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Intimidation game

Suspects threaten fire death witness

By Matthew Elliott

Three teenagers suspected of involvement in a horror fire that burned three youngsters to death have been arrested on charges of witness intimidation. The trio, all aged under 16, are accused of threatening key witnesses to the fire.

One boy, 15, breached a 500-metre restraining order and attacked the brother of a witness. The other two terrorised teenagers and their families on social media, demanding that they retract or change their testimonies.

The arrests came just days after a 19-year-old and two minors were charged with obstructing justice and intimidating witnesses to the deadly fire.

Police are still struggling to work out what exactly happened that fateful night, one of the most shockingly tragic in Almeria's recent history. On April 3, two young girls aged 12 and 15, and a 21-year-old man were burned alive in a cave at La Molinea, a popular hangout spot for local youths.

They were trapped inside



HORROR FIRE:
Three died after becoming trapped.

after other youths set a sofa blocking the entrance to the cave on fire.

Five children were initially arrested and two remain in custody, suspected of intentionally starting the blaze. Those released were given restraining orders and remain

under suspicion.

Testimony from a young man who managed to escape the fire is considered crucial by detectives. Forensic scientists are also working to determine whether the fire was deliberately meant to harm.

Those arrested have told

conflicting stories, blaming one another for the fire. Investigators initially believed the incident to be a prank gone horribly wrong.

But the threats, intimidation and conflicting stories have raised suspicions of a more malevolent intent.

14,000 kilo tuna recall investigated

A TUNA packing company from Vera which managed to poison dozens of people with histamines will be investigated by the Andalusian authorities.

Last week *Euro Weekly News* covered the urgent rush to recall 14,000 kilos of contaminated tuna sold around the region which contained dangerous quantities of histamine.

Now that the batches have been completely destroyed a total of 61 people have come forward with histamine poisoning. Symptoms include a sore throat, headaches, hot flushes, sweating, nausea and vomiting.

Outbreaks directly sourced to the Vera packaging factory have occurred across Andalusia and as far away as Madrid and the Basque Country. The company responsible, Garciden SL, also exports to Germany, Italy and Portugal.

Garciden now faces a rigorous investigation.

HOMES & BEYOND
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NEWS EXTRA

Sunset cars

PEUGEOT officially finished shooting the advertisement for its latest SUV model, the 3008, in Almería. The film features the car soaring up toward the Cabo de Gata lighthouse under the sunset.

Shell sniff

A DOG will be trained to sniff out tortoises prowling Almería's motorways with an alarming tendency to be struck by cars. Volunteers will walk the dog and save the ambling reptiles.

Fierce fire

A FIRE destroyed 30 hectares of scrubland in the Sierra Alhamilla before a squadron of 11 soldiers and 47 firefighters joined forces to extinguish it with the help of two helicopters.

Record smashing airport numbers

By Matthew Elliott

APRIL was a hugely successful month for Almería airport according to the latest passenger statistics. Just over 34,000 people arrived from abroad during the month, more than 1,000 a day on average.

The figures represent a quantum leap of 28.4 per cent compared to April last year, a remarkable increase which suggests the province can expect a record breaking summer. Including those departing from the airport, 80,984 passed through security gates, an increase of 2.7 per cent.

Flyers travelling to and from international destinations accounted for 42.7 per cent of the traffic, a higher proportion than last year.

Brits did their part to boost numbers with the number of British arrivals rising by 22.2 per cent this year, suggesting the Brexit vote has done nothing to dampen an enduring passion for Spain.



ALMERIA: Airport can expect a record number of tourists in 2017.

The number of Belgians also increased substantially. German arrivals are expected to skyrocket to 9,000 up from 3,500 the previous year over the

summer, thanks to a huge advertising campaign and new direct connections to key German cities. This is a sure sign of Spain holding on to its appeal.

20,000 Facebook followers!

EURO WEEKLY NEWS' Facebook page soared past 20,000 'Likes' this week.

The benchmark comes as our online presence continues to go from strength to strength.

EWN Media Group thus continues to lead the way both in print and online English-language media in Spain.

With 13 printed titles, three websites featuring full social media integration we now occupy a unique position of market strength.

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Naughty nurse cracks open safe

A WOMAN who was a live-in caregiver for an elderly couple was found guilty of stealing thousands of euros from her vulnerable victims.

An Almería court sentenced the woman to two years in prison for stealing a total of €2,000 from a safe and the man's trouser pockets over the course of six months.

She was caught when the couple, growing suspicious that their money was vanishing increasingly quickly, installed a surveillance camera in her room. It was a suggestion from their nephew who told the court his uncle was particularly clingy and paranoid, and that he knew he'd never leave the safe open.

The caregiver was caught on camera on multiple occasions hiding small amounts of cash from the safe and clothing. When confronted she admitted her crime, but lied about the total amount stolen, claiming to have taken €400, allegedly to help her sick son who lives abroad.

Plants in profit

COMPANIES across Almería exported an incredible €1.6 billion worth of vegetables in the six months from September 2016 to February 2017.

The stupendous figure represents a 25 per cent increase on the same period last year.

The stats prove Almería to easily be the biggest fruit and veg exporters in Andalucía. It accounts for 61 per cent of the region's total. Andalucía itself is the biggest exporting region in Spain, earning a total of €2.15 billion during the period.

That puts Almería at the very top level of Spanish production and export. The trend is set to continue with the province in line for substantial investment in new agricultural technology from international companies.

At least €20 million is set to be invested in greenhouses alone this year.

Puritan paradise

BUSINESS owners in Mojácar are rebelling against strict new measures imposed by Mayor Rosa

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE... 13

Ninety years ago next month the national carrier Iberia was founded, with King Alfonso X111 among passengers on the inaugural Madrid to Barcelona flight.

Still flying high at 90

THE first airline to connect Europe and South America with scheduled flights following the Second World War in 1946, the route remains a key part of Iberia's network to this day.

Six months after its founding with Pesetas 1.1 million (€6,600 equivalent today) full flight operations began, and within one year it was receiving a government subsidy to carry mail between the capital and Barcelona.

By its 75th anniversary in 2002 it had carried almost 500 million passengers on its domestic and international flights.

With Spain scrapping visa restrictions on US citizens in 1953 Iberia introduced regular flight connections with the first of three new Super Constellation planes delivered the following year named Santa Maria to commemorate Christopher Columbus' first voyage.

In February 1998, Iberia ordered 76 aircraft from Airbus - at the time the manufacturer's largest single order - and by the start of this year the airline boasted a fleet of 80 Airbus planes, with another 45 on order.

Iberia and fellow One World member carriers were allocated Terminal 4 at Madrid-Barajas Airport - the carrier's traditional hub - in 2006. This provided much-needed expansion opportunities with the Spanish carrier responsi-



IBERIA: Is now part of International Airlines Group.



ble for about 60 per cent of the airport's traffic.

In 2011 Iberia, British Airways, and American Airlines merged to form the International Airlines Group, with this now the world's third-largest airline in terms of annual revenue.

No danger

A PLANE crashed at Almería airport after take-off, suffering severe structural damage which led to a massive fuel spillage. The fuel caught fire and, during the evacuation, the plane exploded, killing two people and seriously injuring dozens.

Fortunately the above is a fictional situation devised by emergency services at the airport who engaged in a disaster simulation to test their readiness for a real life

catastrophe. Firefighters and police coordinated with air navigation units and national emergency services to test response times and internal communications.

Bear bones

RESEARCHERS from the University of Almería have proven conclusively that fossils found in a cave in the Sierra de Gador at the end of 2016 were from a brown bear that roamed the region half a million years ago.

The fossilised remains are the oldest found from a brown bear in Spain and the third oldest in the world after similar finds in France and Italy.

Blue flag paradise for Mojácar

FOUR beaches in Mojácar have been awarded blue flags in recognition of their quality and cleanliness. The decision grants Mojácar one more of the highly desirable blue flags than last year and marks the pueblo out as one of Spain's top beach destinations.

The awarded beaches are El Cantal, Venta del Bancal, Ventanicas, Piedra Villazar and Marina de la Torre. Mojácar considers Bancal and Ventanicas to be separate beaches, but ADEAC, which dishes out the blue flags, considers them one.

EL Cantal is Mojácar's latest addition to the exclusive list of 579 Spanish beaches granted the prestigious international award. Spain now has more blue flags than any other country, with Mojácar having one of the strongest concentrations.

In addition to cleanliness, blue flag beaches must exhibit accessibility, safety and comfort. Mojácar's success largely lies in local efforts to create wheelchair friendly zones, add shaded areas, build adapted showers and embrace a sustainable, caring philosophy towards the environment.

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Postscript to ponder

15th

Spain's world standing with 593 vehicles on the road per 1,000 people. San Marino is first with 1,263, Monaco second with 899, and USA third with 797. Britain is 34th with 519.

More than just a club

REIGNING Spanish champions Barcelona scored on the political front by throwing its weight behind the goal of a referendum on Catalan independence.

Carles Puigdemont, the region's president, wants to stage a poll later this year and the football club from its Camp Nou fortress supports a vote.

In a brief statement, the club said it "agreed with the National Pact for the Referendum, the campaign to gather support from institutions, organisations, those in elected office and individuals inside and outside Catalonia."

Gloves are off

SPANISH police have broken up a prize fighting ring bringing boxers to Spain from Nicaragua and forcing them into bouts across Europe.

Seven Spaniards were arrested and 19 boxers released from a base in Terrassa. The fighters were invited to Spain by a sports events company for a contest but were forced into unregulated competitions.

They were forced to live in 'overcrowded and unhealthy' conditions and if they failed to obey instructions were beaten and told their families in Nicaragua would be hurt.

Got it covered

BRITISH insurance giant Aviva on Wednesday is selling off its €475 million stake in the Spanish market as it continues to reduce operations in the Eurozone.

It is offloading 50 per cent shareholdings in life insurance and pen-

Eye on SPAIN

Around the nation in 7 stories

Postcard from Segovia



AQUEDUCT: 2,000 years old. |

HISTORY and legend fill Segovia, a walled medieval city topped with a fairy-tale castle.

Approach the city from any direction and the Alcazar de Segovia catches the eye. Once a royal palace, filmmaker Walt Disney was so impressed he is said to have modelled Sleeping Beauty's castle in Disneyworld in California on it.

Sitting in the rolling hills of Castile and Leon and built on a rocky outcrop with stunning countryside views, Segovia with a population of 52,000 is a modern vibrant city and home to an array of writers, artists, musicians and intellectuals.

A world heritage site, its singularly most famous attraction is the 2,000-year-old aqueduct. Still carrying drinking water as a testament to the efficiency and skill of Roman engineering, the aqueduct made of 25,000 granite blocks held together without mortar has an 818m span and more than 170 arches.

Recycling came early to Segovia, when the city was fortified with walls, not only were granite blocks used for the ramparts but also the gravestones taken from the Roman necropolis.

Inside the city to this day there are narrow cobbled streets now filled with bars and restaurants, boutique shops, art galleries, museums and churches. Explore at leisure and refuel on local specialities including roast lamb, suckling pig and trout.

sion joint ventures. Spanish company Santalucia will take over holdings by the year end, subject to regulatory approval, said Aviva.

Art prize

SOUTH AFRICAN artist William Kentridge - best known for his animated films of shape-shifting charcoal drawings - has won Spain's top arts prize, the Princess of Asturias award.

Eye on Spain

RUSSIAN opposition leader Alexei Navalny visited Spain for eye surgery on his right eye after suffering burns when a chemical was thrown in his face.

The politician, who hopes to challenge President Putin in next year's elections, lost 85 per cent of his sight and suffered burns after he was attacked in March with a caustic substance.

He was recovering in a Barcelona clinic when he posted a photo on Instagram of his bloodshot eye.

War expert dies

HISTORIAN Lord Hugh Thomas, an expert on Spain and the Civil War, has died at his London home aged 85.

His most-famous work The Spanish Civil War, was published in two volumes in 1961 and considered the first balanced account of a conflict which tore the nation apart between 1936 and 1939.

Considered a landmark classic, and the most detailed and best-explained account to date, it was not published in Spain in translation until 41 years after the death of General Franco.

Birthdays

• **Pete Townshend (72), May 19, Musician**

English singer, songwriter and lead guitarist with the legendary rock band The Who. He has written more than 100 songs for the band. Although known for playing guitar he also plays a range of other instruments including keyboards, banjo, accordion, harmonica and drums.

• **Cher (71), May 20, Singer**

American singer whose career spans six decades in which she has released 79 singles. Some of her best-known hits include If I Could Turn Back Time, The Shoop Shoop Song and Believe. She has also appeared on Broadway and in films such as Mermaids, Tea with Mussolini and The Witches of Eastwick.

• **Tom Daley (23), May 21, Diver**

Young British diver who specialises in the 10-metre platform event in which he has achieved nine gold, six silver and three bronze medals so far across the individual and synchronised events. He became the FINA World Champion at the age of just 15 and was the youngest British competitor at the 2008 Olympics.



• **Novak Djokovic (30), May 22, Tennis Player**

Professional tennis player from Serbia who is currently ranked by the ATP as the world's number two in men's singles. He has won 12 Grand Slams including six Australian Open titles, three Wimbledon titles, Two US Open titles and One French Open title.

• **Joan Collins (84), May 23, Actress**

English actress who made her stage debut at the age of nine and who trained to be an actress at RADA in London. She has featured in many films but is best known for playing Alexis Colby in the hit 80's soap opera Dynasty. In 1982 she won a Golden Globe for Best Actress and in 2015 she was made a Dame for her services to charity.

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OUR VIEW

Cancer never rests

EVERYONE hates cancer and despite spectacular strides to defeat it, the disease just won't go away.

To pay lip service to the fight against the disease is one thing but it is when it hits an individual family that it becomes so important and strikes fear into the hearts of those involved.

For every plucky little boy like Leo Bermejo and his dedicated family who have managed to raise enough money to allow him to have life-saving treatment, there are others who simply have to accept that their lives may come to a premature end.

Communities across Spain work so very hard to try to fight this disease and a large number of expatriates spend a great deal of time raising funds which see testing to detect cancer, support for those suffering from it, care in the event that it is terminal and direct donations for long term research.

Anything that can be done to try to fight this evil disease is to be applauded and just a few days ago, EWN received an offer from a reader to supply blood for 11-year-old leukaemia sufferer Serena Chappell in Mallorca following an appeal in the newspaper.

Cancer is indiscriminate and the next victim could be you or someone close, so anything you can do to help could just save a life.

Now we want to hear your views.
YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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High speed super stars

By Matthew Elliott

SOME of Spain's most powerful business leaders were in Almeria to voice their support for the creation of a Mediterranean Corridor link through the province. Among them was Juan Roig, president of Mercadona.

Roig was the star of the show, arriving by bus in the city from Almeria airport to a media frenzy. He told press that it was crazy that it could take 11 hours to get from Valencia to Almeria by train. "Almeria belongs to Spain and all Spaniards must defend the corridor," he said.

The Mediterranean Corridor is a hugely important trade route running from the Costa del Sol to France which carries billions of euros worth of goods each year. Business leaders want

the entire route to be covered by high speed rail but the Almeria-Murcia leg has been delayed until at least 2023.

The protest event was organised by the Valencian Association of Entrepreneurs and attracted leaders from Catalonia, Valencia, Murcia and Almeria. President of the Association, Vicente Boluda, said he was forced to take the plane to Almeria as it was nearly impossible to access the city by train, joking he heard he would first have to go to Valladolid, then Lisbon, and then back to Almeria.

People across Spain have also expressed solidarity with Almeria and its need for high speed rail. The hashtag #QuieroCorredor (I want the Corridor) trended on Twitter, with 3.6 million people seeing it last week.

JUAN ROIG:
Billionaire businessman supports high speed rail in Almeria.



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STEAMED UP: Jamie and Elizabeth-Jane.

BRITISH reality TV stars have been piling on the PDA in Spain.

Ex On The Beach glamour model Jemma Lucy, 28, and Geordie Shore's Chantelle Connelly set pulses racing as they whipped off their bikini tops to display their ample assets while showering together.

The pair then puckered up for a passionate kiss, reigniting rumours that they are dating, after

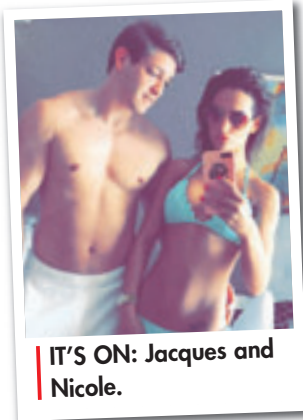
Pucker up!

Chantelle, 26, recently tweeted that it had been a publicity stunt.

In Mallorca, 25-year-old Nicole Bass was spotted cuddling up to Jacques Fraser, 24, after previously pledging to never take him back.

As she sizzled in a bright red bikini, he flexed his muscles in a pair of swim shorts, with the couple appearing to have rekindled their love following their fiery appearance on Ex On The Beach 2017 during which Jacques lied about sleeping with another woman.

Footballer Jamie O'Hara, 30, who was a contestant on Celebrity Big Brother this year,



IT'S ON: Jacques and Nicole.

also put on a steamy display as he and 25-year-old model girlfriend Elizabeth-Jane Tierney

TEMPERATURES SOAR: Chantelle, left, and Jemma.

posed for a series of saucy snaps in Ibiza.

Jamie, who was previously married to former Miss Great Britain Danielle Lloyd, also had a fling with Paul Gascoigne's step-daughter Bianca while in the Big Brother house, but this appeared far from his mind as he caressed his current squeeze in full view of the cameras.



THE ROLLING STONES: Are to play in Spain later in the year.

Satisfaction

THE ROLLING STONES will play in Spain later this year after their 2017 'No Filter' European tour was announced.

Kicking off in Hamburg, Germany, on September 9, the veteran rockers will play 13 dates across nine European countries and 12 cities, including Barcelona on September 27.

Frontman Mick Jagger said: "I'm so excited to be touring Europe this autumn and returning to some familiar places and some we've never done before."

Guitarist Keith Richards added: "Hey guys, here we come. See you there!"

The tour follows the December 2016 release of Blue and Lonesome, the band's first studio album for over a decade.

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Pants on fire

FORMER The Only Way Is Essex heart-throb Mark Wright set his army of fans' chins wagging on social media this week. After sharing a slow motion video of himself marching through a Mallorca resort clad only in a pair of tight-fitting briefs, some accused the 30-year-old reality TV star of stuffing his underpants with socks.

"Who does he think he's kidding?" jeered one sceptic, before a second added: "My man is hung and his bits don't look like that in tight stuff. Mark has put stuff in his pants. Whom you trying to impress?" [sic]

It appears that Mark was expecting the mockery, as he captioned his post with the hashtag '#ipromisethatsnotabanana.'

MARK WRIGHT: With wife Michelle Keegan.

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Vera Playa - 94,950€ (ref: VPAA)
2 beds • 2 baths • Build: 61m²
This is a well maintained property, furnished to a high standard & suitable for sleeping 5 people. Located on a gated complex with outdoor & indoor pools making it a great all year round holiday location.



