment is €600,000, money that mayor Pacheco expects to be well worth the reduction in pollution and improvement of

public health.

City officials conducted a major survey to ensure that the green scheme was popular with residents. They found that 48 per cent said they were 'likely' to use it, while 16 per cent would definitely take part.

The most conservative estimate predicts that between

32-35,000 people will use the bike fleet often.

Experiments in Sevilla and Malaga found that many people who start using the public bikes soon decide to buy their own and take up cycling full time.

Bikes will be available for hire 24 hours a day and 365 days a year.



**DOLPHIN CHASE:** Lands skipper in trouble.

## Immoral porpoises

A SPEEDBOAT owner is in trouble after using his vessel to harass a pod of bottlenose dolphins near the port of Aguadulce.

Marine conservation group EQUINAC has filed an official complaint against the skipper of the boat, whose identity is known to investigators, since the species is protected by Spanish law.

EQUINAC coordinator, Eva Moron, witnessed the incident first hand as she returned from an observation trip, and she said: "We spotted a motorboat near the fish farm which sped up and passed through the farm illegally at a high speed, cutting off the path of the dolphins, then giving chase as they swam away.

"We waved our arms and shouted but they ignored us at first, but then they stopped what they were doing to see why we were upset."

Moron explained how the pod had a calf with them and were "dispersed and frightened," before the boat sped off and stopped right in front of a beach bar "right next to bathers" in another illegal move.

When it finally reached its mooring in Aguadulce port, the boat was met by two Guardia Civil cars, with patrols in the area having been tipped off by the EQUINAC team.





**NEWS EXTRA****Agent orange**

ALMOST 50,000 litres of biological weapons will be sprayed against mosquito populations in the Andarax river and coastal Almería to stop them infesting the province during summer.

**Fresh start**

THE old fairground in Almería is being given a €130,000 makeover with the land set to be completely levelled and repurposed as a vast 25,000 sqm community space.

**Silly season**

ROUGHLY 500 people gathered to hear former PSOE leader Pedro Sanchez rally against the government. He is fighting to lead the Socialist party again but faces a strong challenge from Andalusian president Susana Diaz.

# Night of legends

A TRIBUTE to famous Almería composer Jose Padilla was held in the auditorium named after him as it celebrated its 25th anniversary. More than two million people have attended concerts in the venue since it opened its doors in 1992.

The gala event was filmed live on national television and saw some of Europe's finest singers perform works made immortal by the great Padilla. He was one of the top composers of the 20th century who saw his music performed in London, New York and Buenos Aires.

Perhaps his most famous piece was La Violetera which was infamously used in a Charlie Chaplin film by Paramount Pictures without Padilla's permission. Singer Nuria Fergo performed La Violetera in front of thousands of fans and before the cameras.

The Jose Padilla Auditorium has seen some fine performances during its 25-year history with even Chuck Berry among the legends to have played.



**JOSE PADILLA:** Auditorium named after him.

## Huge hammock howlers' hubbub

SOCIALIST politicians have savaged the annual beach plan for Mojácar put forward by the ruling Popular Party. Opposition councillors from the PSOE claim that the 'retrograde' plan smacks of the influence of a mayor, Rosmari Cano, who has spent too much time in city politics.

They argue that the beach plan favours some businesses over others as Mojácar prepares for an immensely busy summer season. Worse, they accuse Mayor Cano of granting licences to local enterprises on a corrupt, jobs for the boys basis.

PSOE spokesman Manuel Zamora said that new laws would restrict business and reduce employment. Specifically he refers to limits on beach hammocks, and open decks and chairs.

Businesses who want hammocks now have to go through a bizarre bureaucratic ordeal, requesting permission from the Andalusian regional government.

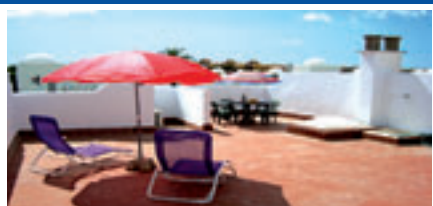
Hammocks are also restricted to between March 15 and October 15 under the ordinance. Critics argue that this sabotages attempts to have Mojácar declared a 365-day destination thanks to its gorgeous weather.

In turn the Popular Party argue the measures are to ensure tourists enjoy the utmost comfort during their stay in Mojácar, with safety being a top priority.

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## Bloody history not forgotten

IT was the 36th anniversary of the notorious 'Almeria Case' on May 7, and families of the victims held a memorial and called for justice to finally be served.

The shocking incident was one of the most brutal acts of violence during Spain's long war against Basque separatists ETA.

On May 7, 1981 a group of Guardia Civil officers in Almeria abducted three young men from the Basque Country they suspected of being connected to an assassination attempt against the King.

They tortured the trio to extract information but soon realised they were innocent civilians. To cover their tracks they brought the men to Gergal on the outskirts of the Taberna Desert, shot them dead and burned their bodies in a Ford Fiesta. Three days later they claimed they had killed three terrorists during an explosive fire fight.

Only three officers were convicted of the crime, despite 11 being involved. They were jailed for terms ranging from 12 to 24 years, but treated leniently in what the courts described as manslaughter rather than murder.

## Tune in, turn off

A TUNA company from Vera is under fire following accusations that it sold contaminated fish to shops in Granada and Jaen. At present there are 21 confirmed cases of histamine intoxication suggesting an entire batch of tuna was contaminated before reaching the public.

Samples have been taken from the Garciden factory, which is now under full investigation.

Experts believe it is likely a question of poor hygiene. The firm has been told to recall all unsold from tuna from buyers across the region. Consumers across Almeria and Andalucia who bought fresh tuna between April 25 and May 5 should consult their fishmonger and ask whether it came from Garciden.

None of the 21 people poisoned have severe symptoms. Health problems include headaches, an itchy throat, sweating and redness. Extreme symptoms may include nausea and vomiting. Only between 30 and 40 kilos of the batch is thought to be contaminated.

## The German connection

DIRECT flights with key cities will help the Costa de Almeria attract more German tourists than ever before this year. Tickets have already been sold for a record 9,000 seats on flights from Munich, Dusseldorf, Hamburg and Stuttgart.

Though a fraction of the number of Brits who swarm to the province each year, it's a major boost for Almeria, which was until very recently invisible to the German market. In 2011 the number of German tourists was virtually zero.

Since then tourist chiefs have buttered up German tour op-

erators at top global events and established direct flights from Almeria airport to the country. Around 50,000 Germans have arrived since 2011, with numbers growing each year.

On average German tourists spend five nights in Almeria. Their numbers will help the province surpass the total of 5.5 million overnight stays enjoyed by tourists last year. Germans also spend highly and are already devoted to Spain. Almeria tech wizards hope to encourage those bored with regular jaunts to Mallorca to try somewhere more exciting.

## SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...12

**SPAIN SO CHEESY!** Spaniards love their local cheeses as much as their nationally produced wines, with a Denomination of Origin upholding quality nationwide of some leading brands.

## Cheesy cheer

AROUND 100 different varieties of cheese are produced in various regions of Spain ranging from fresh to cured and some fermented to blue.

The key characteristic of each is the type of milk used with currently 13 cheeses with Denominations of Origin - or DO - across the country.

Dependent on the area, time of year, climate and tradition, cheese is produced with milk from cows, goats or sheep, and some products include a mixture.

Each cheese also differs due to varying ageing or curing production processes, with these frequently decades old and identifying with local history and tradition.

Flavours normally fall within three



categories: light, medium or strong, with the latter typically produced with a long curing process and from sheep's milk or a blend.

The Spanish frequently eat cheese daily, and as a general rule, cheese from cows' milk comes from the north in inland areas from Cantabria and the

Basque Country to Castilla-Leon, Castilla La Mancha, Aragon and Extremadura.

The Mediterranean coast from Catalonia to Andalucia is mainly famed locally for goats-milk cheese, while the Canary and Balearic Islands are largely known for goats' cheese.

## Majestic Manchego

MANCHEGO is the most famous Spanish cheese, wholly made from the ewe's milk of the Manchega breed of sheep. It is firm and aged from two months to two years.

Protected under the DO classification schemes of both Spain as well as the European Union, it is named after the La Mancha Province where it is produced and which was the home of Don Quixote.

Mild with a taste of salty nuts, it was originally produced to barter at market and to provide a durable food for Spanish shepherds.



MANCHEGO CHEESE: Mild with a taste of salty nuts.

## Fairground horror

A COURT has been set up to establish whether there is any criminal responsibility regarding an accident at an Almeria fairground, after a teenage girl with dwarfism was thrown out of a ride, plummeted to the ground and broke her leg.

The victim, 13, suffered the injury during the San Marcos celebrations in mid-April, and judges are now investigating.

She lost consciousness before falling

but it is unknown why. Investigators believe she wasn't belted in properly which would suggest a case of negligence rather than criminal responsibility.

## Royal genius

A TOP scientist from Almeria has won the prestigious honour of being named a Foreign Member of the Royal Society of United Kingdom, the oldest scientific institution in the world. Gines Morata is on-

ly the fifth Spaniard to join the illustrious club of intellectuals, including the Nobel Prize winning Severo Ochoa.

He has won the Prince of Asturias Scientific award in 2007 and the King James I award for research in 1996.

## Fruity festival

ONE of the biggest fruit and veg festivals on the planet takes place in Almeria this weekend. Exhibitors from dozens of countries, including the UK, Saudi Arabia and Mexico are in the province for the second edition of Infoagro. The festival runs from May 10-12 where some of the most exciting farming technologies are showcased.

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## Postscript to ponder

2,905

The average number of sun-filled hours on the Costa del Sol, making it the sunniest place in Spain with nearly 100 hours more than the Canary Islands in second spot.



## Bitter pill to swallow

CATALONIA has introduced a controversial sugar tax on a range of soft drinks including some of the world's most famous brands.

Already tagged a 'soda tax,' it could raise as much as €41 million a year for the regional government's coffers, despite an insistence the aim was to improve public health by reducing sugar consumption according to World Health Organisation recommendations.

The tax hike depends on the amount of sugar in a drink, and customers will have to pay more for products like energy drinks, fruit juices made from concentrate, chocolate drinks, sports, and cold tea and coffee drinks.

The central government has previously looked to introduce such a levy nationwide – it is already policy in France and Denmark – but has always backtracked.

## USA, USA, USA

MANY students aim to work abroad after finishing studying, and 70 per cent of those graduates look to the USA.

A study by a prestigious Barcelona university found more than half preferred to work overseas, with just 46.6 per cent wanting to find a job in Spain.

From a poll of 500 it was discovered only 8.56 per cent wanted to work in Britain and 6.6 per cent in Germany.

## Donkey work

VANDALS poured yellow paint onto a donkey's back and released it from its enclosure, with its young, in La Pereda de Llanes, in Spain's Asturias region.

They sneaked into the enclosure and poured several litres of plastic paint on the back of four-year-old donkey, Marina, before destroying the enclosure allowing the animal and its two offspring,



*Around the nation in 7 stories*

## Postcard from Merida



The Temple of Diana. I

A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1993, Merida is renowned for its Roman architecture and was built as a stylised provincial capital of Rome, centre of an empire.

Founded in 25BC, with the name Emerita Augusta, it has some of the most well-preserved archaeological remains in Spain and was once the most important city in Roman Iberia.

The city was founded by the Emperor Augustus and his discharged soldiers were employed to protect a pass and bridge over the river Guadiana; the Puente Romana is still used by pedestrians and is the longest of all existing Roman bridges.

Merida remains the capital of Extramadura. Historically its strategic importance was one end of the Silver Way – the Via de la Plata – the route between the gold mines of Asturica Augusta and Rome.

Visitors can explore Roman reservoirs still in use, the aqueduct, the Circus Maximus – one of the best examples in the world – and villas with precious mosaics. The Forum includes the Temple of Diana and the theatre is still used to stage Greco-Roman classics or modern plays set in ancient times.

After the Romans, Merida was important to the Visigoths and by the sixth Century was dominated by bishops as the capital of Hispania and the occupation of the Moors meant the ancient buildings were re-used or expanded but maintained their splendour.

Guía and Guadalupe, to wander free.

The donkeys' owner was alerted by neighbours of what had happened and searched the area until he located the animals. The crime was reported at the offices of the Guardia Civil who are investigating.

## Buds of May

THOUSANDS of people arrived in Madrid's historic Puerta del Sol square on May Day to attend a rally against corruption.

The demonstration vented its anger against the ruling Partido Popular; after the PP found itself embroiled in a new bribery scandal involving a former regional president of Madrid.

Following a series of accusations against political parties, unions, and companies, corruption has become a main concern for Spaniards after the country's ongoing unemployment woes.

## Free Press

WORLD Press Freedom Day has prompted calls for journalists in Spain to be free of the 'pressures and threats' of political parties.

The Madrid Press Association accuses politicians of trying to undermine the work of the press and calls for the right of the media to comment on events without being bullied.

It has also demanded the repeal of the so-called 'gag law' to allow free speech to be protected to the same standards as under international law.

## Crowning glory

A NEW book is attempting to restore the tarnished reputation of King Carlos I following the 'errors' leading to his abdication in 2014.

King of Democracy looks at how during his reign the royal was not a mere spectator but helped bring Spain democracy and economic prosperity.

## Birthdays

• **Pam Ferris (69), May 11, Actress**  
British actress best-known for her role as Ma Larking in the popular TV show The Darling Buds of May. She has also starred in Rosemary and Thyme and Call the Midwife and has featured in films such as Matilda and Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.

• **Catherine Tate (49), May 12, Comedian/Actress**

The English comedian's hit comedy series The Catherine Tate Show saw her play the well-known characters of Nan, the Cockney grandmother, and teenager Lauren Cooper whose often copied catchphrase was 'Am I bovvered?' She has appeared in TV shows such as Doctor Who and the US version of The Office.

• **Stevie Wonder (67), May 13, Musician/Singer**

One of the world's best-selling artists the American singer is known for his many hit songs such as I Just Called to Say I Love You and Superstition. He has won 25 Grammy Awards and also an Academy Award for Best Song. He has been blind since just after he was born and he was only 11 years old when he signed for the Motown label Tamla.

• **George Lucas (73), May 14, Filmmaker/Director**

American filmmaker who created and directed hit films such as the Star Wars and Indiana Jones series, American Graffiti and Willow. He also founded the companies Industrial Light & Magic and Lucasfilm, which he sold in 2012 to The Walt Disney Company, reportedly for \$4.05 billion.

• **Andy Murray (30), May 15, Tennis player**

Scottish professional tennis player who is currently the men's world number one. He has won three Grand Slam tournaments, two Olympic golds for the men's singles and a silver for the mixed doubles. In 2017 he won the BBC Sports Personality of the Year for a record third time.



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## OUR VIEW

## Prince Philip retires

TO some a bit like marmite, love him or hate him, the often controversial Duke of Edinburgh has decided to take retirement from Royal Duties.

There was a huge flurry of interest in the Royal Household when an almost unheard of call for all members of staff to attend a special meeting which included video conferences was announced.

In the end it was simply to confirm that shortly after his 96th birthday, Prince Philip, would retire from public functions and his diary would be cleared with effect from August 2017.

Recently, a number of duties previously undertaken by the Queen who is now 91 were handed over to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and after 65 years of service, that Queen Elizabeth and her Consort want to scale down their activities.

This doesn't mean that we have seen the last of the sometimes amusing, sometimes grumpy and sometimes embarrassing Prince but he will simply turn up to events and functions that take his fancy rather than make advance commitments to attend.

When you are married to one of the richest women in the world, you can be fairly certain that medical support will be of the highest quality but at 96, time is not on his side and he wants a bit of a rest.

*Now we want to hear your views.*  
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## NEWS EXTRA

## Peak stars

WITH 650 walkers covering 13 routes, Vicar's hugely successful 'Sport and Nature' programme came to an end after seven months of exhilarating climbs in the hills of Almería.

## Bad move

**BURGLARS** who stole a credit card from an Almería home were caught when they ordered €1,300 worth of goods online then tried to pay for drinks at a local bar using the card.

## Hours row

*CALLS to set up a governing board to rule over Almería's iconic central market are growing louder. Constant disputes over opening hours are badly affecting businesses and customer satisfaction.*

## Romans and volcanoes

ARTISTS, writers and local families were among the thousands of people who showed up at Rodalquilar, Nijar for the second edition of a now annual tribute festival. Rodalquilar is a key attraction in the Cabo de Gata-Nijar natural park which encompasses Roman relics, volcanic rocks and extremely unusual geological formations.

Mayor of Nijar, Esperanza Perez Felices, was in attendance for the new exhibition which features works from 91 artists across the world, creating one of the largest outdoor museums in all of Andalucía.

It is part of a move towards cultural tourism, highlighting Nijar as a destination that transcends sun, sea and sand to form an intriguing historic attraction in its own right.

The exhibition is dedicated to famous writer and Almerian women's rights activist Carmen de Burgos on the 150th anniversary of her birth.



TRIBUTE: Party begins at Rodalquilar.

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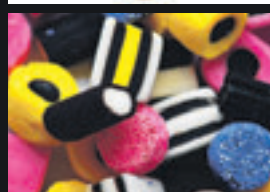
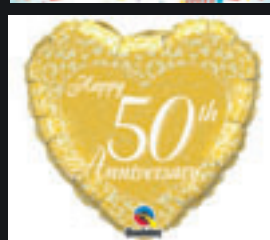
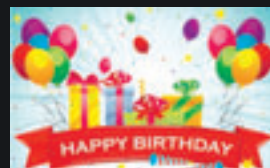
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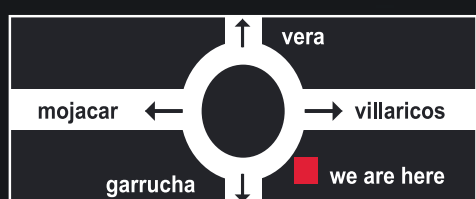
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## NEWS EXTRA

## High winds

FERRIES between Melilla and Almería were briefly cancelled after high winds caused a vessel to collide with a dam near the port of Málaga. Wild weather has disrupted dozens of journeys in recent weeks.

## Gym rat

POLICE arrested a man who broke into five gym lockers at an Almería club, stealing credit cards, cash and valuables then was caught on camera mugging a young girl outside the gym, taking her purse.

## Job joy

JOBLESS numbers plummeted by 1,646 in Almería Province in April, meaning there are now just 61,466 unemployed, a huge improvement on the crisis years as Almería continues its strong recovery.

# Will Eurovision Brit face Brexit backlash?

THE 62nd edition of the world's longest running annual singing contest will take place this Saturday in Kiev, Ukraine, but Britain's entry is not the bookies' favourite.

Ahead of the spectacle, bookmakers Ladbrokes have reported that the UK are looking fairly friendless, with the odds on them taking home the title being bigger than ever before at 50/1.

The bookmakers have even taken several bets on UK entrant Lucie Jones receiving nil points at odds of 14/1.

Nicola McGeedy of Ladbrokes told TellyMix: "Punters are preparing for a Brexit backlash from voters judging by the lack of support coming in for Lucie Jones. Usually we are knocked over with patriotic support, but for the first time ever, punters aren't getting behind the UK."

BBC Eurovision host Graham Norton previously admitted he didn't rate Lucie's chances at Eurovision 2017.

He told the *Daily Star* newspaper: "I'm just not sure it will happen for us this year. I mean, I could be wrong as Germany have won, Austria have won. So, I suppose people who never win, win."

"On the night, anything can happen. I'm

**SLIM  
CHANCE:  
Will Lucie  
Jones face  
Brexit  
backlash?**

just not sure it will for us, though."

Celebrities across Europe are preparing for the show-down.

Enrique Iglesias has shirked Spain in favour of Montenegro's Slavko Kalezić.

Enrique is no stranger to Eurovision. His dad Julio Iglesias represented Spain in 1970 but only finished in fourth place, and Enrique himself was the interval act at the first Eurovision Dance Contest.

Meanwhile, Russia's 2009 winner Dima Bilan is backing 17-year-old Bulgarian superstar Kristian Kostov. He mentored Kristian on the children's version of *The Voice* Russia and the pair performed an incredible duet together.

Hope may not be lost for Lucie Jones as former One Direction singer Liam Payne cheers her on. Liam's girlfriend Cheryl was Lucie's mentor on *The X Factor* in 2009 and they're getting behind the UK's Eurovision entrant.

Eurovision 2017 will air on Saturday on BBC One from 8pm.



## Street spirit

AEPA, the Association of Entrepreneurs and Professionals of Albox, has urged Mayor Francisco Torrecillas to improve the appearance of the town's streets and their accessibility to the public.

Many local business owners are concerned that recent asphaltting has left the centre looking crude and want new lights, public furniture and green spaces.

They argue that plans to create a kind of open shopping centre hinge on both local politicians and businesses being on the same page.

AEPA are calling on the council to hold public meetings on key shopping issues such as parking and mobility as they try to attract more shoppers ahead of summer.

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**NEWS EXTRA****Historic attack**

A MAN and a woman were arrested after fighting one another in the heart of historic Almeria. The man faces serious charges after hitting his partner with a blunt instrument.

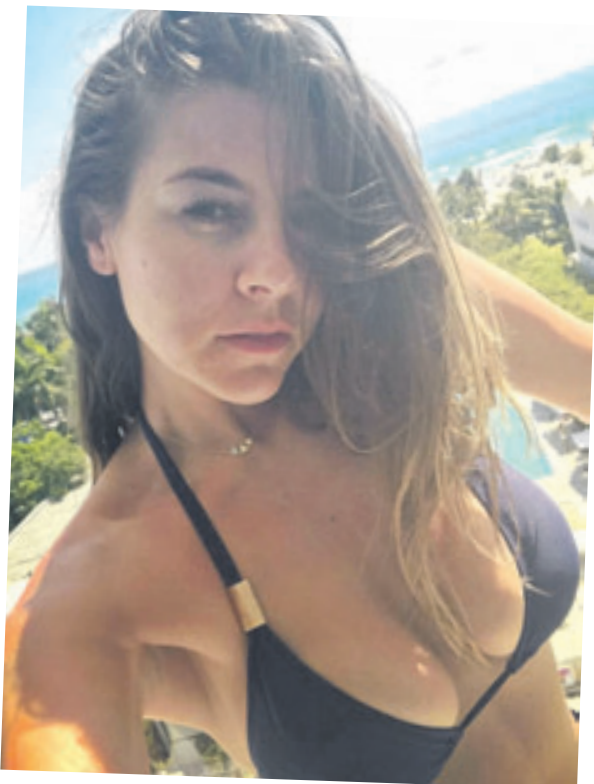
**Green kings**

THE University of Almeria is strutting its stuff as global researchers visit looking for future top scientists. The institute is globally renowned for its agricultural science expertise.

**Rising costs**

A LEFTWING alliance of councillors is suggesting that all council meetings be broadcast online to improve transparency. It comes as Roquetas de Mar faces fresh resident outrage over rising water prices.

# Spring break for Big Brother star



**IMOGEN THOMAS:** Soaking up the Spanish sunshine.

FORMER Big Brother star Imogen Thomas has been soaking up the Spanish sunshine this week.

The 34-year-old paraded a series of skimpy bikinis from her own Chasing Summer range, posting a series of saucy shots on Instagram before hitting the beach.

The mother-of-two was pictured with youngest daughter Siera as she made a splash in front of the waiting paparazzi.

Having debuted a tiny yellow bikini, she followed it up with equally miniscule blue and teal numbers, also rocking a one-piece before slipping into a revealing sarong.

The curvaceous reality star was crowned Miss Wales in 2003 before shooting to fame as a Big Brother contestant in 2006, but is now making waves as a swimwear designer.

# Hotspur's hot stuff



TOTTENHAM stars Dele Alli, Kieran Trippier and Michael Vorm were spotted soaking up the Spanish sun as they hit party island Ibiza this week.

England heart-throb Alli, 21, was snapped frolicking in the waves with his lingerie model girlfriend Ruby Mae, 22, who caught the eye in a microscopic Calvin Klein bikini as her other half exposed his toned physique.

The players jetted out of London just hours after losing a crucial Premier League match to West Ham, which appears to have all but ended Spurs' chances of the title this year.

But this appeared far from their minds as they tucked into sushi and cool drinks while chilling on their loungers.

**DELE ALLI:** The heart-throb is chilling out in Ibiza.

Photo Credit Twitter.

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By Matthew Elliott

# Sneak beach peak

PLANS to improve access to one of Almería's most popular beaches have been presented by Carboneras Council. The project would open up a third pathway to the world famous Los Muertos beach and allow an extra 100 or so vehicles in during

the height of summer.

At 350 metres long the new pathway would also be large enough to accommodate a shuttle bus to ferry in

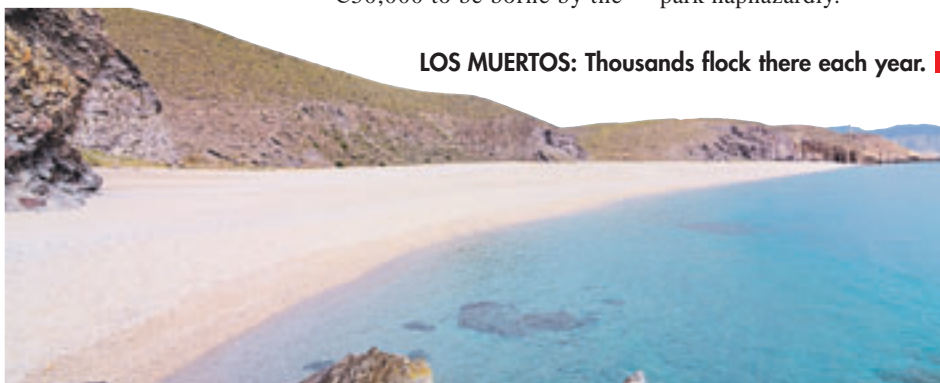
the thousands of tourists who flock to Los Muertos each year. The idea is to prevent the long queues which have bedevilled the beach

experience for tanners and swimmers in past years.

Building the third pathway and an additional car park will cost around €50,000 to be borne by the

council. It would be an intelligent solution to overcrowding problems, made much worse by steep slopes where people are forced to park haphazardly.

LOS MUERTOS: Thousands flock there each year. |



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## Winged survivor rescued by police

A ROYAL Eagle Owl was rescued by Guardia Civil officers in Almería who found it hobbling along the AL-3208 in Nijar with a leg injury.

An eagle-eyed driver had spotted the owl as he whizzed by and contacted the authorities. The officers were quickly dispatched and soon found the owl with serious injuries.

They believe it was run over by a car, which fortunately only hit its leg. One eye was also damaged. The owl spent the night in the Guardia Civil barracks in Nijar before being transferred to a vet for treatment.

Also known as the bubo bubo, the Eagle Owl is one of the largest owl species and is heavily protected under Spanish law.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Farmhouse fiend

A VICAR man was arrested after being caught stealing a set of wooden pallets from a local farmhouse. The 35-year-old was spotted by rural police on alert after receiving warnings from residents.

### Viral video

A VIDEO about the shoddy state of Almería's railways went viral on social media. The video from Mesa del Tren shows a catalogue of broken promises from politicians stretching back decades.

### Big brother

PRESIDENT of Almería's Popular Party, Gabriel Amat, lent his support to embattled El Ejido mayor Francisco Gorgora, who faces four years in prison over an undeclared and suspicious loan.

### Four years

A MAN caught by undercover police in an Almería bar with 133 grams of cocaine has been sentenced to almost four years in prison. The stash had a street value of almost €5,000.

