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Disgraced!

Sordid orgy scandal erupts

By Matthew Elliott

Witnesses in one of Mallorca's biggest ever criminal cases have given sworn testimony that two of the island's top politicians enjoyed drug-fuelled orgies with a notorious gangster.

Member of the Balearic parliament and former Palma councillor Alvaro Gijon has offered to perform toxicology tests and categorically denies ever using prostitutes or drugs. He and former Balearic Island Prime Minister Jose Maria Rodriguez are senior figures within the conservative Popular Party.

On Tuesday Mallorca's criminal court revealed that key witnesses had accused both men of rubbing shoulders with Tolo Cursach. The jailed nightclub owner, known as the Godfather of the island's party scene faces 80 years in prison over organised crime, drug trafficking and murder charges.

Judges are believed to attach great credibility to the

testimony of the two witnesses. So much so that they had no qualms about making the shocking allegations public.

The witnesses have reportedly detailed specific dates and locations of multiple occasions when the two politicians allegedly snorted cocaine and romped with prostitutes with Cursach funding the orgies.

Details were even offered about the politicians' chauffeurs and their apparently strange and dangerous sexual fetishes.

Local media have had a field day with Alvaro Gijon forced to offer a full statement denying the charges and refusing to resign. He said it was "perverse" being



Photo Credit Populares Palma

ACCUSED: Alvaro Gijon.

forced to prove the unprovable, he had never engaged with drugs or prostitutes, and that the testimony was destroying his family.

Meanwhile Cursach is awaiting trial in a mainland jail.

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Caught red-handed

ONE British citizen has been arrested and another questioned by the Guardia Civil over their suspected involvement in encouraging British tourists to launch fraudulent food poisoning claims against Mallorca hotels.

The two unnamed individuals were allegedly caught approaching hotel clients outside resorts in Alcudia. Police believe they attempted to persuade dozens of people to claim compensation for non-existent poisoning once they returned to the UK.

The police operation was several months in the making, the result of an intensive investigation from Guardia Civil agents. It is believed to be the first arrest of its kind in Spain, and may have profound consequences for the thriving insurance industry behind illegal claims.

False food poisoning claims have forced Mallorca hotels to pay out an estimated €50 million, with a 700 per cent increase in claims from Brits in recent years.

Currencies Direct

Wondering how to save on your overseas money transfers?

The secret is revealed on page 27

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NEWS EXTRA

Duty calls

A HEROIC policeman from Madrid gained plaudits after he interrupted his family holiday on Mallorca to stop and arrest a man he saw beating his girlfriend on a Palma street.

Grill growl

ECOLOGIST group, GOB, has launched a complaint against the building of new beach chiringuitos at Cala Torta near Arta, which it claims enjoys special protection from businesses.

Dawn crash

A YOUNG man was killed when he drunkenly ploughed into another vehicle in an early morning crash in Cala Ratjada. The driver of the other car, a middle aged woman, was seriously injured.

Nadal makes history

MALLORCA'S favourite sportsman, Rafael Nadal, did his home island proud when he made history by securing a 10th French Open victory.

The Manacor man became the first player in the Open Era to secure 10 victories in a Grand Slam tournament.

Nadal, 31, beat Stan Wawrinka

to move above American legend Pete Sampras on the all-time list of Grand Slam winners.

Now with 15 major titles, only his great rival Roger Federer has had more success.

Nadal's first French Open victory came when he was a promising teenager in 2005.

Since then only injury has barred his absolute dominance of the clay court.

His victory comes amid a remarkable comeback from chronic knee and ankle injuries that led many commentators to believe his playing days were finished.

A minor niggle has Nadal out of the Queen's tournament in London, but Mallorca's sports hero expects to be rested for Wimbledon in July where bookies will have him as a very live dog.



NADAL: Mallorca's sporting pride still breaking records.

Numbers in the news
€11 million paid by Sir Richard Branson for his third luxury Mallorcan villa.

Budget mile high club

A RANDY British couple sparked an investigation after being filmed by fellow passengers having sex on a Ryanair flight to Ibiza. Bizarre film footage shows a bemused young Asian man sitting next to the couple while they had sex on the seat.

Ryanair have pledged to investigate the incident on board a flight to the Balearics from Manchester last Thursday. Passengers have reportedly criticised staff on the budget airline for doing nothing to either stop or punish the exhibitionist pair.