Valle del Este - 129,950€ (ref: VDEC)
2 beds • 3 baths • Build: 179m²
Located on Los Alamos Urb, one of the smallest on Valle del Este, and is presented to a very high standard. With views of pool & 12th green, private garden, solarium and furniture negotiable.



Los Gallardos - 239,500€ (ref: HNVMS)
3 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 500m² • Build: 150m²
A deceptively large, single storey south facing 3 bedroom property with private pool and garage. Offering excellent internal living space and extensive outside areas.

Featured Property



Bédar
349,000€
(ref: BDHO)



Large detached house
3 bedrooms • 2½ bathrooms
Plot: 10,779m² • Build: 225m²

Nestled into the mountain side below Bédar, this imposing and eye-catching property boasts a larger than average build size with generously proportioned rooms and amazing views.

Approaching the house from the coast it is fairly difficult to not see this striking property from the road that winds up towards Bédar. Although set on the mountain side access is easy by car unlike some properties in this area where you may require a 4x4.

The property and gardens have been exceedingly well maintained and furnished to a very high standard. With gas central heating, top of the range fittings and fixtures and a privileged position the house is one that should be viewed by the discerning property purchaser.

Selection of Naturist Properties



Bahía de Vera - 65,000€ (ref: NBVSB)
1 bed • 1 bath • Build: 48m²
A well presented studio apartment ready for immediate occupancy that is an ideal low cost & maintenance "lock-up-and-leave" holiday retreat. Indoor & outdoor pools; short walk to beach.



Parque Vera IV - 65,500€ (ref: NPV4T)
1 bed • 1 bath • Plot: 55m² • Build: 47m²
A fully furnished ground floor apartment with east facing terrace located on the Parque Vera IV naturist development. Comparatively low community fees & good rental potential.



La Menara - 99,950€ (ref: NLMB1)
1 bed • 1 bath • Build: 77m²
A fully furnished ground floor property with large garden located on La Menara, one of the smallest naturist developments with only 56 properties. Well presented & maintained. Easy lock-up-leave home!



Bahía de Vera - 129,500€ (ref: NBVGK)
2 beds • 1 bath • Plot: 104.54m² • Build: 61m²
With terrace & garden benefitting east & south facing orientations in which to take the sun combined with hedge & palm tree to take the shade you have all of the ingredients for a perfect naturist property.

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Gamma ray health boost



TORRECARDENAS:
Good and bad news for hospital patients.

CRITICS have panned the decision to remove more than 200 beds from Torrecardenas

Hospital. The cost saving measure will axe 204 beds from the cardiology, pediatrics and urology wards. The nurses union described the move as a covert cut to public services and said 17 beds have been taken from the mental health unit.

At the same time the hospital has announced the arrival of new diagnostic equipment which could help save lives. A new gamma camera will enable more precise and effective diagnosis of cancers, fractures,

infections and heart disease.

The enhanced imaging software generates a 3D reconstruction of camera visuals, offering far better clarity to doctors. It is expected to reduce the time spent on diagnosis by around 20 per cent.

Provided by European funding, the gamma camera comes before an expected surge in state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment in the next few years thanks to an enormous donation from Spain's richest man, Amancio Ortega.

NEWS EXTRA

Roads closed

THE AL-8150 in Cuevas del Almanzora, N-340a at Los Gallardos and AL-3117 at Pechina will all experience temporary closures during essential repairs over the coming weeks.

Sex smash

A SEXUAL abuse suspect smashed into a road sign at 5am in Roquetas before fleeing at top speed, attracting a police patrol who flagged him down and found they had caught a fugitive.

Clean river

FROM June 1 Bajo Andarax will stop pouring its wastewater into the beleaguered river Andarax as seven villages, including Pechina, Gador and Viator, are reconnected with the El Bobar plant.

Camp crazy

NEW summer camps organised by the Andalusian government offer more than 1,000 places to teens in Almeria and elsewhere where they can surf, climb, play video games and study English.

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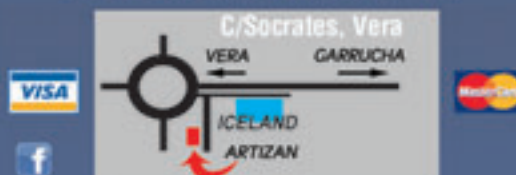
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By Matthew Elliott

It smells like mischief

A TRUSTY dog named Blacky, hired to sniff out mischief at Almería port, found four Moroccan men hiding among 100 motorbikes in a huge truck. The truck was aboard a ship freshly docked in Almería from the Moroccan city of Nador.

Despite the overwhelming smell of oil and fuel from the

army of transported motorbikes, Blacky sensed something was amiss. He soon found the four immigrants hidden precariously between bikes and luggage at the back of the truck.

None of the four, all men and in good health, had ID. They

were taken to the Local Police station and face deportation back to Morocco.

Guardia Civil officers regularly perform checks of incoming vessels from Moroccan ports and the Spanish enclave of Melilla.



BLACKY: Police dog smells something suspicious.

NEWS EXTRA

Hash hiccup

A MAN caught with 32 kilos of hashish in his rental car in El Ejido has been jailed for three years and fined €60,000 for crimes against public health.

Bee baddies

TWO men from Nijar were charged with the theft of 14 beehives from nearby farms. They were quickly tracked down by Guardia Civil who made a shortlist of local beekeeping experts.

Stab victim

POLICE arrested a Pulpi man accused of stabbing his neighbour in the stomach and neck. The 24-year-old victim is in stable condition in Huerca-Overa hospital.

Bin blaze

A FIRE broke out at a Mercadona in central Almería. Firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze, which suddenly erupted from a large bin in the storeroom and fortunately caused no injuries.

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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Horse left to starve

PROSECUTORS have requested that a €1,200 be imposed on an Almeria politician accused of leaving his suffering horse for dead in a ditch. Rioja councillor Jose Sanchez made

headlines in December when he threw 23-year-old Lucero down a two metre hole on his property while the horse was still alive.

He later claimed he thought the horse was dead. Seprona, the Guardia Civil's animal protection unit received an anonymous call and visited the property, finding Lucero alive and the ditch covered by a blanket, apparently because of heavy rains.

Sanchez claims he was on his way to contact police when they arrived before he got the chance.

Lucero was put down shortly after.

He was in a state of extreme malnutrition and had open wounds which couldn't heal as a result, leading to serious infections.

The councillor has been charged with neglect. Vets found that Lucero had not been fed in days and was on the verge of starvation.

Despite this, under local law Sanchez would have to be guilty of extreme abuse to risk facing criminal charges or a more substantial fine.

NEWS EXTRA

Sweaty palms

POLICE conducting a stop and search in Viator had their suspicions aroused by a driver's jumpy nerves and found more than one kilo of hashish in the glove box.

Lady luck

TWO passengers survived unscathed when their car skidded off the A-7 just outside Almeria and plunged into a ditch. The vehicle was extracted by crane while the lucky pair left on foot.

Top drawer

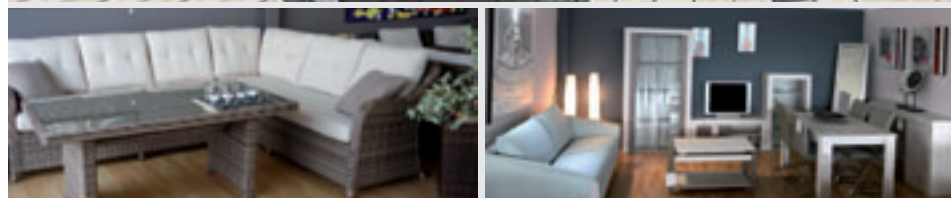
THE Infoagro Exhibition, one of the biggest agricultural fairs in the world, was a huge success in Aguadulce. Contracts were signed and contracts made between Almerian producers and top global buyers.

Mister miser

A TOP politician accused prime minister Rajoy of not investing a single euro in the province. Jose Luis Teruel said Rajoy's local minions were playing politics with Almeria's future.

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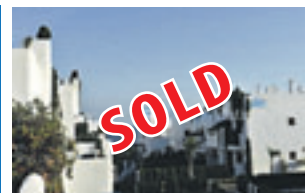
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NEWS EXTRA

Work death

TWO brothers who own an Almeria construction company were given suspended sentences and fined for negligence that led to the death of a worker who plunged from a crane in Almerimar.

Star party

ACTORS and artists joined in as the El Ejido theatre celebrated its 40th anniversary with a celebrity gala night featuring live music from some of the theatre's most beloved stars.

True love

AN avid cyclist from Aguadulce pledged to bring his bride to the altar by bike. Francisco and Carmen get married on June 2 despite her breast cancer diagnosis and his recent motorcycle crash.

Clean sheriffs arrive in town

TWO Almeria residents were surprised by plainclothes police and slapped with the first €120 fines for rubbish bins outside outwith designated times despite the strict new laws which came into force last month

Authorities are clamping down on people putting their rubbish out in the evening, which can attract vermin. A tough new cleaning ordinance bans the practice alongside dozens of other seemingly innocent activities.

Spitting, leaving chewing gum, feeding stray animals, peeing in public, dumping furniture, flyposting and not pick-

ing up after pets are all punishable by €120 fines.

But the laws aren't as strict as the extremely controversial new gag law from Madrid which affects all of Almeria Province. It has emerged that 9,794 people were punished under the gag law in Almeria last year.

The law makes it an offence to not show the correct level of respect to members of the security forces. The vast majority of fines were issued to people drinking or taking drugs in public and being disorderly. Almost 1,000 people were fined for insulting officers. Even taking photos without permission can constitute an offence.

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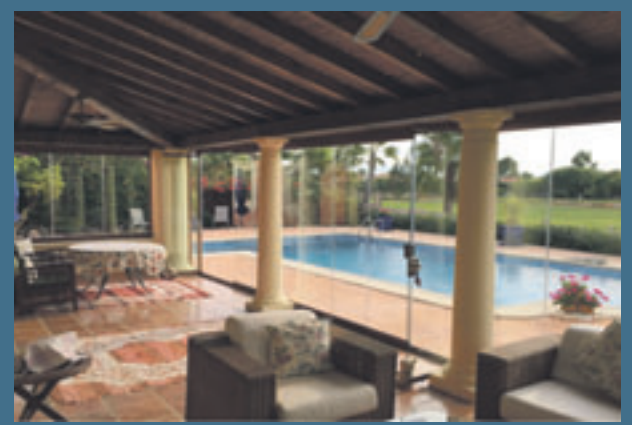


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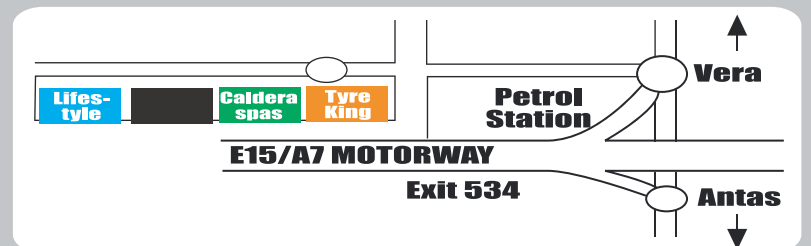
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Happy first anniversary

COFFEE SPANGLISH was initiated in 2016 when the Almanzora Group of Friends approached Albox Town Hall to discuss how they could work together to integrate their members- the English speaking residents in the area- into the Spanish community.

Maura Hillen, councillor for Tourism and International Relations, said that the most pressing need for the Spanish residents, wanting to progress in their career, was to practise their English.

Sarah Makin and Shelagh Copeland, from the Almanzora Group of Friends, agreed that a great deal of English-speaking residents had expressed a desire to improve their Spanish.

So Coffee Spanglish was born.

The group began meeting at Bar El Saliente on April 14 last year. The first Spanish participant was Pedro Chacon who arrived using a walking frame – which then became crutches. Nothing would stop him from going along to support the group. He has been present throughout the year since the group started.

Dolores Naylor- Loli, was the first English speaking participant and she has also been present throughout the year. Dolores and Pedro

have become the mainstay of the group and when people asked if they could meet on another day aswell, Pedro and Loli were happy to accommodate them.

The language school in Macael also forged links with the group and the teachers encouraged their students to come to the meetings, swelling the numbers to 40 at one point.

The emphasis of the group is to improve language skills and build on the work people are doing at home and/or at classes. Most importantly, it is for

every ability, it is fun and there is a lot of laughter!!!

Coffee Spanglish now meets at the Cafe Bar Oasis on Tuesdays and Fridays from 5-7pm and have a core of around 20 regular participants with others coming and going depending on their commitments elsewhere.

The group extends its thanks to Cafe Bar Oasis for providing an excellent spread for its anniversary fiesta.

For further information please email *coffeespanglishalbox@gmail.com*.



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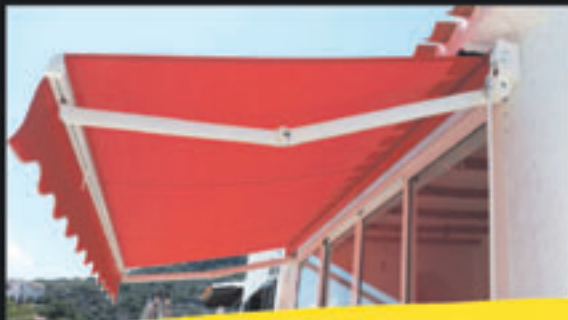
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A Concert for Leo

A GALA Concert for young cancer fighter Leo the Lion is to be held at the Village Theatre in Zurgena. Top local performers will play live to help raise funds for little Leo, who has been battling aggressive brain tumours for over a year. Performers include Charlie the English Singer in Spain; Geoff Murrell; Jim Mackie; Geoff

Thomas; The Gilsons; Herman & Chloe who have donated their time and talent. Tickets for this fantastic event cost just €5. The Gala takes place at Zurgena Village Theatre on Thursday June 8 at 7.30pm. There are 100 tickets available from the Attic, El Cucador and Zurgena Town Hall. Call 634 321 734 for more details.

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Indalo Players' f

INDALO PLAYERS are pleased to announce that due to the determination of Ruth Johnson-Wood and Sue Mehmet, their pantomime 'Robinson Crusoe' generated well over €1,000 for charity.

Part of it was from box office takings, which was shared between 'Centro de atención de niños en Vera' towards the upkeep of the Vera Orphanage and PAWS for its cat neutering programme. Stepping Stones were also able to benefit from the profits made from running the bar.

Last week Indalo Players paid a visit to 'Centro de atención de niños en Vera' where members met Sister Antonio who was delighted to receive the donation. This charity was founded in the 16th century and has branches in 92 countries. The home in Vera was founded in 1996



INDALO PLAYERS: Present a cheque to Sister Antonio at Vera orphanage.

and has places for a total of 16 boys and girls whose ages vary from birth to 18 years of age. The children are mainly from families who could not take care of them

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they are 18 years old and then the orphanage helps them to find work and accommodation in the community

Aside from looking after the children the sisters also run a food and clothing bank for the less fortunate in Vera.

Funding for the charity originally came from the Junta de Andalucía, but with the crisis, this has been cut to a very bare minimum which only covers specialists such as psychiatrists. The money for food, staff, clothing and maintenance of the building is funded by donation and at present the centre is running at a huge deficit and desperately needs more funds.

Since its inception Indalo Players has donated a huge amount of money to local charities and rest assured, it will continue to donate money to worthy causes.

or were being maltreated and a few are orphans. Although some have descended from

other nationalities, all were born in Spain. The children all attend local schools until

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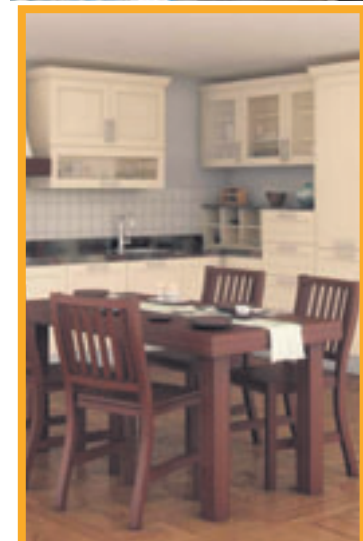


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LATEST DONATION: Some of the Freemasons gathered to support the presentation.

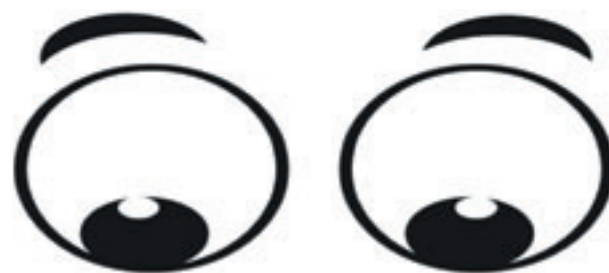
Mojacar Masons show their support

ONCE again the Freemasons of Almería Lodge No 74, who are based in Turre, have shown their support for the 'Hermanas Francesca Banco de Alimentos' in Vera, who provide food parcels for the needy of the area.

A number of the Freemasons from the Lodge gathered to support the presentation of their latest donation of €500 to be spent on this very worthy cause. The donation was presented by Worshipful Brothers Victor Childe and Malcolm Forrest-

Hazell, the Worshipful Master and the Immediate Past Master of the Lodge to the Sisters along with a pallet loaded with food donations.

This latest donation brings the total support to over €6,500 from Mojacar Masons over recent years.



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General Election could hurt Nicola Sturgeon



BREXIT PAGE

By John Smith

It would appear that Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has accepted that there will be no second referendum on Independence prior to Brexit.

In various interviews she has continued to say that she wants to see Scotland remain in the European Union but accepts that it may have to be on a phased basis, possibly by becoming a member of the European Free Trade Association



NICOLA STURGEON: All smiles outside her official residence.

currently made up of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

Prior to this however there would have to be a referendum and Ms Sturgeon is anxious to protect the 54 seats that the

SNP currently hold in the UK Parliament, as two MPs became Independents but still vote with the SNP.

Opinion polls which have been notoriously inaccurate of late are suggesting that the To-

ries are likely to be re-elected with a significant majority and could even eat into the SNP vote as the continued call for a second Independence referendum is possibly turning Scottish voters off.

Many have recognised that the United Kingdom will leave the EU regardless and therefore may consider that the Conservatives are more likely to be able to secure a better deal than any of the other parties.

The SNP leader wants to be party to the Brexit negotiations rather than simply be treated as an onlooker. She wants to be given information when the government calls the Joint Ministerial Committee comprising of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, but any loss of seats in the General Election will be damaging to her aims.

Finding the right EU negotiator

ONE of the problems with the European Union and the eventual Brexit negotiations is that there seem to be too many spokesmen.

Apart from the 27 heads of state, there seem to be comments and ideas flowing in from Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, Guy Verhofstadt the European Parliament's chief Brexit negotiator and Michel Barnier the European Commission chief Brexit negotiator.

There are also plenty of other commissioners and MEPs who seem to be ready to put their observations into the hat which makes life even more complicated.