**Artizan**

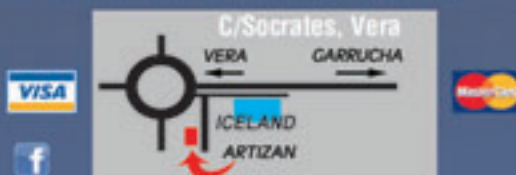
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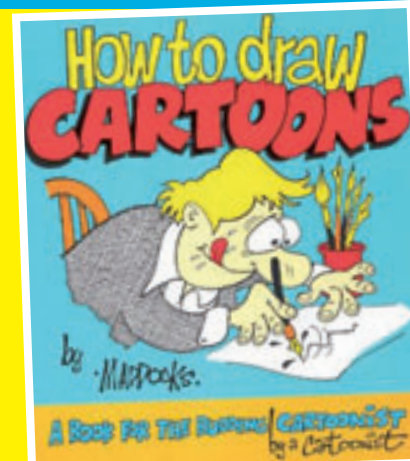
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NEW ROUNDABOUT: Featuring the Indalo.

# Simply the best

By Matthew Elliot

CONSTRUCTION of a new roundabout in Mojacar has been organised by a specialist architect using materials donated by Almanzora Valley quarry king Francisco Cosentino. Part of the roundabout, including the

Indalo at the top, is made from Dekton, a strong new material developed from stone quarries in Macael.

Dekton is considered one of the strongest materials in the business and has revolutionised urban construction across the world. Mojacar has perhaps the most expen-

sive and unbreakable roundabout in Spain, which is saying something.

The Cosentino group is headquartered in Cantoria but has offices throughout the globe. It is best known for its Silestone quartz surfaces for expensive kitchens.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Sadist jailed

A MAN who mentally abused his wife for 15 years causing her to suffer crippling anxiety and post-traumatic stress was jailed for two years after the abuse became physical and he tried to rape her.

### Health cuts

COMPLAINTS over the shoddy state of Huerca-Overa hospital have been raised with the regional government. A planned new health care unit was cancelled in recent budget cuts from Madrid.

### West test

A NEW masters degree at the University of Almeria is in Cinematography. Top Spanish directors are teaching on the course, which involves regular excursions to Spaghetti Western site the Tabernas Desert.

### Super smell

AN elderly man was rescued by Guardia Civil officers after he slipped down a ravine in Paterna del Rio. Sniffer dogs following a helicopter operation found him, disorientated but physically ok.

### Robot wars

STUDENTS in Los Gallardos were treated to an exhibition on robotic drones thanks to a donation of time, equipment and knowledge from the Albox Computer Club.

### Virgin theft

RESIDENTS of Huebro are defending their cherished Virgin Mary statue from Nijar priest Jose Bonilla who annually tries to borrow the icon for a few weeks but kept it longer than promised in 2015.

## Punching above their weight

ALMERIA received just 6.6 per cent of the tourists who swarmed into Andalucia last year but came top of the table in traveller reviews. Researchers found that guests in Almeria gave an average mark to the province of 8.4 out of 10.

Sevilla, Malaga, Cadiz and Granada all scored less. Only Cordoba tied with Almeria on 8.4. Visitors to Almeria also

stay longer, averaging 8.3 days, than anywhere else except Malaga. The only area Almeria falls short is how much tourists spend, though of course lower prices might be why they give such high marks.

Tourists spend an average of €58.46 in the province each day compared to the Andalucia average of €65 and a hefty €89.23 in Sevilla.

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## NEWS EXTRA

## Birth pangs

CRITICS singled out Almeria as the worst province in Andalucia in terms of midwife numbers. With just four midwives for every 100,000 residents, another 200 are needed to bring numbers up to scratch.

## Found safe

A 72-YEAR-OLD man with Parkinson's was rescued in Guarros, Almeria, after going for an unexpected walk. Firefighters and police took part in a huge search operation before he was safely recovered.

## Teeth lost

A DENTIST was ordered to pay €25,000 to a woman who asked for braces and ended up losing six teeth during disastrous treatment at a central Almeria clinic, requiring expensive dental implants.

## Cat wars commence



**CATS:** Doing alright for themselves in Almeria's Old Town.

BITING criticism of cat colony treatment has seen the official policy of Almeria's ruling Popular Party described as absurd. Socialist councillor Ines Plaza said it is crazy to concentrate colonies of wild cats around only a few key areas.

She claims that the government should take a leaf out of the book of other major European cities which embrace their street cat populations, putting

them to good use. She argues that the very idea an entire population of cats can simply be moved to different areas, without them returning, betrays a basic ignorance of the animal.

It would be far better, Plaza argues, to encourage community solutions and take advice from the hundreds of anonymous caregivers who help look after wild cats, feeding and sterilising them.

The capture, sterilise, release programme has seen many neighbourhoods embrace their pest killing cat populations. Plaza fear that plans to create giant colonies will destroy all this good work.

Under council plans the super cat colonies will be moved to the outskirts of the city and largely left to fend for themselves.

## Mafioso mayor faces jail

THE former mayor of Zurgena and his lackies face a combined total of 180 years in prison and 1,050 years disqualification from public service.

Candido Trabalon and his associates are accused of conspiring to grant hundreds of illegal licences for building homes.

Trabajon faces a range of charges including bribery, corruption and illegal planning.

He is believed to have forged paperwork to give non-buildable land a semblance of legality so he could punt construction licences to industry associates for a healthy profit.

Prosecutors believe he profited from the developments through contacts with companies owned by his father and brother-in-law.

At least 120 homes built illegally across Zurgena during his tenure are thought to have earned him substantial payments.

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**NEWS EXTRA****Tin win**

CARREFOURS across Almeria became food banks as the supermarket chain encouraged shoppers to donate non-perishable items and generate more than 100,000 kilos of food for poor families.

**Wiki wars**

WIKIPEDIA writers who touch on topics related to Almeria held a meeting to try and make their content speak with one positive voice about Almeria, rather than dozens of different styles and opinions.

**Fast flight**

PUBLIC flights from Almeria to Melilla in North Africa could soon become common under new proposals headed to Brussels for approval. It would make travel to Africa easier than ever before.

# Penalty panic

THERE was pandemonium on the pitch as around 20 fans from a Malaga amateur football team invaded the pitch in Almeria and threatened to kill the referee.

There was a friendly atmosphere at the youth league game held at Club Natacion's grounds in Almeria until the 89th minute.

Malaga team Tiro de Pichon were ahead 1-0 when the home team were given a controversial penalty.

Without even waiting for the penalty kick, 20 odd fans sprinted onto

the pitch armed with water bottles and began attacking the referee and the Almeria players.

They threatened to kill the poor striker tasked with taking the penalty before skulking off the pitch to watch him take the shot.

He missed voluntarily, kicking the ball out of play to avoid more violence.

An investigation is now taking place and the fans are facing a total ban from all matches if they are found guilty of assault and intimidation.

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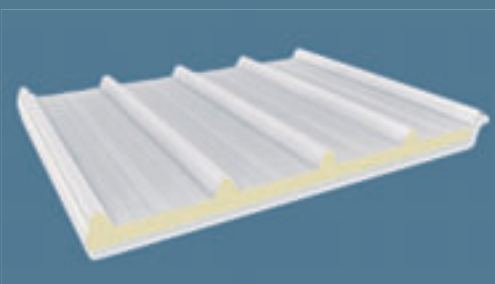
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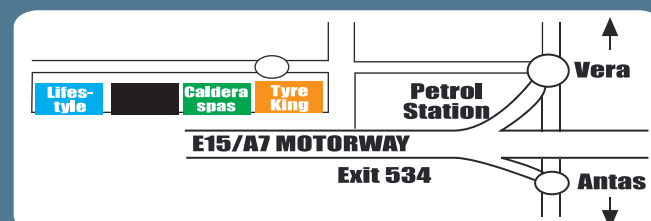
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# The missing Mediterranean Corridor link

HUNDREDS of top business leaders from across Almeria and southern Spain protested against systematic neglect of the so-called Mediterranean Corridor, the profitable rail link from Cadiz all the way to France.

The Corridor is a vastly more efficient way to transport goods, particularly fruit and veg, than using thousands of trucks each day to ship Spanish produce to Europe. But its weakest point is in Almeria which has no high speed rail connections, unlike in Malaga, Valencia,

and Barcelona.

The delay, expected to last until 2023, means that the Almeria-Murcia link is the weakest in the Mediterranean chain, and costing billions in lost revenue each year.

Almerian businesses are furious about the delay, but the meeting on May 10 saw 600 attendees, many from as far as Barcelona, who are also disgusted by the lost profits.

The large meeting was held under the auspices of the Valencian Association of

Entrepreneurs, which has long urged the national government to invest in Almeria. The 600 enraged businessmen heard how much time and money is wasted under present circumstances.

For instance the distance as the bird flies from Almeria to Murcia is just 173 kilometres. Yet by travelling between the cities by train you would have to cover 732 kilometres of track, a trip which easily takes nine hours.

At almost six hours, it now takes much longer to

travel from Almeria to Seville than it does from Glasgow to London.

The entrepreneurs aren't concerned about the effect on travellers or families. Their key concern is the

waste this entails for the transport of millions of tons of goods for export to the EU each year.

Trucks are used for speed, despite the technology for a quick rail network being

available for decades.

They have already formed an association In Defence of the Railways, calling for urgent investment and have called for more protests until their voice is heard.

## Plastic villain

POLICE nabbed a suspected drug dealer in the Almeria Poniente with a huge stash of cocaine and methadone in his car.

Guardia Civil officers pulled the suspicious looking vehicle over at 5.30 in the area, known as the plastic sea for its hundreds of greenhouses.

Inside the car they found 37 cocaine wrappings and 12 methadone tablets. Though available on prescription, the opiates came with no documentation. Police immediately arrested the driver and

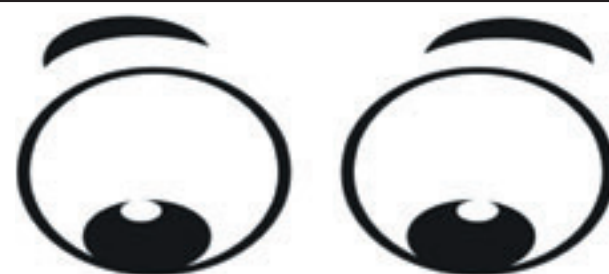


**HIDDEN STASH:** Uncovered by police in raid.

his female accomplice.

The area itself has gained notoriety as the location for

hit Spanish crime drama Mar de Plastico which is set in a fictional Almeria town.



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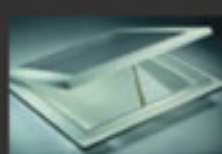
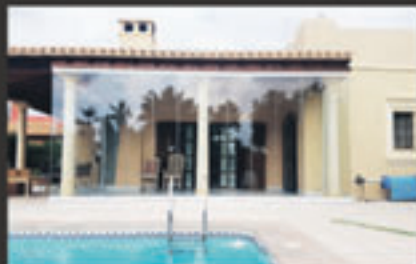
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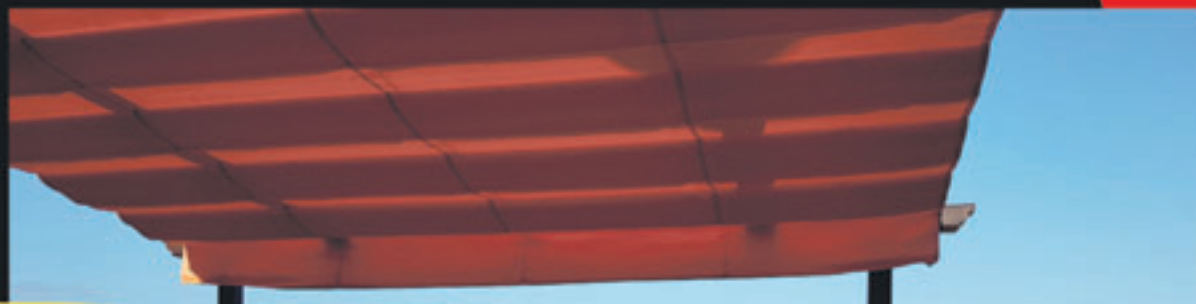
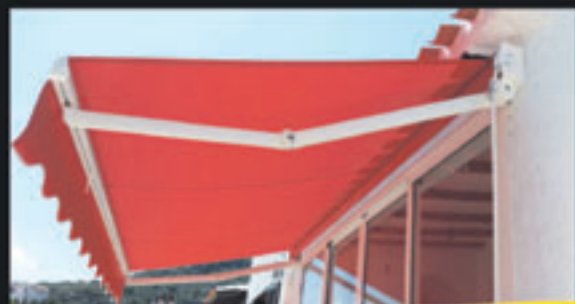
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# From dusty desert to national park

ALREADY world famous for its natural parks, Almería could have another in its midst. There are talks on combining the Tabernas desert and Sierra Alhamila park to create a 'single protected space' under the umbrella of a national natural park.

The prospect has the support of both the Andalusian government's natural resources department and Tabernas mayor Jose Diaz. Local scientists are also delighted by the progress, having urged protective measures for quite some time.

The only true desert on continental Europe, Tabernas has a protected space of almost 12,000 hectares while the Sierra Alhamila park covers more than 8,000. They are very much intertwined but protective measures vary widely.

Critics have argued the current protection regime is insufficient to properly protect the unique ecosystems seen throughout the desert. Exceptions are presently made for hunting, tourism and adventure sports. A strong filming industry using the spectacular scenery also enjoys more freedom than



**TABERNAS DESERT:** Could soon be a protected natural park.

conservationists would like.

Under the new plans, hunting would be permitted only as a means of controlling and protecting local wildlife populations. Money from tourism and filming would be used to protect the area, while strict new

measures would be in place to preserve the area's heritage.

If the move goes ahead the expanded area will be Almería's third protected natural park after the Cabo de Gata-Níjar and Sierra María-Los Vélez.

## Burglary is on the increase.

Over recent years the threat of burglary has increased all along the coast and in many inland areas. The unfortunate thing is that in many cases it is often expats and holiday home owners that are the target. Often the criminals that commit these crimes work in groups and are often never caught or convicted.

Unfortunately the British mentality is "It will not happen to me" That's why most people will always wait until they are burgled before they do anything about it.

Simply by taking a few precautions you can prevent yourself from becoming the next target.

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## NEWS EXTRA

## Better testing

NEW equipment has transformed El Toyo hospital into a top unit for optometry testing. Hundreds of patients have already benefited from the devices and are no longer forced to go to Almería for treatment.

## French kiss

ARCHITECTS are considering remodelling El Cable Frances, a massive 330 metre mineral loading station, into a tourist attraction, following plans to convert nearby El Cable Ingles into a shopping centre.

## Road repair

WORK began on fixing the A-1000 road from Huerca de Almería to Viator which is in urgent need of repair with some 16,000 vehicles passing along the road each day.

## Spring 2018

ALMERIA has already decided its official public holidays for 2018. There are 12 essential non-working days including March 29 and 30, Holy Wednesday and Thursday before Easter Sunday on April 1.

## World War

A MOVING ceremony paying homage to Almerian victims of the Nazi Holocaust took place on May 5. The traditional tribute takes place each year at the Almadrabillas park near El Cable Ingles.

## Camp out

CHILDREN from a Saharan ethnic group left their desert refugee camp for two months in a proper campsite in Almería where they will receive health care, proper clothes and play games before returning.

# Royal British Legion, Mojacar branch

THE Royal British Legion Mojacar branch meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Centre of Multi Uses (Artisan Centre), Mojacar Pueblo at 11.15am where all are welcome.

The branch plans to continue having its second meeting of the month, which

is held on the third Thursday, as a coffee/lunch meeting.

Upcoming events include the branch social Thursday May 18 from 11.30am at Hotel Tika, Garrucha, followed by wine tasting with lunch. Then on Monday May 22 there will be a day trip to

Castillo de Tabernas olive oil factory with wine tasting at Bodega de Aboloduy and lunch for €35.

The RBL golf day will take place on Saturday May 27 at Aguilon Golf Club. Please contact Tom Tannant by email on [thomastannant@outlook.com](mailto:thomastannant@outlook.com).

The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the armed forces community serving men and women, veterans and their families. Please call 676 451 780 (9am-5pm weekdays) or email [assistance.rbl.dns@gmail.com](mailto:assistance.rbl.dns@gmail.com) or [rblmojacar@gmail.com](mailto:rblmojacar@gmail.com).

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# British artist Banksy reveals his Brexit view



## BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

IT is often difficult to attribute a painting by an anonymous artist, but it appears that a new piece on Brexit is by Banksy.

The artwork has appeared on the side of a building in Dover, near to the ferry terminal and opposite Calais, until recently the home of 'refugees' anxious to get to the UK for a new life.

This enormous mural shows a worker on top of a ladder chipping away one of the stars on the European Union flag.

Following the recent opening of his 'Walled Off Hotel' in Bethlehem and other murals, Banksy, whose real identity is known by just a few people, is one of Britain's most prolific and popular living artists.



Photo by ails@syedazs Twitter

## Brexit overshadowed by General Election

TO a great extent, Brexit news has taken a back seat to General Election news as the various parties prepare to launch their manifestos.

What is clear is that the Conservatives appear to enjoy a significant lead in the somewhat tarnished opinion polls but that both Labour and the Tories are united in the decision to push Brexit through, if either party is elected to govern.

Only the Liberal Democrats of the 'main' parties who would have to make a comeback akin to David against Goliath want to see a second referendum on the Brexit decision and whilst the SNP are quite determined that they want Scotland to remain in the EU, it appears that their talk of a second independence referendum might just help the Scottish Conservatives.

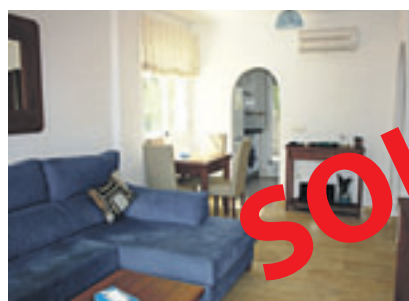
The French Presidential election could have had a

major effect on the British General Election as if Marine Le Pen had become president, there could well have been a new 'Exiteer' but the success of Emmanuel Macron, leader of La République En Marche (Republic on the Move) could help the Conservatives almost unintentionally.

He will be anxious to see whether at the upcoming parliamentary elections, his party can gain any seats but he is already talking about closing down British customs and immigration posts in Calais and making Britain cope with asylum seekers in Dover.

In such a scenario and perhaps because Theresa May has called, once again, for the reduction of migrants to the tens of thousands annually, the British public might consider her to be stronger in the face of a new 'invasion' than Jeremy Corbyn.

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**API-V0278 77,000€**

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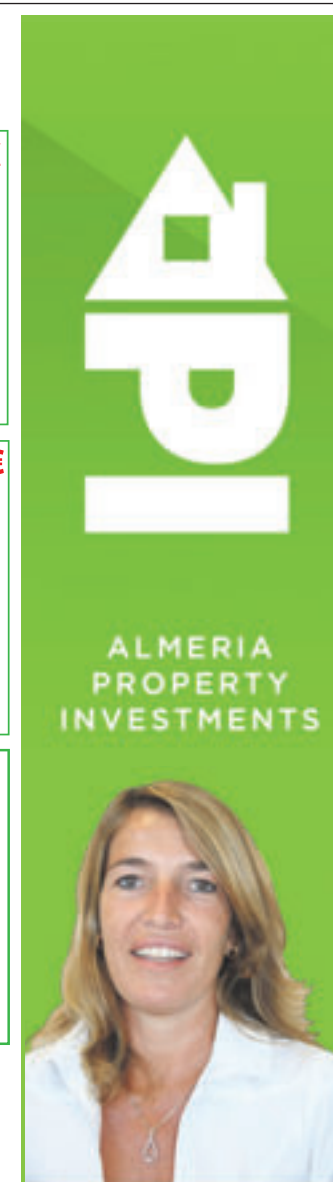
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# Welcome home Leo the Lion



TEAM EWN: Jackie and Matt hand over a gift.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Sofia celebrated her 9th.



HOMECOMING: Many people attended the party.

By Matt Ford

BRAVE cancer battler Leo Bermeja is back in Almería after undergoing six weeks of ground-breaking proton beam therapy in the United States, and the *Euro Weekly News* was on hand to join the celebrations at his homecoming party.

A sizeable group of friends, family members and supporters gathered at the Laguna restaurant in Las Marinas, Vera, to welcome him back from his six weeks of treatment in Oklahoma and wish a belated happy birthday to big sister Sofia, who recently turned nine.

Among the many gifts on display was a framed copy of one of the first double-page spreads that we ran as part of our ongoing Leo the Lion campaign.

Leo, mum Karen and Sofia were all in high spirits despite suffering from jetlag, having only travelled to Spain from Canada three days beforehand and losing some luggage along the way.

Karen kindly agreed to an exclusive chat with us, during which she explained what will happen next as four-year-old Leo's fight against a rare form of brain cancer continues.

"We're still catching up to be honest," she laughed. "Over the next two weeks I'm planning to let Leo chill a bit and get over the jetlag.

"After that we'll see how he is about starting at the special needs school in Vera again, then once we've got the clear scan over with we're thinking about hyperbaric oxygen therapy, which they have in Malaga."

She went on to explain how this type of treatment exposes the patient to high oxygen concentrations, which can help stimulate the growth of new brain cells before the delayed effect of the proton therapy kicks in.

Due to a lack of knowledge about the type of cancer he has, Leo must also undergo a brain scan every six weeks for the next two years before any definitive evaluation can be made, and he



THE FAMILY: Karen, Leo, Sofia and Jorge.

also needs an intensive rehab programme.

"The fundraising doesn't stop since we don't know the cost," says Karen. "They've recommended he needs a walker which costs about €4,000, for example, and he hasn't had any benefits from the Spanish government yet, which won't be backdated when they finally come through."

Overall though, Karen remains incredibly upbeat despite the family's ordeal, and she was keen to express her gratitude to EWN readers and others who have helped Leo's cause.

"Thank you to everyone who has supported us from day one, there are no words to describe it and it is overwhelming how Leo has touched so many people's hearts.

"It is crazy how people who don't know him feel like they love him and relate to him.

"Even if the worst happens to Leo at least he's done that, at least he's given hope to others."

At least Leo has given hope to others."

TO give your support to the ongoing Leo the Lion fundraising campaign you can donate in the following ways:

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Account Name: Leo James Bermejo  
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Account Number: 17485819 • Sort Code: 16-24-06

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www.gofundme.com/leothelion3



# Sixth annual 'Lazo de la Vida' event

THE Spanish Association Against Cancer, AECC, in collaboration with the Mojácar Town Council, held the now traditional 'Lazo de la Vida' (ribbon for life) day which is held annually in the town.

In its sixth consecutive year, the Local Mojácar Committee and the Garrucha volunteers organised a day of collaboration and fun in order to raise funds for research in the fight against cancer.

Rosmari Cano, the mayor of Mojácar, and Raquel Belmonte, the councillor for Fiestas, also joined in solidarity with the cause.

The mayor highlighted the important work of the AECC and the work the Local Mojácar Committee carries out to raise funds throughout the year.

The 'Lazo de la Vida' takes place on the Paseo Marítimo in Mojácar and consists of gathering the maximum number of one metre long ribbons which, when tied together, have to travel the distance from Cueva del Lobo to the Hotel Indalo.

A kilometre and a half of



**SOLID SUPPORT:** In the fight against cancer.

solidarity, which as expected, does not stop going back and forth between the two points for the maximum possible number of times.

**“The record distance was very close to being beaten this year.”**

The pink ribbons, bought by everyone who wished to donate, are joined up, one by one, by the volunteers and are stretched out in the presence of a notary who testifies to the number of tapes and the distance in metres that is covered. The record distance is set at 6,300 me-

tres and this year it has been very close to being beaten.

Along the Paseo Marítimo throughout the day, a market was held with 50 stalls selling all kinds of art, sweets, clothes, handicrafts and a huge variety of other articles.

A flamenco dance show added an extra note of colour and joy to a sunny morning that, together with a giant paella and mobile bar, ensured that a great time was had by all.

Even the pets added their contribution thanks to the animal charity 'Paws,' who organised a fun owners and dogs competition in which nobody left without a prize.

# Enter the Great GoF Cake Off

DO you have a favourite prize-winning cake? If so then you should consider entering The Almanzora Group of Friends' (GoF) 'The Great GoF Cake Off.'

This will be taking place at Chapmans (formerly Bugsy's) at Avenida Lepanto in Albox on Tuesday May 23. The judging will take place at 12 noon and there are three prizes on offer to the winners.

Entry forms are available from the group's Library and Information Centre which is located at 44 Avenida Lepanto. Completed forms must be returned no later than midday on Tuesday May 16.

After judging the cakes will be sold off to raise money for The Almanzora Group of Friends. So if you are not a baker but would like to buy a slice or two for afternoon tea then get yourself along. There is sure to be plenty on offer that will take your fancy.

# Walk on

EARLIER this year over €900 was raised for MACS Cancer Support Group in a walking football tournament and now the Alfoquia team is hosting a follow-up tournament in which teams will play for The Calida Cup.

This will be held on Saturday May 20 from 10am in the Alfoquia Football Ground. There will also be a raffle and tombola and Smooth FM's Captain Jack Savage will be the compere.

Raffle/tombola donations can be left at MACS shops but please state they are for the football tournament.

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# APSA raffle prize draw

THE Animal Protection Society Albox (APSA) recently held its monthly raffle prize draw with the winning tickets drawn by Carol Limberg, APSA shop volunteer.

Les and Dorren Skinner were the lucky winners of the Almeria Tenpin Bowling prize of a two course Sunday Lunch for two people or fish, chips and dessert for two on any week day.

Marie Fletcher won a €10 Colin The Card voucher, Jim Forrest won a €15

TC's Bar voucher and the €15 Pricebusters voucher was won by Brian and Jenny Price.

APSA is grateful to Almeria Ten Pin Bowling, Colin The Card, TCs Bar, and Pricebusters for donations for the monthly prizes and to everyone who purchased raffle tickets.

A total of €96 was raised from tickets sold, the proceeds of which will go towards helping the many animals in the care of APSA.

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**NEWS FROM OUR FIVE OTHER REGIONS**

# New anchorage plans

**■ COSTA DEL SOL**

Romel6 Shutterstock

**OPPOSED TO PLANS:** Anchorage off the coast of Gibraltar.**»** By John Smith

THE Algeciras Port Authority is facing significant opposition to its plans to create an anchorage covering 15 kilometres.

Councils in both La Linea de la Concepcion and San Roque are opposed to this plan and intend to work together along with private companies in Alcaidesa and Sotogrande as well as ecology group Agaden in order to fight it.

The port authority plans to offer anchorage along the Mediterranean coast, very near to beaches and this could well damage development opportunities for the two main opponents who are trying to attract the construction of new tourist accommodation in the area.

It appears the Junta de Andalucía also has reservations on this proposal as do some members of the port authority itself but in the event there is a serious intent to continue with this plan, as anchorage in the Bay of Gibraltar is successful, it will be up to Madrid to give final approval.

**■ AXARQUÍA**

## Participatory budget

THE council in Nerja believes it is leading the way in Axarquía by inviting local residents to take part in choosing projects for investment. With a budget of €500,000, more than 300 people have taken part in budget discussions.

## Pool accident

AN 83-year-old man fell into an empty pool in a property in Almuñecar and was taken to hospital in Motril with multiple injuries. Due to his size, emergency services called for additional help from the police to lift him.

## Stag injury

A YOUNG physicist from Motril went missing in Milan whilst attending a stag weekend. He was eventually found badly injured by a railway line and is currently suffering from head and spinal injuries in an Italian hospital.

## Road works

ANYONE planning to drive around La Herradura in the immediate future will be well advised to check on the council website for information. The reason for this is a change in traffic flow due to road works.