Without any warning, or even going to the bathroom, the woman, who was drunk according to witnesses, straddled her partner, who happily obliged.

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Crazy prices

PRICES for holiday rentals and hotels on Mallorca have struck the stratosphere, reaching record levels as demand relentlessly increases. Analysis from property portals has found that luxury hotel rooms are now worth up to €2,000 per night, and it is now nearly impossible to find accommodation in popular tourist areas for less than €300 per night.

Up in arms

ANGRY residents have launched a petition demanding an end to the debauchery and violence afflicting some of Mallorca's top tourist hotspots. More than 5,000 people have signed the petition on Change.org in just a few days, which lists fighting, vandalism, public sex acts, nakedness, drunkenness, vomiting and urinating as behaviours which police must stamp out.

Time bomb

PARKING at Palma airport is a 'ticking time bomb' due to the lack of police keeping traffic in order according to transport consultants. There are growing calls to reinstall the 30-minute free parking system that was abolished in favour of a more complex 15-minute rule.

Drugs sting

AT least 20 people were arrested yesterday (Wednesday) in a series of Palma and Llevant de Mallorca raids by the Guardia Civil's elite GRS squad. It is believed the operation was related to trafficking of hard drugs including cocaine and heroine, with both Spaniards and Africans detained.

Stark naked Brits go jogging

MILDLY surprised locals had the luck of seeing 18 British men jogging stark naked in broad daylight to go skinny dipping in Palma Nova. Calvia police have confirmed that all 18 tourists, who left their Magaluf hotel in the nude, had been identified and fined for their behaviour.

Their exploits last Friday were caught on camera, with the now trending footage seriously undermining Calvia Council's much ballyhooed zero tolerance policy towards indecency.

The men have reportedly apologised for their ac-

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE... 16

From jumping through bonfires to hurling dead rats at fellow revellers, Spanish culture is awash with quirky traditions, none more so than El Salto del Colacho, the annual baby jumping festival which takes place this Sunday.

Look away, Mum!

HELD in the village of Castrillo de Murcia near Burgos in northern Spain, El Salto del Colacho most closely translates as the Devil's leap.

During the celebrations, babies born within the previous 12 months are laid on mattresses in the street before men dressed as the Devil in red and yellow costumes take turns to leap over them.

Normally taking place on the Sunday after the Catholic feast of Corpus Christi, baby jumping is a traditional practice dating back to the early 1600s.

The infants are placed in rows before the devils, who also sport grotesque face masks, make their way through the crowd, whipping bystanders before careering over the

helpless children.

As they do so, the babies are said to be blessed and cleansed of original sin before being sprinkled with rose petals and recovered by relieved parents.

Although it might seem dangerous, there are no reports of injuries or fatalities during the event, although it is frowned upon by the Catholic Church, with news reports in 2012 suggesting that Pope Benedict himself encouraged the Spanish clergy to distance themselves from it.



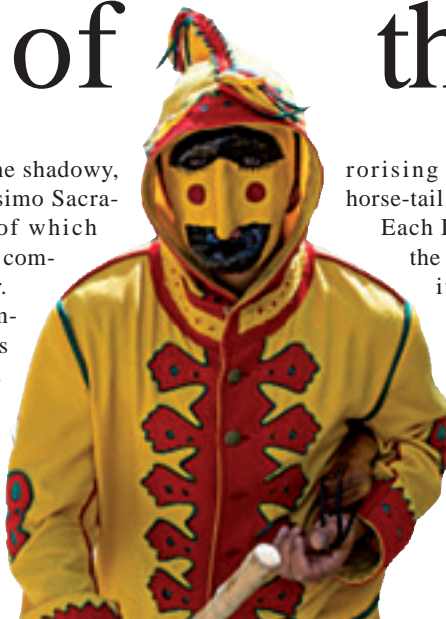
DEVIL: Jumps over the babies.

Speak of the devil

EL COLACHO is organised by the shadowy, black-clad Brotherhood of Santísimo Sacramento de Minerva, members of which dress up as both the devil and his companion the Atabalero, or drummer.

The devils clutch percussion instruments known as castanets while the top hat and tailcoated Atabaleros beat drums in unison as they run through the town's streets.

Festivities begin on the Wednesday preceding the event with daily processions during which the devils also chase cheeky adults and children, ter-



rorising and hitting them gently with horse-tail whips.