Once a new government is elected in the UK it is going to have to get to grips with whom to deal with and how to find its way through all of the red tape and argument without being sidetracked by possibly the wrong negotiator.

The whole unravelling of British membership is going to be difficult enough as it is and the British government needs to identify the smartest way to come to some form of agreement in order to make this an acceptable divorce rather than an unnecessarily acrimonious one.



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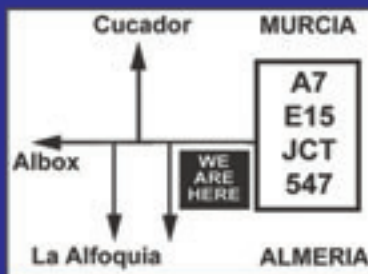
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ZENIT: The new stadium still needs work before 2018.

Big spenders

AUTHORITIES will give Russia's World Cup 2018 spending a boost of 4.7 billion rubles (€700 million). It joins the 638 billion rubles (€10 billion) already earmarked. With just over a year to go until the World Cup kicks off some stadiums are still in dire straits.

is in Barcelona receiving treatment for an eye injury sustained in a chemical attack in Moscow. A man burst into the Putin critic's office and sprayed him with gas, almost blinding him in one eye. Surgeons say his sight should recover soon.

sia have rushed up the global rankings. The country is now the sixth best European destination for international students out of 30 nations measured. Moscow institutions in particular are quickly gathering international acclaim and are now considered among the world's best.

Hidden treasure

WORKERS digging up a Moscow road found a chess piece with silver coins hidden inside dating back to the time of Ivan the Terrible almost five centuries ago. The coins were minted between 1530 and 1540. The chess piece was a Knight carved from bone but hollowed out to hold treasure.

Spy games

MOBILE phone operator MTS has linked up with the Kremlin to store personal data of phone users as part of new anti-terrorism laws. Electronic surveillance technology is being developed to save messages, calls, searches and other information from Russian nationals. Critics say the move is designed to increase state control.

Hollywood threat

ACTION film star Steven Seagal has been banned from Ukraine. The American martial artist and 80's icon is considered a threat to national security due to his friendship with Russian president Vladimir Putin. Seagal has performed in disputed territory Crimea and even has a Russian passport and honorary citizenship.

Chemical critic

RUSSIA'S main opposition leader Alexei Navalny

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Arctic warfare

RUSSIA has stepped ahead of the competition in the race to conquer the Arctic. Moscow has invested heavily in new ports and military bases across the Arctic circle. Russia, the US and Canada are vying with one another for control of resources as the ice cap melts, enabling previously impossible access.



ICEBREAKER: Vessel charges through melting Arctic.

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3 bed, 2.5 bath, detached villa of 220m² on 1,039m² with outstanding sea views & huge south-east facing terrace. Planted gardens, wrap-around terraces & private pool. Carport. **DV1280 595,000€**

Cortijo Grande



4 bed, 2 bath, detached villa of 152m² on a plot of 1,860m². Very private. A/C, 8 x 4 pool. Excellent all round views. Ample parking. **DV1410 299,950€**

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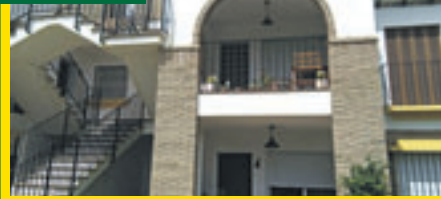
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Spanish clothing retailer for sale

By John Smith

CORTEFIEL is up for sale after registering a loss of €24 million over the last 12 months.

Originally a privately owned Spanish clothing retailer founded more than 100 years ago, it was sold to private equity firms PAI Partners, CVC Capital and Permira in 2005 when retail spending was at its highest.

Although Spanish competitors such as Inditex (owners of Zara and other retail outlets) and Mango

€1.4 billion
is the amount that whoever takes over the company will have to repay to lender banks by March 2018.

have thrived during the ensuing years, Cortefiel has found the trading situation difficult even though it owns popular brands such as Women's Secret and Springfield.

Recently appointed Chief Executive Jaume Miquel believes that it will see a profit in 2018 but with a

turnover of €1.13 billion it should be making a much better return even though it has spent a great deal in closing large stores and concentrating on opening new smaller shops.

There has been some recent signs of improvement in sales vol-

umes in many of the 90 countries in which the group operates but owners have reportedly appointed Goldman Sachs to find a buyer before large bank loans are due for repayment in less than one year's time.

Some analysts believe that the group has ignored the younger market in Spain where it makes more than 50 per cent of its sales and current strategy is to improve penetration both with the young and trendy as well as the 45 to 55 age range.

Spain to assist poorer countries

THE Bank of Spain has agreed to lend \$615 million (€568 million) to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to assist poorer countries.

Although Spain is a regular borrower on world markets, this is the sixth loan that it has agreed to make to the IMF which will be made available to low-income member countries.

The country is one of the 10 earliest respondents to the IMF campaign to raise SDR 11 billion (€13.9 billion) to help countries currently experiencing financial difficulty. The SDR (Special Drawing right) is a paper rate managed by the IMF based on an average of five currencies.

Quote of the Week

"They might as well have called the Pope as he knows as much about the case" PP spokesman Rafael Hernando as Mariano Rajoy is called to testify in the Gürtel case



Photo by IMF flickr

HAPPIER TIMES: With former Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

Rodrigo Rato faces new trial

FORMER minister and IMF boss Rodrigo Rato is to be tried for fraud after being found guilty of misuse of bank credit cards.

The legal problems that he and 31 others are facing are in connection with activities to 'float' Bankia which was an amalgamation of number of smaller banks.

Thousands of small investors were encouraged to purchase shares in Bankia which initially

reported a profit in 2011 of €309 million but within a matter of a year, the Spanish government had to find €2 billion to bail it out.

The National Court in Spain has investigated the possible responsibility of the Bank of Spain in not spotting the fraud but it has now been cleared meaning that the prosecution for fraud and falsifying financial statements can proceed.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

New business

AS the economy in Morocco becomes increasingly stronger and investors are starting to look towards Europe again, Spain is a favourite target. With political stability and spare funds, Spanish companies are also looking to Morocco for inwards and outwards investment.

Iberdola investigation

AFTER being fined €25 million for price fixing, electricity supplier Iberdola is under investigation again. Investigators believe that executives or staff may have deliberately artificially increased the price charged by the company between November 20 and December 23, 2013.

Dia results

SPANISH supermarket chain Dia which operates some 7,000 stores worldwide has reported a profit of €39 million for the first quarter of 2017. It has been closing badly performing stores in Spain but has had significant expenses with its Chinese openings.

Delay in supply of new jet

WITH Europe demanding the phasing out of expensive noisy aircraft, Boeing thought that it would find success with its new 737 MAX.

It hoped that European airlines would replace the aging but popular standard 737 when a few

weeks before the first aircraft were to be delivered the company has had to halt test flights due to an unconfirmed engine fault.

With large numbers of this model on order, the problem needs to be resolved quickly.

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Spanish budget looks good to European commission

AS the European Commission once again forecasts improved growth in Spain during 2017, the government has a fall back plan in place.

When publishing its budget for 2017, it deliberately decided not to follow the example of some other European states and indeed Catalonia by increasing taxes on sugary drinks or environmentally unfriendly activities.

The government is anxious to ensure that its budget does pass with as few ripples as possible and if it can meet European Commission targets it will once again evade any fines which could be quite significant.

The current plans call for a turnaround of €9.3 billion which will be made up by a combination of increased tax-



Photo by 1000 Words Shutterstock

SUPERMARKET DRINKS: Estimated that a tax on sugary drinks would bring in an extra €200 million pa.

tion through additional workers being employed, earlier payment of IVA, reduced spending on pensions and general expenditure cuts.

As there is often a difference

between forecasts and actuals, it must have appeared prudent to the Finance Ministry to highlight the fact that it might bring in two new taxes if the financial situation appears to be faltering.

It is estimated that a tax on sugary drinks would bring in an extra €200 million per annum and green taxes could raise €300 million which would add €500 million to

the national income.

All of this could however be of minor importance if the government is unable to find purchasers for a number of bankrupt toll roads

throughout the country.

At one stage it was hoped that it would be relatively easy to find buyers for the roads, but as banks sold debts in order to cover their own financial exposure, so the number of creditors has increased.

Many toll motorways run parallel to free autovias so that drivers are not necessarily inclined to pay ever increasing toll charges which means that the owners of the toll roads find themselves in ongoing financial difficulty with little incentive for anyone to take over the operations and the risks.

Estimates concerning the cost to government of taking over the debts of struggling or bankrupt companies in this sector range from €3 billion to €5 billion.

Don Patricio saviour of FC Barcelona

WHILST it is now one of the most successful and profitable football clubs in the world, FC Barcelona owes its continued existence to an Irishman.

Patrick O'Connell who was the first Irishman to ever play for Manchester United moved to Spain in the late 1920s and became manager of a number of different clubs before spending a very successful four years with Real Betis (known then as Betis Balompie) leading them to their only La Liga title.

Thanks to this success, he was invited to take over as manager of Barcelona where they just missed winning the Copa de España in the 1935-36 season and then in the following season, La Liga was suspended due to the Spanish Civil War.

Nothing daunted, O'Connell accepted an invitation to take the Barcelona team to play exhibition matches in Mexico and the USA and made \$15,000 which allowed Barcelona to clear all of its debts and continue following the end of the Civil War.

It has to be noted however that of the 16 players who accompanied him across the Atlantic, only four returned to Spain with the rest deciding to settle elsewhere.

The manager, known as Don Patricio remained with Barcelona winning the Lliga Catalana and he then moved to Sevilla FC, steering them to second place in the reconstituted La Liga.



Photo by Facebook Irish Footballer Memorial Fund.

REAL BETIS: Don Patricio bust is unveiled on the pitch.

Although he died in poverty in London in 1959, the former Manchester United and Ireland skipper has a bust on display at the Real

Betis stadium and was honoured with a blue plaque at a former home in Albert Street in Belfast on May 12 this year.

Adidas drops out of the golf world

GOLFERS in Spain may be interested to know that Adidas has sold its struggling golf operations to investment firm KPS Capital Partners.

The German company which owns Adidas will receive €391 million for the business, which includes the golf brands TaylorMade, Adams Golf and Ashworth.

This seems a relatively small amount considering it has just reportedly signed a €92 million sponsorship deal with Rory McIlroy to promote TaylorMade equipment.

It was generally known that the golf division had been up for sale for some time as there had been a considerable drop in interest in the sport in one of its main markets, the USA since the decline of Tiger Woods.

Even in Europe it is suggested that the spend on golf apparel in particular has been in decline, although recent announcements in Spain have seen forecasts of additional courses being built in the Costa del Sol suggest that the sport is still popular here.

For some time, Adidas was the biggest supplier of gold equipment in the world but has decided that the return was no longer worth the investment.

Time for the Spanish tax returns and do not forget foreign assets

By John Smith

THOSE expatriates who live and work in Spain are required to submit a tax return of some type depending on residential status.

Those who are official residents in Spain will be subject to Spanish tax on their worldwide income but if a non-resident then you will only pay tax on your Spanish income together with an additional tax on the theoretical value of letting out any property you own, even if it is never rented out.

Spanish tax rates can vary across the provinces depending upon where you live and in addition, those working in Spain will be required to make a contribution to the Spanish Social security system although this is often deducted from salaries.

The Spanish tax year runs from January 1 until December 31 and the time has now arrived to submit tax returns if you are resident in Spain provided that your annual income from employment exceeds €22,000, you are self-employed, you receive rental income in excess of €1,000 per annum, you have capital gains or interest on income exceeding €1,600 per annum or if it is your first year in Spain.

If you have to submit a tax declaration, you will also have to declare all assets abroad worth



more than €50,000.

You will need to register to pay tax in Spain with the Spanish tax authority (Agencia Tributaria), whether you are a resident or non-resident.

This information is an abbreviated explanation of the main requirements for registering for tax

and should not be taken as a complete guide.

There are a number of highly reputable tax advisors and lawyers who advertise in this newspaper and can assist or information may also be obtained from local banks, local councils and the tax authorities.

Gibraltar denies tax evasion

THE director of the Gibraltar Finance Centre James Tipping has appeared before a European Parliament committee in Brussels.

He told the committee which is investigating tax avoidance that Gibraltar's finance centre was "small by European standards" but crucial to Gibraltar's economy.

Whilst fielding a number of hostile questions from Spanish MEPs, he made it clear Gibraltar has entered into numerous international agreements concerning transparency and money laundering. In addition he confirmed Gibraltar would share tax information with the EU later this year, although that may cease after Brexit.

Although technically not part of the brief of the committee, he responded to accusations by one Spanish MEP by denying that Gibraltar was a haven for cigarette smugglers especially as a great deal had been done to introduce strong legislation in this regard.

Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

by Stone King

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at international@stoneking.co.uk



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

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

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



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

What is an LPA?

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

Why should you get an LPA?

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

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

Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

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

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

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



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A very dangerous man indeed

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



AS sure as night precedes day and the Pope follows the teachings of Catholicism, the Blair person is now up and running.

As I predicted some months ago, this thick skinned, arrogant individual, who many consider an indictable war criminal, is now poised waiting to pounce. The omens of opportunity for this dangerous opportunist to present his 'new' alternative party, are all coming together like some ominous web waiting to engulf all who fail to see the trap.

This odious creature and his equally abhorrent mate, now see themselves presented with exactly the same set of circumstances they were confronted with when he commandeered the Labour party in 1994. His initial move has been to work on his personal public image. He now looks the part.

Tanned, toned and slightly greying at the temples, he presents the perfect picture of a supremely confident future party leader. Before him he sees the mouth watering prospect of a Labour party with a weak inept leader, that is coming apart at the seams, no other party with enough support to form any



TONY BLAIR: A very clever and extremely astute individual.

serious opposition and a public confused and uncertain with the outcome of their decision to leave the European Union. What better time to reveal that he, Tony Blair, has the answer to all its problems?

His opening political gambit has been to announce that the Brexit decision could be reversed. Brilliant. This statement alone could gain a new alternative party millions

of followers. And that's just the beginning. When Labour is hopefully routed in the coming elections, disgruntled and despondent left wingers will flock to a party formed by an ex-Labour leader who successfully took them to victory on three separate occasions. Make no mistake Blair is a very clever and extremely astute individual.

Any man who begins his career in public

service by becoming Prime Minister, when most aspire to that position only after many years in the political arena, is a very dangerous man indeed. As far as resources are concerned, I have no doubt that with the cronies he has accrued over the past number of years, his party funding pit will be all but bottomless. Unfortunately for Mr Blair, he has overlooked one glaring fact of life. Millions of UK subjects hate and despise him.

Many, including yours truly, consider him responsible for the death of thousands, and, along with Bush, the root cause of the whole Middle Eastern tragedy which resulted in the demise of millions. So, assuming the notoriously short memory span of the British public doesn't rear its ugly head, I'm afraid all this Antichrists efforts to regain power are doomed to failure. At least I sincerely hope so.

Meanwhile back at the old homestead, with ever increasing desperation, Corbyn is promising the British public... well just about everything. With not one suggestion, except for robbing the rich, to pay for any of it. All together now Jerry Corbyn, Jerry Corbyn, riding through the glen...

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Sharon pulling in the crowds



Shaun, Dan and Vicky before the madness began

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Brits are flocking to Spain in droves for sun, sea & safety

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

NOW is the time when you really start to see them. Tourists, I mean. After all, they're the easiest to recognise as a species. They're the pasty-looking white blobs on the beach - unless the sun's setting when they're red as lobsters and being given the kiss of life by paramedics.

If the weather suddenly turns wintry, they're still dressed for summer. In summer, they're the ones who amble about the stores and streets virtually naked. Much as we wouldn't want to be identified as tourists, we can't do without them because otherwise the economy would slump even further.

Tourists could never be confused with two other species you come across in Spain. The newly arrived expats and the long-term expats. The former you'll see enthusiastical-



TOURISTS: The easiest to recognise as a species.

ly attending every Spanish class, Flamenco, bullfight, obscure feria and club imaginable.

Whereas long-term expats are the complete opposite and the most difficult to spot. They dress like the Spanish, wear summer clothes only in summer and dress more formally in town (well, not in swimwear anyway).

Like the Spanish too, they've learned to accept the way of life in Spain. Mañana really does mean, ahem, mañana.

Now, with all the Roman ruins - villas, roads, marketplaces - being unearthed here, it struck me that the Romans were among the earliest tourist species. You can just imagine them, can't you? Hurling along the

carreteras to the nearest encampment in their horse-drawn chariots. Holding up traffic at the roundabouts. Counting out their silver denarii coins in the markets. Overseeing another luxury villa reforma.

Before heading over the Alps into Italy, Hannibal started out in Spain when he arrived from Carthage with his lines of nose-to-tail elephants. So is all the TAIL-gating we now observe among Spanish drivers yet one more vestige of those bygone days?

Give a final thought, though, to Strabo, an extremely unlucky general who not only suffered miserable defeats, but died of the plague during one disastrous campaign. Just as he was about to expire, lightning struck his tent and burned it to the ground. So, not a happy camper either.