## Better access

IN response to a local petition, the Motril Council has taken action to improve the pedestrian access to Aviacion. Up until now, the land was uneven and dangerous but has now been concreted over to improve conditions for pedestrians.

## Tidying up

IN preparation for the summer season, council workers have been out in force in Torre del Mar. They have worked on the beach, surrounding roads and the toilet facilities to ensure visitors receive a warm welcome.

**■ MALLORCA**

## Tourist tax

DESPITE the fact it has not even run for a full year, reports suggest Mallorca is considering increasing tourist tax for 2018. Nothing will be decided until the next budget session but increased taxes would increase government income.

## Spurious claims

THE airline Jet2 which operates a number of holiday packages is to introduce private detectives into Mallorca. The reason is the number of possibly fraudulent claims made by holidaymakers encouraged by questionable law firms.

## Fire alarm

DESPITE the fact the government encouraged everybody to be careful about summer fires, one started in Alcudia on the campaign's first day. There is to be better equipment and an increase in fire-fighters, but the public need to be alert.

## New proposal

FROM 2019, the use by shops of lightweight carrier bags and by 2020 distribution of disposable crockery, cups and cutlery will be banned. This is a new law being proposed in order to try to control indestructible waste.

## Tragic accident

THE little girl who fell from the fifth floor of a Palma building, sadly died from her injuries. Although she suffered brain death after the fall, she was kept alive as a possible organ donor.

**■ COSTA BLANCA SOUTH**

## Biker injured

A BIKER is recovering in the Vega Baja Hospital after suffering multiple injuries when his motorcycle was involved in an accident with a car.

## Rubbish fire

ALICANTE firefighters were called to the Fontcalent waste treatment plant after rubbish at the landfill site burst into flames. Two appliances and crews were sent to the fire which was said to have been spread by a crushing machine.

## Pensioner power

PENSIONERS staged a demonstration outside Torrevieja Town Hall to demand the return of popular catering services to the council's centres for retired people. Police were called to control a crowd of around 300 calling for affordable meals to be reinstated.

## Couple held

AN Argentinian couple has been held in Alicante accused of a €500,000 sting on the public purse in the South American country. The fugitives were arrested by National Police officers armed with an extradition order.

## Spring clean

ORIHUELA Council has put a €1.6 million a year contract for cleaning public buildings out to tender. The successful bid will win a four year agreement and the possibility of a two years extension.

**■ COSTA DEL SOL**

## Agricultural income

INCOME from the agricultural, livestock and fishery industry contributed €887 million to the Malaga economy in 2016 according to the Junta de Andalucía.

## Coral fear

SOME 13 per cent of coral in Mediterranean waters is threatened with extinction according to the Malaga branch of the IUCN, a conservation organisation. Fishing methods, pollution, rising water temperature and invasion of alien species are all contributory factors.

## Roman Villa

AS part of its improvements following the vandalism of a mosaic, Marbella Council has added a new lighting system in the Roman Villa. After extending opening hours and increasing security the site at Rio Verde expects more visitors.

## More jobs

UNEMPLOYMENT in Malaga fell to its lowest level since 2009 in April thanks to Semana Santa. The number of tourist visitors meant that extra staff had to be employed and this downturn should continue until the summer.

## Gourmet market

WORK likely to cost €600,000 has started on converting an unused former market building in Estepona into a Gourmet Market. Once completed in about four months, there will be 28 food stalls employing at least 75 staff.

**■ COSTA BLANCA NORTH**

## Council safety

THE Moors and Christians Association in Calpe is to receive a grant of €15,000 in addition to the €45,000 budget it normally receives. This will allow it to celebrate its 40th anniversary.

## Sign here

THE Visitors' Book and the post box where it is kept are back on Ponoig. La Nucia's Scout Troop recently repaired and restored the box that had been dented and damaged by vandals.

## Skipping church

SEVEN 'skippers' from Albir's Church of England congregation turned back the clock to take part in a 'skip-a-thon,' to raise funds. For two hours there was at least one person skipping raising almost €100 for church funds.

## Bloody marvellous!

THERE was a 'spectacular' increase in blood donors for Alfaz's 2017 Donation Marathon. This year saw 71 donations and 17 donors who had never given blood before.

## Coast work

DENIA has completed its work to cure stagnant water in the most affected area of the beach of Marineta Cassiana, next to the southern breakwater. The work done sees the area where the water was stagnant elevated in height after some 700 tonnes of sand were deposited.





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**DENMARK**

# Irritated commuters

ID checks are ending on border crossings along the Oresund bridge between Sweden and Denmark. The checks have irritated commuters who travel daily between the two cities.

## Lucky escape

A SKYDIVE nearly ended in disaster after the skydiver became caught underneath the aircraft, dangling at a height of 2,500m. He hung there for an hour before the pilot could land safely and he was rescued.

## Sausage exports

DENMARK has done a deal to export more products to China. One of



the agreements made will see pre-cooked sausages shipped to the Chinese market.

## More evidence

NEW evidence is being presented

in the terrorism case of a 17-year-old Danish girl who is accused of planning attacks against two schools. New evidence has emerged and standard procedure has been broken to allow it to be seen.

**GERMANY**

# Second spot

GERMAN car manufacturer Volkswagen has fallen off the top spot for the first time in seven years. March saw sales of the Golf in Europe fall to behind those of the Ford Fiesta.

## Clown convictions

TWO 'killer clowns' have been convicted in Germany. Two young women, aged 18 and 20, were found

guilty of causing aggravated bodily harm for scaring a woman late at night wearing the 'killer clown' costumes.

## Going fresh

AMAZON FRESH, part of Amazon, has launched its virtual supermarket in Germany. There are around 85,000 items available for delivery to sub-

scribers of its 'Prime' service in Berlin and Potsdam.

## Against protocol

DURING talks with the Saudi Arabian King, German Chancellor Angela Merkel chose not to adhere to the strict dress code for women to wear a full-length robe and cover her hair in public places.

**FRANCE**

# US Support

FORMER US President, Barack Obama, has commented on the French election, saying he supports Emmanuel Macron, saying "the success of France matters to the entire world."

## Not neutral

IN a landmark ruling in France, the court of appeals has ruled that a person could not use 'neutral gender' as a civil status category.

## Illegal speaking

THE government has rejected the so-called 'Moliere' clause that required foreign labourers working on state-funded building projects in France to speak in French, saying the clause was illegal.

## It's no joke

A FRENCH photographer has produced an exhibition to highlight prejudice against ginger haired people. Thirty portraits aim to show the beauty of redheads, who have been the subject of jokes for decades.

**BELGIUM**

# Turning electric

SALES of electric cars rose by 34.9 per cent in the first quarter of the year in Belgium, with 788 vehicles sold. Across the EU, 24,592 electric cars were sold in the first three months of the year.

## Peace festival

THE Alliance for Peace in the Middle East, has announced that the 11th Peace Festival cultural event will take place on May 21 in the Place d'Espagne in Brussels.

## Homeless tribute

TRIBUTE has been paid to the 72 homeless people who died in 2016 at the 'Hôtel de Ville' in Brussels. The ceremony was held in honour of those who died on the streets of Brussels last year.

## City commute

JUST 1.5 per cent of the Flemish civil servants employed in Brussels also live in the capital, with most workers preferring the commute than to actually live there.

**NETHERLANDS**

# In remembrance

AROUND five million people watched the national Remembrance Day ceremony on television in which the King and Queen took part. Those who died in the Second World War and in all conflicts are remembered annually on May 4.

## Hospital leak

A HOSPITAL near Rotterdam was forced to close for several hours after a barrel of disinfectant leaked. Two hospital workers were taken to intensive care after breathing in the fumes and a man has been arrested in connection with the incident.

## Jail time

A 21-year-old Dutch Muslim convert who escaped from Iraq will remain jailed until her court case as investigations continue to ensure she wasn't sent back to the Netherlands to carry out a terrorist attack.

## Fair trade

SEVEN in 10 Dutch households now buy fair trade products, with around 5.3 million households supporting fair trade. A decade ago just 24 per cent of households purchased fair trade products.

**NORWAY**

# Away tour

MAN UNITED football team will be in Norway as part of their 2017-18 pre-season tour. They will play at Oslo's Ullevaal Stadium on July 30.

## Wrong way

TOURISTS looking for the famous Preikestolen cliff formation have ended up in the village of Fossmark with villagers telling them they are on the wrong side of the fjord. It seems an error on Google Maps sent them to the village.

## Billionaire funding

NORWEGIAN billionaire Kjell Inge Roekke is giving away the 'lion's share' of his fortune, made in the oil industry. He will begin by funding a research ship that will remove plastic from the ocean.

## Good example

THE President of the EU believes Norway is a good example to America that you can offer oil and gas while also focusing on renewable energy.

**SWEDEN**

# Digital doctor

SWEDEN has launched a new digital doctor service offering appointments in English and Arabic as well as Swedish, to help deal with the international population.

## Tax nightmare

SWEDEN has ruled that those in the finance industry must treat income from investments as salary showing a marked victory for the country's tax authority. The industry say they are in 'shock' at the decision with workers having to pay millions in additional tax.

## Junk Ericsson

WITH a reported net loss of 10.9 billion kronor in the first quarter of 2017, compared to a reported net income of 2.1 billion kronor in the first quarter of 2016, Ericsson's credit rating has dropped and is now in the 'non-investment' grade, known as junk.

## Flying high

A FEMALE Swedish pilot, Maria Fagerström, aged 25, is hitting Instagram fame with 238,000 people following her impressive yoga moves from locations around the world.



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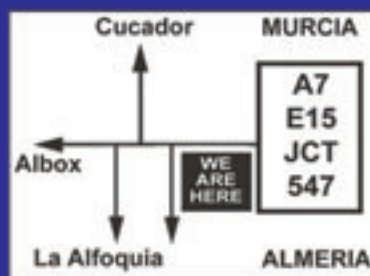
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## RUSSIAN PRESS



**DINOSAURS:** Fossils come back to life in Moscow.

# Jurassic Park

■ **SOIL** delivered to a park in an eastern Moscow neighbourhood contained shellfish fossils from the Jurassic era, sparking a scientific and archaeological frenzy around people's homes. The shellfish went extinct at the same time as the dinosaurs, roughly 65 million years ago.

Russians who get their news mainly from the TV has fallen by 10 points to just 52 per cent. Today some 65 per cent of 18-34-year-olds get almost all their news online.

## Reverend Homer

■ A **RUSSIAN** cartoon channel has refused to air an episode of The Simpsons for fear of offending Christians. The episode sees Homer wander into church hunting Poke-

mons in a video game, before remarking that Japanese cartoons are now bigger than Jesus.

## Child snatcher

■ A **DEPUTY** headmistress at a Moscow high school threatened to call social services to the home of any student who attended the 'extremist' marches of top Putin critic Alexei Navalny. Tatyana Ageeva told students that only adults could attend protests and warned minors would be 'seized from their families.'

## Web masters

■ **TELEVISION** is losing its grip over the Russian population as the internet grows in popularity. The number of



**RUSSIAN COFFEE:** Most expensive in the world.

## Luxury latte

■ **STARBUCKS** is more expensive in Russia than anywhere else in the world. In US dollars it costs \$4.50 (255 rubles) for a tall latte in Moscow, compared to \$2.25 in the US, or \$2.88 in the UK. Adjusted for local wages it would be like Americans paying \$12.50.

## Deadly delivery

■ A **RUSSIAN** man was arrested at Amsterdam airport with poisonous and live snakes, frogs, and lizards in his luggage. He was heading to Moscow via Amsterdam after a trip to Brazil. Among the haul were 26 vipers and 10 frogs, each species separated in plastic buckets.

## Air nightmare

■ AN **Aeroflot** flight from Moscow to Bangkok suffered severe turbulence, seriously injuring 27 people. Some suffered broken bones when the Boeing 777 experienced a dramatic change in air pressure 40 minutes before landing in Thailand. Many passengers weren't strapped in and flew out of their seats.



# Spain is a popular holiday destination for Muslims

By John Smith

RESEARCH on the preferred destinations for Muslim travellers has shown that Spain has jumped in popularity considerably.

The 2017 MasterCard-CrescentRating Global Muslim Travel Index (GMTI) published in Jakarta, Indonesia shows that Spain is now the ninth most popular non-Islamic country for Muslim visitors out of the 130 which were reviewed.

Only Britain and France within Europe are more popular destinations which is explained in part by their relatively large Muslim

**\$220 billion (€201 billion)**

*is the estimated annual value of Muslim tourism to non-Islamic states by 2020.*

populations, although the top two were Singapore and Thailand and unsurprisingly the USA has dropped into 10th position following the presidential election.

This particular market sector

which sees increasing numbers of young affluent Muslims exploring the world is forecast as continuing to grow and travellers will be attracted to destinations which adapt to the needs of the Muslim tourist.

The GMTI is the most comprehensive research available on one of the fastest growing tourism sectors in the world, which represents 10 per cent of the entire travel economy.

Factors considered when producing the rating included Muslim air connectivity, visa restrictions, suitability as a family holiday destination, ease of communication, the level of services and facilities any destination provides, accommodation options, marketing initiatives and the availability of special food such as Halal meat.

## La Zagaleta expands

THE owners of luxury urbanisation La Zagaleta are about to expand following their purchase of the Valderrama II estate near to Sotogrande.

Once approval for the work is received from the local council, plans exist for the construction of a luxury hotel, a new golf course and up to 200 new homes.

Work budgeted at €200 million is hoped to start by 2020 and the company plans to build the development on an American style with long roads and no fences.

Each property will cost between €3 million and €5 million and will be aimed at the Cadiz and Gibraltar market with off-plan purchase.

### Quote of the Week

Talking to the opposition is like banging your head against a brick wall," Mariano Rajoy on calls to increase spending in the 2017 budget.



## Oil reservoir over fault line scrapped



Photo by Greenpeace

**PROJECT CASTOR: Platform is to be dismantled.**

AFTER commissioning a report from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University, the Spanish government has decided to scrap Project Castor.

This is a pipeline and reservoir for natural gas off the coast of Castellon which happens to be situated over the Amposta fault line and is believed to have caused 500 small earthquakes before it was closed in 2013.

The concept of using a deplet-

ed oil cavity in the Mediterranean appeared sensible when it was first mooted in 2007, but Spanish Energy Minister Álvaro Nadal has now confirmed it would be against all sensible advice to reopen the reservoir.

It will be dismantled in due course but as the area is currently stable, time is not of the essence although the government has already compensated construction company ACS to the tune of €1.2 billion and more may follow.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

#### Banking hours

LA CAIXA Banking Group has reached an agreement with the majority of unions to extend opening hours at 200 of its branches. It is intended branches will remain open from 8.30am to 6.30pm from Monday to Thursday although they will close at 2.30pm on Friday.

#### Directors resign

THREE non-executive directors of Spanish telecoms company Telefonica have tendered their resignations from the board. César Alierta, former president of the company, Pablo Isla president of Inditex, owner of Zara and Gonzalo Hinojos former president Cortefiel have severed their ties on an amicable basis in order to allow new directors to become part of the telecoms industry giant.

#### Shocking idea

THE Directorate General of the Guardia Civil has revealed a committee has been set up to investigate the financial viability of obtaining tasers. There are a number of different models on the market and unions representing officers have demanded the Guardia Civil should follow Mossos d'Esquadra in Catalonia which uses tasers.

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## Review of Spanish budget

DESPITE the fact that the first two votes in the Spanish Parliament were tied, the proposed budget will now move forward for further review.

A number of parties on the left wanted to

see the budget defeated but with a straight tie after more than one vote, it became possible for the budget to move forward, although the final vote required before the end of May will require a majority for one side or the other.



LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES MAY 8

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
3i Group PLC	819.75	2.50	0.31	111.89
Admiral Group PLC	2101.50	15.00	0.72	83.35
Anglo American PLC	1018.50	-12.00	-1.16	1,028.31
Antofagasta PLC	756.00	-13.00	-1.69	570.91
Ashtead Group PLC	1603.50	-7.00	-0.43	191.90
Associated British Foods PLC	2781.50	10.00	0.36	101.29
AstraZeneca PLC	4605.00	-1.00	-0.02	189.12
Aviva PLC	529.75	-2.00	-0.38	931.66
Babcock International Gr	909.75	-6.00	-0.66	151.69
BAE Systems PLC	642.25	-5.00	-0.77	910.82
Barclays PLC	208.75	2.45	1.19	8,868.28
Barratt Developments PLC	591.75	1.50	0.25	306.72
BHP Billiton PLC	1120.75	-19.50	-1.71	1,717.57
BP PLC	454.82	3.45	0.76	4,836.42
British American Tobacco PLC	5286.50	-1.00	-0.02	216.21
British Land Co PLC	668.75	5.50	0.83	810.16
BT Group PLC	310.40	0.80	0.26	1,215.25
Bunzl PLC	2398.00	-8.00	-0.33	37.86
Burberry Group PLC	1626.50	0.00	0.00	195.02
Carnival PLC	4815.00	-7.00	-0.15	21.51
Centrica PLC	196.55	-2.10	-1.06	6,607.38
Coca-Cola HBC AG	2152.50	-12.00	-0.55	44.87
Compass Group PLC	1568.50	-0.10	-0.01	588.77
ConvaTec Group PLC	294.20	-1.60	-0.54	185.63
CRH PLC	2902.50	-17.00	-0.58	142.66
Croda International PLC	3836.00	0.00	0.00	35.68
DCC PLC	7287.50	-50.00	-0.68	12.30
Diageo PLC	2275.75	-1.50	-0.07	298.40
Direct Line Insurance Gr	358.20	1.70	0.48	222.90
easyJet PLC	1265.50	5.61	0.45	506.82
Experian PLC	1679.50	-14.00	-0.83	150.99
Fresnillo PLC	1399.00	-19.00	-1.34	182.84
GKN PLC	358.70	-0.70	-0.19	463.80
GlaxoSmithKline PLC	1594.25	6.50	0.41	1,388.02
Glencore PLC	285.57	-3.60	-1.25	8,378.29
Hammerson PLC	593.00	5.00	0.85	244.89
Hargreaves Lansdown PLC	1389.50	2.00	0.14	45.20
Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC	1982.50	10.00	0.51	33.35
HSBC Holdings PLC	661.75	3.20	0.49	5,185.46
Imperial Brands PLC	3638.00	10.75	0.30	154.33
Informa PLC	662.75	2.50	0.38	301.95
InterContinental Hotels Gr	4121.00	0.00	0.00	56.80
International Consolidated	601.75	-1.50	-0.25	1,315.65
Intertek Group PLC	4146.00	-14.00	-0.34	26.05
Intu Properties PLC	273.55	3.80	1.41	295.44
ITV PLC	203.75	1.90	0.94	2,435.66
Johnson Matthey PLC	3116.00	-4.00	-0.13	53.41
Kingfisher PLC	338.65	1.10	0.33	1,871.90
Land Securities Group PLC	1130.50	20.70	1.86	349.42
Legal & General Group PLC	252.25	1.50	0.60	2,541.61

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Lloyds Banking Group PLC	69.80	-0.22	-0.31	17,167.72
London Stock Exchange Gr	3397.50	8.00	0.24	93.27
Marks & Spencer Group PLC	376.00	0.85	0.23	853.85
Mediclinic International PLC	810.50	3.50	0.43	128.80
Merlin Entertainments PLC	504.25	-0.95	-0.19	174.95
Micro Focus International PLC	2647.50	-3.00	-0.11	38.99
Mondi PLC	2038.50	-5.00	-0.24	159.52
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	239.65	0.52	0.22	796.78
National Grid PLC	1026.25	6.35	0.62	1,102.18
Next PLC	4258.50	25.00	0.59	50.48
Old Mutual PLC	192.60	0.50	0.26	835.82
Paddy Power Betfair PLC	8110.00	30.00	0.37	9.45
Pearson PLC	726.25	-13.50	-1.83	1,616.10
Persimmon PLC	2411.00	20.00	0.84	294.13
Provident Financial PLC	3213.00	19.00	0.59	19.21
Prudential PLC	1755.25	-3.50	-0.20	804.94
Randgold Resources Ltd	6757.50	-115.00	-1.67	127.39
Reckitt Benckiser Group PLC	7170.00	-1.00	-0.01	53.78
RELX PLC	1587.50	-9.00	-0.56	480.59
Rentokil Initial PLC	253.45	-0.90	-0.35	292.43
Rio Tinto PLC	2932.50	-47.00	-1.58	614.57
Rolls-Royce Holdings PLC	839.50	-14.00	-1.64	1,169.27
Royal Bank of Scotland Gr	265.75	-3.20	-1.19	1,736.15
Royal Dutch Shell PLC	2133.25	15.50	0.73	1,303.51
Royal Mail PLC	413.25	-0.20	-0.05	345.92
RSA Insurance Group PLC	625.75	4.63	0.75	228.76
Sage Group (The) PLC	703.75	4.00	0.57	511.55
Sainsbury (J) PLC	268.05	3.00	1.13	1,148.34
Schroders PLC	3226.50	7.00	0.22	28.61
Scottish Mortgage Invest	378.20	0.64	0.17	321.28
Severn Trent PLC	2373.00	-0.33	-0.01	80.36
Shire PLC	4662.50	10.00	0.21	133.49
Sky PLC	994.25	1.50	0.15	191.08
Smith & Nephew PLC	1298.50	-7.00	-0.54	288.09
Smiths Group PLC	1659.50	-24.00	-1.43	179.94
Smurfit Kappa Group PLC	2173.50	-18.00	-0.82	46.95
SSE PLC	1436.50	12.72	0.89	568.35
Standard Chartered PLC	715.20	-2.40	-0.33	1,144.47
Standard Life PLC	379.45	0.35	0.09	324.91
St James's Place PLC	1166.50	-2.00	-0.17	126.14
Taylor Wimpey PLC	196.65	0.60	0.31	1,642.24
Tesco PLC	180.95	1.55	0.86	1,649.53
TUI AG	1176.50	-9.00	-0.76	166.42
Unilever PLC	3995.00	6.50	0.16	405.75
United Utilities Group PLC	1000.50	4.65	0.47	93.24
Vodafone Group PLC	206.60	1.65	0.81	6,919.07
Whitbread PLC	4107.50	35.00	0.86	67.78
Wolseley PLC	5032.50	-35.00	-0.69	29.99
Worldpay Group PLC	314.70	0.40	0.13	846.04
WPP PLC	1672.50	-4.00	-0.24	628.44

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COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	198,65	-0,38%	-0,75	118M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	78,16	-0,20%	-0,16	69M
APPLE	153,01	2,72%	4,05	797M
BOEING CO	186,02	0,55%	1,01	112M
CATERPILLAR	99,37	-0,27%	-0,27	58M
CHEVRON	106,68	0,84%	0,89	202M
CISCO SYSTEMS	34,29	-0,29%	-0,1	171M
COCA-COLA	43,89	0,46%	0,2	187M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	80,26	-1,08%	-0,88	69M
EXXON MOBIL	82,89	1,06%	0,87	351M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	29,07	-0,51%	-0,15	252M
GOLDMAN SACHS	225,03	-0,81%	-1,84	88M
HOME DEPOT	156,89	0,74%	1,16	188M
IBM	153,03	-1,30%	-2,02	143M
INTEL CORP	36,54	-0,76%	-0,28	171M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	87,1	0,11%	0,1	309M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	123,25	-0,21%	-0,26	333M
MC DONALD'S CORP	144,24	0,19%	0,28	117M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	64,01	0,06%	0,04	175M
MICROSOFT	68,94	-0,09%	-0,06	531M
NIKE	54,3	0,65%	0,35	71M
PFIZER	33,45	-0,09%	-0,03	199M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	86,55	0,06%	0,05	221M
TRAVELERS CIES	121,01	-0,24%	-0,29	33M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	121,08	-0,22%	-0,27	97M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	174,44	0,18%	0,32	168M
VERIZON COMMS	46,63	-0,13%	-0,06	190M
VISA	91,92	-0,18%	-0,17	169M
WAL-MART STORES	76,12	-0,50%	-0,38	230M
WALT DISNEY CO	111,42	-0,51%	-0,57	176M

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES MAY 8

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
Universal Display Corporation	\$ 111.30	21.45 ▲ 23.87%
Applied Optoelectronics, Inc.	\$ 55.96	9.15 ▲ 19.55%
Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc.	\$ 9.08	1.41 ▲ 18.38%
Immunomedics, Inc.	\$ 6.36	0.95 ▲ 17.56%
Fluidigm Corporation	\$ 5.90	0.88 ▲ 17.53%
Synchronoss Technologies, Inc.	\$ 17.99	2.54 ▲ 16.44%
MercadoLibre, Inc.	\$ 275.16	38.65 ▲ 16.34%
Renewable Energy Group, Inc.	\$ 11.80	1.65 ▲ 16.26%
Johnson Outdoors Inc.	\$ 41.34	5.74 ▲ 16.12%
Sierra Wireless, Inc.	\$ 28.45	3.65 ▲ 14.72%
Computer Programs and Systems, Inc.	\$ 30.55	3.90 ▲ 14.63%
Most Declined		
Brightcove Inc.	\$ 6.025	2.675 ▼ 30.75%
National CineMedia, Inc.	\$ 8.665	3.055 ▼ 26.07%
ArcBest Corporation	\$ 19.75	6.50 ▼ 24.76%
YRC Worldwide, Inc.	\$ 8.575	2.115 ▼ 19.78%
American Superconductor Corporation	\$ 4	0.85 ▼ 17.53%
Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.	\$ 7.63	1.47 ▼ 16.15%
Puma Biotechnology Inc	\$ 30.70	5.85 ▼ 16.01%
InVivo Therapeutics Holdings Corp.	\$ 2.90	0.50 ▼ 14.71%
IES Holdings, Inc.	\$ 17.10	2.65 ▼ 13.42%
Digi International Inc.	\$ 10.70	1.60 ▼ 13.01%
Gibraltar Industries, Inc.	\$ 34.425	4.575 ▼ 11.73%

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Price Movement

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€0.0017

€0.9477 .....

£0.0017

Accumulating Funds

GBP Currency B

EUR Currency B

Multi Asset Conservative B GBP

Multi Asset Conservative B EUR

Multi Asset Balanced B GBP

Multi Asset Balanced B EUR

Multi Asset Growth B GBP

Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

Price Movement

£0.9841 .....

£0.0001

£0.9625.....

£0.0002

£1.1419.....

£0.0008

£1.0710.....

£0.0009

£1.2779.....

£0.0025

£1.1881.....

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# Property help for young and elderly

IN an effort to assist those who have found it difficult to find affordable accommodation, the Spanish Minister of Development has unveiled the 2018 plan.

Iñigo de la Serna has made it clear that the government is dedicated to helping those that need it the most, namely the young, the elderly and those who have been evicted.

In the case of those aged under 35, the state will make up to €10,800 available to anyone with a salary of less than €22,365.42 so that they can purchase a property, but the maximum of the grant will not exceed 20 per cent of the purchase price.

Provided that recipients earn less than €1,597.53 per month (which is three times the average monthly rent) then financial aid will be made available to assist in the rental of a property.

So for this group, if they are not purchasing, the government recognises that rental prices are increasing dramatically, especially in certain areas of Spain and will aid those renting a property and pay 50 per cent of the cost of rent which does not exceed €900 per month



**GOVERNMENT PLAN:** Will help those that need it most afford a new home.

for three years.

For those aged 65 with income also less than €1,597.53 per month and a net worth of less than €100,000, they will receive a similar amount to cover rent up to €900 per month for three years or if the property is owned, there will be a

contribution of up to €200 to help with maintenance and utility bills.

There will be cash assistance to companies building apartments to house low income families and the ministry will also help those who have lost their properties or been evicted from rental accommodation

by taking properties held in the Sareb 'property bank' and renting them out at heavily subsidised prices.

With this plan to run from 2018 to 2020, the government expects to spend €321 million a year in overall support and assistance.

# Spanish banks to be questioned over movement of funds for HSBC

ALTHOUGH British-based high street bank HSBC came through the banking crisis relatively unscathed, it has been accused of a number of irregularities over the years.

Having been fined billions of dollars by the US authorities and also shelling out to the British government, it is now under investigation in France and Spain.

**“The various bankers will be questioned about their knowledge and involvement.**

The Spanish High Court has ruled that seven current and former employees of Banco Santander and three from BNP Paribas Spain must be questioned over allegations of collusion in moving funds for HSBC to an account in Switzerland.

According to the judge who made the decision, the transfers estimated at €74 million were made in a manner which protected HSBC customers from national tax authorities and as such could be considered money laundering once the whole trail is unravelled.



**WHISTLE BLOWER:** Hervé Falciani behind the microphone.

This current investigation started as long ago as 2008 when a self-proclaimed whistle blower Hervé Falciani leaked details of large numbers of customers who had accounts with HSBC's private bank in Switzerland and details were sent to tax authorities in a number of different countries.

The Swiss responded by sentencing the French citizen 'in absentia' to five years imprisonment for industrial espionage.

The various bankers will be questioned about their knowledge and involvement in this matter by way of assistance to the French investigation which is concentrating on the period between 2005 and 2010.

Should any evidence of wrongdoing emerge concerning the Spanish banks involved, a decision will then have to be made as to whether the courts will need to consider further action to establish if any Spanish laws have been broken.

## Another bank will transfer staff to Frankfurt

ONE of Britain's largest banks Standard Chartered has confirmed that it will be moving several hundred jobs to Frankfurt in advance of Brexit.

This announcement follows one from US financial giant JP Morgan, which employs about 16,000 people in Britain, which is also planning to move hundreds of jobs from London to Frankfurt, Luxembourg and Dublin.

Although considered a UK bank, Standard Chartered which recently appointed former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Spain and Director of the International Monetary Fund Jose Vinals as Chairman only receives about 5 per cent of its income from the UK market.

Although it currently intends to keep its headquarters in London, its interests in Asia and Europe mean that it cannot afford to chance any banking restrictions following Brexit.

## Airbnb still under review

FOLLOWING the example of the Barcelona City Council, Madrid is investigating ways of 'policing' untaxed property rentals.

Although there are a number of property portals which offer short term rentals in Madrid and other large cities in Spain, American company Airbnb is the most prolific and successful in the market place.

As previously reported, Barcelona has tried to levy significant fines of the company which has successfully appealed against them, but it has also offered a compromise whereby it will not accept multi-property lets from professional landlords.

The main bone of contention appears to be the fact that significant amounts of local tax may be evaded if short term lettings are made through these portals.





Photo Credit: Vinod Divakaran flickr.

**FACING CHARGES:** Neymar de Silva Santos Jnr.

# Barcelona star Neymar is to be charged with fraud

*By John Smith*

FOOTBALL finance just can't keep out of the news and it has been confirmed that Barcelona star Neymar will be charged with fraud and corruption.

Like so many South American superstars, the Brazilian's parents are involved in his management as well as day-to-day financial affairs and his father at least will also be charged.

The reason for the prosecution centres on Neymar's transfer from Santos in 2013 with his transfer fee being declared at €17 million, when it was once suggested that the actual fee was €57 million. However the court now suggests the real fee was nearer €25 million.

Following the example of a number of other players, Ney-

mar had a deal with a third party group, in this case the Brazilian investment company DIS which was entitled to 40 per cent of any transfer fee.

**“The Brazilian's parents are involved in his management.”**

They received €6.8 million but the court believes that they were 'short changed' by €3.5 million which is the reason for the charges which also include Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu and his predecessor Sandro Rosell, who it is suggested were aware of the deception.

Originally in 2016, a Spanish

court ruled that the matter should be subject to a civil action but has now been persuaded by the prosecutor that the player and his father were aware of an allegedly fraudulent arrangement between Barcelona and Santos to defraud DIS.

Prosecutors are calling for a two-year prison sentence and €10 million fine for Neymar whilst DIS want to see five years and at the very least a suspension of his right to play in Spain for the period of any sentence, even if a suspended one.

The Barcelona club has already paid a €5.5 million fine in order to settle a different case with similar circumstances, but these accusations still continue to arise and there is a separate investigation taking place in Brazil.

## Production on the up, unemployment down

INTERNATIONAL analysts Markit have released the results of their April survey which shows that Spanish manufacturing is speeding up.

To go with this news is an announcement from the Ministry of Employment and Social Security which says that unemployment in Spain fell by 129,281 in April which is a record.

Whilst encouragingly, unemployment amongst those under 25 has dropped, the percentage of young unemployed is still at a high level.

Following some poor figures recently, Andalucia has been one of the leading areas for the fall in the unemployed with its drop exceeding the combined drops of Barcelona and Madrid

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# They honestly haven't got a clue

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT  
OTHERS THINK IT



PERSONALLY I think the voting age should be raised to 21. It's not that I consider the young lacking in intelligence, or am ignorant of the view, that if your old enough to die for your country you should at least have a say in who runs it.

The fact is they lack experience; they simply haven't been around long enough. An 18-year-old today wasn't even born when the last Labour government was first elected, and were still children when they lost power.

They have no idea what it is like for adults to exist under the depressing, inept incompetence of a left wing government. They have never experienced the sight of the fat cat bully boys of the unions, tanned and fresh from their Marbella villa holidays, emerging from Downing Street and announcing that half the nation would be on strike, if the 'workers' weren't given what they (the unions) demanded.



**YOUNG ADULTS:** They simply haven't been around long enough.

Of times when 'everybody out' issued from the employees of one vital institution after another, until the whole country staggered from one crisis to the next and employers were blamed for everything from the price of soap to the shortage of cat litter.

They have no knowledge of a country, run by a party who bribes its

constituents by creating whole cultures of benefit scroungers, and to pay for these free handouts, taxes those with any initiative to create jobs and wealth to such a degree that they leave the country in droves.

Labour is, and always has been, a party that has no idea how to actually create resources and always uses the

wealth, painstakingly earned by previous governments to create the illusion that they are a successful organisation, by pouring investments into popular schemes that will ingratiate them to their constituents.

When there are no longer any previous legacies to lay claim to, they borrow, beg and steal (Brown stole

the country's gold reserves and sold it for a pittance!) until finally there is nothing left and they are finally voted out, leaving the incoming party to once again pick up the pieces.

Margaret Thatcher summed up this bunch of incompetent con artists perfectly, when she stated that the Labour party are fine, until they run out of other people's money. Thank the Lord for Corbyn and the likes of Diane Abbott. They are the true face of the left, and not in fact the false faces of Tony Blair and his henchmen of yore.

So, to all the young voters, who believe that the 'all men are equal, tax the rich and ban the bomb' tirade that issues from the left is the answer to what ails us, I suggest you all think again. I'm not saying it's going to be plain sailing. But at least with Theresa May we have a chance. And be honest, do you really want Diane Abbott to be in control of the nation's police force? Ha!

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# War of words over the EU's "plot" to sabotage Brexit

**Nora Johnson**

*Breaking Views*

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

THERESA MAY'S searing attack on unelected Eurocrats for trying to sabotage both the general election and Brexit is unprecedented. She said she wanted to reach a Brexit deal, and for the EU to succeed: "But the events of the last few days have shown that whatever our wishes and however reasonable the positions of Europe's other leaders, there are some in Brussels who do not want these talks to succeed."

Not totally surprising you might think, given the hostile leaks and threats from that recent 'car crash' dinner. What's perhaps more surprising is that she's going flat out and

calling on voters to tool her up to 'fight for Britain' against Brussels at such an early stage in this election and leading in the polls.

Much was made of alleged Russian interference in the US presidential election. There are parallels domestically, too, as the EU attempts to influence with whom in the UK it negotiates. It's clear from recent 'leaks' that the EU would rather not deal with Theresa May, and certainly not if she wins a commanding majority. They'd much prefer dealing with Corbyn or Farron, wouldn't you?

Basically, according to Iain Duncan Smith, former Conservative leader, the EU Commission "doesn't care if negotiations succeed, they're obsessed with the idea of the EU: it's where their money, jobs and power come from."

But surely all this will backfire on them. Already former hard-nosed

Remainers as well as reluctant Leavers I know have switched sides and are now pro-Brexit. A number that will inevitably increase with time and more EU threats.

So, another day, another EU threat/leak - the dirty games of a rattled European Commission. My boots are worn out with quaking. Soon I'll be terrified of Timmy Farron.

Finally, it's interesting that all French politicians end speeches with 'Vive la République' and Americans with 'God bless America.' What's the British equivalent?

Well, with a stiff upper lip our politicians would probably say: 'Mind how you go,' 'What a lot of weather we're having,' 'Chin up' or 'Now, if you'll excuse me, I have a train to catch.'

*Nora Johnson's psychological/ suspense crime*

thrillers 'No Way Back,' 'Landscape of Lies,' 'Retribution,' 'Soul Stealer,' 'The De Clerambault Code' ([www.nora-johnson.net](http://www.nora-johnson.net)) available from Amazon in paperback/ eBook (€0.99; £0.99) and iBookstore. All profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity.



**THERESA MAY:**  
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2 bed, 2 bath linked villa of 76m<sup>2</sup> on a plot of 151m<sup>2</sup>. Sea views from the upper terrace. Would benefit from some modernisation. Excellent location.

SDV1405 195,000€

Carboneras



4 bed, 4 bath, modern linked villa of 200m<sup>2</sup> in a quiet residential location. Private lift access to all floors. Integral garage. Sea views from upper terraces.

SDV1423 395,000€

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3 bed, 2 bath, detached bungalow of 130m<sup>2</sup> on 507m<sup>2</sup>. Private pool & garage. Roof terrace. Walled plot. Easy walk to beaches, shops & restaurants.

DV1223 280,000€

Mojácar Playa



3 bed, 2 bath detached villa of 125m<sup>2</sup> on an easily maintained plot of 386m<sup>2</sup>. All on one level with a garage & store-room. Walking distance to beach & amenities.

DV1400 299,950€

Cabrera



2 bed, 2 bath house + 1 bed, 1 bath apartment of 210m<sup>2</sup> on a plot of 1,070m<sup>2</sup>. Private pool, Jacuzzi & summer kitchen. A/C. Sea views.

DV1402 495,000€

Cortijo Grande



2 bed, 2 bath, front-line golf townhouse of 85m<sup>2</sup> + 22m<sup>2</sup> of garden terrace in a small complex. Furnished. A short drive to towns & beaches.

LV626 69,000€

Mojácar Playa



4 bed, 3 bath, front line townhouse of 190m<sup>2</sup> + terraces less than 50 mtrs from the beach. Integral garage. Uninterrupted sea views. Community gardens & pool.

LV658 249,500 €

Alfaix



3 bed, 2 bath, townhouse of 123m<sup>2</sup> in a small hamlet. Ample terraces + solarium. A/C & off street parking. Short drive to local towns & beaches.

LV694 114,000 €

Carboneras



3 bed, 3 bath, furnished townhouse of 131m<sup>2</sup> with superb sea views. Just minutes from the beach with A/C, 2 terraces & garage. Community pool.

LV730 175,000€

Mojácar Playa



2 bed, 2 bath, penthouse apartment of 55 m<sup>2</sup> with excellent sea views. Terraces, solarium, underground parking, storeroom & furnished. Community pool & gardens

A1286 110,000€

Vera



2 bed, 2 bath, furnished apartment of 63m<sup>2</sup> in a gated, complex. Indoor & outdoor community pools. Allocated parking. Short distance to beaches & amenities.

A1214 82,000€

Valle del Este



Stylish 2 bed, 1 bath ground floor golf apartment of 72m<sup>2</sup> + porch & terrace. Golf views. A/C. Community pool & gardens. Gated community.

A1300 119,000€

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Ground floor 2 bed, 2 bath, apartment of 82m<sup>2</sup> with sea views. Parking. Community pool. Quiet residential location but short distance to beaches.

A1304 128,000€

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Paseo del Mediterraneo 171, 04638 Mojácar, Almería, España



## Inland and Coastal Properties re



**Ref: B1070 • Mojacar • 139,000€**

### BEAUTIFUL TOWNHOUSE NEW TO SPC

A beautifully appointed and presented 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom linked townhouse which is within easy walking distance of the beaches of Mojacar. Communal pool and gardens, private parking, air conditioning and furniture negotiable. A must see.

Ref: A034 Located in H/Overa  
349,000€



One of the finest villas in the area. 5 beds, 4 baths, pool, hot tub & american enclosure.

Ref: A706 Located in Arboleas  
168,000€



Beautiful 3 bed, 2 bath villa located on an elevated plot with stunning mountain views.

Ref: B1069 Located in Mojacar  
172,000€



Lovely 3 bed, 2 bath townhouse with large terrace, roof solarium & communal pool.

Ref: A582 Located in El Pinar  
399,000€



Wonderful 3 bed, 2 bath luxury villa with bespoke swimming pool & stunning sea views.

Ref: A660 Located in Cucador  
190,000€



3 bed, 3 bath cortijo, located in a small hamlet. Private pool and easy access to the motorway.



**Ref: A743 • Just off Junction 547 • 95,000€**

### REDUCED IN PRICE TO AID A QUICK SALE

Are you looking for a bargain? Are you looking for a detached villa? Are you looking for an investment? Yes? Well take a look at this. Well why not make an offer on this 5 bed villa? It has a terrace to the front, enclosed terrace to the rear and a garage. It must be sold.

Ref: B896 Located on Vera Playa  
109,995€



2 bed, 2 bath penthouse with communal swimming pool and walking distance to beach.

Ref: A569 Located in Arboleas  
167,750€



If you are looking for a villa that stands out from the rest take a look at this colourful 3 bed.

Ref: A125 Located in El Contador  
54,950€



This is a great 5 bed, 2 bath townhouse located in a lovely village. Absolute bargain!

Ref: B374 Located in Turre  
350,000€



Luxury villa with 4 beds, 3 baths, private pool and located only 8 minutes from the beach.

Ref: A511 Located in Bedar  
549,000€



A luxury top of the range 3 bed villa with breathtaking views of the sea & mountains.



Avenida de Mediterraneo 363,  
Mojacar, 04638, Almeria

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# SUN SEA AND SELLING HOUSES



quired for Sale or Long term let!



## Ref: B1017 • Valle Del Este • 159,950€

### GREAT LOCATION ON A GOLF RESORT

This beautiful 2 bedroom, 3 bathroom townhouse is a fantastic property located on the small, quiet, yet well-kept community of Los Alamos, situated right on the very edge of the Valle del Este Golf resort. 10 minutes from the coastline, 5 minutes from market town of Vera.

Ref: B948 Located on V/D/ Este  
129,995€



3 bed, 2 bath apartment located on Valle Del Este golf resort. Lift access.

Ref: B934 Located on Valle del Este  
99,950€



This is a lovely 2 bed, 2 bath penthouse with roof solarium. Communal swimming pool.

Ref: B878 Located on Valle del Este  
99,950€



A beautiful 2 bed, 2 bath apartment with communal pool and only 15 minutes to the beach.

Ref: B851 Located in Mojacar  
179,950€



Beautiful south facing penthouse apartment located on a beautiful community.

Ref: B843 Located in Mojacar  
328,000€



Spectacular 3 bed, semi detached villa close to the beach with private pool. Stunning!



## Ref: B992 • Mojacar • 160,000€

### NEW AND EXCLUSIVE TO SPC

This is a 3 bed, 2 bath end position townhouse with communal swimming pool, air conditioning, central heating, private parking, located 10 minutes to the beach and only 5 minutes to the local shops and all amenities. EPC F 119 - F 29



Ref: B1005 Located in Cabrera  
149,950€



This is a beautiful 3 bed, 2 bath villa in a spectacular location, with communal swimming pool.

Ref: B345 Located on Al Andaluz  
79,950€



Beautiful 2 bed, 2 bath apartment, indoor/outdoor communal pools, private parking. First floor.

Ref: B452 Located in Vera  
139,500€



Large 3 bed, 3 bath townhouse located on 4 floors and with communal swimming pool.

Contact us on 950 615 388 or 653 722 290  
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# Mojacar's rare and unusual beginnings

**Ric Polansky**



*Ric Polansky moved to Mojacar in 1969 as a pioneer developer. He reads extensively and has travelled in South America panning gold and looking for El Dorado.*

THE Utopia that we have today in Mojacar started way back in the 60's when the derelict place was resettled.

A kaleidoscope of fortune hunters arrived along with a gaggle of remittance men, busloads of colourful hippies, dark travellers and societies' usual drop outs all found their way to the hilltop village. Drawn by magnetic waves or spiritual lay lines - they just came.

The itinerant Spanish suddenly noted a confabulation of strangely dressed folk, humble, noisy but not bothersome in the least. No remorse was felt by the locals for the intrusion. It could have been a passing fad of those times or just another circus passing through that had decided to make camp at the Hotel Indalo in the main village plaza.

The colourful costumes worn by the invaders were as pleasant as



**MOJACAR:** Drawn by magnetic waves they just came.

their custom to be free with their money and invites. In every case the offer of food or drink was automatically extended to anyone and everyone within listening distance.

Wine no longer became something for just sipping or to drink during fiesta days but, a main staple of daily life; along with the

chance to laugh without examined conscience or dance in public without regard or contrivance.

Young Paco Haro, a barman then at his father's hotel and the author of the recent book witnessed the entire daily show from dawn until sometimes dawn again. He quickly picked up on the programme; all

were to participate or at least watch while the main foreign actors strutted and fretted their hours upon stage and then slumped into a quiet corner than hadn't been peed in.

Within months the street wise Spaniards had understood the concept and soon began participating, that is inviting their distant rela-

**“ Everyone got along famously, as the English always paid for the drinks.**

tives to the village to observe the shows and share in the tidal wave of free drinks that were flowing.

After all, this is a nation of fiestas so adapting to the latest variety came as easily as smiling. Yet, personal decorum wouldn't yield to random conversation and both armies continued to use outrageous hand signals and arm waving to communicate (a popular contrivance that continues to this day).

In fact, English is a difficult language to learn compared to a world of lexicons, while Spanish is amongst the easiest. But, better than all was the instant acceptance of the other presumed traditions and respect for their past culture.

Everyone got along famously especially as the English insisted on always paying for the drinks. More smiles all around.

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- Walk to amenities
- 8 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

**VH1073 €230,000 CEE TBC**



- 5/6 bed, 3 bath Country House
- 260m2 build with 50,000m2 of land
- Swimming pool & garage
- 12 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

**VH1070 €249,950 CEE TBC**



- 4 poss 8 bed, 3 bath Country House
- 545m2 build including 165m2 warehouse
- Habitable but further renovation needed
- 10 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

**VH1064 €105,000 CEE TBC**



- Large 129m2 3 bed, 2 bath Semi Det Villa
- 450m2 garden & dip pool
- Walk to amenities
- Zurgena area

**VH958 €74,950 CEE D116 8**



- 4 bed, 2 bath Village House
- Incl 1 bed, 1 bath apartment
- Garage & lovely views
- 12 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

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HUERCAL-OVERA,  
LA ALFOQUIA, ZURGENA  
& TABERNO AREAS  
MAIN SELLING AGENT.**

**VH1093 €89,950 CEE TBC**



- 3 bed, 3 bath Village House
- Recently renovated plus rear garden
- Walk to amenities
- 10 mins drive to Huercal-Overa.

**VH852 €129,950 CEE TBC**



- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 346m2 garden with Jacuzzi
- Walk to amenities
- La Alfoquia

**VH1083 €69,950 CEE TBC**



- 2 bed, 1.5 bath Duplex
- Front garden & back patio
- 2 communal pools
- Walk to amenities
- La Alfoquia

**VH1084 €137,950 CEE E32 34**



- Large 2 bed, 2 bath Country Villa
- 1,295m2 garden with jacuzzi
- Beautiful views
- 5 mins drive to Taberno

**VH1085 €134,950 CEE TBC**



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- Walk to restaurant / bar
- 590m2 garden with beautiful views
- Zurgena area



GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309 

THURSDAY		BBC one		BBC TWO		itv		CHANNEL 4		CHANNEL 5		sky SPORTS 1	
11 MAY	6:15pm	Pointless	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	9:00pm	Emmerdale	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	6:30pm	Neighbours	1:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:00pm	Celebrity Eggheads	9:30pm	Joanna Lumley's Postcards	6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers	7:00pm	Home and Away	2:00pm	Premier League 100 Club	
	7:30pm	BBC London News	7:45pm	Debatable	10:00pm	Car Crash Britain Caught on Camera	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	3:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	8:00pm	The One Show	8:30pm	Hollyoaks	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:55pm	Party Election Broadcast	5:00pm	Football's Greatest	
	8:30pm	EastEnders	9:00pm	The World According to Kids	11:40pm	ITV News London	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	Secrets of Great British Castles	6:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	9:00pm	MasterChef	10:00pm	Morocco to Timbuktu: An Arabian Adventure	11:50pm	UEFA Europa League Highlights	8:55pm	Party Election Broadcast	9:00pm	On Benefits	7:30pm	Barclays Premier League World	
	10:00pm	The Truth About Sleep	11:00pm	Match of the Day	12:50am	Tipping Point	9:00pm	The Supervet	10:00pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	8:00pm	Live Premier League Darts	
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	11:30pm	Newsnight	1:45am	Jackpot247	10:00pm	Born to Kill	10:00pm	Inside the Gang	11:00pm	School of Hard Knocks	
	11:30pm	BBC London News	12:15am	Second Chance Summer: Tuscany			11:00pm	How to Get a Council House	11:00pm	Mind the Age Gap	12:00am	Premier League Match Pack	
	11:45pm	Question Time						First Dates	12:05am				
FRIDAY  12 MAY	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	5:30pm	Red Rock	8:30pm	Coronation Street	6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers	6:30pm	Neighbours	10:30am	Premier League Match Pack	
	7:30pm	BBC London News	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	9:00pm	Royal Windsor Horse Show Special	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	11:00am	Premier League Daily	
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:00pm	Celebrity Eggheads	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	12:00pm	Live ATP Masters 1000 - Madrid	
	8:30pm	A Question of Sport	7:45pm	Debatable	10:00pm	Lethal Weapon	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	7:55pm	Party Election Broadcast			
	9:00pm	EastEnders	8:30pm	Great British Menu	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:55pm	Party Election Broadcast	8:00pm	The Gadget Show	6:00pm	Football Gold	
	9:30pm	MasterChef	9:00pm	Gardeners' World	11:40pm	ITV News London	9:00pm	Posh Pawn	9:00pm	Ancient Mysteries	7:00pm	The Fantasy Football Club	
	10:30pm	Have I Got News for You	10:00pm	Versailles	11:50pm	The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	10:00pm	Gogglebox	10:00pm	Inside the Houses of Parliament	8:00pm	Football	
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:20am	Benidorm	11:00pm	Britain Today Tonight	11:00pm	Mind the Age Gap	11:15pm	Carling: In Off the Bar	
	11:25pm	BBC London News	12:05am	Later... with Jools Holland			11:35pm	Britain Today Tonight	12:00am	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	11:45pm	The Fantasy Football Club	
	11:35pm	The Graham Norton Show					12:05am	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown			12:45am	Sporting Triumphs	
SATURDAY  13 MAY	5:30pm	Final Score	3:15pm	Flog It!	5:30pm	Catchphrase	2:55pm	Come Dine with Me	3:30pm	FIA Formula e Live: Monaco	10:45am	Soccer A.M.	
	6:20pm	Who Dares Wins	4:00pm	Trust Me I'm a Vet	6:15pm	Britain's Got More Talent	3:25pm	Come Dine with Me			12:30pm	Football	
	7:05pm	BBC News	5:00pm	Gardeners' World	7:15pm	Local News and Weather	3:55pm	A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun	5:15pm	The Nightmare	1:30pm	Football	
	7:15pm	Regional News	6:00pm	Women's FA Cup Final	7:25pm	ITV News and Weather				Neighbour Next Door	4:00pm	Live ATP Masters 1000 - Madrid	
	7:20pm	Weather	8:30pm	Yorkshire Wolds Way with Paul Rose	7:45pm	Take Me Out	4:55pm	Big House, Little House	7:15pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	6:00pm	Great Sporting Moments	
	7:25pm	Pointless	9:00pm	Dad's Army	9:00pm	Britain's Got Talent	6:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:05pm	NCIS: Los Angeles	6:15pm	Football	
	8:15pm	Doctor Who	9:30pm	Woman in Gold	10:15pm	The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	6:30pm	Formula 1	9:55pm	5 News Weekend	9:00pm	Gary Neville: The Pundit	
	9:00pm	Eurovision Song Contest 2017	11:10pm	Match of the Day	10:45pm	The Mask	8:00pm	The Restoration Man	10:00pm	NCIS	9:30pm	Nissan Game of the Day	
	12:25am	BBC News	12:25am	Versailles	11:45pm	ITV News and Weather	9:00pm	Walks with My Dog	12:00am	The Moors Murders: Britain's Worst Crimes	11:30pm	Nissan Match Choice	
	12:40am	Weather	1:25am	Therese Desqueyroux	12:00am	The Mask	12:35am	AVP: Alien vs. Predator			12:30am	Peter Crouch: PL 100 Club	
SUNDAY  14 MAY	7:35pm	BBC News	6:00pm	Athletics	3:05pm	The Chase	2:30pm	Doctor Dolittle	4:10pm	On Benefits	1:00pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday	
	7:50pm	Regional News	7:00pm	Inside the Factory: How Our Favourite Foods are Made	4:05pm	Britain's Got Talent	4:10pm	Location, Location, Location	5:10pm	On Benefits	3:00pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday	
	7:55pm	Weather			5:20pm	Live and Let Die			6:00pm	Britain's Best Loved Double Acts	5:00pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday	
	8:00pm	Countryfile	8:00pm	Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby	7:35pm	Local News and Weather	5:15pm	A Place in the Sun	9:00pm	Toddlers Make You Laugh Out Loud	9:00pm	Goals on Sunday	
	9:00pm	British Academy Television Awards	9:00pm	Mexico	7:45pm	ITV News and Weather	6:15pm	Escape to Costa Rica		5 News Weekend	10:00pm	Football Gold	
	11:00pm	BBC News	10:00pm	Dara and Ed's Road to Mandalay	8:00pm	Bigheads	7:15pm	Channel 4 News	9:55pm	When Game Shows Go Horribly Wrong	10:15pm	Football Gold	
	11:20pm	Regional News	11:00pm	Half of a Yellow Sunday	9:00pm	The Durrells	7:45pm	Formula 1	10:00pm	The Best of Bad TV	10:30pm	Football Gold	
	11:25pm	Weather	12:45am	Memento	10:00pm	Grantchester	10:00pm	The Island with Bear Grylls		Super Casino	10:45pm	Football Gold	
	11:30pm	Match of the Day 2			11:00pm	ITV News and Weather	11:00pm	Surviving the Island with Bear Grylls	1:05am		11:00pm	Premier League	
	12:45am	Murder in Successville	12:45am		11:20pm	Peston on Sunday	12:00am	Prisoners	2:00am		11:30pm	Premier League	
MONDAY  15 MAY	8:00pm	The One Show	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	6:30pm	Neighbours	4:00pm	Premier League Highlights	
	8:30pm	Fake Britain	7:00pm	Celebrity Eggheads	8:00pm	Emmerdale	8:55pm	Party Election Broadcast	7:00pm	Home and Away	4:30pm	Premier League 100 Club	
	9:00pm	EastEnders	7:45pm	Debatable	8:30pm	Coronation Street	9:00pm	Food Unwrapped	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	5:00pm	Premier League Highlights	
	9:30pm	Panorama	8:30pm	Great British Menu	9:00pm	Tonight: The Leader Interviews	9:30pm	The Fake News Show	7:55pm	Party Election Broadcast on Behalf of Plaid Cymru	6:00pm	Premier League 100 Club	
	10:00pm	Doctor in the House	9:00pm	Nature's Miniature	9:30pm	Coronation Street	10:00pm	Ivanka Tru America's Real First Lady?	8:00pm	The Cars That Made Britain Great	7:00pm	Premier League Highlights	
	11:00pm	BBC News	10:00pm	The Day the Dinosaurs Died	10:00pm	Little Boy Blue	11:00pm	Loaded		Police Interceptors	8:00pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17	
	11:30pm	Regional News	11:00pm	Detectorists	11:00pm	ITV News	11:55pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	9:00pm	Inside the Gang	8:30pm	Live Monday Night Football	
	11:40pm	Weather	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:55am	Joanna Lumley's Postcards	12:55am	Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners	10:00pm	Rise of the Krays	11:00pm	Premier League	
	11:45pm	Match of the Day	12:10am	Weather	1:20am	Jackpot247			12:00am	5 News	12:00am	Premier League	
	12:15am	Have I Got a Bit More News for You							12:00am			Goals on Sunday	
TUESDAY  16 MAY	7:00pm	BBC News	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers	7:00pm	Home and Away	1:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	7:30pm	Regional News	7:00pm	Celebrity Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	2:00pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17	
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:45pm	Debatable	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:55pm	Party Election Broadcast on Behalf of the Conservative Party	2:30pm	Premier League 100 Club	
	8:30pm	EastEnders	8:30pm	Great British Menu	8:30pm	Save Money Good Food	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	Police Interceptors	3:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	9:00pm	Holby City	9:00pm	Bake Off Crème de la Crème	9:00pm	Don't Ask Me Ask Britain	8:55pm	Party Election Broadcast	9:00pm	The Yorkshire Vet	3:30pm	Monday Night Football	
	10:00pm	Three Girls	10:00pm	Horizon	10:00pm	Long Lost Family: What Happened Next?	9:00pm	Location, Location, Location	8:00pm	Elizabeth I	4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League	
	11:00pm	BBC News	11:00pm	Later Live... with Jools Holland	11:00pm	ITV News	10:00pm	One Born EveryMinute	9:00pm	Liberace: In Life and Death	8:30pm	Football	
	11:30pm	Regional News	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:50am	Car Crash Britain Caught on Camera	11:00pm	First Dates	11:00pm	Hannibal	11:15pm	Premier League Review	
	11:40pm	Weather	12:10am				12:05am	Confessions of a Junior Doctor	12:05am		12:15am	Football Gold	
	11:45pm	The Truth About Sleep											
WEDNESDAY  17 MAY	6:15pm	Pointless	4:45pm	The Wonder of Animals	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	6:00pm	5 News at 5	2:30pm	Premier League Legends	
	7:00pm	BBC News	5:15pm	Rise of the Continents	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers	6:30pm	Neighbours	3:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	7:30pm	Regional News	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	3:30pm	Premier League Legends	
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:00pm	Celebrity Eggheads	8:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League	
	9:00pm	Shop Well for Less	7:45pm	Debatable	9:00pm	Tonight at the London Palladium	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	7:55pm	Party Election Broadcast on Behalf of the Labour Party	8:30pm	Football	
	10:00pm	Three Girls	8:30pm	Great British Menu	10:00pm	Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	8:55pm	Party Election Broadcast	8:00pm	Chris Tarrant's Extreme Railway Journeys	11:15pm	Barclays Premier League World	
	11:00pm	BBC News	9:00pm	Trust Me I'm a Vet	11:00pm	ITV News	9:00pm	How to Live Mortgage Free with Sarah Beeny		GP's: Behind Closed Doors	11:45pm	Football Gold	
	11:30pm	Regional News	10:00pm	A Time to Live	11:55pm	On Assignment	10:00pm	Isis: The Origins of Violence	9:00pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away	12:00am	Football's Greatest	
	11:40pm	Weather	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:30am	British Touring Car Championship Highlights	11:35pm	Gogglebox	10:00pm		12:30am	Football's Greatest	
	12:15am	Doctor in the House	12:10am	Weather			12:35am	One Born Every Minute					