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

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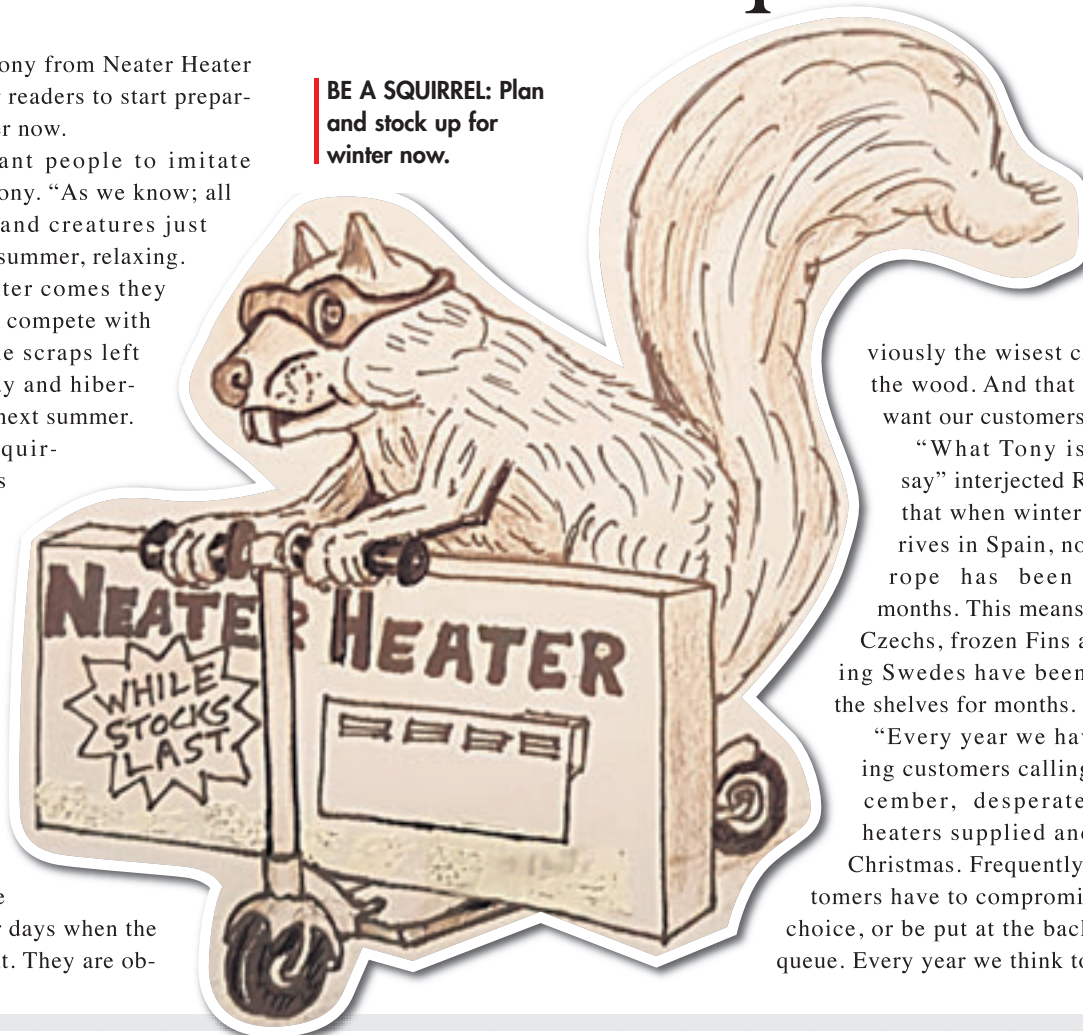
Neater Heater want 'squirrels' as customers

RICHARD and Tony from Neater Heater are urging all our readers to start preparing for next winter now.

"We really want people to imitate squirrels," said Tony. "As we know, all the other woodland creatures just laze about in the summer, relaxing. So when the winter comes they have to furiously compete with each other for the scraps left over or hide-away and hibernate, waiting for next summer.

"But not the squirrels! Squirrels plan for the winter by hoarding nuts, berries and seeds in the summer, so when winter comes they are well prepared for it, and are able to enjoy themselves on those nice bright winter days when the sun does come out. They are ob-

BE A SQUIREL: Plan and stock up for winter now.



viously the wisest creatures in the wood. And that is what we want our customers to be."

"What Tony is trying to say" interjected Richard, "is that when winter finally arrives in Spain, northern Europe has been cold for months. This means that chilly Czechs, frozen Fins and shivering Swedes have been stripping the shelves for months.

"Every year we have panicking customers calling us in December, desperate to have heaters supplied and fitted by Christmas. Frequently these customers have to compromise on their choice, or be put at the back of a long queue. Every year we think to ourselves

- 'It's a shame you didn't order them in the summer when we had loads of them in stock and, equally as important, the time to process the orders'."

Neater Heater is the sole Spanish distributor for Beha, Adax, and Vigo convector heaters. It currently has more stock than ever before at various locations, just waiting for the 'squirrels.' Please feel free to call on 634 312 171 for more information, or visit the website www.neaterheater.es, or email info@neaterheater.es.

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VH1109 €139,950 CEE TBC

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- 5 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1118 €159,000 CEE E192 34

NEW LISTING



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 535m2 garden with pool
- Walk to amenities
- La Alfoquia

VH972 €148,950 CEE G188 47

REDUCED



- 4 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 492m2 garden with pool
- Walk to amenities
- La Alfoquia

Nothing but sea, sand and scorpions

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 70's in Mojacar was easy livin'. It might have been the light cloud of marihuana being puffed, the popular theology of flower power and love, but most likely it was the lethargy of just not giving a damn.

Keeping out of other's faces and allowing the world to pass one sunrise at a time. To this mystical vision of Camelot, people arrived daily to start new lives or to hide old ones. They all had stories to tell and as Spain is a café society -listening was part of the programme.

Air Vice Marshalls abounded but never got into anyone's hair as did the thespians looking to strut their hour upon stage. The latter had the worst time as there was little they could invent by way of imagination or background to compete with our already well-established theatre and movie folk already here, 'been there, done that, got the t-shirt and



BEACH LIFE: Away from the constant noise of the village.

slept with the director.'

Two enviable rules were the law: no fighting and you always had to pay your bill at the Hotel Indalo bar in the village plaza. Sr Haro, the owner never pushed anyone for money, it was the rest of us that well knew that if the recent rag tags were allowed too much charity, that

when we needed it the well would have been drunk dry.

So, it was the residents that pressured the poor payers or refused to drink with them until they were solvent again.

Nevertheless, visits from us beach people seemed to insight the locals. I was met constantly with

the same refrain: 'what you wanna build on the beach for? There is nothing down there but sea, sand and scorpions.' Now I wasn't quite dumb enough that I tried to correct their errant thinking.

As long as they all stayed up in the happy village it made less competition for us buying up the lower

realms. I gleefully bit my tongue and remained silent.

Within four years more some of the ambassadors that had been gifted free homes and others of their exalted ilk came to us looking for places on the beach, away from the constant noise of the village and a setting of quiet and serenity.

Within two more years we were met by a constant stream of village people asking for loans to pay their bar bills.

Within four years some of the village shop owners started building on the beach. One of the tiny supermarket-convenience stores became famous throughout the province as never giving change for your purchase. You were required to take matches, liquorice, candy or bubble gum.

My wife achieved worldwide notoriety when upon one of our children's birthdays she purchased a small packet of candles and paid for them using liquorice and bubble gum.

From that moment on - the beach ruled.

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It looks like Murder in Successville movie is actually going to happen

Richard Shanley
Dishing the Dirt
OF EUROPA DIGITAL



MURDER IN SUCCESSVILLE is eyeing up the big screen, with a film version being developed through a new production company created by the team behind the show.

Andy Brereton, James De Frond and Tom Davis are looking to create a movie version with Shiny Button, a company developing and producing original content across both television and feature films (via Screen Daily).

The trio said: "The unprecedented success of Murder in Successville has inspired us to create a highly original film project in which the lead character DI Sleet (played by Tom Davis) shepherds an unknowing mega star through an action-packed cop drama. Imagine a cop buddy film like Lethal Weapon, except one half of the cop duo doesn't know the script or what surprises are in store."

Ever since Ryan Reynolds made Dead-



MURDER IN SUCCESSVILLE: A film version is being developed.

pool everyone's new favourite comic book character (until maybe Tom Holland's Spider-Man) last year, fans have been wanting more of The Merc with a Mouth. Well now Marvel has announced chimichangas for

everyone a brand new animated series set to premiere on FX, the home of the madcap X-Men spin-off Legion. The 10-episode series is going to be executive produced and written by Donald Glover and his brother

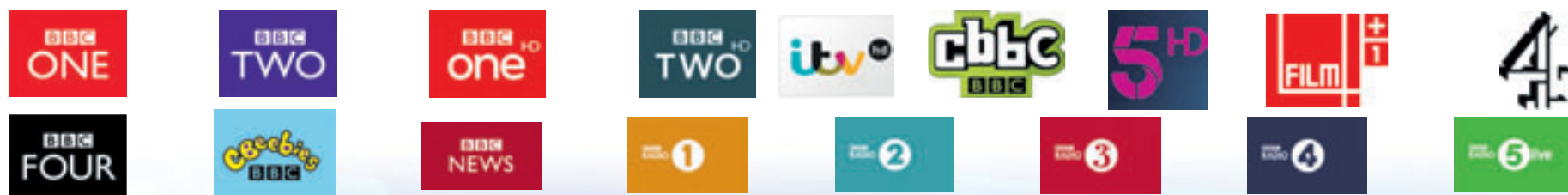
Stephen. You'll know Donald from Community, and he'll be appearing in Spider-Man: Homecoming and the Han Solo Star Wars movie (as young Lando Calrissian), so he's got plenty of nerd cred.

“ One half of the cop duo doesn't know the script or what surprises are in store.

If you would like me to answer any questions you may have on satellite TV or to expand on anything I have written about please call me on 678 332 815 or email richard@europa-digital.com. I look forward to your comments and questions. Don't forget to listen to my radio show every weekday from 10am on Spectrum 96.1 & 106.8FM, now covering almost 3,000sq kms of Costa Almeria and Calida or listen online at costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net for the latest news and views from the world of TV.

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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1			
18 MAY	6:15pm	Pointless	5:15pm	Rise of the Continents	5:00pm	Tipping Point	3:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm	Babushka	4:00pm	One2eleven	
	7:30pm	BBC London News	7:00pm	Debatable	7:00pm	ITV News London	4:15pm	One2eleven 2016/17	
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:45pm	Celebrity Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	4:30pm	Barclays Premier League World	
	8:30pm	EastEnders	8:30pm	Great British Menu	8:00pm	Emmerdale	5:00pm	Football's Greatest	
	9:00pm	Kat and Alfie: Redwater	9:00pm	The World According to Kids	9:00pm	The ITV Leaders' Debate	6:00pm	Premier League 100 Club	
	10:00pm	Three Girls	10:00pm	Morocco to Timbuktu: An Arabian Adventure	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	11:00pm	Live at the Apollo	11:45pm	ITV News London	8:30pm	Football	
	11:30pm	BBC London News	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:00am	Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	11:15pm	School of Hard Knocks	
	11:45pm	Question Time	12:15am	Horizon			12:15am	World Rugby	
	12:45am	This Week							
	19 MAY	8:00pm	The One Show	4:45pm	The Wonder of Animals	8:00pm	Emmerdale	3:55pm	Football Gold
		8:30pm	A Question of Sport	5:15pm	Natural World	8:30pm	Coronation Street	4:00pm	Live Indian Premier League
9:00pm		EastEnders	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	9:00pm	River Monsters	8:30pm	Rugby Union	
9:30pm		Count Arthur Strong	7:00pm	Debatable	9:30pm	Coronation Street	11:00pm	Barclays Premier League Preview	
10:00pm		Have I Got News for You	7:45pm	Celebrity Eggheads	10:00pm	Lethal Weapon	11:30pm	Scottish Football Round Up Show	
10:30pm		Hospital People	8:30pm	Great British Menu	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	11:45pm	Football Gold	
11:00pm		BBC News at Ten	9:00pm	Gardeners' World	11:50pm	The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	12:00am	The Fantasy Football Club	
11:25pm		BBC London News	10:00pm	Versailles	12:20am	Benidorm			
11:35pm		The Graham Norton Show	11:00pm	Mock the Week					
12:25am		Luisaomiela's What Would Beyonce Do?	11:30pm	Newsnight					
			12:05am	Later... with Jools Holland					
20 MAY		7:20pm	BBC News	5:10pm	Trust Me I'm a Vet	5:30pm	Catchphrase	2:00pm	Premier League 100 Club
	7:30pm	Regional News	6:10pm	Gardeners' World	6:15pm	Britain's Got More Talent	3:00pm	Live EFL Lge 1 Play-Off Final	
	7:33pm	Weather	7:10pm	Natural World	7:15pm	Local News and Weather	6:30pm	Barclays Premier League World	
	7:35pm	Pointless	8:00pm	Mexico: Earth's Festival of Life	7:25pm	ITV News and Weather	7:00pm	Rugby Union	
	8:25pm	Doctor Who	9:00pm	Yorkshire Wolds Way with Paul Rose	7:45pm	Take Me Out	9:30pm	Premier League Preview 2016/17	
	9:15pm	Who Dares Wins	9:30pm	Dad's Army	9:00pm	Britain's Got Talent	10:00pm	EFL Highlights	
	10:00pm	Casualty	10:00pm	Philomena	10:20pm	The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	11:00pm	Premier League Legends	
	10:50pm	BBC News	11:35pm	QI XL	10:50pm	Total Recall	12:00am	Premier League 100 Club	
	11:05pm	Weather	12:20am	Versailles	11:50pm	ITV News and Weather			
	11:10pm	Clique			12:05am	Total Recall			
	12:40am	Insomnia							
21 MAY	7:00pm	BBC News	6:30pm	Flog It!	5:20pm	The Man with the Golden Gun	1:45pm	Football Gold	
	7:20pm	Regional News	7:00pm	Inside the Factory: How Our Favourite Foods are Made	7:40pm	Local News and Weather	2:00pm	Football Gold	
	7:25pm	Weather	8:00pm	Dragons' Den	7:45pm	ITV News and Weather	2:15pm	Football Gold	
	7:30pm	Countryfile	9:00pm	Mexico: Earth's Festival of Life	8:00pm	Bigheads	2:30pm	Premier League Legends	
	8:30pm	Antiques Roadshow	10:00pm	Dara and Ed's Road to Mandalay	9:00pm	The Durrells	3:00pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday	
	9:30pm	Inspector George Gently	11:00pm	The Homesman	10:00pm	Grantchester	3:45pm	Sky Sports Tonight	
	11:00pm	BBC News	12:55am	Love is All You Need	11:00pm	ITV News and Weather	7:00pm	Sky Sports Tonight	
	11:20pm	Regional News			11:20pm	Peston on Sunday	8:00pm	Sky Sports Legends	
	11:25pm	Weather			12:20am	Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	9:00pm	Nissan Game of the Day	
	11:30pm	Match of the Day					9:30pm	Nissan Match Choice	
	1:15am	Murder in Successville					11:30pm	Nissan Match Choice	
							12:30am	PL Highlights	
22 MAY	8:30pm	Rhs Chelsea Flower Show 2017	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	6:30pm	The Premier League Years	
	9:00pm	EastEnders	7:00pm	Debatable	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	8:30pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17	
	9:30pm	Would I Lie to You?	7:45pm	Celebrity Eggheads	8:00pm	Emmerdale	9:00pm	How The Premier League Was Won	
	10:00pm	Doctor in the House	8:30pm	Great British Menu	8:30pm	Coronation Street	11:00pm	Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17	
	11:00pm	BBC News	9:00pm	The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	9:00pm	Britain as Seen on ITV	11:30pm	Football Gold	
	11:30pm	Regional News	10:00pm	The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway	9:30pm	Coronation Street	11:45pm	Football Gold	
	11:40pm	Weather	11:00pm	Detectorists	10:00pm	Prince Philip: 70 Years of Service	12:00am	How The Premier League Was Won	
	11:45pm	Have I Got a Bit More	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:00pm	ITV News			
	12:25am	News for You	12:10am	Weather	11:50pm	Don't Ask Me, Ask Britain			
		The Graham Norton Show			12:55am	The Chase			
23 MAY	7:30pm	Regional News	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm	Babushka	8:00pm	FIA World Rally Championship	
	8:00pm	The Andrew Neil Interviews	7:00pm	Debatable	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	9:00pm	The Yorkshire Vet	
	8:30pm	EastEnders	7:45pm	Celebrity Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	10:00pm	Elizabeth I: Death of a Dynasty	
	9:00pm	Holby City	8:30pm	Great British Menu	8:00pm	Emmerdale	11:00pm	Henry and Anne: The Lovers Who Changed History	
	10:00pm	Broken	9:00pm	The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	8:30pm	Save Money Good Food	1:05am	The Execution of Mary Queen of Scots	
	11:00pm	BBC News	10:00pm	Horizon	9:00pm	Don't Ask Me Ask Britain	2:00am	Super Casino	
	11:30pm	Regional News	11:00pm	Later Live... with Jools Holland	10:00pm	Long Lost Family			
	11:40pm	Weather	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:00pm	ITV News			
	11:45pm	F.A. Cup	12:10am	Weather	11:50pm	Prince Philip: 70 Years of Service			
	12:15am	Doctor in the House			12:50am	Fierce			
24 MAY	7:30pm	Regional News	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	4:00pm	One2eleven	
	8:00pm	The Andrew Neil Interviews	7:00pm	Debatable	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	4:15pm	One2eleven 2016/17	
	8:30pm	Fake Britain	7:45pm	Celebrity Eggheads	8:00pm	Emmerdale	4:30pm	Premier League Legends	
	9:00pm	Shop Well for Less	8:30pm	Great British Menu	8:30pm	Coronation Street	5:00pm	Football's Greatest	
	10:00pm	The Met: Policing London	9:00pm	The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	9:00pm	Tonight at the London Palladium	5:30pm	Football's Greatest	
	11:00pm	BBC News	10:00pm	Bake Off Crème de la Crème	10:00pm	Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	6:00pm	Championship Rugby Final 1st Leg	
	11:30pm	Regional News	11:00pm	White Gold	11:00pm	ITV News	8:30pm	Live Championship Rugby Final	
	11:40pm	Weather	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:50pm	UEFA Europa League Final Highlights	11:00pm	PL World: End of Season Special	
	11:45pm	A Question of Sport	12:10am	Weather	12:50am	Sports Life Stories	12:00am	Football's Greatest	
	12:15am	Glasgow 1967: The Lisbon Lions							

The Marina Playa Hotel sponsors La Mojaquera

ONE of Spain's top races, the BTT Sierra Cabrera Xtreme, La Mojaquera, was a tremendous success on Sunday May 7 thanks to incredible support from sponsors the Marina Playa Hotel, a Servigroup establishment.

A tough and demanding course of 74 kilometres with steep uphill climbs of 2.4km, La Mojaquera also offers spectacular views of the coastline and mountains. Set amid the unique natural beauty of the Sierra Cabrera, the annual circuit begins at the Playa de Macenas and concludes at the Marina Playa de la Torre.

Competing races were treated to a well-deserved meal at the Marina Playa Hotel restaurant, which also held a fantastic award ceremony.

Key organiser was once again Gerardo Martinez who has spent six years leading this exciting event.



LA MOJAQUERA: Race sponsored by Servigroup's Marina Playa Hotel.

Winner of the sixth edition was Victor Manuel Fernandez from Cordovan Elite on the Wolfbike Valenciana team who finished in a speedy three hours and 22 minutes. Runner up was Xavier Borrás Castellon of the Olympia Factory Cycling team.

Women's winner was Ana Dolores Jimenez of Master 40, while second went to Remedios Jurado of CD

Malaga and Albox Bike.

Thanks to Almeria's terrific climate, Hotel Servigroup regularly sponsors cycling races across the province. Top teams from around the world, including Rabobank, Movistar Pro, Bouygues Telecom, Lotto Belisol, Omega Pharma, Endura and Ovita, choose the Servigroup Marina Playa Hotel as the best place to stay while training in Almeria.

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You can bet on anything

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



I'M not really a gambler - although many would disagree with me. I might have 20 euros on the Grand National, but that's it. When I was working I used to go to Las Vegas twice a year, which I did for over 20 years. I never played the tables or the slots. Now the reason many would say I am a gambler is because I play poker everyday either online or live.

Sometimes I win and, of course, sometimes I lose, but I feel I'm in control. Sure there is an element of luck but there is also a lot of skill involved. I can win by convincing someone my hand is better than theirs by bluffing.