|| 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.



Advertising feature

# With HiFX international money transfers, there's no fees, no fuss

IF you need to send money abroad - perhaps to transfer a mortgage or pension, or just to make a one-off payment - your first instinct might be to turn to your bank. Many people will assume that this is the easiest method, or that their bank will offer them the best deal, but this might not be the best option for you.

At HiFX, we're dedicated to saving you time and money, whatever the reason for your international money transfer. Every month, we use an independent company to check all the UK high street banks and building societies to make sure our rate is better. We can help you save money in two ways:

## 1. Absolutely no transfer fees

With HiFX, you'll pay no transfer fees whatsoever, regardless of the amount you are transferring.

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<b>HiFX</b>	<b>€11,507</b>		<b>No Fees</b>
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NatWest	€11,216		£30
HSBC	€11,173		£4
Barclays	€11,162		£15

These exchange rates were obtained online at 9.45am on Wednesday 29th March 2017 based on sending an international money transfer of £10,000 in £s as quickly as possible.

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# Sedition and treason

SIR,

'Sedition; actively promoting and advocating a movement to overthrow a legitimately constituted authority.'

Spain's prime minister Mariano Rajoy should have reacted immediately (almost four years ago!) in response to Catalan president Arthur Mas' call to separate from Spain to form an independent and sovereign 'nation' by imprisoning the rebel for treason.

Instead, Sr Rajoy simply repeats again and again that he won't allow the illegal and unconstitutional referendum to be held in the Catalan 'nation.'

And as Commander-in-Chief of the only legitimate 'Spanish Nation;' he should stop talking so much and act decisively to finally call a halt to this seemingly endless and harmful farce that is undermining the already downtrodden morale and confidence of Spanish citizens. Time to practice a bit of the old reliable 'actions speak louder than words.'

In the USA we had a Civil War that lasted four years (1861-1865) over 'sedition and treason,' but even then, at least nine of our 31 states were rebelling from the Union, and not just one; as is the present case today in the Catalonia Province.

*Richard M McBride,  
Benidorm*

## Voting rights

WHAT a cheek! Long-term expats who abandoned their homeland for a Mediterranean lifestyle years ago want the right to vote on the UK's future.

OK, if that's what they want let them have a vote, subject to a satisfactory inspection of their tax affairs by HMRC and Hacienda. That should thin their ranks and lessen the cacophony of self-interested whingeing.

*Peter Rogers  
Benahavis*

» Photographs for possible publication should be sent by email with a full caption to: [photonews@euroweeklynnews.com](mailto:photonews@euroweeklynnews.com)

## Causing a stink



DID you notice? The 'depuradora' in Benalmadena is again causing stink in the area around the Avenida Palmeras roundabout by the sea!

Every night they let the waste water run down and on its way towards the sea it causes a stink that cuts off your breath.

On Thursday April 19, with the wind so strong and the sea very rough, the whole waste got kind of churned up by the violent sea and then the stink like sewer was dispersed by the air even during the day time.

Does the town hall try to cover it up at the beginning of the tourist season? Has the money to fix it gone away? Please investigate and warn the people of the health risks over inhaling the polluted air!

*Fran Drews  
Benalmadena*

## Double standards

I MUST comment on two articles in your Mallorca paper, *edition 1660*. Firstly, Mike Senker's comments on bars having to put outside seating areas on decking.

In Puerto Pollensa, one very busy street for tourists, they followed these instructions last year. Now the council, who forced two bars and a Spanish bike hire business to put these in, have decided to withdraw use of the road.

So, firstly the council insist on decking, and less than a year later, insist that it's taken down. And never

anyone to ask. Just shrugged shoulders.

Secondly, the transformation of Magaluf into a 'first class' resort. This has been going on for 30 years, since the Calvia area became the biggest money area in all of Spain.

The council took the money and thought that was it. But Magaluf is too big to fill up with your words, 'a more discerning guest.'

Don't bite the hand that feeds you springs to mind. I will say Mallorca has now become a more cosmopolitan up-market holiday isle, but it should be for all, because in most cases, the 'all' spend more money.

*R K Lutschan,  
Puerto Pollensa, Mallorca*

## COMMENTS from EWN Online

### » EU leaders approve negotiating strategy

I GUESS this must be a record for the EU Council and the 27 EU countries actually coming to a decision, they can't even come to an agreement on the name of a corridor in one of their buildings after several hours and yet this is sorted in minutes. Lol

*Mike in ESP*

### » Missing couple safely back home in Malaga

GREAT to see the Spanish government supporting its citizens. Hopefully this is a happy ending instead of what could have been.

*Saya Sendiri*

### » Britain and Europe at loggerheads over Brexit

WHERE is the base point, the EU accounts have never been given a clean audit certificate because of all the fraud and irregularities? Will Brussels use the same accounting techniques for Brexit negotiations they use in Greek debt calculations (and Spanish deficits)?

*Drew Edgar*

SHE is not confused in the slightest. She is fighting tooth and nail in the interests of the top richest 10 per cent of UK citizens. They provided all the information and news which caused poorer people to vote Brexit. The very rich own nearly all of the UK media. It's called brainwashing.

*Peter*

### » Scientists called in to save Marbella's beaches

THE obvious answer is to put concrete pillars beneath the waves maybe a hundred metres offshore. This will break the force of the waves and save the sand on the beaches. Once again here in Marbella they are placing tons of sand on the beaches to repair that which has been washed away.

*Roy Peters*

### » Jumbo bunny dies on United Airlines flight

MY problem isn't so much with planes as it is with airports - so much less terrifying than your well-articulated issues with flying. I just get fed up with the incessant queues, indifferent officials, endless waiting around and needless delays.

*Chris*

### » Stephen Fry blasphemy

FRY didn't specify any religion, but directed his remarks about 'God.' God doesn't belong to any religion, and the only person who could testify that God had been insulted or blasphemed would be God. I think this whole thing is ridiculous. If people have the freedom of speech to praise God, then others should have the freedom of speech to express their opinion about God.

I think if God could be contacted he would say: 'Lads, don't be acting like eejits. Let the Garda get on with their serious work to fight crime.' I think that God should be called as a witness if there is a trial, and to the best of my knowledge nobody has an address to contact God.

*Les Serff*

### » Donkeys painted yellow

THEY don't care about animals. Still hundreds of festivals where cruelty to animals is involved, dogs left alone on properties to bark day and night and pigeons and little birds shut in tiny cages too.

*Rosemary Harknett*

## 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.euroweeklynnews.com](http://www.euroweeklynnews.com)



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# Can you wash your hands?

**Mike Senker**

*In my opinion*

*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*



I STOPPED to fill my car with petrol and I use a garage where the attendant does it for you. So I was sitting in my car and he started to fill my tank. At the same time my phone rang so I answered it. The attendant was at the back of the car but standing on the other side.

On the forecourt was his mate who waved at me and signalled, by using his thumb and little finger and placing it to his ear, and then changing it to give me the wiggly 'no don't do that' finger gesture. This, in normal circumstances is fine, except this guy had a lit ciggy in his other hand! I mean, it's bad enough that they have these signs saying don't use your phone in a garage when there has never been a reported incident of it blowing the place up, but to tell me not to use my phone whilst he has a lit ciggy is just nuts.

Talking of signs, here are a few others that set me off. When I was in the UK a little while ago there was a sign in the gent's toilet which said 'now wash your hands.' That's fine but it then went on to show you, by the use of diagrams, how to wash them. Yup a sign showing you how to wash your hands. Now, I'm not the sharpest tool in the box, but I don't think

there is anybody in the living civilised world, over the age of four, that doesn't know how to wash their hands. You stick them under the tap, turn the water on, add soap, rub them together then rinse and dry.

The even crazier part is that some idiot somewhere has spent money on producing these dumbass signs and got paid to do it!

How about this one. At the entrance to the urbanisation where I live is a map that shows you how to get to all the different Phases of which there are five. It's a great idea because it's a big urbanisation and there is a one way system just to confuse you even further. However, there is just one problem. The map has been printed upside down so anyone who looks at it for the first time has not got a hope in hell of finding how to get anywhere.

We told the town hall, who put it there, and two years later it's still there this upside down useless sign that cost a fortune to make. The last one for now is when you are driving down the road and all of a sudden, without any warning, there is the sign that says the road is closed and you can't go any further. How hard is it to put a sign at the top of the road and at other entrances that the road is closed ahead? So now you have to find a way to turn around, usually in a confined space and then find another way to complete your journey.

What signs have you seen? Let me know. [mikesenker@gmail.com](mailto:mikesenker@gmail.com)

## LEGALLY SPEAKING

# Speeding fines

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

**SPEED CAMPAIGN:**  
Targeted mainly the  
secondary road network.



DURING the latest seven-day campaign focusing on speeding motorists, the Guardia Civil checked some 581,294 vehicles on Spain's roads. Officers found 31,086 were in breach of the law, however the controls conducted by the various local and regional police force also need to be added to these figures, so it is expected to be considerably higher.

The campaign targeted mainly the secondary road network where the majority of serious and fatal incidents occur.

Four of the drivers stopped now face criminal proceedings after they were found to be exceeding the maximum permitted speed limit by more than 80km per hour.

Drivers caught speeding face fines of between €100-600 plus the loss of between two and six points. Exceeding the speed limit by

more than 60km per hour on urban roads, or 80km per hour on major roads, then becomes a criminal offence with the offender facing between six to 12 months in prison, community service and the loss of the driving licence for up to four years, as well as a substantial fine.

Remember, the DGT traffic department website has extended its information into English, French and German, to greater advise and inform foreign drivers.

Via [www.dgt.es](http://www.dgt.es) information is available in English which tells you what to do in the event of receiving a traffic violation ticket. It includes details on what to do if the offending driver is not the vehicle owner, how to pay the fine, either online or in person or at a bank, or appeal it, as well as contact details for speaking to someone about your fine.

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

## What can a 'fed up' President do?

**Q.** I am President of a Community of Property Owners and I am about to resign the position. I am completely fed up with some owners who have everything to SAY but will not stand for President. One main problem is our Administrators. When you quote anything to them, they just say, that is their opinion. You never see the rules, that is, the law. When I quote you,

they never agree with what you quote or say. Only, that is his opinion. Can I insist that the new President appoint a new administration company? Can I insist that we appoint a British accountant to audit the books for the last 15 years? I strongly feel that nothing adds up. They will not do the accounts in English, only in Spanish.

*B J C (Costa Blanca)*

**A.** I hope you feel better for getting it off your chest. Keep in mind that you will not resign as President. You will officially be President until the Com-

**David Searl**

*You and the Law in Spain*



munity votes in a new one.

The President does not appoint the Administrators. The Community must do that by majority vote at the AGM. The same goes for the naming of auditors.

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

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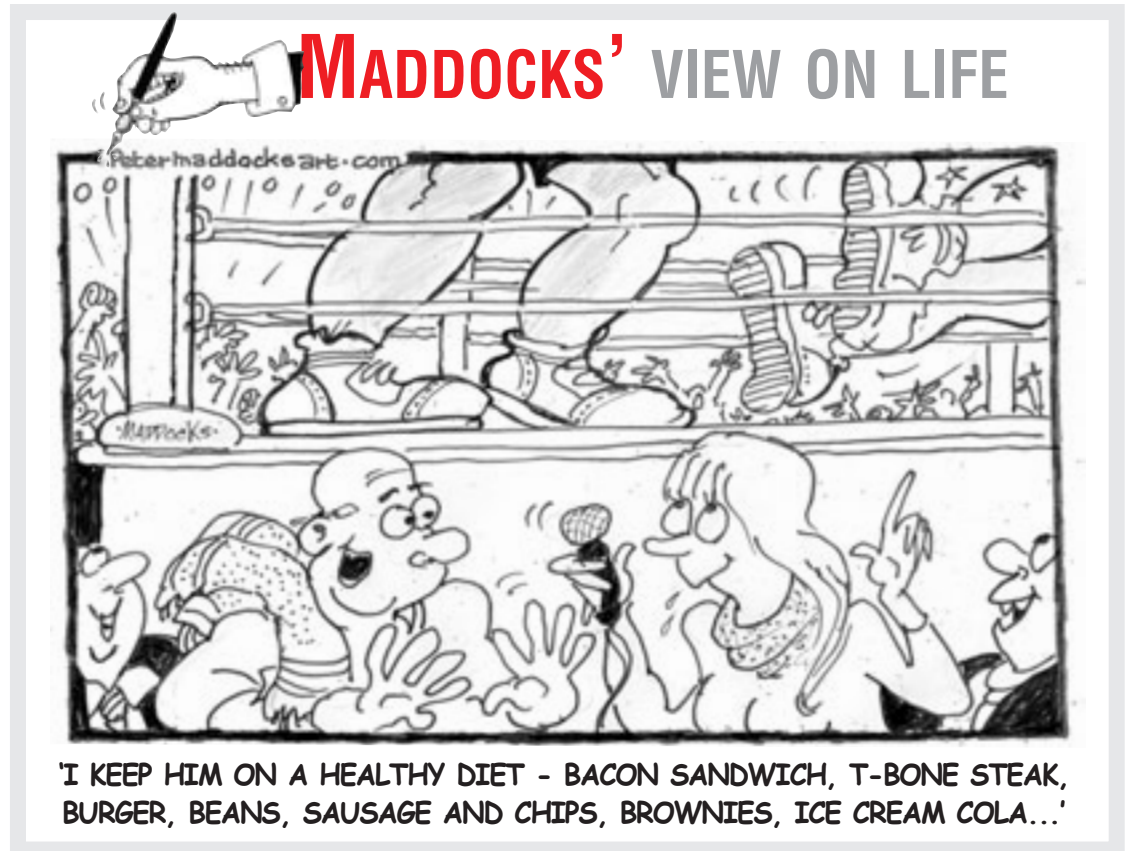
## Kakuro

	14	12	32	7	8
27					
25					
	11			18	
	3	10			11
23					
19					

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.

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

17	27	15			
8	5	9			
3	8	6	2		
1	7		7	6	
5	6		6	8	
	1	8	9	2	
	7	8	3		



### Women's wit

“Everything I buy is vintage and smells funny. Maybe that's why I don't have a boyfriend.”

Lucy Liu, Actress

### Famous quote

“I was born in very sorry circumstances. Both of my parents were very sorry.”

Norman Wisdom

### World of English

“How can you tell when you've run out of invisible ink?”

## YOUR STARS FOR 7 DAYS

### GEMINI ♊ (May 22 - June 21)

A fleeting meeting stirs feelings that you thought were dead. This could be good if it reminds you of how life can be, or bad if it makes you think of missed opportunities. It is never too late to make a fresh start. Why not go on that painting holiday or stamp-collecting weekend? Pole dancing anyone?

### CANCER ♋ (June 22 - July 23)

Someone really has rattled your tree, but try to refrain from throwing coconuts on their head. It is much more effective to be charming and get them confused.

### LEO ♌ (July 24 - August 23)

Are you feeling that you have been dealt a rough hand? Consider this: there are some who are not dealt a

### TAURUS ♉ (April 21 - May 21)

Get out in the fresh air as much as possible and be kind to your body. You may have neglected yourself because you have been such a busy bee of late. What about a trip to the seaside or a walk in the hills? Maybe a trip to the local cocktail bar is more your style! Whatever puts a spring in your step will be good.

hand at all. Many are missing those few cards that mean they are never really in with a chance. Instead of lurking on the shady side, walk out into the sun. You will soon see the bright side.

### VIRGO ♍ (August 24 - September 23)

A chance remark opens a can of worms. Trying to get them back in could turn out to be very messy. We all open our mouth and put our foot in it sometime. However, over-reacting won't help. You

will need help with something this week.

### LIBRA ♎ (September 24 - October 23)

Someone who is usually quite the opposite to you will surprise with an offer. Although you are naturally suspicious, give them the benefit of the doubt. Leopards do not change their spots but they are capable of behaving for the bigger good. .

### SCORPIO ♏ (October 24 - November 22)

An intimate meeting is less exciting than anticipated. This should not bother you because time could yet change that. You need to be in the right place at the right time, so don't give up hope, just have a little patience. A change of plans will be more beneficial than irksome, at least in the longer term.

### SAGITTARIUS ♐ (November 23 - December 21)

While counting your pennies, also count your blessings. Money can be a big problem or merely an irritation but the lack of it must be kept in perspective. You are right to think twice about accepting something that seems to be for nothing.

### CAPRICORN ♑ (December 22 - January 20)

The goat in you is keen to find pastures new. It isn't a nibble that is needed at the moment, but a feast. Accepting anything less would be a mistake because someone is watching your reaction to an offer.

If you feel unsure of your worth, then ask a few trusted friends. It is so hard to see ourselves. Heed their words.

### AQUARIUS ♒ (January 21 - February 19)

Don't allow an open-ended offer to muddle your mind. There is no need for an immediate decision and this may be too soon for a positive move. A sense of urgency may be put down to practical reasons when, in fact, it is no such thing. A feeling of insecurity is more likely to be the trigger to uncertainty.

### PISCES ♓ (February 20 - March 20)

Are things going swimmingly? Good. Maybe you had forgotten how to have real fun. Remember when you were a child? Life was so simple. Relax and be that child again. If some old fogey accuses you of being silly, feel sorry for them.

### ARIES ♈ (March 21 - April 20)

Awkward situations usually bring out the best in you and this week proves that. In the longer term, you will be grateful to those making things difficult now.

LOTTERY	UK NATIONAL LOTTERY	IRISH LOTTO	EURO MILLIONS		LA PRIMITIVA	EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
	Saturday May 06	Saturday May 06	Tuesday May 02	Friday May 05	Saturday May 06	Sunday May 07
	5 34	3 7	6 19	3 7	1 22	2 21
	36 38	17 21	23 25	30 35	26 27	37 51
	39 48	22 28	27	43	31 34	53
BONUS BALL	30	2	LUCKY STARS 11 12		REINTEGRO 28 3	
			LUCKY STARS 1 3		REINTEGRO 6	



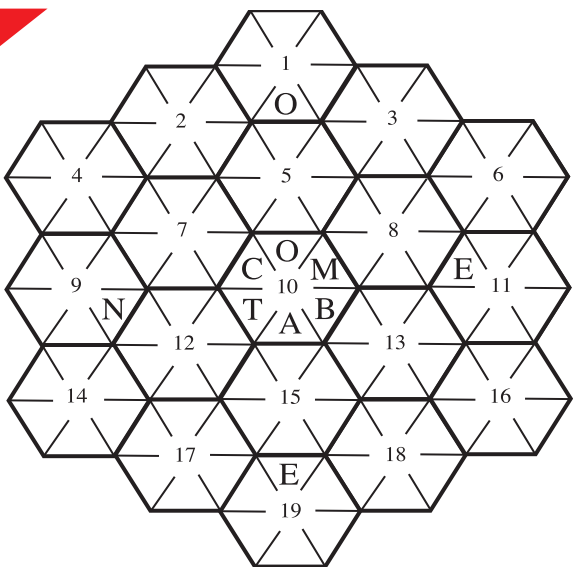
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# Hexagram

AROUSE	INDEED
BUFFET	NETTED
COMBAT (10)	NOTICE
DRAGON	OGRESS
ERASED	POISON
ESTATE	RAISED
FECUND	STRAIN
FEEBLE	TEeing
FUNNEL	UMPIRE
HEREBY	



The purpose of the Hexagram puzzle is to place the 19 six-letter words into the 19 cells. The letters at the edges of interlocking cells **MUST BE THE SAME**. The letters in the words must be written **CLOCKWISE**. The word in cell 10 (**COMBAT**) and one letter in four other cells are given as clues.

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

- 1 Strand 2 Coarse 3 Raster
- 4 Chisel 5 Statue 6 Filter
- 7 Cheese 8 Regent 9 Victim
- 10 Suntan 11 Length 12 Intent
- 13 Hasten 14 Lupine 15 Siesta
- 16 Hither 17 Theist 18 Lariat
- 19 Teeter.

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



TARGET:

- Average: 10 • Good: 14
- Very good: 20 • Excellent: 25

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

deer dire doer drew erne ewer iron nerd noir redo  
reed rein rend ride rind rode weir were wire word  
wore worn wren diner dower dried droid drone  
drown elder erode newer odder owner reded redid  
renew rowed rowen weird wider wired denier  
deride dewier dinero downer droned eroded ironed  
nodder redded redone reined rewind ridden weirdo  
winder wonder worded dower dowered downier  
drowned ironweed wondered EIDERDOWN

# NEW ON DVD

## Collateral Beauty

Directed by: David Frankel  
Starring: Will Smith, Edward Norton, Keira Knightley, Helen Mirren, Kate Winslet



Howard is a successful advertising executive in New York when tragedy strikes. For the next three years he disconnects from life and from work. Although he turns up for work he is not functioning and the business starts to struggle having lost some of its largest clients. Howard's partners are running out of time to save the business when they have an idea. One which might just help Howard unlock the answers he is desperately seeking in the letters he writes to Love, Time and Death. Will the unusual idea help save the business and help Howard to reconnect with the world?

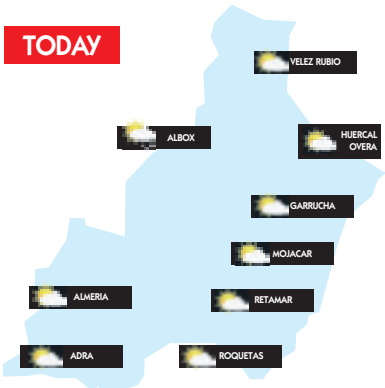
# This week in history

- 1792 - The New York Stock Exchange was established by 24 merchants and brokers.
- 1796 - Dr Edward Jenner developed the vaccination against smallpox.
- 1820 - Florence Nightingale, nursing pioneer, was born in Italy.
- 1937 - George VI was crowned king at Westminster Abbey after his brother, Edward VIII, abdicated.
- 1954 - Queen Elizabeth II, the Duke of Edinburgh and their two children Prince Charles and Princess Anne, returned home from their first Commonwealth tour after having been away for six months.
- 1957 - Petrol rationing came to an end after being in force for five months.
- 1967 - The British government announced that Stansted was to become London's third airport.
- 1971 - The Daily Sketch, Britain's oldest tabloid newspaper, was published for the last time after 62 years in print.
- 1981 - Pope John Paul II was shot twice whilst riding in an open vehicle in St Peter's Square in Rome.
- 1985 - A fire at Bradford football stadium killed 56 people and wounded 265 others.
- 1991 - Winnie Mandela, the wife of Nelson Mandela, was sentenced to six years in prison for her involvement in the kidnap of four youths.
- 1994 - Labour leader John Smith died after suffering a second heart attack at the age of 55.
- 1995 - Alison Hargreaves, a British mother of two, became the first woman to reach the peak of Everest unaided.
- 2000 - Ford announced that it was to cease car production at its Dagenham plant after more than 70 years.
- 2001 - John Prescott, deputy prime minister, punched a protester after he was hit on the side of the face by an egg.
- 1955 - The Soviet Union and its Eastern Bloc allies signed a security pact in Warsaw after a three-day conference.

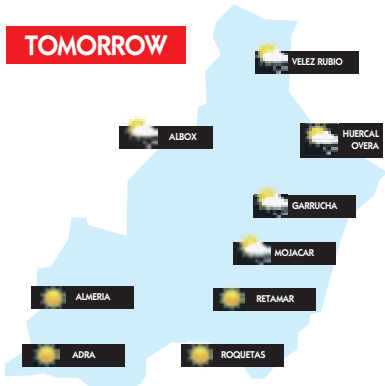
# Costa de Almería

# weather

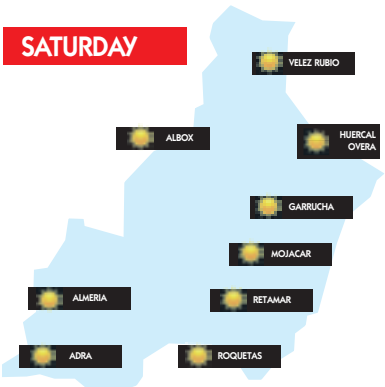
## TODAY



## TOMORROW



## SATURDAY



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

Alicante	Bilbao
TODAY: MAX 23, MIN 17-C	TODAY: MAX 22, MIN 13 -SH
Fri - 26 17 Sh	Fri - 20 12 Sh
Sat - 26 18 Cl	Sat - 18 9 Sh
Sun - 25 17 S	Sun - 23 11 Cl
Mon - 25 17 S	Mon - 25 12 Cl
Tues - 25 18 S	Tues - 27 14 S
Wed - 26 18 C	Wed - 24 13 Cl

Almeria	Madrid
TODAY: MAX 24, MIN 16 - C	TODAY: MAX 19, MIN 10 -SH
Fri - 24 15 C	Fri - 19 10 Sh
Sat - 25 17 S	Sat - 22 10 C
Sun - 26 18 S	Sun - 26 12 Cl
Mon - 27 18 S	Mon - 29 13 S
Tues - 27 19 S	Tues - 30 14 S
Wed - 28 19 S	Wed - 30 14 S

Barcelona	Malaga
TODAY: MAX 24, MIN 17 - C	TODAY: MAX 21, MIN 14 - SH
Fri - 24 16 Sh	Fri - 23 14 Sh
Sat - 25 18 C	Sat - 25 15 Cl
Sun - 24 17 S	Sun - 26 16 S
Mon - 25 17 S	Mon - 26 16 S
Tues - 24 17 S	Tues - 26 16 S
Wed - 25 17 S	Wed - 27 17 S

Benidorm	Mallorca
TODAY: MAX 24, MIN 17 - C	TODAY: MAX 25 MIN 14 - C
Fri - 24 16 Sh	Fri - 24 14 Sh
Sat - 25 18 Cl	Sat - 26 13 C
Sun - 24 17 S	Sun - 26 13 S
Mon - 25 17 S	Mon - 26 14 S
Tues - 24 17 S	Tues - 27 14 S
Wed - 25 17 S	Wed - 28 14 Cl

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

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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

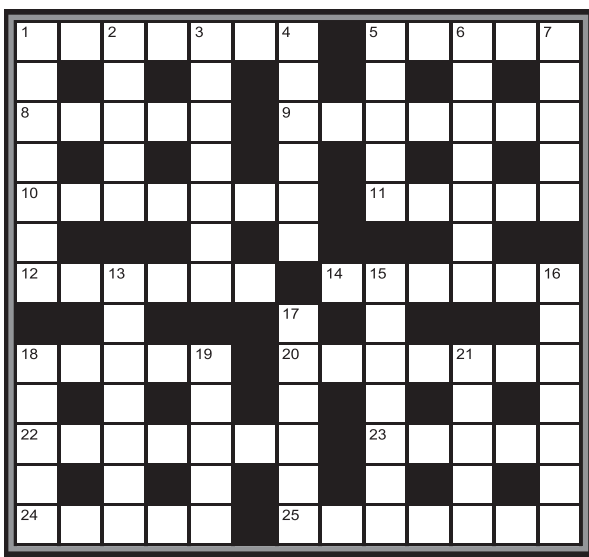
## Cryptic

## Across

- 1 Roars used for getting the fire going (7)  
5 Core and front of building unaltered (5)  
8 Moves towards or from one arson attack (5)  
9 Charge a politician in a temper (7)  
10 Some of the next remedies will be radical (7)  
11 Arranged loans for the beauty parlour (5)  
12 Disturbed fish surrounded by poles (6)  
14 Deb riskily concealed remains (6)  
18 Get rid of in the Channel (5)  
20 Increase general confusion (7)  
22 Begins tantrum in a moment (7)  
23 Asked questions of confused dopes (5)  
24 Nasal cavity of head of state in America (5)  
25 Elizabethan poet's son writes to the Queen (7)

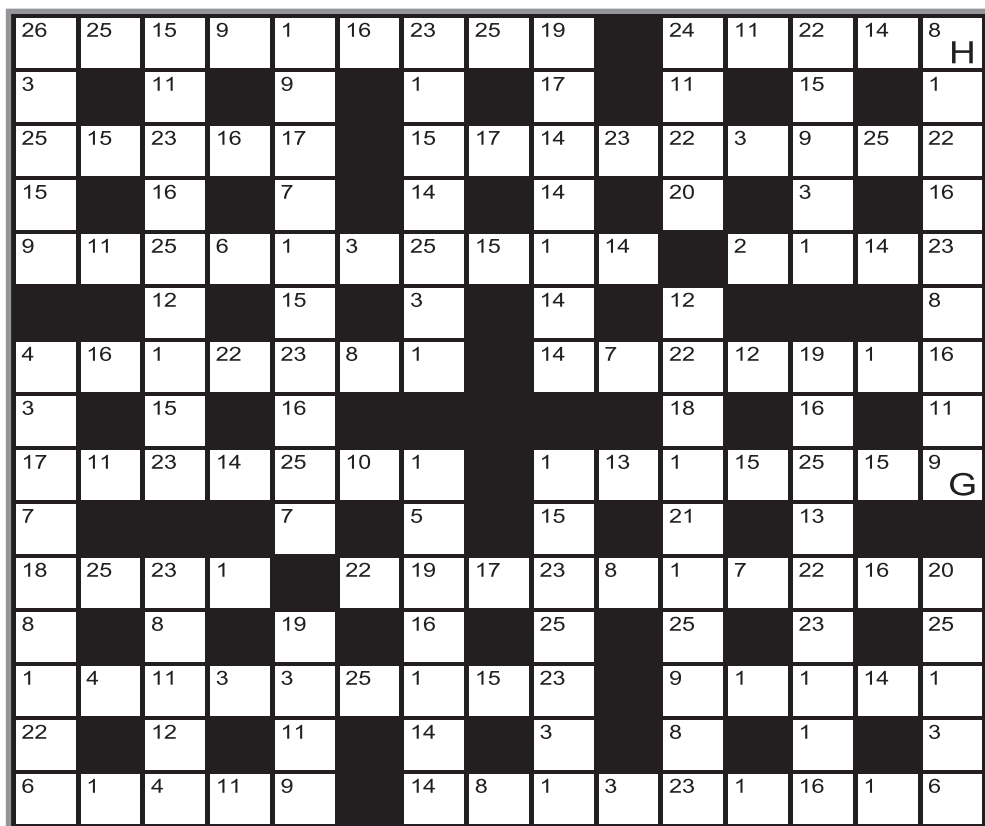
## Down

- 1 Standards set by including Queen in marriage proclamation (7)  
2 Jumped in meadow and a gym (5)  
3 Old boy with part in play that is rude (7)  
4 Plant in some faiths or religions (6)  
5 Knocks tramps gone soft in the middle (5)  
6 Office device made from plaster (7)  
7 Grim extract from a Boris Pasternak novel (5)  
13 Trains with a different skilled worker (7)



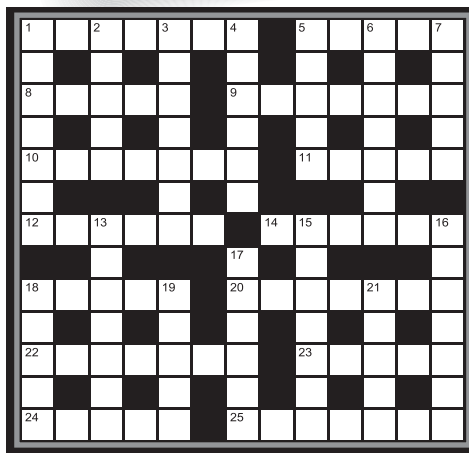
- 15 Better sun block (7)  
16 Slight change of lenders (7)  
17 Confinements, we hear, in beds (6)  
18 Doctor has one afterthought for boring fellows (5)  
19 Shade affected people in charge (5)  
21 Lazies in a forest setting (5)

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 8 represents H and 9 represents G, so fill in H every time the figure 8 appears and G every time the figure 9 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
							H	G				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

## Quick



## Across

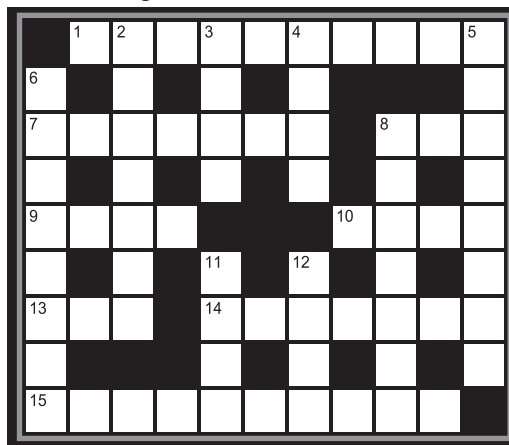
- 1 Sleepwear (7)  
5 Start (5)  
8 Attempts (5)  
9 Supply (7)  
10 Unfriendly (7)  
11 Sovereigns (5)  
12 Respite (6)  
14 Not often (6)  
18 Elegant and stylish (5)  
20 Foes (7)  
22 Ape (7)  
23 Over (5)  
24 Symbols (5)  
25 Gratify (7)

## Down

- 1 Ewer (7)  
2 Unites (5)  
3 Huge (7)  
4 Light evening meal (6)  
5 Obstruct (5)  
6 Smiled broadly (7)  
7 Requires (5)  
13 Departing (7)  
15 Stylish (7)  
16 Enigma (7)  
17 Alcove (6)  
18 Turns around (5)  
19 Rips (5)  
21 Driving clubs (5)

## English - Spanish

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



## Across

- 1 Periódicos (10)  
7 Government-licensed tobacconist's (7)  
8 See 9  
9/8 Alfombra de baño (4,3)  
10 To pray (say prayers) (4)  
13 Handle (of basket, bucket, jug) (3)  
14 Iron (for clothes) (7)  
15 Aprons (10)

## Down

- 2 Statue (7)  
3 Arena (tierra) (4)  
4 Love (between people) (4)  
5 Sábado (8)  
6 Teclado (8)  
8 Milagro (7)  
11 Abierto (4)  
12 Berry (4)

## CRYPTIC

## Across:

- 1 User, 4 Disaster, 8 Caesar, 9 Robins, 10 Mere, 11 Condense, 13 Controversial, 16 Emergent, 19 Reef, 20 Cannes, 22 Shower, 23 Toasters, 24 Tess.

## Down:

- 2 Stateroom, 3 Respect, 4 Doric, 5 Strange, 6 Sable, 7 Eon, 12 Shameless, 14 Oversee, 15 Sort out, 17 Ranks, 18 Tasks, 21 Ado.

## QUICK

## Across:

- 1 Stroppy, 5 Piece, 8 Legal, 9 Calypso, 10 Light, 11 Aware, 12 Expand, 14 Plunge, 18 Gecko, 20 Exact, 22 Abolish, 23 Eager, 24 Erode, 25 Risotto.

## Down:

- 1 Salvage, 2 Regal, 3 Polygon, 4 Yachts, 5 Polka, 6 Explain, 7 Evoke, 13 Piccolo, 15 Leaders, 16 Embargo, 17 Tether, 18 Glare, 19 Ovine, 21 Tight.

## ENGLISH-SPANISH

## Across:

- 1 Flag, 3 Twin, 8 Lie, 9 Amapola, 10 Raindrops, 14 Cowbell, 16 Sea, 17 Ants, 18 Asno.

## Down:

- 1 Film, 2 Abeja, 4 Who, 5 Neat, 6 Painter, 7 Barrels, 11 Pasas, 12 Acta, 13 Mano, 15 Wet.

## CODE BREAKER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Y	M	Q	H	T	V	A	P	U	I	G	J	E	N	X											
D	K	F	W	B	O	L																			



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By Michel Bussi

ON the idyllic island of La Reunion Martial Belion is enjoying a holiday with his wife Liane and their six-year-old daughter surrounded by cloudless skies, blue sea and palm trees. When Liane fails to return after having popped up to the hotel room worried Martial goes to check she is okay.

Upon entering the room he discovers it is empty but covered in blood. With hotel staff telling the police Martial was the only person to have gone to the room at the time Liane disappeared he becomes the prime suspect.

Martial then adds to the suspicion when he too disappears along with his daughter. Could he really have killed his wife? If he didn't kill her why is he acting so guilty?

[books@euroweeklynnews.com](mailto:books@euroweeklynnews.com)

## Games we played in childhood

IT'S National Children's Day UK this Sunday which aims to highlight the importance of a healthy childhood. Nowadays, with the increasing amount of technology available, it is rare to see children out playing in the street. Remember the fun you had as a child playing games outdoors? Here's a nostalgic look at some of the fun games we used to play.

## 1. Skipping

Whether you mastered it or not skipping was a great outdoor activity that you could enjoy on your own. It was even better fun though when, armed with your mum's washing line, you and your friends teamed up to jump together. Jumping in, jumping in twos or threes, jumping to rhymes or, for those who were really good, double Dutch!

## 2. Hide and seek

Who hasn't played this game? It was a great game to play indoors when the weather wasn't great but outside opened up a whole new plethora of hiding places. While the 'seeker' counted to 20, 50 or even 100 (whatever your 'rules' were!) everyone else would run and hide in the hope of being the last person to be found. 'Ready or not, here I come...'

## 3. Kerby

A football, a friend and a quiet road is all that was required. Standing opposite each other the aim was to throw the ball off the edge of the kerb so it bounced back to you. If you managed to catch it on the rebound you got points



SKIPPING: Even better fun with an old washing line.

and the chance to stand in the middle of the road for more points until you missed... then it was your friend's turn. Darn those cars who got in the way of an important game!

## 4. Tig (or Tag)

A game that favoured the more athletic, most of us will have played this at some point. There really aren't any rules other than run as fast as you can and try not to get caught! The person who was 'it' had to try and catch up with someone else in order to 'tig' or 'tag' them saying 'you're it' when they managed to. Exhausted just thinking about this game now!

## 5. Hopscotch (or Peever if you're Scottish!)

Remember pavements covered in chalk from hopscotch grids? The game was played by

throwing an object (stone/shoe polish tin) and trying to land on a number (eg one). If you did you hopped on one leg, jumping over number one, up to the end and back stopping on number two (and so on) where you had to pick up the object while balancing on one leg, lose your balance and your turn was over! The winner was the first to get all the way to nine and back.

## 6. Red Rover/British Bulldog

Each group would stand in a line and make a chain (holding hands) and face each other. Each team then took it in turns with one person running towards the other team to try and break through their chain. If you did you rejoined your team and if you didn't you joined their team against your old team. A good old arm bruising game of rivalry!

## TOP 10

## 7. What's the Time Mr Wolf?

Another great chasing game. Players would stand in a line with the 'wolf' standing a few metres away with his back to everyone. Players chanted 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' and the wolf replied a time eg two o'clock. Players then took steps towards the wolf until he decided 'it's dinner time!' and gave chase. If you didn't make it back to the start without being caught you then became Mr Wolf.

## 8. Clapping Games

How many hours did you play with your friend clapping hands together in a pattern while chanting a rhyme? Some were easy and some were more complicated. Rhymes will have differed depending where you lived but 'A sailor went to sea, sea, sea...' and 'Under the Bramble bushes...' are just two that spring to mind. What was your favourite?

## 9. Kiss, cuddle, torture

Another chasing game... with a twist! Similar to 'tig' or 'tag' someone was 'it' and had to chase and catch someone else. If you got caught you then had options... Kiss, cuddle or torture. What did you choose?

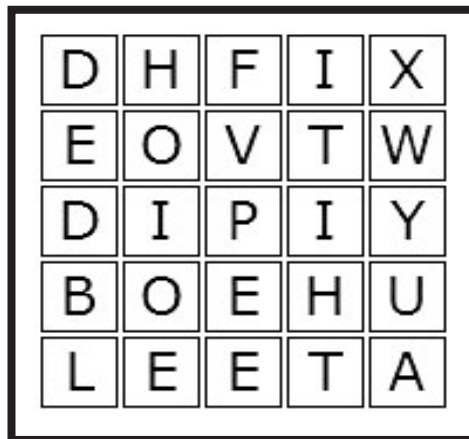
## 10. Rounders

Basically the UK's version of baseball without a baseball pitch. Any decent sized space was used for an impromptu game using items of spare clothing as bases. One team threw the ball and the person batting tried to hit the ball as far as possible before trying to run round all of the bases and back home before the other team retrieved the ball and put them out.

## Boggled

How many English words can you find in the Boggled grid, according to the following rules?

- The letters must be adjoining in a 'chain'. They can be adjacent horizontally, vertically or diagonally.
- Words must contain at least four letters and may include singular and plural or other derived forms.
- No letter may be used more than once within a single word, unless it appears twice.
- No vulgarities or proper nouns are permitted.



## TARGET:

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

## SCORING:

4 letters: 1 point 5 letters: 2 points  
6 letters: 3 points 7 letters: 5 points  
8 or more letters: 11 points

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

lens lend lends elms eons emus enol ends onus spume spun  
spur spurt melt melts menu menus mend mends melon  
melons meld melds lone puns pundit puny purism smelt  
smelts sloe sump sumps sups suit sunny sidle sirup sirups dirt  
yuan yurt isle idle iris aisle aids anus arid runny rids raid raids  
truism triune tray

## 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.

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

## Word Ladder

## BEST

Move from the start word (**BEST**) to the end word (**WALK**) in the same number of steps as there are rungs on the Word Ladder. You must only change one letter at a time.

## WALK

WALK  
WALL  
WELL  
(WELL)  
BELL  
(WEST)  
BEST  
Solution



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# Memories from a parallel universe?

**Trudy**

**Stewart**



WHEN you think of the song 'We are the champions' by Queen, how do you think it ends? If you believe, like me, it's 'of the world' then you are wrong. Those words were never uttered on any studio or live recordings and yet, when the song ends without them, I keep waiting to hear them.

Picture the Monopoly board game and in particular, the Monopoly Man also known as Uncle Pennybags. Do you imagine him to have

a monocle or no monocle? The answer is he has no monocle and has never been illustrated with one.

These are just two examples of something known as 'The Mandela Effect.'

This phrase was coined seven years ago by

Author and Blogger, Fiona Broome. Whilst attending a convention, she discovered that several others there shared a false memory she had about Nelson Mandela.

They all believed that the former South African President had died during his imprisonment

in the 80's. Despite the fact he didn't actually die until December 2013, many people feel certain that they remember seeing clips of his funeral decades before his actual death.

This phenomenon, where large groups of people share false memories of past events, details or physicalities has the internet awash with theories and examples.

Some people believe that far from being false memories, it is actually proof of parallel universes. They think that what is actually happening is that the memories are real and we 'remember' them upon returning from the alternative universe.

Another theory is that time travellers went back into the past resulting in slight changes to our present.

A more logical explanation is that people are just simply misremembering. The fact that the human memory can be unreliable has been well documented and researched.

What's interesting is that so many individuals seem to share the same false memories. Just for fun, let's go through some of them and see how you remember them.

Is it KitKat or Kit-Kat? There has never

been a hyphen so the first spelling is correct but people claim to remember it being there.

In Star Wars, Darth Vader says "Luke, I am your father." It's one of those lines that has been quoted repeatedly and a lot of us will recognise it, but what he actually says is "No, I am your father."

This next one is an oldie but a goodie. In Crocodile Dundee, Paul Hogan pulls out his blade and says "That's not a knife. THIS is a knife!" Or does he? What he actually says is, "That's not a knife. THAT'S a knife!"

Did you get them right?

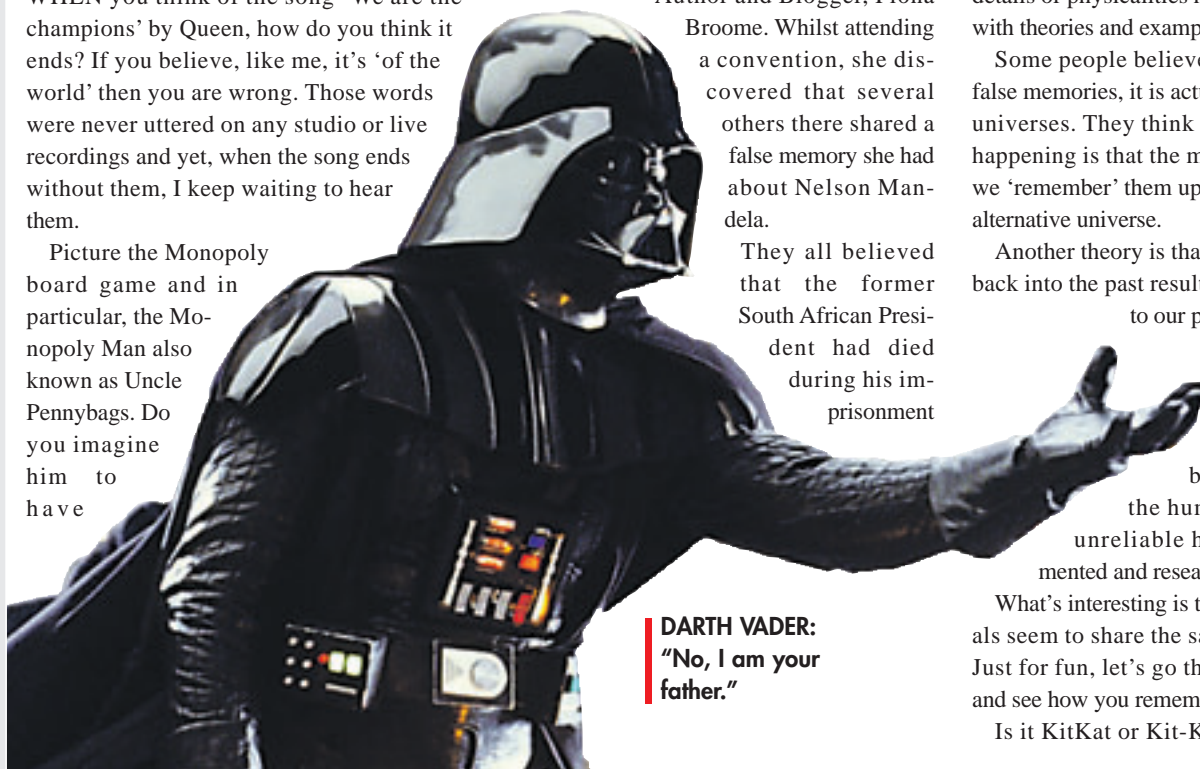
If not, it might be that you are one of the travellers bouncing around between parallel universes, bringing back memories that no longer fit in this universe you find yourself in.

Or it might just mean that your memory is not quite as good for confectionery and film quotes as you thought it was.

Either way, it is strange that so many of us can share these memories that never happened and still be left with a niggles even when we learn the real facts.

If it does turn out that's because of the parallel universe theory, then I only hope I can travel to one where The Donald isn't President... and stay there!

trudystewart75@gmail.com



**DARTH VADER:**  
"No, I am your father."



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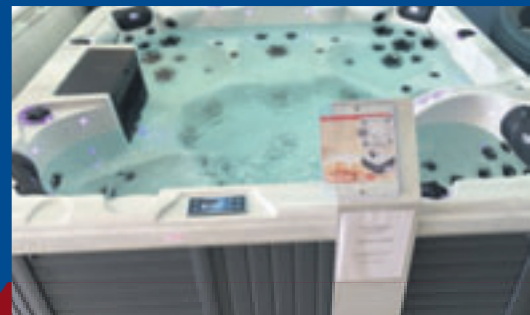
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# Double trouble ahead for Rajoy

**Cassandra Nash**

*A weekly look*

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

OF course Pablo Iglesias and Podemos want a vote of no confidence in Mariano Rajoy and his party.

Proving how reasonable he was, Iglesias emphasised that he would raise no problems regarding an alternative candidate put forward by either the PSOE socialists or the 'C's,' the centrists.

"The candidate isn't important," he said, which is why he was so magnanimous. If the candidate were that important he would never have offered.

For Iglesias, putting the PSOE on the spot with primaries coming up is as important as ousting Rajoy.

By shunning the motion, he can imply they are shoring up the PP as they

did by abstaining to allow Rajoy to form a government.

That could goad enough of the membership into backing Pedro Sanchez as the next PSOE secretary general.

Only the paid-up members - all 187,949 of them - are enamoured

**PABLO IGLESIAS:**  
Hopes to annihilate the PSOE.

of Sanchez. Two general elections and two regional ballots demonstrated that Sanchez does not attract socialist voters.

That's why Iglesias, who hopes to annihilate the P S O E , wants him as

secretary general.

## Power play

WITH the possible exception of the former Spanish vice-president and Hacienda minister Rodrigo Rato, all of the disgraced PP politicians enriched not only themselves but also the party.

The latest in this long line of shysters, the erstwhile president of the Madrid Community Ignacio Gonzalez, used the Canal de Isabel II water utility to raise money for electoral campaigns.

If all power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely, wanting to gain or retain power obviously corrupts to the same extent.

## In black and white

MARIANO RAJOY will always be haunted by the 'Stay strong' text message he sent to disgraced PP treasurer Luis Barcenas when the latter's dodgy bookkeeping emerged.

Likewise, Justice minister Rafael Catala will be dogged forever by his message to Ignacio Gonzalez: "Let's hope the mess gets

sorted out."

Catala did some fast-talking to explain that he didn't mean Gonzalez's mess or the PP's mess or a mess of his own. He meant general mess.

What's written can't be unwritten and some text messages should never be sent in a country where "Think the worst and you'll always be right" is a favourite proverb.

## Not today, thank you

CATALUÑA'S pro-independence president Carles Puigdemont cancelled this month's visit to Morocco.

No politician "at any level" would be available to receive him and his party, Puigdemont was told.

Catalan insiders say Morocco was responding to pressure from Spain and the US but it would be truer to say that no one outside Cataluña is that interested in Puigdemont. Or quite a few inside.





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# Are you one of the 9%?

WORLD ASTHMA DAY has been marked in Spain as experts say there are currently around 235 million asthma patients around the world.

According to the World Health Organisation, (WHO) asthma deaths will increase by almost 20 per cent in the next 10 years if no urgent action is taken. Asthma cannot be cured, but with proper diagnosis and treatment and patient education, it can be controlled and a good quality of life enjoyed. One of the main forms of treatment is through the use of an inhaler, however, reports say that only 9 per cent of asthma patients in Spain, use their inhaler correctly.

A specialist department at Barcelona's Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, said inhaled therapy is recommended for asthma as it directly reaches the lungs, but many people do use the inhaler correctly and the medication does not reach the respiratory tract. The Respiratory Group of the Spanish Society of Family and Community Pharmacies, added that many pa-

tients also have more than one inhaler to use and often forget which one to use when.

They stress that the use of inhalers requires greater teaching and control by medical staff, both doctors, nurses and pharmacists, at the time of prescribing the device, to ensure it is correctly and effectively used.

Another frequent error is that the condition can have phases of stability, resulting in the patient deciding not to take their medication. However, this can lead to a long term worsening of the condition.

Asthma is one of the most prevalent chronic respiratory diseases in Spain, affecting around 5 per cent of adults and 8-10 per cent of children.