I know when it's time to get up and quit whether I'm winning or losing. This brings me to the point of this week's grump. I think it's disgusting the amount of advertising there is on TV for gambling offering free money and making it look glamorous. They show Champagne corks popping and they show everyone winning and at the bottom they put a little note saying something like 'when it stops being fun quit.' What a lot of nonsense!

Gambling ads should be treated the same as cigarette and alcohol advertising. It's a 'drug'

and it's addictive and should be treated as such. I actually think the advertising should be banned. What the adverts don't show is the damage that gambling can do. In the UK there are machines in betting shops called Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBT). These machines are the crack cocaine of the gambling world! You can put your credit or debit card in and play up to a £100 every few seconds.

You should look on YouTube and watch people smashing up places when they have been financially wiped out. You can now bet on anything. You can even bet on things losing and this opened up a whole new can of worms. It's all about greed. These multi-million pound betting companies just never have enough. They won't limit what you can lose but have a few winning bets and see how quick they decline your business.

I remember years ago being given this tip about playing the slot machines in Vegas. I was asked where I thought the best place was to win. I guessed it would be at one of smaller hotels, only to be told the best pay outs were in the Arrivals part of Las Vegas airport. This, of course, makes sense as it gives you the winning flavour and you experience how much fun it's going to be. Of course, the worst pay outs are in the departure area! You are leaving so jog on and thanks for your last few dollars!

Email me mikesenker@gmail.com

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Drivers behind bars

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.



MORE than 4.5 million motorists have admitted to driving in a way that would have constituted a criminal offence. That's the conclusion of a report by the Fundacion Linea Directa on crimes against road safety between 2012 and 2015.

Such criminal acts included driving whilst under the influence of drugs or alcohol, excessive speeding and driving without a licence.

The survey also revealed there is a serious lack of knowledge regarding criminal acts whilst driving, with some 11 million unaware that driving whilst under the influence of drugs can lead to a prison sentence. But beyond this ignorance, such behaviours carry a much more serious problem within society as they have a direct influence on mortality and injury figures across Spain's road network.

It can be estimated that around 14 per cent of the total deaths in traffic accidents are due to the criminal conduct of another driver.

Crimes against road safety have become the most common in Spanish courts, accounting for 35 per cent of all crimes committed in Spain. Since 2008, almost 900,000 trials have been held for crimes against road safety with the number of convictions rising from 66 per cent in 2008 to 85 per cent in 2015.

Between the years 2012-2015, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs accounted for more than 60 per cent of all driving related court cases. This was followed by driving without a licence (27 per cent). There are currently around 1,200 people detained in prison for driving without a licence and reckless homicide. Men aged between 41 and 50 were the ones who received the most convictions.

The Spanish regions of Baleares, Murcia and Galicia had the highest percentage of convictions for crimes against road safety in the last four years, with Cantabria, Extremadura and Aragon having the lowest conviction rates.

For more news and articles visit www.n332.es or search N332 on Facebook.

Can he run a garage in the garage?

Q. I am the newly-elected President of a community of property owners and I am faced with a situation where the partner of the former President has been operating a car repair business in our community garage. This man is not an owner. I have observed him repairing cars, using spaces without the owner's permission and

using the community electricity, as he keeps the lights on to repair the cars. I have taken pictures which I have handed over to the Administrator. Sometimes there are half a dozen vehicles in the garage. When he sees me, he is abusive and aggressive, shouting rudely in my face. What action can I take?

J F (Costa Del Sol)

A. If the President of a community observes unauthorised activities on community property, he or she can take appropriate action to end these activities. I suggest that you consult with

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



your Administrator and send a formal notice, in the name

of the community, to the former President to report that a person living at that address is carrying out unauthorised activities, and these activities should cease, or further action will be taken.

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

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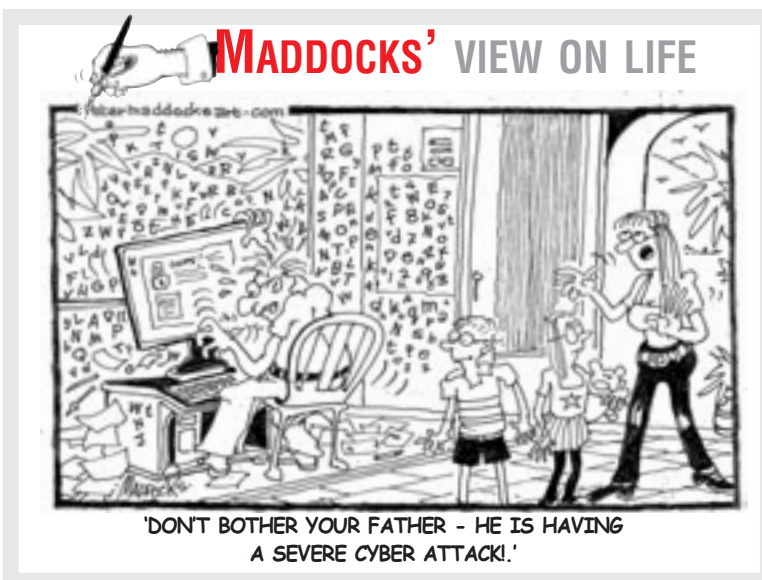
Kakuro

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

	12	24	30	33	11
27					
24					
	22				
	16				
22					16
22					
25					

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

	14	12	20	7	8
27	8	3	9	2	5
25	6	4	7	5	3
		5	6		
23	2	3	5	6	7
19	1	7	2	5	4



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

R	I	R
I	D	G
B	E	A

TARGET:

- Average: 13 • Good: 19
- Very good: 27 • Excellent: 34

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

ergo gale game gaol gear germ girl giro glam glom goal goer gore gram grim loge mage magi mega ogle ogre rage agile amigo gamer gimel glare gleam gloam golem goral grill grime image imago lager large largo liger logia marge ogler omega regal rigor galore gamier gaoler glamor goalie gorier imager larger maigre milage mirage armiger RIGMAROLE

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY



Saturday May 13

7	14	15	BONUS BALL
21	23	57	52

IRISH LOTTO



Saturday May 13

4	16	33	BONUS BALL
39	43	47	19

EURO MILLIONS



Tuesday May 09

8	12	16	BONUS BALL
22	26	7	6

Friday May 12

2	20	28	BONUS BALL
29	44	9	3

LA PRIMITIVA



Saturday May 13

3	9	28	BONUS BALL
29	41	42	6
			5

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA



Sunday May 14

13	23	24	BONUS BALL
25	45	8	

YOUR STARS FOR 7 DAYS

GEMINI ♊ (May 22 - June 21)

The company is so interesting that you can hardly tear yourself away and new experiences are arriving every day. You could be forgiven for getting a little over-excited. When travel brings you face to face with a stranger, you find that a bit of information you hear has to be acted upon.

CANCER ♋ (June 22 - July 23)

Someone close gets a real stroke of luck this week and no doubt the benefits will rub off on you. It seems that some fortune will come your way by the end of the month and lead you to see a situation in quite a different light. Any travel should be left until the beginning of next month if possible because there are likely to be delays and irritations.

LEO ♌ (July 24 - August 23)

Someone you have been holding at arm's length recently is insisting on getting closer. Charm and tact alone may not save the day, but enlisting the help of a friend could. Travel and career are well-aspected and, if you are expecting a financial windfall, you may have a bit longer to wait.

VIRGO ♍ (August 24 - September 23)

The hard work you have been putting in recently has left you tired and, at times, quite tetchy. This week you will start to see the rewards of your efforts which will undoubtedly help you to keep up the momentum. There is a lot of both passion and travel this week, which is set to continue.

TAURUS ♉ (April 21 - May 21)

The urge to get ahead at as fast a pace as possible is apparent this week. Some would say not before time. However, you know the art of choosing the moment and it has not been until now that you have felt the time was right. This is a truly expansive week and one in which your powers of imagination are given full rein. No wonder you are being admired.

LIBRA ♎ (September 24 - October 23)

This is a highly sociable week, and you could meet some new faces that not only attract but inspire you. You are a social butterfly, and this brings out your Libran flutteriness. You will have to draw on all your powers of concentration to keep ahead of practical matters such as paperwork.

SCORPIO ♏ (October 24 - November 22)

You dominate the scene this week and no one is in any doubt about what you are aiming for. If you want to impress someone new to your circle, however, try a bit of cunning as opposed to brow-beating.

SAGITTARIUS ♐ (November 23 - December 21)

Communication and self-expression are what it's all about this week. Although you may feel that indulging yourself is in some ways selfish, you should realise that you are entitled to some fun.

CAPRICORN ♑ (December 22 - January 20)

The call of romance is strong but so is that of your business life. The two will clash to the detriment of each other if you do not plan ahead and pace

yourself. Do not be at the beck and call of others when you need all your time and energy for yourself.

AQUARIUS ♒ (January 21 - February 19)

Such is your popularity this week that you can be assured of success in many things. Remember that first impressions can be the most accurate and don't be tempted to make too many allowances for others.

PISCES ♓ (February 20 - March 20)

For some time you have been trying to settle a certain matter. Although it is in your nature to get things out of the way quickly, this has not been possible. The chance to make progress this week is welcome but be sure that all is not what it seems.

ARIES ♈ (March 21 - April 20)

A friend of long standing comes up with some bright ideas to get you out of a tricky situation. Don't be surprised. You have for a long time now underestimated their worth. Your friend will be surprised when you show your gratitude in an immediate and physical way, but if there is anything better than finding a new friend it is finding an old friend has hidden talents.

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.

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

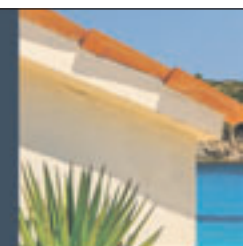
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

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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

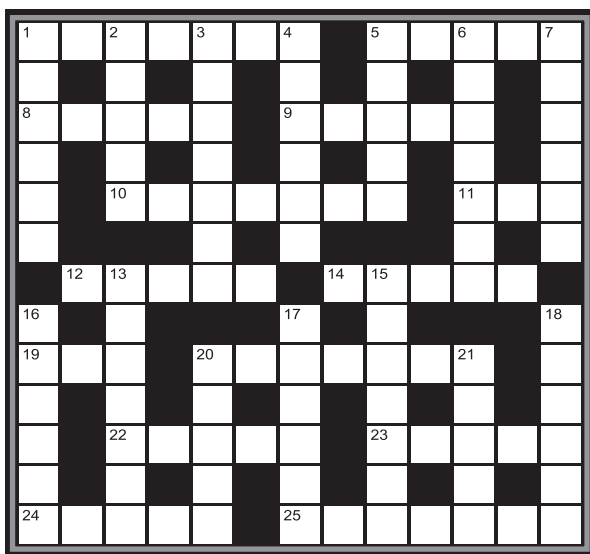
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Cannot find a volunteer for a piece of music (7)
- 5 Soothes a hundred with charity (5)
- 8 Met to compose a song (5)
- 9 Excalibur manufactured in the country (5)
- 10 Stupid point employed in an argument (7)
- 11/19 Chase after a pooch for its identity disc (3,3)
- 12 Virginia allowed a manservant (5)
- 14 March about for a spell (5)
- 19 See 11
- 20 Robert's musical wild animals (7)
- 22 Bit of grass for a dashing fellow (5)
- 23 Golf shot with determination (5)
- 24 Rub tea with iron (5)
- 25 Hill split by heavy rain (7)

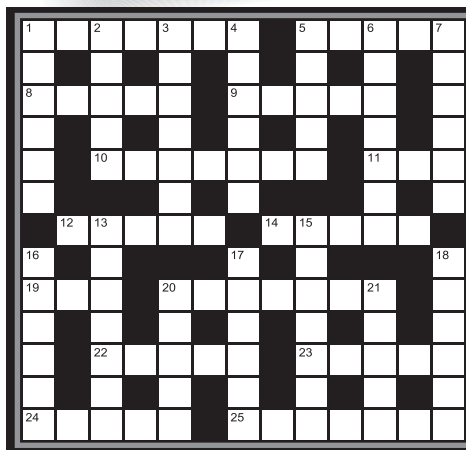
Down

- 1 Set up tents on the US university grounds (6)
- 2 No Middle Eastern journalist is mentioned (5)
- 3 The performer is surprisingly tastier (7)
- 4 Henry leaves port for a shady spot (6)
- 5 Denounce phoney cures (5)
- 6 Learned about hero worshiper (7)
- 7 Mean fraud ending anyway (6)
- 13 Garble a new form of mathematics (7)



- 15 Miser finds it more difficult to keep nothing hidden (7)
- 16 Motionless atmospheric (6)
- 17 Complain about the article (6)
- 18 It protects an inventor's rights, that's obvious (6)
- 20 Introduction to book by mere poet (5)
- 21 Pier's curious steeple (5)

Quick



Across

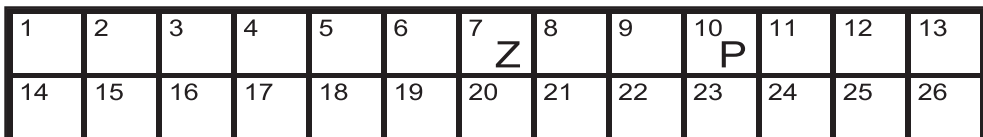
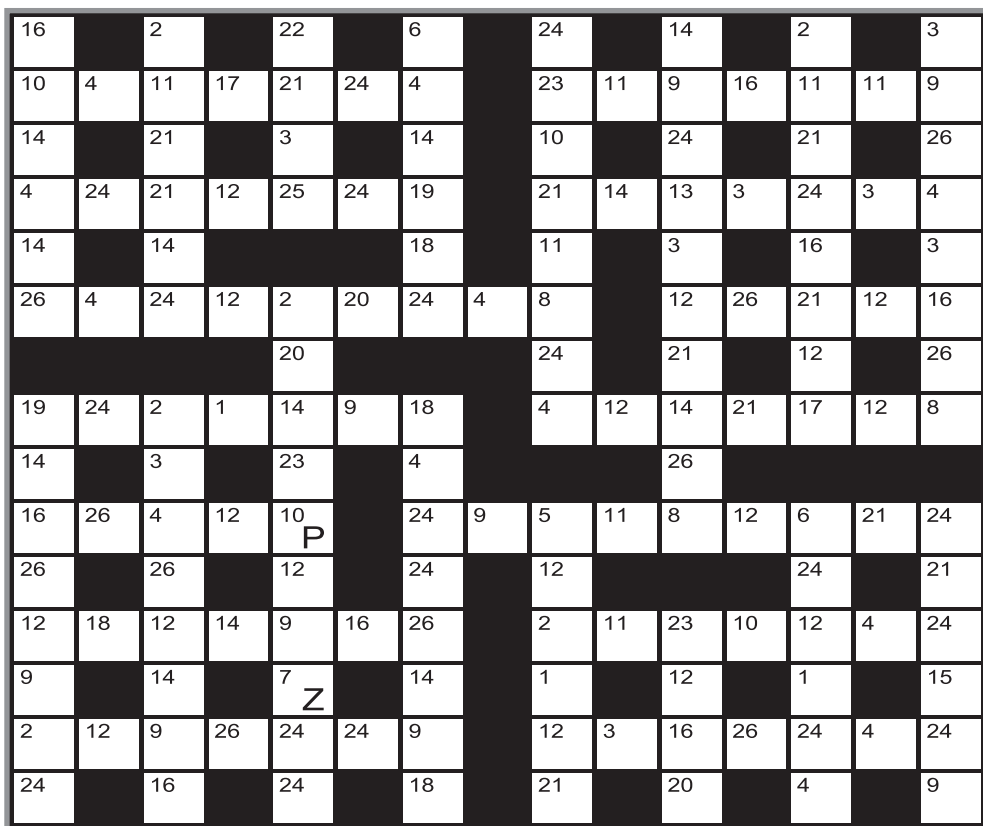
- 1 Grave (7)
- 5 Small fragment (5)
- 8 Connections (5)
- 9 Regulations (5)
- 10 Amazed (7)
- 11 Be in debt to (3)
- 12 Command (5)
- 14 Threaded metal fastener (5)
- 19 Put on (3)
- 20 Applicable to an entire class or group (7)
- 22 Nearby (5)
- 23 Vacuous (5)
- 24 Ludicrous, foolish (5)
- 25 Triumph (7)

Down

- 1 Regular payment (6)
- 2 Talks in a noisy, excited or declamatory manner (5)
- 3 Make less visible or unclear (7)
- 4 Tough (6)
- 5 Firm (5)
- 6 Give or bring back (7)
- 7 Treat with excessive indulgence (6)
- 13 Fundamental (7)
- 15 Of or relating to the heart (7)
- 16 Widely known and esteemed (6)
- 17 If not, except when (6)
- 18 Surfeit (6)
- 20 State of high honour (5)
- 21 Desire intensely (5)

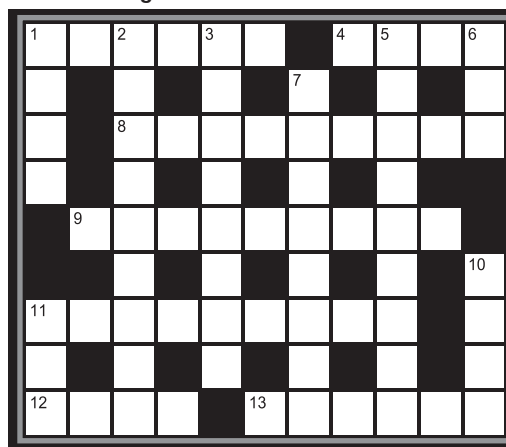
Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 7 represents Z and 10 represents P, so fill in Z every time the figure 7 appears and P every time the figure 10 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.



English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 To be enough (6)
- 4 Dry (4)
- 8 Incierto (9)
- 9 Twenty-two (9)
- 11 Housewife (3,2,4)
- 12 Mass (religious) (4)
- 13 Broom (brush) (6)

Down

- 1 Cerveza (4)
- 2 Cacerolas (9)
- 3 To climb up (8)
- 5 In love (9)
- 6 Poseer (3)
- 7 Llegadas (8)
- 10 Pineapple (4)
- 11 Brazo (de persona) (3)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Bellows, 5 Basis, 8 Nears, 9 Rampage, 10 Extreme, 11 Salon, 12 Shaken, 14 Debris, 18 Ditch, 20 Enlarge, 22 Instant, 23 Posed, 24 Sinus, 25 Spenser.

Down:

- 1 Banners, 2 Leapt, 3 Obscene, 4 Sorrel, 5 Bumps, 6 Stapler, 7 Stern, 13 Artisan, 15 Eclipse, 16 Slender, 17 Berths, 18 Drips, 19 Heads, 21 Rests.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Pyjamas, 5 Begin, 8 Tries, 9 Provide, 10 Hostile, 11 Kings, 12 Relief, 14 Seldom, 18 Smart, 20 Enemies, 22 Imitate, 23 Above, 24 Signs, 25 Satisfy.