**ASTHMA:**  
The use of inhalers  
requires greater  
teaching.



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# Are you lonely?



**LONELINESS:**  
Some men have felt  
lonely for years.

MEN could be lonelier than you think. A report has concluded that as many as 35 per cent of men in the UK feel lonely at least once a

week, while 11 per cent admitted to feeling lonely most days.

The study was carried out by social media site

Gransnet, which reported that the older generation are suffering from an 'epidemic of loneliness' with almost three-quarters describing themselves as lonely. Almost two in five said they could go for days without speaking to anyone and nearly half said they had felt lonely for years as the study authors warned that many, particularly pensioners, were suffering in silence with over 70 per cent saying their family would be shocked to learn

they felt lonely.

Over 25 per cent of men aged 65 to 69 blamed retirement for their loneliness as they had lost that connection with going to work and being around colleagues, although the study found that 35 was the age when a man felt the loneliest.

Moving away from family and friends was also a main cause of loneliness in respondents, as well as going through a break up, being unemployed and the death of a family member.

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## Pain of sciatica



**SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.**

**1. What is sciatica and when does it usually occur?**

Sciatica is simply pain felt in the lumbar area that can spread to both legs usually caused by a pinched nerve. Although it can happen at any age, it tends to be most common amongst the elderly due to arthritis in the spinal column. It can also appear after strenuous physical activities causing herniated discs.

**2. What are the symptoms?**

The main symptoms of sciatica are muscle cramps, back pains that can spread to the legs as well as difficulty in making certain movements, and in some cases being unable to move your legs.

**3. What causes sciatica?**

The main causes of sciatica are arthritis and herniated discs in the spine. They are most common amongst the elderly and the young after overexerting themselves lifting heavy loads, or bad posture when sitting, among other things.

**4. How can it be treated?**

Usually a course of anti-

inflammatories, analgesics, muscle relaxants and rest are effective in managing the symptoms. Depending on the cause of a person's sciatica it may be necessary to have an operation, such as having herniated discs.

Physiotherapy is also very beneficial for sciatica sufferers.

**5. Can you prevent having sciatica?**

Certain exercises which strengthen muscles, avoiding bad postures, not overexerting when lifting and sitting correctly are all ways to minimise the chances of suffering from sciatica.

**6. Is there a specific exercise which helps?**

Any form of exercise which does not strain your back is helpful, as it strengthens your muscles and helps improve blood flow.

Generally swimming, yoga, pilates and other similar exercises are all very beneficial.

**7. Is it hereditary?**

In general it is not hereditary. Just because parents suffer from sciatica it does not mean their children will too.

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



## Making access easier for the disabled

THE first electric car in Spain adapted for people with reduced mobility, has been created.

The Nissan eNV200 has been adapted thanks to the expertise of ILUNION Adaptación de Vehículos which belongs to the ONCE group of social enterprises and its Foundation.

ILUNION said the technical department of Nissan was instrumental in developing this first prototype as there are very strict protocols and guidelines to be followed on this type of vehicle.

The Nissan is a five-seater vehicle and has space for a person in a wheelchair.

ILUNION hopes that this could be a 'car of the future' for those with disabilities and opens the door to making electric taxis more accessible in city centres, making services more accessible for all and more environmentally friendly.



**EXERCISE PILL:** Would allow people to reap the benefits without doing a workout.

## Popping a pill to replace the treadmill

A PILL could soon give the effect you have had a workout, without you raising a finger.

Scientists say a chemical called PPARD is linked to aerobic endurance. In tests with mice, the researchers used a small-molecule drug to activate PPARD in the muscles of mice. It increased the fat burn-

ing in their muscles, similar to what happens during exercise, despite them being sedentary, and also increased endurance by up to 70 per cent. It is hoped these findings and their research could lead to an 'exercise pill' that would allow people to reap the benefits of a workout without actually doing one.

## Mutual massage is good for both of you

GIVING a massage will not only make your partner feel good, but it will make you feel pretty good too.

That's according to researchers who got couples to spend 15 minutes giving their partner a massage two or three times a week. They found that couples who did this showed significant improvements in their well-being, stress and relationship satisfaction.

The study, which involved 38 couples, reports those who gave the massage felt around 9 per cent better overall, compared to 12 per cent for those who received the massage. It measured their mental well-being during a three-week course where they were taught massage skills and three weeks after it had finished.

Nine out of 10 couples in the study said they would recommend mutual massage.



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## Belly dancing

A SPECIAL oriental festival is on the cards for Mojácar this summer. Muxacra Oriental Fest 2017 is organised by Shirin Bellydance Art and will come to the pueblo from July 28-30.

Muxacra brings oriental and bellydance workshops as well as live music, food and art from the east. Guest star is Nesma, an internationally acclaimed teacher in Andalusian and Reda dance who will hold public talks on the mysterious art forms.

There will be a gala, open air demonstrations, books, videos and CDs. Most importantly there is the chance to learn first hand the art of oriental dance from one of the finest teachers in Spain.

# A visual ode to planet earth

ONE of the world's greatest photographic exhibitions is finally on display in Almería. 'Genesis' by famous Brazilian artist Sebastiao Salgado is now available for public viewing at the Mirador de la Rambla until June 9. It is an outside series, part of the 'Art in the Street' initiative proving popular in Almería.

Genesis consists of 38 black and white photographs of landscapes, people and animals in their most primitive and natural state. It is the work of years spent photographing some of the planet's most remote wildernesses, and the indigenous people who survive in them.

Salgado visited the depths of the Amazon jungle, the Galapagos Islands, snowbound Alaska and Siberia, unique Madagascan wildlife, and Indonesian jungle in his hunt for universal human truths.

He took in scorching deserts, tropical rainforests and desolate polar landscapes while living with nomads, hunters and farmers for months on end capturing their lost lifestyles. The planetary tour, which involved 32 different



**GENESIS: Stunning photos from Sebastiao Salgado.**

trips, took Salgado eight years from 2004 to 2012 to complete.

A representative of Salgado in Spain said that Genesis is a powerful call to preserve the virgin spaces of earth, an

estimated 46 per cent of the planet, where humans do not yet live. He described it as a visual ode to the majesty of mother earth.

The Brazilian has travelled to hun-

dreds of countries in an acclaimed career that many consider to be the best photojournalist of all time. His works have graced museums from New York to Rio de Janeiro, Tokyo and London.



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## Pop rock dream

TICKETS are quickly running out for the Pulpop Festival which will take Almeria by storm this July. Sponsored by Radio 3 and Cruzcampo, the festival brings some of the brightest sounds in the Spanish and international music scene to the big stage.

Already confirmed are top British band The Spitfires. Meanwhile Costa del Sol trio Airbag will be performing hits from the Beach Boys, Housemartins and Buzzcocks. There are dozens of other local names and bands travelling from across Europe for the chance to play at one of Spain's newest and most exciting festivals.

Pulpop is only a two-day affair which begins on Friday July 7 at the Roquetas bullring and then wraps up on the Saturday at iconic musical venue the Zaway pub for an aftershow featuring some of Spain's top DJs from 2am.

The entire neighbourhood will be transformed into a mini rock 'n' roll paradise during the festival. Many of the bands taking part had to compete for a spot, making the quality extremely high. Pulpop is a tribute to classic pop and rock music and a far cry from the trance marathon that is Dreambeach.

Tickets can be bought online.

## Culture festival

THE spring cultural festival being held across Almeria is well underway with museums throughout the province having held numerous exhibitions and set to hold exciting new ones.

The Museum of Almeria is set to hold a special family day of children's art on May 12 while on May 16 a ceramics exhibition will be held. Thursday May 18 will be particularly special as it is National Museum Day, celebrated with the Hilando Vidas exhibition.

Also throughout the month the Alcazaba will be holding a series of special events to commemorate the spring cultural season, including guided tours of local castles.



**SEAT: Bike race sponsored by car company.**

## Elite racers unite

ON Sunday May 28 Vera will hold the first edition of a new road cycling race developed in collaboration with car brand Seat Navarro Segura. Jointly organised by the Andalucian Cycling Federation the race takes place next to Vera's fairground and involves a 1.5 kilometre loop raced for laps.

Competitors will be divided into different categories, including Elite, under 23, over 60, Womens and Juniors. The race is

**“The race is only open to federated cyclists or school champions but hundreds are expected to turn up as spectators.**

only open to federated cyclists or school champions, but hundreds of people are expected as spectators to create a terrific community atmosphere.

## An avid weekend of storytelling

A LOCAL book fair will see hundreds of children and adults from across the Almanzora Valley gather in Macael this weekend. A passionate weekend of storytelling will see youngsters mesmerised by the works of both English and Spanish heroes of the literature world.

From early on Thursday May 11 until the following Friday evening avid readers can hear works from Roald Dahl, of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory fame, and Miguel de Cervantes, specifically his mas-

terpiece Don Quixote.

There will also be workshops, games, food and adventure for the young ones, who will come from Albox, Cantoria, Olula del Rio, Purchena and Macael. All are invited to the fair which will be held in the Plaza de la Constitucion and Plaza de la Juventud.

Book signings with famous local authors, and even a radio broadcast will take place alongside marathon reading sessions as the fair hopes to rekindle the lost art of reading in today's youth and young adults.

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--	--

**Sunday 14th March**  
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# The pilgrims of swing

SAN ISIDRO is finally here. One of Almería's biggest festivals will see parties across the province on Saturday March 13 before the most solemn spectacle of pilgrimages on Sunday. San Isidro's official day is May 15, with the traditional pilgrimages running on the Sunday closest.

Though the festival is well attended throughout Spain, and even the Spanish speaking world, it is celebrated in particular style in Almería, especially in Mojacar and Nijar.

Both towns will be enjoying huge colourful parties on Saturday with live music in public squares, food, drink and merriment. On Sunday the biggest local procession takes place in Mojacar as pil-

grims depart from La Fuente at 11am and trek around 10 kilometres to Sopalmó, accompanied as ever by the terrific Mojacar municipal band.

With religion on the wane, even in traditional Spain, the biggest San Isidro festivities, certainly the loudest, are reserved for Saturday.

Live music from local bands will run long into the night as people dress up in colourful, vibrant spring clothing in the last big party before Moors and Christians celebrations transform Almería into living history.

On Saturday the biggest celebrations will be at La Fuente, Mojacar, where Noches de Candela will kick off their performance at 11pm.



**PARTY: San Isidro is a colourful celebration.**

# May's plant of the month

THE Umbrian Botanical Gardens in the gorgeous Sierra de Maria-Los Velez Natural Park has chosen its 'plant of the month' ahead of an exciting May schedule. The Vinca Major (Periwinkle) was selected for the month of May and all guests can now see it in full bloom at the famous botanical garden.

The periwinkle can be found naturally from sea level to altitudes of 1,500 metres, especially in the Mediterranean basin and is renowned for its medicinal properties. Those properties have made it the perfect introduction for the Garden's new schedule.

Now open from 9am until 3pm from Tuesday to Sunday, admission is free to the public. The Garden is part of a wider Andalusian network of natural



**PERIWINKLE: Plant of the month at Umbrian Gardens.**

spaces and a terrific inclusion in the Sierra de Maria-Los-Velez park, itself considered a butterfly and bird-spotting paradise.

# Incognito Singers spring concert

ON Saturday April 29 The Incognito Singers delighted the audience at Albox Town Hall Theatre with a medley of songs ranging from Ain't Misbehavin' to the Pilgrim's Chorus from Wagner's 'Tannhäuser'.

Their assured and easy style masked the hard work that must have been put into pulling off such a varied programme so convincingly and the audience clearly enjoyed everything they heard.

Musical director, David Murphy, gave his usual professionalism to the

music and to the introduction of the numbers in both English and Spanish. David clearly knows how to get the very best out of his singers, and the singers obviously respond to his direction with enthusiasm and dedication.

There were pieces of particular note - a barbershop quartet performance of Coney Island Baby, and a trio singing SauveSia Il Vento from Mozart's 'Così Fan Tutte' - which gave an opportunity for some strong individual voices to shine. The other two classical pieces -

Speed Your Journey from 'Nabucco' by Verdi and the Pilgrim's Chorus - were familiar to everyone.

The Asociacion Española Contra el Cancer (AECC - Spanish Cancer Association) is the beneficiary of a donation of €700 as a result of a Saturday afternoon well spent in the company of The Incognito Singers. Beats shopping any day!

If you would like more information about The Incognito Singers, visit their website [www.theincognitosingers.com](http://www.theincognitosingers.com).





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# The Sunday Times Rich List - Just to make you Feel Good

“

Wealth is like sea-water; the more we drink, the thirstier we become; and the same is true of fame.

Arthur Schopenhauer

**GOOD FOOD,  
GOOD WINE AND  
GOOD FRIENDS  
WITH  
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**T**HERE ARE NOW MORE BILLIONAIRES living in the UK than ever before despite fears over Brexit, the *Sunday Times* Rich List has revealed

This year's list found the richest 1,000 people and families have a record total wealth of £658 billion, a rise of 14 per cent on last year's £575 billion figure.

The wealthiest people in the UK are elderly brothers Sri and Gopi Hinduja, whose latest project is to convert the Old War Office in London into a luxury five-star hotel and 88 luxury apartments for the super-rich.

The pair first topped the list in 2014 and now have a fortune of £16.2 billion, made



through investments spanning the oil and gas, automotive, IT, energy, media, banking, property and healthcare sectors.

They are now among 134 billionaires on the list - a record number in the UK and 14 more than last year's.

In today's world, being simply a millionaire no longer secures you a place on the Rich List, with a fund of £110 million now needed to get you a place in the top 1,000. Two decades ago people needed a fortune of only (sic) £15 million to make the cut.

Robert Watts, compiler of the rankings, said: "While many of us worried about the outcome of the EU referendum, many of the richest people just kept calm and carried on making billions."

**Gopichand Hinduja,  
joint richest man, with his brother,  
in the UK.**

**RELEASED THIS WEEK** here are the top five:

**1. Sri and Gopi Hinduja** - £16.2 billion. The brothers live in a £300 million mansion overlooking St James's Park.

**2. Len Blavatnik** - £15.982 billion. The Ukraine-born investor owns Warner Music Group and lives in his home in Kensington Palace Gardens.

**3. David and Simon Reuben** - £14 billion. The brothers made their money in London property and internet. They bought a £70 million car park in Mayfair in 2015 which will be turned into a £500 million redevelopment.

**4. Lakshmi Mittal and family** - £13.229 billion. The world's top steelmaker is also a shareholder in QPR football club.

**5. Alisher Usmanov** - £11.791 billion. He owns a 30 per cent stake in Arsenal and made his money from mining and investment.

Can't see many 'British' names there - can you??

(courtesy of the *Sunday Times*)

**AND SPEAKING OF MILLIONS**, regular readers may recall me mentioning about how in the 80's cities were closing banks down and entrepreneurs were converting them into restaurants and fashionable wine bars and brasseries. I commented that the practice had seemed to have faded. So it was with some interest that I read from London that the former Sir Edwin Lutyens-designed Midland Bank building on Poultry, just a minute's walk from the Bank of England, has been turned into a luxury hotel.

The Ned - the largest and most ambitious hotel to launch in London this year - is set to welcome its first guests.



**The Ned - Large in Scale and Delivery.**

A former Caterer named Hotelier of the Year 2015, Nick Jones is the man behind the enormous project. He never intended to open a hotel in the City of London. The capital's financial centre is not a typical location for an outpost of Soho House & Co,

the company founded by Jones 22 years ago and renowned for attracting guests and members from the media and entertainment industries.

He was told about the availability of the building by the landlord of Little House, one of 18 members' clubs owned and operated by Soho House & Co worldwide. "I wasn't particularly keen to go along, but I didn't want to appear rude," he recalls. "The banking floor was jaw-droppingly beautiful," he said. "I clambered up on the roof, with its views over St Paul's, and immediately saw the huge potential the property offered as a hotel and collection of restaurants."

The hotel features 252 bedrooms, nine restaurants, two swimming pools - one on the rooftop and one in the basement - a spa, members' club and much more. The Ned is a beautiful, multifaceted beast, which required the help of a partner to create. After speaking to Ron Burkle, the American investor who acquired a 60 per cent stake in Soho House & Co in 2012, Jones met with Andrew Zoller, the founder and chief executive of Syde Group. Burkle is also the main financial backer of Syde Group, a company that has experience of grand renovation projects through the opening of six hotels in the US during the past five years.

"That was the start of our collaboration and it's been fantastic," enthuses Jones. "We love each other more than we did at the beginning, which is unusual when you're involved in a project of this scale."

While Soho House & Co has extensive experience of developing a variety of hospitality businesses - as well as the members' clubs (12 of which feature bedrooms and welcome non-members), it has also created 16 restaurant brands - nothing comes close to the scale of the Ned, which covers nearly 30,000 square metres.

Jones and his team made the most of the building, encouraging him to look to its banking heritage for design cues. Hence, much use has been made of the banking hall's original walnut-panelled counters, used by tellers, repurposed as bar counters and dividers between the different restaurants.

Once bustling with bank customers, the space will now buzz with some 850 restaurant customers at any one time. Meanwhile, in the basement, the bank vaults feature a lounge bar, containing more than 3,000 original stainless steel, engraved safety deposit boxes that once stored gold bullion deposits of £335m (£15b in today's money) and the two metre-wide doors have been retained.



**Original in Design and in Fact - Entrance to the Vault bar at the Ned.**

The £220 million investment is now in the hands of Gareth Banner, the managing director of the Ned, who was appointed from his former general manager role at the Renaissance St Pancras hotel, London, and is the person responsible for the hotel on a day-to-day basis, who explained the logistics. "We have a central production kitchen, which feeds into all the restaurants, and a specific kitchen for each restaurant," he says. "The restaurants will all be run independently with their own head chef, restaurant manager and team, while behind the scenes there will be a lot of shared services - such as purchasing."

Staffing the Ned with a team of 800 is what has kept Banner awake at night. The process, however, has been on track, with many individuals being recruited directly from Europe, despite the uncertainty of what Brexit will mean in the long-term

with regard to employing staff from within the EU. Teams of recruiters have appointed in Rome and Barcelona through the offer of attractive packages, rather than wait for individuals to come to the UK and for the Ned to then compete with another 10 businesses for their services.

"It is a worry and a concern for everyone in our industry how the government is going to deal with the immigration situation," says Jones. "Over 75 per cent of the people who work for Soho House in the UK weren't born in this country. I'm sure the government will consider a way around it - they are going to have to."

Once again, the Hospitality Industry in the UK shows its concern for the future of employment of foreigners after Brexit. But for the time being the Ned will no doubt thrive in the competitive world of London hotels. It is still one of Europe's top destinations. The City has never been considered a leisure area especially in the evenings, up until about 10 years ago bars closed at 8.00pm. But with the dining experiences and entertainment on offer at this luxury hotel, it will surely be at the hub of the financial district. The old bank may well welcome more bankers as customers, than used to work there!

(some content courtesy of the Caterer:  
www.thened.com)

*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.*





PARENTS' ANGER: Previous protests over closure of the school.

## Fury at Fenoy closure

A LOCAL Albox school and cherished local landmark is officially closed. The gazette of the Andalusian government referred to the 'abolition' of the Francisco Fenoy de Albox school.

The centre has been merged with the Virgen del Saliente despite public protests and considerable local anger. Protest movement, AMPA of Fenoy, which was set up to oppose the move will remain in operation until at least the end of the current school year, fighting for Albox's educational future.

Francisco Fenoy de Albox served the community for 31 years and had 133 students, though new student registrations have been

banned for some time.

AMPA has now published a damning response to the Junta Andalusia's decision on the protest group's Facebook page.

The group, consisting mainly of local parents, calls for everyone who either supported the closure, or who did nothing to prevent it, to celebrate the day with a Champagne toast.

They say their conscience is clear. AMPA exposed local politicians who supported the closure and fought to the very end for their sons and daughters. The group also thanks the thousands of people who lent support during their often bitter campaign.

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# A union of nations

HUNDREDS of people took part in the third annual Cuadrillas meet of Albox. The festival brought out many of the traditional dances, clothes, music and food of the region.

A parade through Plaza Mayor and Plaza de San Francisco attracted people from all over the Almanzora Valley with musicians arriving from Huercal-Overa and Velez-Rubio.

Local residents joined in and everyone feasted on a giant paella that symbolises the union of different nationalities who have made the town their home. Traditional songs were out in force and pastries devoured en masse.



**LET'S DANCE:** People enjoy Cuadrillas celebrations

Culture councillor Aurora Cerdan described the day as a terrific success which showed Albox's

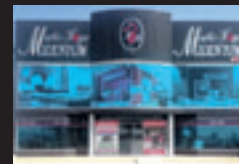
deep respect for its cultural heritage. Next year's Cuadrillas is set to be even bigger.

# Star crossed actors triumph

STUDENTS from Cantoria performed different stage works in English in a series of plays designed to raise money for charity. Bold youngsters from the IES Valle del Almanzora Cantoria performed Romeo and Juliet and Cinderella at the town theatre in a hugely well received evening.

With help from local expats and their hard working English department the students were able to pull off a flawless performance of the Shakespeare play and ancient fairytale. The students worked extremely hard for weeks and not only triumphed, but also raised funds for a local charity.

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CONVENT: Major renovations are needed.

## Cough up for new town hall

RESIDENTS of Albox have been asked to contribute financially to the restoration of the new town hall, the old church convent. Mayor Francisco Torrecillas said that the great restoration project would be embraced by future generations of Albox residents and should therefore be funded in a community spirit.

The council website now has various banking links which people can follow to make a private donation. 'Every little helps' wrote the mayor on his Facebook page. The appeal comes as work began in earnest last month on repairing the roofs of the 19th century building.

It has been leased for decades from the Bishopric on the condition that Albox Council renovate and bring the old convent back to life as a major community attraction.

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# Mega shopping back on track

AMERICAN developer the Cordish Companies is continuing to insist that its proposed mega-project in Madrid go ahead. The Spanish capital had rejected Cordish's ambitious plan on the grounds that it would cost too much money.

Cordish has now offered to sweeten the deal, which would be among the biggest real estate developments in Spanish history. As well as a massive shopping complex with a cinema and hotels, they want to build a six hectare lagoon with an artificial beach where people can play volleyball and even surf and swim.

The government had been asked to contribute €340 million to the project, together with the €2.2 billion Cordish have at the ready. Madrid thought this figure excessive but, together with the new lagoon concept, Cordish has also said that all the city has to contribute is planning permission. They will do the rest.

The ball is now back in the city's court. There are fears that the project



MADRID COMPLEX: Would include a cinema, hotels, a six hectare lagoon and an artificial beach.

could take longer than expected and fill an appetite that doesn't exist in a huge city with its fair share of mega shopping centres.

But Cordish points out that this is no ordinary shopping centre. Like other hundred hectare estates planned for Valencia and the Costa

del Sol it will feature luxury suites, a convention centre, sports centre, even museums and concert halls.

They estimate that nine million

people would visit the centre each year, while the knock-on effects for Spain's booming construction industry would be enormous.

## Foreign buyers on the increase

THE vast majority of foreigners who decide to buy a home in the Spanish sun choose second hand properties rather than new builds.

Latest breakdown figures show that 83.7 per cent of the homes bought by expats last year were second hand, meaning not only that they'd had more than one owner but also weren't built in the past year or two.

That meant that just 16.3 per cent of the 56,000 homes bought by foreigners were new builds. Oddly enough the statistics suggest that expats favour second hand homes more than Spanish nationals, 81.2 per cent of whom chose older properties.

But further breakdowns can be made between foreign nationalities. For instance the Irish, French and Italians overwhelmingly prefer second hand homes. Norwegians, Belgians and Swedish opt for

new builds.

Alternatively Brits and Germans typically don't put too much currency on the age of the home. Rather they choose size, opting for homes with more than 100 square metres of space.

Regardless of whether the homes favoured are old or new, big or small, foreigners are continuing to buy Spanish in record numbers.

They bought almost 8,000 more homes last year than in 2015. That meant that 13.2 per cent of homes were bought by foreigners, a huge increase from the 4.2 per cent recorded in 2009.

Naturally the Mediterranean coastlines continue to be the favourite haunt of expats looking for a home in the sun. Some 47,000 of the 56,000 purchased were on the long glorious coastline between Gibraltar and Barcelona.

THREE villas on Campello's Muchavista beach in Alicante have been pulled down to make way for 10 luxury apartments.

Campello's General Development Plan (PGOU) drafted in 2011 originally intended to give planning permission for a hotel on the site.

## A demand for luxury

Instead, the PGOU was revoked last year by the Supreme Court on a technicality pointed out by a local business-owner who would have been adversely affected by it.

For the time being at least,

any future development will be in line with the 1986 PGOU.

Although the Supreme Court ruling put the brakes on the local construction sector last year and at the beginning

of 2017, there is still a demand for frontline luxury properties. Three villas built last year above the l'Almadrava beach each sold for almost €1.8 million, sector sources said.

The new apartment building will have two 400-square metre apartments costing €1 million on each floor.



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"A heat pump is the single most efficient way to heat a pool and you don't need sunshine, only ambient temperature.

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**FOUR STEPS:** To swimming whenever you want, whatever the season.

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that, it's a natural job for a skilled installer. Try out our online calculator at [www.poolworx.eu](http://www.poolworx.eu)!"

Simon: "Step 2 is the installation of the unit. Once the heat pump is on site, we mount it on rubbers and hook up electrics. This is straightforward as the heat pump is connected to your existing wiring, 230V single phase.

"All models can steer circulation autonomously and even start/stop automatically by detecting the water flow from your pool

pump. This means you have full flexibility!

"Step 3 is the installation of bypass valves to direct the flow of pool water from the existing pipework to the heat pump and back. No need to run the water through the unit during boiling hot summer months!

"Step 4 is setting the desired temperature via the digital control panel and after that ... four days of patience and you can start enjoying your pool at any moment you feel like it!"

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## Poppies are beautiful in bloom

By Graeme Tyrrell

THE spring flowers that grace the landscape at this time of year in areas where there has been good winter rain are a marvel to behold.

There is a plethora of colours and forms of flowers from tiny Scarlet Pimpernel to various types of the prominent Chrysanthemum family. An outstanding flower that catches the eye, especially when dominating a field, and is very symbolic for many is the poppy.

Poppies have a short-lived flower but produce new ones consecutively so appear to flower for a long period during

spring. The typically red common poppy is normally an annual plant of less than a metre in height but if you are cultivating poppies there is a wide range of different colours, sizes and forms available.

They make a great container plant to add colour to a balcony or terrace and in the garden they will brighten up an area where you visit frequently. I have the wild varieties coming up in my vegetable garden, but I let them stay and brighten up the garden during the establishment of the summer vegetable crops until the vegetables need more space.

The true poppies are Papaver

species, of which there are over 70, but other families including the blue Meconopsis, plumed Macleaya and tree Romneya also have poppy as a common name.

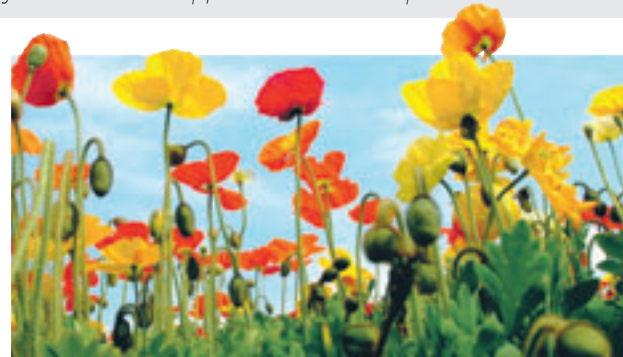
As a cultivated plant the Iceland poppy is a favourite with many gardeners. It lasts for a couple of years so there is not the need to replant each year and the range of different coloured flowers is extensive.