Down:

- 1 Pitcher, 2 Joins, 3 Massive, 4 Supper, 5 Block, 6 Grinned, 7 Needs, 13 Leaving, 15 Elegant, 16 Mystery, 17 Recess, 18 Spins, 19 Tears, 21 Irons.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Newspapers, 7 Estanco, 9/8 Bath mat, 10 Orar, 13 Asa, 14 Plancha, 15 Delantales.

Down:

- 2 Estatua, 3 Sand, 4 Amor, 5 Saturday, 6 Keyboard, 8 Miracle, 11 Open, 12 Baya.

CODE BREAKER



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LETTERS

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Driven to distraction

WHEN are drivers in Spain going to stop tail-gating (following the car in front so closely)?

I spend part of every summer enjoying the weather in Spain rather than coping with the more drab surrounds of Suffolk in the UK where I live for the rest of the year.

But I feel that I take my life in my own hands, especially when using the motorways, especially during rush hours.

No sooner do I try to adhere to the speed limits than I find someone approaching from behind, flashing their lights, or tooting their horns, wanting to pass... even though I am driving at the top speed limit legally allowed.

If I try to ignore them, many then try passing on the inside!

Not all the offenders are Spanish, but a great number of them appear to be.

The majority are good drivers, but the motorways of Spain are not racetracks, and should not be treated as such.

*M Chetter,
Almeria*

Young voters

THE voting age of 18 years is fine as it is Loopy. It's immaterial that voters of that age don't remember Labour coming in to power.

They are no doubt sick to the back teeth of listening to their parents moaning about My Team May, (My God, so 90's), Cringe-Worthy Cambo and the infamous ConDems before them.

Diane Abbott is not my cup of tea, but look at this lot in power.

Mr Johnson, bumbling Boris, a

laughing stock, who like Trump, can't get anything through to legislate. Hammond controlling the dosh, Amber Rudd doing such a bad job with the prison service.

Justine Greening who just seems to go through life avoiding the schools problem and the main concern of teachers. Where is she, if spotted please take a picture.

Gung Ho (I am right so listen) Davis, and finally Hunt for the NHS. They want it privatised, end of story, they can paper over it any which way but like, electricity, gas, postal services it's PROFIT for the few!!!

So to all first time 18-year-old voters there's another slant on Leapy and his over excessive right wing rants (please start using another name.).

*Regards Philip
San Fulgencio*

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

“

SIR, Your columnist Nora Johnson and the reader who wrote to letters (*Issue No 1660*) seem to relish our departure from the EU and applaud the PM for calling a snap election. I write to point out the disastrous decision of my countrymen who voted last June in favour of an exit.

We import half our food, so look forward to the doubling of the cost of living, hundreds more food banks, loss of financial services and tariffs imposed on British goods thus reducing our foreign earnings. Expect to see further weakening of sterling and the cost of a family holiday increase by about 25 per cent that does not take into account any cost imposed via travel visas... that alone might add £40 to the family of four budget.

By the way, fewer treats for Mum and Dad, back to one bottle of spirits and 200 cigarettes to bring home from holiday.

Heading for cliff



DISASTROUS DECISION: Voting for an exit.

The anti-Europeans in the Conservative party have in my opinion committed a treasonable act... they begged to be allowed to join the single market saying Britain will be more prosperous and 40 years of free trade later convinced the public we would be prosperous if we left.

The reason we are less prosperous in 2017 than we were in say 2009 is solely due to a Government

that has imposed austerity on us all. The tax rate is the highest it has ever been and benefit cuts have plugged deficit holes in the budget. The national debt is approaching £2 trillion; it was £1 trillion in 2010.

My apologies for a lengthy communicationbut I feel people should know we are heading over a cliff.

John Berry, Essex

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

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

COMMENTS from EWN Online

» Brits arrested for assaulting police

Disgusting behaviour that makes me ashamed of my British countrymen ...

sue bysouth

Good, about time these eejits got a taste of their own medicine

John Richardson

» Three dead after drunk driver hits cyclists

For God's sake ... why only manslaughter? Why not MURDER?

If 'murder' became the obligatory charge for killing-with-a-motorcar it might at least deter a few people from driving when drunk.

And what about the bar owner who allowed this woman to get in her car and drive away on her killing spree?

As a Brit I very much liked Copenhagen a few years ago - and possibly still today; bar owners and their staff were BY LAW required to ascertain who, in a group, would be the intended driver at the end of an evening ... and would allow them only two alcoholic drinks - and then only coffee or soft-drinks after that. And a would-be driver on his/her own who had been drinking would be asked for their car-keys and sent home by taxi. Everyone seemed to accept all this ... and in fact seemed much, much happier for such carefulness.

But in Spain today, I suppose, it would very likely be viewed as interfering with a bar-keeper's trading rights! Oh my!

John

» Leaking of conversation was a mistake. Juncker and May

Fairly much everything that Juncker is involved in is a serious mistake, shame he just couldn't face up to this as he has fumbled through his unelected job position with the EU!

Mike in ESP

» Blue flags for Spain's beaches

We are very happy to read the great news about having the clearest beaches in the Comunidad Valenciana BUT do you know that in this Comunidad people burn in the open air like their ancestors did when hardly anyone was living on this coast! Some days the air is unbreathable in some areas especially when they burn plastic and other things mixed in the green waste! It's even worse when they burn during temperature inversion and the smoke cannot escape because of low clouds of humidity!

Why don't they recycle, make compost etc... it would create jobs, give us cleaner air, respect our planet and our health.

Maybe the name Costa BLANCA comes from WHITE smoke??!!

Thank you for making people aware of this problem because they need the tourists, the expats for their economy so why don't we send letters to the Medio Ambiente of the Comunidad Valenciana asking them to prohibit these fires like they already have in other Comunidades and recommended by the GObierno de España and the European Common Market.

Berger Micheline

The beaches I normally go to west of Malaga should get a big brown flag - judging by the amount of raw sewage you see floating around.

David

» Banksy against Brexit

A mural that size could hardly have been done in secret since it would have needed scaffolding which is what that 'worker' should be using. Health and safety would have a lot to say about that.

Alan Bowman

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DEPRESSION: There are things you can do yourself to help boost your mood.

Boosting your mood simply and easily

DESPITE the seemingly endless sunshine, sand and sangria lifestyle we can benefit from by living in Spain, everyone feels down from time to time, no matter how much the sun shines. Whilst it is a natural part of life, sometimes these feelings can get stronger and last longer, leading to more serious bouts of depression.

It can be difficult for people to accept that they are depressed, and studies have shown

that many people, especially men, will try and hide their symptoms rather than address their feelings.

More serious symptoms of depression can be continual feelings of sadness, guilt, worthlessness and fatigue as well as weight loss, persistent aches or pains and insomnia and anyone suffering from these should seek medical advice, but there are things you can do yourself to help boost your mood.

Go for a walk. Numerous research has been done over the years which shows that exercise can lift your mood. Even just a short walk outside in the fresh air can make you feel more positive.

Get some light. Natural, outdoor light not only helps regulate the body's rhythm which aids sleep, it also provides vita-

min D. Without enough vitamin D in the body it can lead to feelings of tiredness and depression.

No more sugar. Although the sugar rush from chocolate and sweets can give us an immediate mood boost, this can also lead to a later crash and low blood sugar can contribute to feeling down which then leads to a vicious cycle as it can make you crave sweet snacks.

St John's Wort. This traditional herbal remedy has been used for centuries to lift mood and some studies have shown in people with mild to moderate depression it is just as effective as anti-depressants.

Try yoga. Weekly yoga classes have been shown to reduce depression in the largest study of its kind, with symptoms being reduced by half. However, the US researchers said the biggest results were seen after six months of classes, so it is maybe not a quick fix.



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GARDENING: Enjoy the benefits.

Get children gardening

GARDENING could be the perfect way to help your child stay slim.

The claim is made by researchers from the University of California in America who found that teaching your child how to garden could help them stay healthier.

The team studied the impact of gardening lessons of children aged nine to 10 years old at four schools across the state of California. They looked at 230 children who did gardening and 179 who did not, over the course

of the school year. As part of the classes they grew their own vegetables which were then used in cooking demonstrations and served in the school canteen.

Those in the gardening group saw their BMI (Body Mass Index) rate decrease in children who were slightly overweight, showing that the messages in gardening their own healthy produce was having a positive effect on their health and helped them to lose weight by teaching them more about healthy foods.

The actual physical activity of gardening was also a factor in reducing weight.

If your child's school does not offer gardening as an option, try and get your child outside at home and enjoy the benefits for yourself also.

Gardening is seen as a moderate intensity level activity and according to the CDC Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, around 2.5 hours of gardening a week can help reduce the risk of obesity, high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke and osteoporosis.

Children suffering impact years later



STOP BULLYING: Call to prevent the long term effects.

YOUNGSTERS bullied in childhood are more likely to binge drink and take drugs when they become teenagers. That's according to a study which looked at the impact of those who were bullied at the age of 10.

The American study looked at the data of more than 4,000 students from 2004-2011 and found that those who had been bullied by their peers were more likely to suffer from symptoms of depression during the ages of 12 to 13, and a had a greater likeli-

hood of abusing alcohol, tobacco or marijuana when they reached 15 or 16.

Meanwhile a second study reports that it is not only the victims who suffer. Researchers found that men who were school bullies were more likely to experience stress and be aggressive some 20 years after leaving school.

It comes as experts call for more intervention to stop bullying and prevent the long term effects of bullying.

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Spice up your life

THE weather out there, beckons us to apply more sun cream but it's worth considering a more natural option.

It is possible to protect your skin against sun damage by what you put inside your body. Next time you find yourself in the spice aisle, you might want to try ginger and turmeric as opposed to the sun cream.

These natural ingredients when combined, release a powerful antioxidant that protect the skin from UVA and UVB rays. They also encourage the body to produce Thioredoxin 1, a redox and antioxidant protein that protects against UV skin damage.

One of the components of turmeric is curcumin and research has found that it can even repair damage. Other foods that contain antioxidants are fruit, vegetables and green tea.

Next time you visit the supermarket, put spices on your list and save some money on beauty products.

New app for making babies

A NEW app has launched in America allowing prospective parents to find a sperm donor.

Inspired by the swipe-style dating app Tinder, a donor can be chosen by swiping right on the 'Just a Baby' app. However the app isn't just for women looking for sperm donors, 'Just a Baby'

claims to connect people who want to make a baby, helping people find a surrogate, partner, co-parent, sperm or egg donor.

Users who match in the app can then privately message each other, but will then need to proceed on their own and go through the appropriate legal and medical chan-

Going for au naturale look

ARE women turning their backs on a more made-up appearance in favouring of going 'au naturelle'? Well it seems so as a new report from Mintel market intelligence agency suggests that three in five (59 per cent) of American women say they prefer the natural look, including 54 per cent of Millennial beauty consumers; those aged between 23 and 40 in 2017.

The majority of Millennial women reported spending just 20 minutes or less on their regular beauty routine and one-fifth (18 per cent) said their beauty routine consists of four or less steps. Usage of cosmetics products that are essential to the natural make-up look have also been on the rise among younger consumers over the past five years with nearly half (46 per cent) of women aged 22-39 using eyebrow pencils today, up 9 per cent since 2011 (37 per cent); and 77 per cent of these consumers said they use lip care products compared to 73 per cent who said the same in 2011.

But this natural look should not be confused with no make-up trend as 20 per cent said they feel pressure to always look good.

Whilst looking for more natural colours, Millennial beauty consumers are also looking for products that have natural ingredients, are environmentally-friendly, ethically-sourced and those that donate a portion of proceeds to charity.

Younger adults also seem to be more experimental and adventurous when it comes to nature-based ingredients. The Mintel research highlights that female skincare consumers aged 18-34 are more likely to be interested in skincare products containing ingredients such as seaweed, ginseng, sandalwood and fermented ingredients.

The findings came from the Millennial Beauty Consumer US 2017 and Skincare Ingredient and Format Trends US 2016 reports by Mintel, the world's leading market intelligence agency.

Ask The Doctor

Brought to you by

Doctor



Eczema treatment



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

What is eczema?

Eczema is a prolonged chronic skin disorder that consists of pruritic and scaly eruptions.

What are its symptoms?

The changes in the skin's condition can include: Blisters that burst and form scabs, dry skin all over the body or bumps on the backs of your arms, bleeding from your eyes and itchy raw skin.

Other symptoms include changes in skin colour, reddening of skin or inflammation around blisters from scratching or prolonged irritation.

What causes it?

Atopic dermatitis is a skin reaction. People with the condition can be more sensitive due to their skin missing certain proteins that form a protective barrier against water. It is most common in babies and can even start in two-six-month-olds.

Most people overcome the condition as they enter their adult stages.

People who have atopic dermatitis also tend to suffer from asthma or hay fever. The condition can run in fam-

ilies and often develops alongside asthma and hay fever. People with it often test positive on skin allergy tests, however this dermatitis is not caused by allergies.

How can it be treated?

Atopic Eczema can be treated, however there's currently no cure for the condition. By trying not to scratch your skin, avoiding materials such as wool, certain detergents and using moisturising treatments daily it is possible to reduce the chance of breakouts.

The dermatitis can also be treated with anti-inflammatory creams such as corticosteroids, antihistamines for severe itching and more powerful treatments which can be offered by skin specialists.

Can you prevent it? How?

Children that are breastfed until they are four months old have a decreased chance of developing the atopic dermatitis. Otherwise baby formula which contains proteins from processed cow milk also decreases the chances of developing the condition.

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

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TO READ MORE

An iconic spectacle

AFTER the success and splendour of the San Isidro festival which rocked Nijar and Mojacar, the next big party on the social and cultural calendar is just around the corner.

The Moors and Christians Festival is one of the most iconic spectacles in Spain, and nowhere is it celebrated with more passion than Mojacar.

“ A great deal of planning and effort goes into making the festival marvellous.

In 2017 the historic fair takes place from Friday June 9 to Sunday June 11. Those participating in the action, adorned in costumes and versed in song and dance have already been preparing for months.

For those not in the know, the festival recreates the battles between Christians and the Islamic Moors which defined the medieval history of Spain. Southern Spain, especially Almería, was largely shaped by these battles, with Moorish influence still evident in the re-

gion's culture and architecture.

In Mojacar the motto is 'no winners or losers.' That in a nutshell reflects the spirit of this fantastic community event. The battles are played out in the name of fun and adventure. It is more about bringing the community together, than triumphantly acting out the past.

Over the weekend there will be colourful pitched battles in the street, face painting and workshops for children, dozens of different and incredibly vibrant parades, and all the medieval themed music, song and dance even the biggest of party animals can handle.

A great deal of planning and effort goes into making the festival marvellous, which is why it is one of Almería's worthiest festivals. Without seeing Moors and Christians in action you are missing one of Mojacar's most emblematic and important events.

Whether it is culture, community or partying that comes first, make a spot in your diary now. Remember it'll be the last major festival until after a long, hot summer.



FESTIVAL: Moors and Christians is best celebrated in Mojacar.

Delightful days out

THOUSANDS of British tourists are set to explore Almería over the coming months. If you are one of them, the province's vibrant cultural scene is something to enjoy.

First tick up your sleeve is quality beaches. Try Poniente or Cabo de Gata-Nijar to truly show off your local knowledge and the sheer joys of living in Almería. If it's a more cultural crowd then take them to Almería's glorious Cathedral and the Alcazaba for a history like none other.

If it's the unusual you're after then visit the famous Air Raid Shelters used during the Spanish Civil War.



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ISLETA DEL MORO: Natural park has inspired famous films.

Cinematic mysteries

IT'S last chance saloon for anyone wishing to take part in a very special guided tour coming to Almeria this weekend. On Saturday May 20 an enormously detailed and worthwhile tour of the province's greatest attraction will astound and astonish the lucky adventurers who snap up tickets.

The Cabo de Gata-Nijar natural park tour isn't conducted by your regular tour guides you might find oversimplifying the history of Rome or Barcelona. Instead it is provided by an expert group of 'location hunters' who possess in-depth knowledge of the park's unique heritage and cultural significance, especially in the film and television world.

The extensive day-long tour begins at 8am and takes in some of the most beautiful and inspiring sights Spain's most famous natural park has to offer. It covers the Isleta del Moro, Rodalquilar,

Monsul beach and the Corte del Fraile. With lunch sandwiched in-between, the day's adventures won't wrap up until 8pm.

Rather than the traditional tours of the park, this tour elaborates on its powerful role in western film and literature during the 20th century.

It tells the stories of Roman heroes, wild west explorers, and iconic names such as Lawrence of Arabia and Indiana Jones who used the park as a playground while inspiring millions of viewers.

The cinematic tour will explore how directors from Sergio Leone to Steven Spielberg used the park to amplify their majestic visions of art, nature and humanity. It will take guests to the precise locations that inspired some of the most acclaimed films in history.

There are only 50 spots available. Reservations can be made through www.cultura.dipalme.org.

Folk with a Spanish twist

POP-INDIE superstar Anni B Sweet is playing Almeria this weekend. Tickets are still on sale to the hotly anticipated performance from the singer-songwriter folk music heroine from Malaga who performs at the Teatro Apollo on Friday May 19.

The 30-year-old is one of Spain's biggest music stars, especially on the alternative and indie

scenes. She shot to fame as a young solo artist in 2007 and hasn't looked back since, going on hugely popular tours of the country and released several acclaimed albums. Her cover of Take On Me by A-Ha was the soundtrack to an iconic Spanish advert and she was once named artist of the year by El Pais.

Tickets are available through the Teatro Apolo.

Time is running out

TIME is running out for anyone interested in testing their mettle and registering for the fifth Mojacar Triathlon which gets underway on Saturday May 28.

Registration for any athletes, fundraisers or weekend warriors hoping to take part closes on May 25.

Not something to be taken lightly, the Triathlon pushes competitors to the very brink. Taking place at the Playa de Macenas and the surrounding area it involves an epic 20-kilometre cycle, a tough six-kilometre run, and, coming at the end, a brutal 1,000 metre swim to the finish line.

The hundreds of spectators who gather each year to will on friends and family doubtlessly have a comfier and more enjoyable time of this classic community event. People will be arriving from all over Spain as the event attracts some of the country's top athletes and competitive spirits looking to get on national rankings.

Whether you're competing, fundraising, or simply cheering everyone on, the fifth Mojacar Triathlon is a terrific event to get behind and support. Registration can be made at www.todofundo.net.

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REGULAR READERS WILL KNOW that I and many other foodies around the world are occasionally captivated by 'cooking programmes,' not least the franchise that is Master Chef. This ever popular TV show was originally fronted by the most annoying Lloyd Grossman, whose voice always sounded like a mix of Canadian and a Norfolkian (Norfolk?) But today and for the last 13 years, it's a full on cooking and entertainment show hosted by Aussie Chef John Torode and probably the best known 'Grocer' in the UK, Gregg Wallace.

This year's final was last week and the winner came as a surprise. The last four, consisting of



The three Master Chef finalists.

London muso/DJ Steve Kielty, Giovanna Ryan from an Italian family background, Alison Reilly, the attractive Irish girl with a passion for those things different and Saliha Mahmood-Ahmed the shy junior doctor from Watford with Pakistani parents.

Saliha, who sincerely described herself as the most boring person you could meet, (if you can call pretty, doctor, wife, mother and brilliant cook 'bor-

ing' - bring it on!) impressed judges Torode and Wallace as well as invited food critics and guest Michelin starred chefs with her take on traditional Indian dishes and flavours and turning them into extraordinarily modern dishes. Up until Alison lost out to the other three, I thought she would be in the final and with Steve would be the favourites.

But it was not to be and having watched the final I could feel Sal-

iha coming to the final hurdle and jumping over it with some ease and I could see the anticipated crowning changing places.

'Hats off' (or Chapeau to use a 'cheffie' word!) to all contestants, particularly, the last four. All showed great skill and knowledge and more importantly, passion, for food. I have seen highly paid 'professional' chefs who would have found it difficult to produce some of the dishes that they all produced.

Time for a culinary break until the next moreish programme, will it be Celebrity Master Chef, Professional Master Chef or Junior Master Chef. America, Australia, Spain??? The franchise keeps going and goes to prove 'there's money in them there sauce pans' - be it in restaurants or on TV. Bon appetite!

“ If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball.”
Jack Lemon, Actor Comedian

“ While playing golf today I hit two good balls. - I stepped on a rake.”
Henny Youngman, Comedian

MY WINE CORNER THIS WEEK has to relate to the wine mentioned in my 'client' below.

The wonderfully named 'Nice to Meet You' is not just a gimmick. The wine from the Rias Baixas domaine is not 100 per cent Albariño as one would hope and probably expect, but with 40 per cent of that grape and a blend of 30 per cent Godello and 30 per cent Treixadura this crisp, somewhat dryer than normal, wine from Adegas Castrobrey has intensity on the nose and a racy acidity which couple to bring forward stone fruit and fennel aromas on the palate.

Represents good value at €15, is quaffable, but at that price perhaps better with dinner. Shellfish, oysters and subtle fish should go well.

I'M HELPING A CLIENT in their restaurant at the moment.

On the first evening I was in watching how the operation went, I was surprised that the very charming and good looking Argentinian waiter, Juan, seemed to be receiving lots of kisses from the female clientele. Knowing that he had only started a couple of days previously I was intrigued that he seemed to be on such affectionate terms with so many female guests. That was until I found out the password for the WiFi connection was 'give me a kiss and I will tell you.' Clever!! And memorable!

With a wine on the list from the Rias Baixas called 'Nice to Meet You' there are plenty of quirky things about this place!

The wine with the wonderful welcome.



ON THAT NOTE I will bid you farewell until next week and should aspiring restaurateurs need some help or advice, please do not hesitate to contact me. A toast to Good Food, Good Wine and Good Friends.



The prestigious five-red-AA-star Old Course Hotel, Golf Resort & Spa in St Andrews, Fife.

ANYONE WHO TELLS YOU that living on a golf course is quiet obviously doesn't live on one!! I have lived in Guadalmina, near Marbella, on front line golf for 15 years. Don't get me wrong during the day it is extremely tranquil if, with any noise at all, only the very distant sound of the traffic. But, and I can set my watch by it, in the morning at 7.00am all the machinery start their day's toll. And they all seem to drive past my windows.

This cacophony continues in varying degrees, according to which part of the course they are on, for about an hour. The other noise is of course the watering of the course. Giant irrigation sprays whizz around beating drums on the leaf filled trees. My apartment is on two

floors, both with ample terraces, but being a duplex it means that there is an apartment below me, so you can imagine how high the top terrace is from the ground. But over the years I have collected more than 60 balls from said terraces and have also had two cracked windows caused obviously by the erratic 'driving' of the fanatical golfers as they compete.

What, for the life of me, I cannot work out is how anyone can hit a ball up to 15 metres high but manages to get a bend on it that has to be as much as 90 degrees to the left!!

THE REASON FOR THIS STORY is that I read with interest and amusement that the five-red-AA-star Old Course Hotel, Golf Resort & Spa in St Andrews, Fife, has just completed a

£10m, three-month refurbishment which includes a rubber roof to prevent ongoing damage from golf balls!! As the hotel sits alongside the 17th road hole of the renowned Old Course, the roof is frequently damaged by dents and cracks from flying golf balls

As well as the new roof from Euroshield, work has also been completed on the decoration of 103 of the 144 bedrooms and the replacement of the hotel's windows. I wonder how many of them were damaged by wayward balls!? Obviously if golfers on this prestigious course can hit the roof of a six-storey building they will have to have even greater abandonment than those who play Royal Guadalmina.

Garry Waite is a well-known foodie and restaurateur as well as a Hospitality Management Consultant. If you are contemplating setting up an operation in Spain, or indeed having problems with an existing project contact him on garrywaite@euroweeklynews.com.



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Advertising feature

Computer services

INFORD@TOX is an English-speaking company, situated next to Centro Comercial in Longo, Albox Road, just outside the town of Albox, Almería. It has been established for many years now and takes great pride in providing the community with a friendly and professional service.

Their aim has always been to provide the best IT service in the area. If you visit them in the mornings, they have an assistant that speaks English and helps you with your orders and requests. It is comforting to know, that in the technical world we live in, there is a service that puts your mind at rest. Technology can be frustrating at times, so it's good to know there is always a place to go to get the help you need.

They provide computer products and services, having a huge range of genuine and compatible ink cartridges in stock and go the extra mile in



INFORD@TOX: Providing the best IT service.

searching for products that are hard to find. The company supply a wide range of printers, computers, laptops, interruptive power supply, phones, routers, internet accessories, wifi range extenders, mp3/4 players, tablets, smartphones, and laptop accessories.

Inford@tox puts the customer first, making sure they are satisfied with the service and information they are given. They take time to address

any query the customer may have, so don't be afraid to request any kind of information, no matter how trivial.

The company also offers an excellent technical service, and repairs iphone, ipad, tablet and smartphone screens from €40 and analyses computers for €10.

Contact the company on 950 633 223, or email infordatax@infordatax.com. Facebook INFORDATOX.



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Albox - a small town with many global connections

THANKS to live broadcasts online, more than 100,000 people watched the processions during a hugely successful Semana Santa in Albox. Data just in from the town hall shows that a total of 102,306 different computers tracked video broadcasts of the town's popular Easter Week festivities.

People from not only Almeria, but also the Canaries, Madrid, Valencia and Mallorca watched the delirious scenes unfold online. Computers from as far away as Argentina and the United States also watched the broadcasts, showing just how deep and connected the global Albox community truly is.

The foreign country with the most viewers



ALBOX: A global empire of loyal fans.

was the UK. Expats, former expats, and those with family or historical connections to Albox made up 10 per cent of the total viewers, or

roughly 10,000 people.

The success has been attributed to the council's decision last year to film and broadcast the Semana Santa processions. Information provided in English on scheduling also contributed to the immense popularity.

The agenda was downloaded some 13,000 times in English. Albox was also among the first municipalities in Spain to broadcast processions online through social media.

Tourism councillor Maura Hillen said there was incredible value for Albox being able to reach more than 100,000 people worldwide. She said the council will strive to improve the service next year and attract more viewers.

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Breaking a sweat

LOCAL POLICE in Albox have published their final annual report on 2016. It reveals they attended 2,546 different incidents in the course of the year, an average of almost seven per day.

Among them were 274 interventions related to traffic offences, and 43 concerning noise pollution and illegal dumping. Much of the calls were to deal with citizen complaints or requests for help, ranging from anger over dirty pavements to assisting people with injuries at home.

Officers also dealt with more serious matters including domestic violence and assaults. They attended a variety of courses on helping residents suffering from anxiety and how to deal with violent threats.



ILLEGAL PARKING: The mayor has been accused of parking in a disabled space.

Car parking hypocrisy

THERE was uproar among constituents when a photograph of the Albox mayor's car parked in a disabled space

began circulating online.

The photo shows the mayor's Suzuki clearly parked in a blue space, an offence punishable by a €200 fine.

Local residents have been quick to anger, remembering Torrecillas' frequent denunciation of fellow offenders online.

The mayor has regularly forwarded photos to police on social networks in an attempt to name and shame

people guilty of far lesser offences.

Suggesting that the hunter has now become the hunted, people accused the mayor of hypocrisy, a charge his office had not yet responded to at the time of writing.

Other photos showing the mayor's car in a variety of illegal parking positions show that it is clearly not an isolated incident.

As yet no fine has been issued to the mayor.



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Supply versus demand

RISING property prices has led to suggestions that demand is far outstripping supply, especially in Spain's major cities. Rents are increasing sharply on an almost monthly basis in Madrid and Barcelona.

But some data tells a different story. Madrid actually has more rental offers on apartments than Brussels, Berlin and Amsterdam combined. There are 10,098 rental ads in the Spanish capital, just a few hundred below London which offers 10,683 rooms and apartments.

Only London surpasses Madrid in the EU for the total volume of rental ads. In Paris the figure drops to 8,883, in Rome 6,244. Barcelona comes sixth with 6,783 ads listed online.

The figures suggest that, despite a feeling there is a housing shortage, Spanish cities actually have vastly more supply than other major cities on the continent.

But that doesn't change the fact of rising rents. They have soared in Barcelona to pre-crisis levels despite

wages not catching up. In 35 of the city's 75 neighbourhoods, the average monthly rent exceeds the entire monthly salary of someone on minimum wage.

Flats priced at less than €800 per month are virtually impossible to find and 90 per cent of evictions target families unable to keep up with rising rents.

At the beginning of May a new tenant's association was formed to demand rent caps and is holding regular street demonstrations.



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Property fuels wealth

LANDLORDS and property empire chiefs are the largest cohort in Britain's latest billionaire rich list.

The Sunday Times Rich List published this May shows that more than one in four of the country's richest people owe their success to the property market.

Of the top 100 listed, 26 individuals consider property to be the defining source of their wealth. Property investors account for 164 of the top 1,000 wealthiest people. Taken together the wealth of Britain's property kingpins stands at almost €200 billion.

More so than banking or the huge service industry, or even the arms trade, property is the backbone of contemporary British wealth. Across the country property assets are valued at a total of almost €7 trillion.

How much of that money will stay in the country as Britain faces a major slowing down of its property market is the big question.

Advertising feature

A Place in the Sun Live - A huge success for Almeria Property Finder!



A Place in the Sun Live.

WITH over 7,400 visitors, A Place in the Sun Live was a very productive event for Albox estate agency, Almeria Property Finder, the only agency representing inland Almeria at this year's London Olympia exhibition which was held from May 5 to 7.

Cathie, Bronwen and Mark represented the growing agency who have already had a very successful start to 2017.

Cathie reports "It was a really busy and successful event. We met with hundreds of clients, some of whom we were already in contact with, and many new clients who are looking to buy in the next 12 months. There really didn't seem to be much concern about Brexit."

Whilst many visitors were already aware of the Almeria area, the team were able to enlighten those who were not familiar with all that the

area has to offer, and are pleased to report that inland Almeria has now been included in the search area of many potential buyers. Bronwen advises "We have registered hundreds of new clients and are looking forward to a busy summer showing and selling them properties in this diverse and beautiful area of Almeria Province."

Almeria Property Finder are now in urgent need of properties, particularly villas, to add to their portfolio so if you have a property for sale, or are thinking about selling, please contact them or call into their office which is situated opposite the rear of Mercadona on Avenida America, Albox. Almeria Property Finder. Tel: 950 431 624. Email: info@almeriapropertyfinder.com. Web: <http://almeriapropertyfinder.com>.

Magic milestone on sales passed

SPAIN'S thriving property market has a new record to enjoy. The latest official statistics in for March detail that 40,461 homes were sold, an increase of 26.9 per cent on February. It is also the highest figure since February of 2011, more than six years ago, when just over 45,000 homes changed hands.

The data from Spain's National Statistics Institute shows that sales have now increased for 14 consecutive months. February's increase was small at just 1.2 per cent but, with spring fully underway, March registered a healthy 13.6 per cent increase.

The accumulated increase from the first quarter of 2017 now stands at 15 per cent while we await figures from a reportedly excellent April.

Sales figures have been solid across the board. New home



NEW RECORD: The highest number of property sales has taken place since February of 2011.

sales rose to 7,361 in March, an increase of 21.2 per cent year-on-year. Second-hand home sales performed even better, jumping up by 28.3 per cent to reach 33,100 separate transactions.

A figure that high has not been seen for almost 10 years, since September 2007.

Broken down by regions, Valencia, the Balearic Islands and

Andalucía topped the sales charts regarding number of transactions per inhabitant. In terms of sheer sales volume Andalucía came out top with 7,976 sales, well ahead of Catalonia and Madrid.

Idealista expert Fernando Encinar says that surpassing 40,000 sales in March is a 'milestone' in the market's normalisation.



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Weeping Mulberry - a beautiful deciduous small tree for berries

By Graeme Tyrrell

LATE spring is a time to start harvesting berry fruits.

If you are lucky enough to grow strawberries in your garden or in containers with a good soil mix, you will be rewarded with a fantastic harvest of delicious berries that many commercially grown berries cannot match, that is, if you can beat the birds and bugs. While I grow strawberries for their unique taste, it is a lot of work to ensure that the berries ripen fully without being damaged.

Another source of berries is the wild or cultivated blackberries that can be fun to collect in the early morning or evening if they are available in your local rural area or the garden.

It is worth the effort if they are of good quality but the thorns can be a menace when trying to pluck the best berries

HARDY: A healthy adult weeping mulberry.



Credit: ybaba Shutterstock

deeper inside the bush.

Another good source of berries is the mulberry tree. The fruit is delicious and plentiful if you can find a tree to harvest but a mature tree is usually so tall that only the lower branches can be accessed. If you have it in your garden the excess fruit becomes very messy as it falls and the birds spread the seed resulting in mulberry trees emerging all around the garden.

The pollen from mulberry

trees can also be very allergenic to susceptible people.

A great solution to to obtaining bountiful white, red or black berries with minimal effort is to have a grafted weeping mulberry (*Morus alba pendular*). One weeping mulberry can provide you with all the berries you could want, the branches grow towards the ground so harvesting is easy. The fruit form along the branches and can be reached with ease for weeks of a prolific

harvest and with no prickles to avoid.

Pruning is easy as you just need to keep the branches from reaching the ground. I prune them to about one metre off the ground. They grow quickly again so it may need pruning two to three times a year.

The tree looks fantastic and as it grows the branches form a canopy that allows you to go underneath the branches.



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Advertising feature

Five star care at the Five Bone Hotel

THE FIVE BONE HOTEL in Turre, which has been under the joint ownership of Anita and Mark since the late summer of 2015, has enjoyed a phenomenally successful first year and a half, thanks to the overwhelming support of customers, both old and new.

The couple attribute this to the fact that they love their work and it shines through in all that they do, as well as their combined 43 years of professional animal care experience. Anita has been a dog groomer for 21 years and was a British trained veterinary nurse, while Mark has run kennels for 17 years.

They regard their business as their work and their vocation. The kennels are a way of life and this is reflected in their dedication. They are completely committed and spend a great deal of time there, so it's not necessary to book an appointment to view either the kennels or the cattery. Just visit within opening hours 9.30am-12.30pm and 6.00pm-7.00pm Monday to Saturday, 9.30am-10.30am Sundays, closed fiestas.

The hotel is set within extensive gardens, available for pets, where they can feel se-



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cure in a super clean, individual space as there is no sharing. They can have their own comforts from home. It is a wonderful environment where your pets will find ample stimulation, fresh air, freedom and companionship. In addition, hygiene, comfort and

care are top priorities at The Five Bone. There is a huge field for dogs to run around in and there are plans to build a doggy agility course soon. The cattery has a completely wired in garden to allow each cat to explore safely and under supervision.

The Five Bone is one of the few government registered and licensed animal boarding establishments in Almería, therefore the facilities meet or exceed all legal requirements. There are complaints books available, that have never been used and it is subject to inspections, which have never failed. Go and see for yourself!

The latest improvement is the new canine ozone jacuzzi spa. It is not just a pampering treat for your dog; it has many benefits including helping wounds to heal, treatment of seborrhoea, alopecia, and parasitic dermatitis and can help to calm eczema and itching, as well as the aromatherapy treatments.

One would expect so much dedication and experience to be expensive, but the Five Bone Hotel has managed to keep its prices extremely competitive. Small dogs cost €6 a day, medium dogs are €6.75, big dogs are €7.50 and cats are from €5.25 a day.

So, for the best professional care for your pets, including dog and cat grooming, please call Mark or Anita on 630 234 556 or 662 344 734. Website is www.the5bonehotel.turre.com.



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What's new pussycat?

CATS communicate in so many ways and the longer you're with them; you get to understand what they want and what they are trying to communicate.

Every cat, like a human is unique and all of them have different personalities, but there is a general body language that's useful to know. Cats talk to us through their vocalisations, facial expressions and their body movements.

Cats are languid creatures that lie around for most of the day and can sometimes have you wanting to come back as one in

your next life!

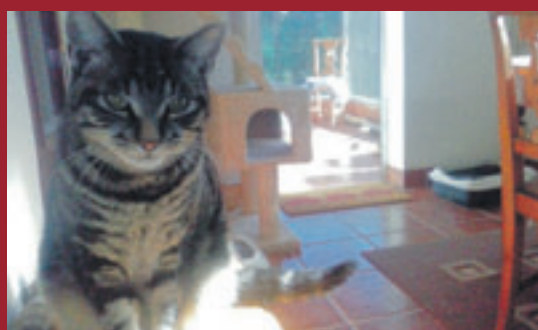
They are special animals in their ability to be a mixture of independence but also be a close member of the family, but it is always on their own terms.

Anyway, you can be sure they are content when stretched out on their back and rolling over, but a highly defensive mode can take on this posture with extended claws and sharp teeth, preparing to fight, so beware.

When your cat is blinking very slowly, it's not feeling drowsy and ready for another catnap, it's being affectionate, so return the affection by doing the same and your bond will become stronger. It also shows that they trust you.



UNIQUE: Talk through body language. |

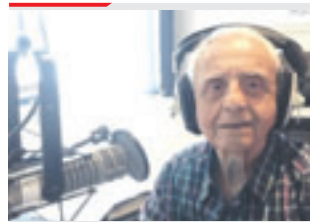


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Why puppy classes?



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I HOPE you have not purchased a puppy off the internet or pet shop, if so expect your puppy to have health problems.

If you have answered a newspaper advertisement I hope you saw the mother. If you have a puppy I hope your vet recommended a good puppy class for you to attend, if not then in my opinion you have the wrong vet.

Your new member of the family is cuddly, pretty and being spoilt! Your puppy is making toilet mistakes and possibly starting to chew up anything in sight!

The main problem is if the truth be known you really do not know anything about your new member of the family. It is well recorded that one of the most attentive times is when you buy your puppy.