The seed of poppies is very small and grows best when sprinkled on a cultivated soil surface or a potting mix with only a fine coating of mix to cover them or just press them into the soil in early winter

and spring.

They sprout naturally in fields that have been cultivated or disturbed because they need to be near the surface and exposed to some light to germinate, so don't bury the seed. The association of the poppy with remembrance is that it grew so prolifically in areas of soil disturbance after military activities and burials in the natural soil.

They can be transplanted but do better grown from seed in their chosen spot. They grow very quickly, emerging one to two weeks from planting the seed, and can start flowering within weeks.



**SPRING POPPIES:** Come in many different hues.



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# A passion for the porcelain

IT seems that men are giving more consideration to cleaning the toilet. It makes sense that they should, as it is a regular port of call.

The days when men only managed to lift the toilet seat and never bothered putting it down may be over.

Things are changing, as researchers have discovered that men are taking more interest in the hygiene of their toilet and even buying products for cleaning, which is an amazing find. However, the report states that women are still taking most of the responsibility towards the cleaning of the 'throne.'

This new wave of interest may be due to there being so many products for cleaning the toilet that smell so wonderful, giving an incentive to take more of a part in this dreaded household duty. Awareness of germs is another reason, with people buying more disinfectants and advice for cleaning the toilet can be found so easily on social media.



**TOILET CLEANING:** How to keep your man interested in caring for the loo.

Keep the man in your life interested in caring for the loo, by making it a more welcoming place to be. If he likes to read on the loo, get him a bookshelf

and he'll take pride in this very important area and invest in keeping it clean.

It is probably the only room in the house, where you can

have complete privacy, so turn your visits into pleasurable ones with fresh clean aromas, patterned toilet paper and a squeaky clean loo.

## The sanctuary of the bathroom

LIFE is very stressful these days and there seems to be nowhere to hide from the world outside, not even within your walls. There is one special place in the house that allows you to lock the door, so why not make the most of it, by turning this room into a Zen-like sanctuary, where you can begin to wind down in peaceful surroundings.

It is not difficult to create a private oasis and here are a few ideas to get some serenity back into your everyday life. The first idea is to put smooth stones in the sink and when the water flows over the stones, the splashing will sound like a water fountain.

The lighting should be soft and calming, so use candles positioned near a mirror, if they are unattended, use the flameless variety. If you have visitors, it would be interesting for them and yourself to have some artwork up on the walls. The focus will be drawn to the art and this will have the effect of relaxing you and your guests.

The smell of natural scents like jasmine and lavender, or incense cones can create a calming aroma. Decorate with fresh flowers or if the bathroom is well lit, add a fern, otherwise add a rubber plant, to emphasise the presence of nature.

To accessorise, add beautiful hand towels, presented in a basket and make sure to turn off the extractor fan if you need some peace and quiet!

## Get the Loewe down

SPANISH luxury clothing brand Loewe has become the latest fashion house to expand into the lifestyle sector with a range of homeware. The new collection Loewe: This is Home, made its debut at Milan Design Week 2017 in April.

The eclectic range features contemporary modular seating solutions with a flavour of American minimalism, wool throws knitted into male silhouettes, rugs dotted with stars and hand-carved oak items made in Yorkshire.

It is the brainchild of Irish-

born designer Jonathon Anderson, who was installed as creative director at the end of 2013.

"I like the idea that fashion can explode into the household, bringing artisans together to design new physical forms and apply craft in a home," he said.

## Shady solution for hot summer days

IN the summer, everyone loves to be outdoors and there's nothing better than sitting under a pergola, to take the edge off the heat of the sun.

The pergola is an extension of living space but can also be freestanding. The structure is based on posts and covered with a roof or arch, made of wood or metal.

Pergolas have been around for a long time and their original purpose was to provide protection from the sun. The origin of the word dates back to 1645-55 from the Italian Latin word, 'pergula,' which means protruding roof, arbour. Their beauty comes in their simplicity, a framework that's waiting to be dressed either with fabric, natural wood or live foliage.

Ancient Egyptians used reeds or palm leaves and Tuscans used grape vines on their pergolas. You could also use branches or bamboo; lattice panels that have a criss-crossed slat pattern, but don't give full protection; or fixed fabric in one piece or strips that are woven through. Other options are to use retractable canopies that are waterproof and have sun protection factor or to go for ultra luxury with pergola curtains that will give privacy and make you feel rather special.

The most beautiful pergolas are those decorated with climbing plants. Use Chinese Trumpet vine, Golden Hop, Morning Glory, common jasmine, climbing roses, 'Albertine,' Paul's Himalayan Musk, black grape, 'Brant' or Wisteria.

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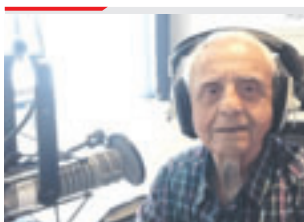


## Let sleeping dogs lie

THE structure of a dog's sleep is very similar to a human being's sleep. There are stages of wakefulness, rapid-eye-movement REM sleep and non-rapid eye-movement sleep.

While asleep, the dog's brain is trying to find shortcuts or connections between things that they have experienced. The events of the day are put into categories, when in non-REM sleep. In REM sleep there is an opportunity for the dog to explore, in an environment that's free of consequences.

Dogs enter REM sleep about 20 minutes into a snooze session and might stay there for two to three minutes. People and dogs dream in both stages of sleep mentioned, but most dreams are remembered through REM sleep.



**David THE Dogman**

Please note that this article was written by Sara Reusche of Paws Abilities Dog Training in Rochester, Minnesota, United States.

IF your cat or dog has a history of trauma, whether suspected or confirmed, here are some guidelines to remember.

1. The cat or dog determines what's traumatising, not you. While you may not have thought that holding your pet down for a simple nail trim was that big a deal, your cat or dog may have a different opinion. Watch your dog's body language for signs of stress such as lip licking, yawning, slower or faster movement, freezing, and turning away so that you can intervene if a situation starts to go south. Pushing through such situations can almost guarantee that they'll create

# Trauma in pets, part 3

new fear triggers in many cats and dogs.

2. Create safe places. One of the reasons to teach a dog to go to his or her mat is it is helpful for many dogs due to its clear structure of safety.

The mat is a positive place where treats, relaxation, and massage take place, we can create a positive conditioned emotional response to the mere presence of this training method. Once the mat becomes a safe place, make sure to keep it that way. Do not allow anything bad happen to your dog on the mat. You can create other safe spaces as well - places in your dog's environment where good things occur and where there is no pressure placed on the dog.

3. Give your cat and dog choices. One of the fastest ways to traumatise any mammal is to take away all of his or her choices. Create opportunities for your dog to make choices about his or her envi-

ronment, schedule, and care as much as possible. Whether you let your dog decide which way to turn at the end of the block, wait for your dog to offer a foot for nail trimming, play with nose work, or give your dog several different beds to choose to sleep on, choice is hugely important. Cats decide where they are going to sleep.

Set your dog up to make good choices, then reward those choices to build the dog's confidence.

4. Always try to end on a good note. Research has shown that people who have experienced identically unpleasant procedures created very different memories of those procedures depending on how traumatic the final moments of the procedure were. While we don't know whether dogs have the same cognitive

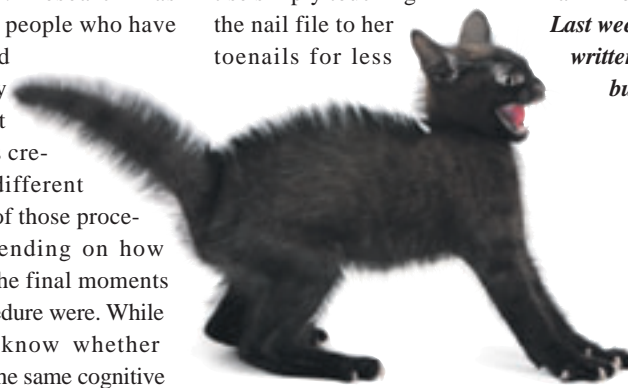
recall abilities, it certainly doesn't hurt to try to make the last few seconds of any unpleasant experience as pleasant as possible.

For example, most dogs are concerned about having their feet handled. I file nails instead of clipping them because this is more comfortable for the dog and the dog is in control of how fast or slow nail trimming sessions go. Your pet is also free to leave at any time if he gets too scared. At the end of every nail-trimming session, I practise simply touching the nail file to her toenails for less

than a second, followed by a food reward. Because each session ends with these quick successes, they are more comfortable allowing us to handle their feet when it is time for the next session.

5. Your cat or dog is not his story. If your pet has a history of trauma, it's important to be aware of that past, but equally important to help your pet succeed in the present. Too often, we get caught up with the stories, we tell ourselves about our pets' past, and forget to pay attention to the animal in front of us.

*Last week's article was also written by Sara Reusche, but credit was not given due to an oversight.*



**TRAUMA: Watch body language.**



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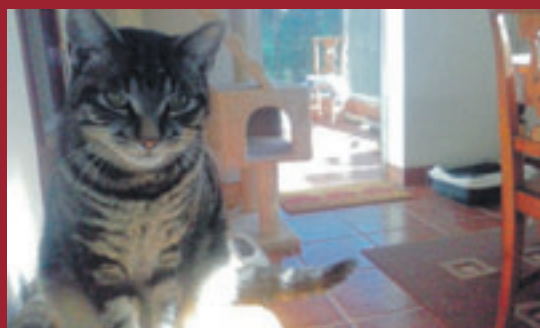
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**Motoring shorts****Hybrid solution**

A JAPANESE hybrid car has become the fastest selling car on one of the UK’s biggest second-hand markets. In April the Toyota Prius sold quicker than any other car on Auto Trader, taking roughly two weeks to offload.

Tough new taxes on traditional petrol-guzzling cars may have contributed to the Prius’ success. It is also considered extremely reliable and economical, winning top reviews from customers and industry insiders.

UK drivers appear to be embracing the hybrid universe as electric becomes more mainstream than ever before. Now there are concerns that the number of electric charging stations cannot possibly keep up with demand without a major remodelling of the country’s roads.

# Black cabs and Valkyries

By Matthew Elliott

THE great arc of world motor shows has taken in Paris, Geneva and New York. Last weekend the flashiest, most unusual cars in the industry were in Britain for the London Motor Show which ran from May 4 to 7.

It was

the second edition of the show, a rapidly emerging alternative to the British Motor Show. As in 2016, this year it was once again held in Battersea Park.

There were motoring celebrities, including Stig Ben Collins and Jodie Kidd, car safety demonstrations, virtual reality driving experi-

ences, a wild range of supercars and even the new electric London Black Cab.

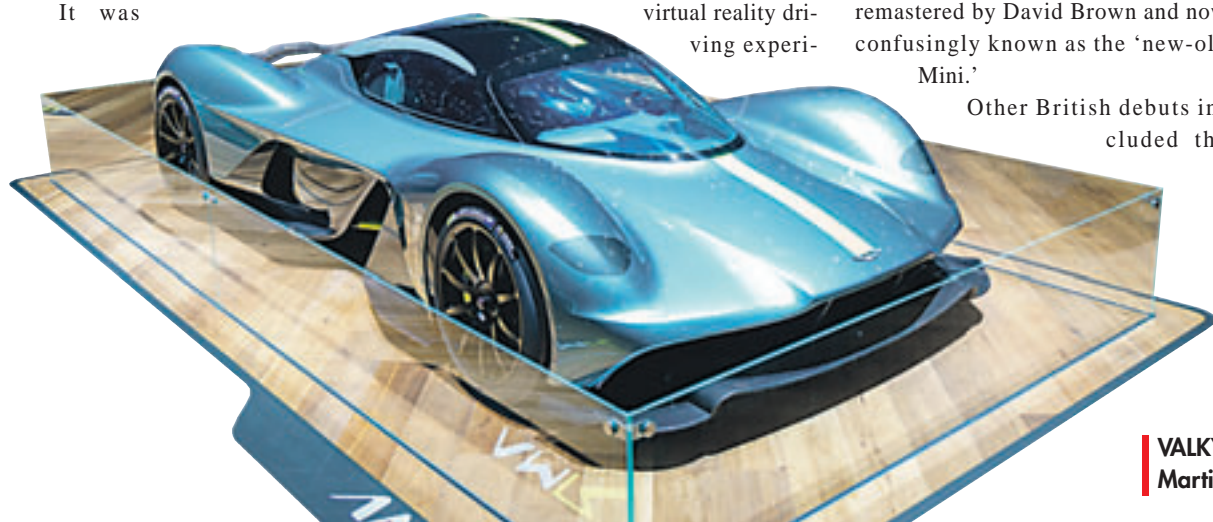
The Lamborghini Aventador S made its British debut, bringing a V12 engine and incredible 740hp to stunned fans. At the other end of the size scale there was the classic Mini remastered by David Brown and now confusingly known as the ‘new-old Mini.’

Other British debuts included the

Alpina B4 S, the Kahn Vengeance Volante, and the MG XS, considered the English manufacturer’s strongest foray on to the world stage yet.

Among the wilder entrants was the concept hypercar the Aston Martin Valkyrie which is forged from a one-off partnership with Red Bull Racing. It is the latest of the brand’s V cars but that’s about all anyone knows except that it’s sure to be extremely sleek and fast.

Also making waves, and for very real reasons, was the Jaguar F-Pace, recently declared the World Car of the Year. Crowds also waved a fond farewell to an army of TX4 London Black Cabs which will soon be in the vintage section of future road shows as they prepare to be replaced.



**VALKYRIE:** Enigmatic new Aston Martin and Red Bull invention.

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# Phone signal shield

TROUBLE caused by mobile phones could soon be a thing of the past. Nissan claims to have developed new technology which acts as an electromagnetic shield blocking calls and any other notifications.

Drivers would simply drop their phone into the so-called Signal Shield sunk in the armrest and no longer have to worry about being distracted. Crucially for many people, especially those in business,

they wouldn't have to switch their phones off altogether and risk losing critical messages.

All of the hundreds of various apps, from weather updates to email messages, would be blocked by the Signal Shield. Many drivers have reported feeling the urge to check their phone each time it buzzes, even when the vast majority of notifications are useless updates rather than important messages.

The sheer number of beeps and buzzes emitting from modern smart phones has led to a huge rise in the number of deaths and injuries on the roads caused by 'distractions.' It's no longer people chatting on the phone that is the deadliest, but those reaching for it.

The technology also fills a smart and selfish purpose. Users can virtually guarantee that they won't be caught or fined for using their phone.

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# Tyre trouble

PORSCHE and BMW are battling for the hearts and minds of drivers with two strong extra offers attached to all new purchases.

From June 2017 all Porsches bought in the UK will come with sat nav and the Porsche Connect service.

That means, whether drivers like it or not, real time traffic info, on-line maps, and petrol station locators with fuel prices, will now be part of the Porsche package.

It's a timely move. Also in the UK driving tests are to make sat nav expertise an integral part of future exams.

BMW meanwhile is offering a different carrot. Whether you're in Spain or Germany, purchases of original BMW or MINI tyres will automatically come with a full three-year tyre insurance package.

All forms of damage will be covered and new tyres brought out at no extra cost.

**ROAD TEST** by Nick Fletcher

# Mitsubishi Outlander 4

RAPID expansion of new SUV models has meant that one of the long established contenders in the class, the Mitsubishi Outlander, can sometimes be overlooked.

However, you miss the Outlander at your peril, for it provides a formidable package from a company noted for rugged build quality and excellent reliability. Latest versions have had a recent makeover, delivering smoother styling and equipment upgrades, with prices starting at €29,524 (£24,999).

Available as a five-seat plug-in petrol hybrid or a seven-seat 2.2 litre diesel, the Outlander is more roomy and more economical than some rivals. All

versions have all-wheel-drive, and it also scores well for levels of standard equipment, with entry versions getting features such as cruise control, auto lights and wipers, dual-zone climate control and electronic parking brake.

My test model, in four trim and with automatic gearbox, was one of the top versions with a wealth of extra kit including premium sat-nav and audio system, 360-degree parking camera, heated steering wheel, rear cross-traffic alert, LED headlamps and daytime running lights, power tailgate, leather upholstery, electric sunroof and alloy wheels. It costs €39,562 (£33,499).

The Outlander has a tougher and more imposing exterior look than most rivals and underway, proves to have good road

manners, with well-weighted steering and a suspension set-up which nicely balances ride comfort with cornering poise.

The vehicle is a tad noisier at motorway speeds than some, much of it tyre noise, but in urban areas is quiet, agile and very car-like to drive.

The 147 hp diesel unit pulls strongly and has a nippy 0-100 kph time of 10.2 seconds in manual form, and 11.6 seconds as an automatic. Top speed is 190 kph (118 mph) and the fuel economy is 17.2 kpl (48.7 mpg). The Outlander is also very capable off-road, with a locking centre differential adding to its ability.

The cabin is well built and robustly finished with a quality look, though the overall design is rather plain and functional.

Five adults can be accommodated in comfort - the third-row seats are really just for children. The boot has 590 litres of space if the third row seats are not in use, and this can be boosted to 1,022 litres with the mid-row folded down.

Summing up, the Outlander comes across as a more serious, more capable SUV than some of its trendier rivals and while it has been around for quite a while, in latest revamped form it certainly deserves more attention.

## Stats panel:

Model: Mitsubishi Outlander 4

Engine: 2.2 litre diesel

Transmission: automatic

Performance: 0-100 kph 11.6 seconds, top speed 190 kph (118 mph)

Economy: 17.2 kpl (48.7 mpg)

Emissions: 154 g/km

**OUTLANDER 4:**  
Can sometimes  
be overlooked.



Model tested is UK-specification and equipment levels and prices may vary in other markets.

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# Chelsea are champions-elect while the Spaniards finish 1-2-3 in Jerez

## Tony Matthews

International Sports

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

Costa de Almería

### EVENTS DIARY:

After Spurs' shock 1-0 defeat at West Ham last Friday Chelsea - having sent Middlesbrough down on Monday - will be crowned Premiership champions for the fifth time tomorrow night if they win at West Bromwich Albion (live on Sky Sport).

Other PL games this weekend include relegation battlers Crystal Palace against Hull... 4th placed Manchester City (recent 5-0 winners over Palace) v Leicester... Spurs (2nd) v Manchester United...

**DIEGO COSTA: Helped Chelsea send Middlesbrough down.**

ed... Stoke v Arsenal (who ended Jose Mourinho's team's 25-match unbeaten run last Sunday)... and West Ham v Liverpool (3rd).

On Tuesday, Juventus (2-0 up) met Monaco in the second leg of their CL semi-final and last night Atletico (2-0 down) played Madrid

rivals Real in their second leg encounter. Tonight it's Manchester United (leading 1-0) v Celta Vigo and Lyon (trailing 1-4) v Ajax in the Europa League semi-final second legs.

On Sunday, it's Blackpool v Luton and Carlisle v Exeter in the first legs of the FL2 play-off semi-finals while Forest Green

Rovers play Tranmere Rovers in the National League play-off final at Wembley.

Also there are several Scottish League promotion/relegation play-offs (including Dundee United v Morton) and on Saturday Manchester City Ladies meet Birmingham Ladies in the women's FA Cup final.

Castleford (top) play Hull (2nd) tomorrow night in Rugby's Super League.

In golf, it's the Players' Championship at Sawgrass and the Portuguese Open (May 11-14).

The Spanish F1 Grand Prix takes place in Barcelona on Sunday.

Tomorrow, Rugby Union's European Challenge Cup final features Gloucester v Stade Français, followed on Saturday by Clermont Auvergne v Saracens

in the Champions Cup final... both games at Murrayfield.

The triathlon World Series starts in Yokohama on Saturday.

The Mutua Open tennis championship is currently taking place in Madrid.

### ROUND UP:

Barcelona (recent 4-1 winners over Villarreal) and Real Madrid (4-0 victors at Granada) are still level at the top of La Liga.

The winners of the first two classic horse races of 2017 were both trained by Aiden O'Brien... Winter (9-1) in the 1,000 Guineas and Churchill (6-4 favourite) in the 2,000 Guineas. This was O'Brien's third Guineas double.

Three Spaniards stood on the podium at last Sunday's MotoGP in Jerez with Dani Pedrosa, Marc Marquez and Jorge Lorenzo finishing 1-2-3 on home soil.

Matt Neal, Colin Turkington, Gordon Shedden and Rob Collard all won races at the BTCC meeting at Thruxton last weekend.

England beat Ireland by eight wickets (127-3/126) and by 85 runs (328-6/243) in cricket ODI's at Bristol and Lords.

In the Diamond Games, UK's Robbie Grabarz won silver in the high jump and Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge missed out by 22 seconds to break two hours for the marathon.

Novak Djokovic has sacked his entire coaching staff as he turns to 'shock therapy.'

Last weekend Blackburn Rovers were relegated to FL1 (they were last in the third tier in 1980)... Hartlepool United have lost their League status after 96 years' membership as Newport County survived, and Portsmouth won the FL2 championship on the last day of the season, ahead of Doncaster and Plymouth.

The FA has banned Manchester City from signing youth players.

Zlatan Ibrahimovic (Manchester United) is the world's richest footballer with a bank balance of £110m; Wayne Rooney is worth £93m while F1 driver Lewis Hamilton is the world's richest sportsman with £131m in his account.

And this is obscene - Manchester United have spent £1.16 billion on players in the Premiership era (1992-2017)... £528m in the last five years alone!



**DANI PEDROSA: Winner of Sunday's MotoGP in Jerez.**

## DID YOU KNOW?

**TOGETHER** Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi have scored a total of 1,162 goals for club and country. What might have happened if they'd been in the same team!!

## CHARITY EVENT

**DON'T** forget my charity event at Fatima's this Sunday: 5pm-9pm. I'll quiz you, Fatima will feed you and vocalist Kay Frances will entertain you, all for 7€.

## Aguilon Members Club

SUNDAY April 30 saw Aguilon Members Club's four qualifiers head to Hacienda del Alamo to take on golfers from all over Almería and Murcia in the Campbell Lamont Regional Final.

It proved to be a good day for the club's pairing of Glyn Ombler and Dave Sharp whose score of 43 points won the day and a passport to the national final at La Sella in June.

The other pairing of Terry Moore and Norman Ridgway did themselves proud with a creditable 39 pts... to be continued in June.

On Wednesday May 3 it was a fine day with little wind for the Monthly Medal as 'medalitis' returned and this tricky course showed its teeth. It is hard to explain why after the good scoring of late but 'that's golf.

However it was a welcome return to Spain for the winner and a count back for the first four places.

1st Keith Leonard 83-10 = 73 on a card play off. 2nd Glyn Ombler 82-9 = 73 on a card play off. 3rd Wendy Greaves 101-28 = 73 on a card play off. Two's: Bob White 12th, Wendy Greaves, Louis Long and Derek Manning 17th.

For further information log on to the website at [aguilonmembersclub.com](http://aguilonmembersclub.com).

**MEDAL WINNER:** Keith Leonard scored 73.



## Valle del Este Golf Society

THERE was a great turnout for Valle del Este Golf Society's May monthly Medal. The weather was absolutely perfect for golf and the course was in excellent condition.

Quite a few players took advantage of this and there was a lot of very creditable scores. Jim Quigley wasted no time upon returning to sunny shores and posted a great score of nett 72.

Big Nick Nichols continued his recent great run of form to come a very creditable

second with a nett 73 followed by three players on nett 74 with Geoff Owen getting the nod on countback.

Valle del Este Golf Society is affiliated to the Valle Del Este Golf Resort in Vera. The society plays every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Singles competitions are played every Thursday including a monthly Medal.

Visitors are welcome (subject to available tee times). Please call Alan Townsend on 634 379 887.



Zlatan Ibrahimovic (Manchester United) is the world's richest footballer with a bank balance of £110m.

TO READ MORE

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

# Indalo Bowling Club Men's and Ladies' Pairs Competitions 2017

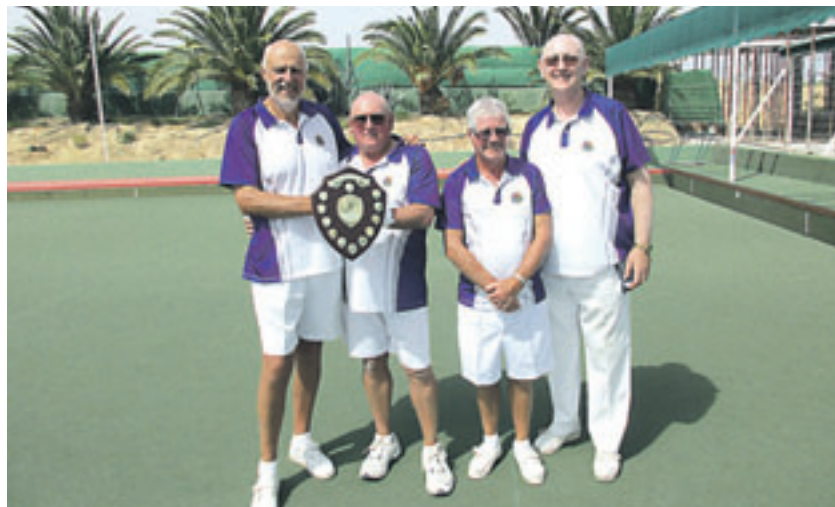
TWO of the most keenly fought competitions were held recently at Indalo Bowling Club, the Men's and Ladies' Pairs.

There were quite a few new bowlers in this year's entries which was very encouraging and they gave a few of the more experienced bowlers a run for their money as well!

After some very competitive games the Men's Pairs final was contested by four experienced players namely Dennis Leigh and Keith Lester against Gerard Donck and Keith Harvey.

As expected it turned out to be a very close match with wonderful shots being delivered down the green most ends. After 18 ends it was all square but Gerard delivered the final blow with his last bowl of the extra end to give him and Keith Harvey the win, 20-19. A very well fought match and very exciting to watch.

The Ladies' Pairs final was contested, after a rain delay, by Spanish squad member Debbie Colquhoun playing with an ex-Spanish player Maggie Holmes against two other experienced club mem-



**MEN'S PAIRS:** The finalists with the winners of the trophy.

bers Tricia Seymour and Christine Dedman. Tricia and Christine put on a good show but were outplayed by the skill of Debbie and Maggie who won convincingly 27-7.

Both competitions had a very appreciative audience that thoroughly enjoyed

the great matches on show. Many thanks must go to the competition secretary, John Colquhoun, especially after the difficulty of the rain delay in the Ladies' final.

For more information about the club visit [www.indalobowlingclub.org](http://www.indalobowlingclub.org).

## Forum ladies shine in the rain

A GOOD Forum Golf Society field took on Aguilon Golf course in showery conditions on April 28.

It was the ladies who showed the men how to play in the rain in this double par medal.

Countback decided the first three places, all on a nett medal score of 72. First was Myra Dickson with 72, Keith Ryder was second with 72 and Marie Vickers was third also with 72.

There were also prizes for individual good shots with the longest drive on the second hole going to Dave Vickers. Having claimed an NTP prize and overall winner on the Friday, Myra Dickson's

**Myra Dickson/ Winner of the double par medal.**

weekend got even better when she, and her playing partner Max Gonzalez, went to the Hacienda del Alamo Golf Club on Sunday April 30, to contest the regional finals of the Campbell Lamont Golf League. By securing a top 16 place in this pairs competition she and Max will go on the International Finals in June at La Sella Golf course.

The society's next events will be at Alboran on May 12 and then Aguilon on May 19.

For information about Forum Golf Society contact Richard Price on [rpf53@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rpf53@yahoo.co.uk) or call 850 993 073.



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