You will listen and remember what was told to you by the 'breeder' who often knows very little about health, feeding, behaviour or training. Most if not all have no qualifications and the end result is that you are doing most things wrong.

Your next outing will be your first visit to the vet for inoculations and an examination.

You will most probably buy a collar and lead, believe me it will be the wrong type,

and toys, please do not buy a harness. Your vet should be familiar with local training schools and should recommend you to a puppy class which is vital for both you and the puppy's future. A vet that does not recommend a puppy class (many run their own puppy classes) is really out of date therefore seek another vet.

So what is a puppy class?

Many people do not think it important to go to a puppy class, however in my opinion it is vital to attend and is good for your morale as you realise you are not alone in your suffering.

There is so much you need to know and a good class will first calm you down as well as your puppy. You will now realise that your puppy is perfectly normal and you will be given so much information about correct feeding, handling, advice on the correct collar and leash as so many of you do get it wrong.

At this stage toys are vital but again the correct toys and you will be shown how to play and exercise your pet.

It is important that the class provides you with strategies to get him to do what you want kindly and constructively, and show what is going on in your puppy's mind when he demonstrates unwanted behaviour.

You now get to see other puppies and owners and will quickly realise that this is good for you and your puppy.

There are a number of puppy schools being run by excellent trainers but

many have no qualifications at all. Often a good trainer is a lot more than a row of qualifications. There are also many with backgrounds such as police and military who often find it difficult to transfer to pet dog ownership, in fact I have many ex-police colleagues who confess they cannot teach the public.

It is always a good idea to visit a puppy class and see if the puppies are being taught what you want yours to learn. People and puppies must be relaxed and happy. You must listen to how questions and concerns are addressed and whether homework is set (it should be), are there assistants to help with the class in case anyone needs one to one help?

Socialisation is very important as your puppy must now learn about sounds, smells, cars, roads and, most important, to be allowed to sniff and play with other puppies and dogs which are under the control of their owner.

A good trainer will also ensure you get plenty of homework and be assured they will know if you practice that with your new member of the family.

I hope you enjoy your dog as much as I enjoy my dog. Yes, it does take a lot of work but think about a child; it is better they go to a nursery and once there the child learns to play and interact with others, this my friends is what you are doing with your puppy. Good luck.

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MILO lives in Cheshire in the UK. His owners have just booked their summer holiday and are now looking for a suitable housesitter to come and take care of him for three weeks this August. They have a lovely home with a garden and are looking for a special petsitter who has experience of dogs and especially this breed or the Lhasa Apsos which is the nearest breed.

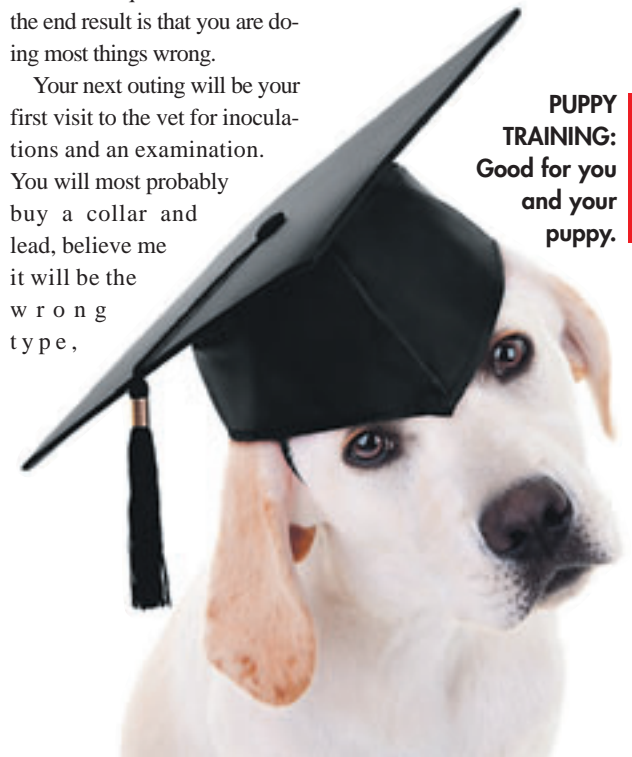


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Clarkson
Quote of the Week

“Buying this car for its dynamic abilities is like buying a porn film for its plot.”

Some might say...



Motoring shorts

Driving
abroad

NEW research has revealed extremely interesting information about British drivers abroad, especially those from older generations. It found roughly a third of drivers over 50 are concerned about having an accident abroad while about half are confused when it comes to basic rules of the road.

Saga Car Insurance conducted a survey of some 10,000 people to get a feel for their concerns after receiving claims for damages worth almost €1 million in just one year from clients driving abroad.

The vast majority of claims involved a crash or collision, although vandalism also played a significant role. France proved the most expensive, or even dangerous, European destination, accounting for almost half of claims. Its proximity to the UK would play a role too. Spain accounted for just over one quarter.

Luxurious personal touch

By Matthew Elliott

AN exciting array of new designs and facelifts will make BMW's smallest ranges more dynamic and stylish than ever before.

The 2 Series has been given a complete overhaul with LED headlights and more compact wheel rims. New colours include a deep metallic orange

and blue. Inside the cockpit now features a touchscreen display and a modern range of new gadgets that give a futuristic twist to the famous car.

There are voice control operations and an enhanced professional navigation system that makes everyday satnav seem as useful as old f a s h -

ioned as map reading.

The 1 Series has followed suit with some stylish new exterior changes. But it is with the hugely successful 3 Series that the real difference is made.

From July 2017 all 3 Series sold on continental Europe will offer much greater individualisation, especially in colours, wheels and upholstery. Standard equipment will include LED headlights and fog lights.

Two new bespoke lines of the acclaimed 3 Series Sedan are being

rolled out. The Shadow compacts the Sedan into a more streamlined vehicle, offering a faster, sportier ride. The Luxury Purity line offers an unprecedented degree of tailor made options that extends even to side windows and exhaust pipes.

The developments come as BMW makes its case in an increasingly competitive marketplace for personalised cars. A growing number of drivers, forking out upwards of €30,000 for new cars, are demanding the same level of tailored attention they would expect at the expensive end of other industries.

Audi, BMW, Mercedes, Porsche, Volvo and other top brands are now urging drivers to come forward with new ideas on how to make their products truly personal.



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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

Skoda Yeti SE L Outdoor

SKODA'S Yeti was introduced in 2009 and was one of the pioneers of the compact family SUV models. While the sector has expanded rapidly since then, the Yeti has been extensively updated and can still compete with its younger rivals.

Recent newcomers include the Peugeot 3008, Suzuki Vitara, revamped Nissan Qashqai and - from VW's own stable - the SEAT Ateca, and while the boxy Yeti isn't as sleekly styled as these contenders, it still scores highly for family practicality and its easy everyday driving feel.

Most buyers will opt for the Yeti in two-wheel-drive form, though there is a 4x4 version, and there are various petrol and diesel engine options. Prices start at €20,992

(£17,770) for well-kitted entry models though better equipped mid and top range versions climb rapidly in price. My SE L Outdoor diesel test model with 4X4 costs €30,732 (£26,100).

The 2.0 litre diesel unit provides a punchy 148 hp, with a nippy 0-60 kph time of 9.1 seconds. Top speed is 195 kph (121 mph) and the fuel economy figure is 19.6 kpl (55.4 mpg).

Underway, the car drives nicely in urban areas, smooth, quiet and responsive, though at higher speeds, wind and road noise do intrude slightly.

On country roads, the Yeti handles well, taking bends with great poise thanks to precise steering and a firm suspension set-up. Ride quality is very good unless the surface is quite

rough, when it can thump a little.

The Yeti's cabin is a pleasant place to be, with decent room for five adults, plenty of oddment-stowage space and a spacious 416 litre boot, boosted to 1,580 litres by folding down the rear seats, and to 1,760 litres if you remove the rear seats entirely. The rear seats also slide and recline for more comfort and flexibility.

The driving position is very good, with excellent all-round visibility and the dashboard has a neat practical layout. Trim materials and switchgear look very durable - as on all VW group models.

Standard equipment on the

SE L test model includes 17-inch alloy wheels, sat-nav and DAB radio, cruise control, dual-zone air-conditioning, all-round power windows, front and rear parking sensors, leather upholstery, roof-rails and LED lights with cornering function.

Overall the Yeti impresses with its sturdy character and air of dependability, and its family-friendly versatility.

The compact SUV sector is now quite crowded but the Yeti can still take on the pack leaders.

Model tested is UK specification and equipment levels and prices may vary in other markets.

Stats panel:

Model: Skoda Yeti Outdoor SE L
 Engine: 2.0 litre diesel
 Transmission: 6-speed manual
 Performance: 0-60 kph 9.1 seconds
 Economy: 19.6 kpl (55.4 mpg)
 Emissions: 134g/km



One million milestone

AFTER more than half a century of producing some of the world's best cars, Porsche has reached a hugely important milestone. In May the brand produced its one millionth Porsche 911.

As soon as the car rolled off the production line in Zuffenhausen it was separated from the pack and prepared for a coming world celebratory tour. The car will be exhibited in Germany, China, the US, and even the Scottish Highlands before being installed permanently in the Porsche museum.

The millionth model is a Carrera S in green paint that comes with a special plaque celebrating its place in motoring history.

Though now eclipsed by other models, Porsche's 911 has had incredible staying power since it first debuted in 1963. An estimated 70 per cent of all 911s sold are still in working order and on the roads.

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Congratulations to Chelsea, Saracens and Hamilton – they are all winners

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 Torre.

Costa de Almería



FOOTBALL

This weekend we have the finals of the League One Play-off, the FA Trophy and the FA Vase and next Wednesday, Manchester United play Ajax Amsterdam in the Europa League final in Stockholm.

The second legs of the Championship play-off semi-finals took place earlier this week between Fulham and Reading (1-1) and Huddersfield and Sheffield Wednesday (0-0). The winners of each tie will meet at Wembley on Monday May 29 for a place in the Premiership.

Chelsea won their fifth Premier League title with a 1-0 win at WBA last Friday while Hull City were relegated from the top flight after crashing 4-0 at Crystal Palace.

Forest Green Rovers beat Tranmere 3-1 in the Nationwide final in front of almost 19,000 fans at Wembley to gain Football League status for the very first time. The capacity of Forest Green's home

ground – The New Lawn – is just 5,141... the town's population is only 5,894.

A record crowd of 35,271 at Wembley saw the ladies of Manchester City beat those of Birmingham City 4-1 in the Women's FA Cup final. American star Carli Lloyd netted for the winners.

Elsewhere around Europe, Red Bull Salzburg (Austria), Bayern Munich (Germany), Juventus (Italy), Feyenoord (Netherlands), Benfica (Portugal) and FC Basel (Switzerland) have all won their respective championships, while this weekend either Barcelona (recent 4-1 winners over Las Palmas) or Real Madrid (excellent 4-1 victors over Sevilla last Sunday) will win La Liga – Real are favourites!

DIARY OF OTHER EVENTS

Sunday is the last day of this season's Premiership action and the 'big games' are Arsenal (4-1 winners at Stoke in their last game) against Everton... Liverpool (4-0 winners at West Ham last Sunday) versus relegated Middlesbrough... demoted Hull versus Spurs (who beat

2-1 Manchester United 2-1 in the last-ever game at White Hart Lane, to stay second); United themselves against Crystal Palace and Watford versus in-form Manchester City.

100+ riders are now competing in the Cycle Tour of California (May 14 - 21).

The French MotoGP takes place at Le Mans on Sunday.

The Geneva, Strasbourg, Lyon and Nuremberg Cup tennis tournaments all start next Monday.

England play South Africa in the first cricket ODI at Headingley on May 24.

Rugby Union's Premier-

ship play-off semi-finals are both on May 21.

And it's Rugby League's Magic Weekend this Sunday.

RESULTS ROUND-UP

It was Lewis Hamilton first, Sebastian Vettel second and Daniel Ricciardo third in last Sunday's spectacular and highly competitive Spanish Grand Prix in Barcelona. The next race is in Monaco on May 28.

Simona Halep and Rafael Nadal were victorious in the women's and men's singles finals at the Madrid Open tennis tournament.

At the start of the week, with 12 stages still to go, GB rider Geraint Thomas – despite a horrible crash – was still in the chasing pack, five minutes behind race leader Colombian Nairo Quintana in the Giro d'Italia cycle race. Fellow Brit Adam Yates was going reasonably well.

Last weekend, Hull bat-

tered Catalan Dragons 62-nil and rampant Castleford Tigers whipped hapless St Helens 53-10 in Rugby League Challenge Cup-ties.

Stade Francais (v Gloucester) and holders Saracens (v Clermont) won their respective Rugby Union European Challenge and Champions Cup finals.

SPORT IN GENERAL

Chelsea have signed 15-year-old midfielder Billy Gilmour from Rangers for £500,000. He will now spend two years in the club's academy.

Ben Foster (WBA) was the only goalkeeper in the list of 17 who received FWA votes for this season's Player of the Year award. Other surprise names were Jermain Defoe (Sunderland), Anthony Knockaert (Brighton) and Gylfi Sigurdsson (Swansea) while Chelsea had five nominees.

England's 15-man cricket squad for their Champions Trophy Group matches against Bangladesh at The Oval on June 1, New Zealand in Cardiff on June 6 and Australia at Edgbaston on June 10 is as follows: Eoin Morgan (captain), Moeen Ali, Jonny Bairstow, Jake Ball, Sam Billings, Jos Buttler, Alex Hales, Liam Plunkett, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Jason

Roy, Ben Stokes, David Willey, Chris Woakes and Mark Wood.

DID YOU KNOW?

Someone within has said that Manchester United's money-grabbing Swede Zlatan Ibrahimovic wanted £40,000 for every goal he scored! What does a 'keeper get for stopping goals going in... his normal wages presumably!



RAFAEL NADEL:
Won the Madrid Open.



LEWIS HAMILTON:
Won the Spanish Grand Prix.



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TO READ MORE

www.euroweeklynews.com

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

Steph shines for Badgers

AS Macenas Golf Resort is still closed Badgers Bar Golf Society visited the other local course, Marina Del Torre, on Wednesday May 10 for its weekly Stableford competition.

One of the ladies, Steph Glynn, showed if you work at golf you will improve to your maximum. Steph has only been playing for a couple of years and recently has pushed herself in practice that has put her at another level. Steph came in with 45 points, the computer is

going to enjoy having a look at the score card. Well done Steph.

Full Results: 1st Steph Glynn, 45 points. 2nd Keith Bradley, 42 Points. 3rd John Conley, 40 points. Nearest the Pins: 2nd Anne Cavanaugh, 9th Dave Wright, 12th Tony Stevens, 17th Steve Casburn. Two's: 2nd Ann Cavanaugh, 3rd Chris Baker, 14th Steve Casburn, 14th John Conley and 17th Steph Glynn.

Badgers also play Saturday morning,

for further information call Duncan Smart on 634 331 059.

On Thursday June 1 Badgers Bar Golf Society will host a fundraising quiz night from 8pm at Badgers Restaurant in Mojacar Playa. Entry costs €2 per person and all of the profits will be donated to MACS. A small snack menu will be available for €6.50. Booking is advised so to reserve a table please call 950 478 525 or email badgersinmojacar@gmail.com.



A GREAT TIME: Was had by all.

Annual bowls fun day

THE Lodge of Unity No 98 held it's annual charity bowls, BBQ and fun day at Miraflores, Almeria Bowling Club on Saturday May 13.

A great time was had by all, good game, good food and good fellowship was the order of the day which culminated in a cheque for €1,000 being presented by the Worshipful Master, Christopher Carter to

Francis 'Fanny' Davies to support her local charity, Stepping Stones.

This charity is doing marvellous work in supporting victims and families coping with dementia and related illnesses in the Mojacar and surrounding areas. The Lodge hopes that its donation will assist the charity and support their invaluable work.

Valle del Este Golf Society

IT was back to Stableford action this week for Valle del Este Golf Society after last week's great Medal round.

Another great turnout for another great day. Conditions were good for the early groups but the wind really came into play as the day

wore on. This didn't appear to hinder visitor Mike Eddy who came out a clear winner on 33 points followed by Sean Halligan on 31 points on countback from Ray Harrison.

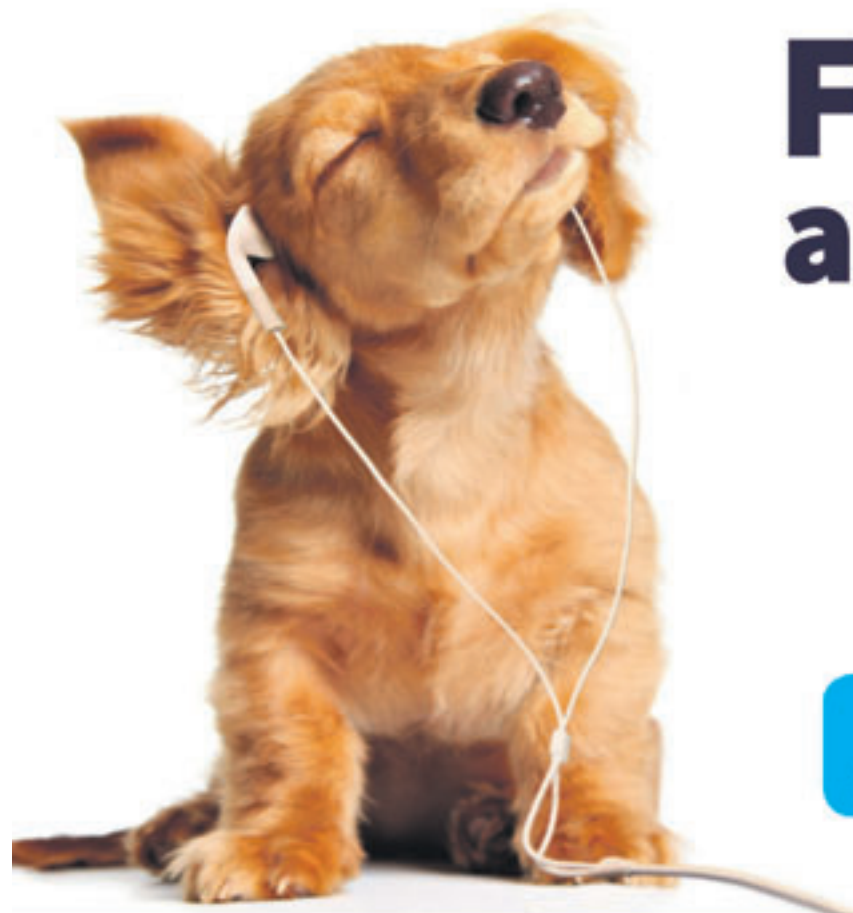
Overall result: 1st Mike Eddy, 33 points. 2nd Sean

Halligan, 31 points. 3rd Ray Harrison, 31 points. Nearest the pins: 8th (in two) Bill Foster and 14th Ian Jones.

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.



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