Each Devil is followed by two rows of the brotherhood and the group makes its way to the church, where an entrance ritual is performed.

All members remove their hats and bow in greeting as the Devil and Atabalero arrive, the former removing his mask before heading to the sanctuary where both remain during mass.

THE DEVIL: Clutches percussion instruments.

Stoned silly

A WOMAN caught smoking cannabis in Son Espases Hospital was arrested after police found €46,000 in cash in her purse. Investigators believe that the money was stolen by her husband in a €60,000 raid on a property in Colonia de Sant Jordi last month.

Tough times

CAN VENTURA, the Spanish volleyball champions from Palma face disaster after octogenarian president Damia Segui announced his retirement. The club relied on his passion and pockets to compete on a national level.

Rescue drama

A FILIPINO crew member on a cruise ship sailing 30 miles east of Mallorca suffered a heart attack and was dramatically rescued by helicopter and flown into Son Espases hospital.

Sick senior

A GRANDFATHER who sexually abused his granddaughter while she was aged between five and 10, warning her not to tell anyone, was handed a five-year prison sentence by a Palma court.

INSIDE VIEW

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The total number of news and features appearing in Issue 1666 of the Euro Weekly News Mallorca edition, with 51 local stories.

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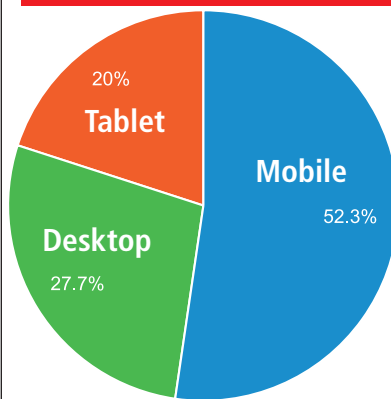
Top 5 stories

- 1 • Heat alerts hit Spain nine days before summer – 2,745
- 2 • Spanish 'hero' missing after London terror attack – 1,771
- 3 • Family of Kirsty Maxwell launch desperate social media appeal – 1,510
- 4 • Norwegian man stung to death by bees in Mijas – 1,208
- 5 • 'Manspreading' banned on all public transport in Madrid – 1,208

Page views = 70,927

Locations =
 38.84% UK,
 36.54% Spain,
 9% USA
 3% Ireland
 12.62% Others

Devices used



Top Social Media comments

Scotland and England fans clash in Magaluf - Sian Foster. How pathetic, let's just show the world how ignorant, stupid some Brits are. These people are nothing but yobs, are ignorant, ill educated etc etc, nothing new then! Embarrassed to be a Brit once again...

Spanish hero's body returned to Spain - Liz Shaw. God Bless you Ignacio. May you rest in peace as you skateboard amongst the clouds.

Sevilla sadist jailed for 39 years - Barbara Taylor. Not nearly enough, but the maximum sentence he'll serve will be 30 years, although he will probably get out much sooner than that. I hope he shares a cell with men who have daughters!

Britain goes to the polls - Shaun Van Wyk. Elmo would've made a strong contender.

'Manspreading' banned on public transport in Madrid - Grace O'Grady. Excellent, however refined people would never need to be told this, so basically this is education for dinosaurs and barbarians, no?

EUROWEEKLYNEWS.COM POLL OF THE WEEK

Do you expect Sterling to strengthen by the end of the year to €1.20 or higher?

Last week's poll:
Should Spain ban the burka?
 Yes = 82% • No = 18%

FOR COMMENTS FROM EWN ONLINE TURN TO LETTERS PAGE

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TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

In the UK every two seconds 94 KitKats are purchased, this is 1.5 billion a year!



In 19th-century Britain, opium for babies was marketed under the name 'Quietness.'



In Japan, letting a sumo wrestler make your baby cry is considered to bring good health to the child.

In Finland, at the Wife Carrying World Championships, first prize is the wife's weight in beer.

Little bits on the side

Did you know?



• Sea otters hold hands when they sleep so they don't drift apart.

• Men can read smaller print than women; women can hear better.

CORRECTIONS

At the EWN, we pride ourselves that reports are accurate and fair. If we do slip up, we promise to set the record straight in a clear, no-nonsense manner. To ask for an inaccuracy to be corrected.

Email: editorial@euroweeklynews.com

NEWS EXTRA

Fire proof

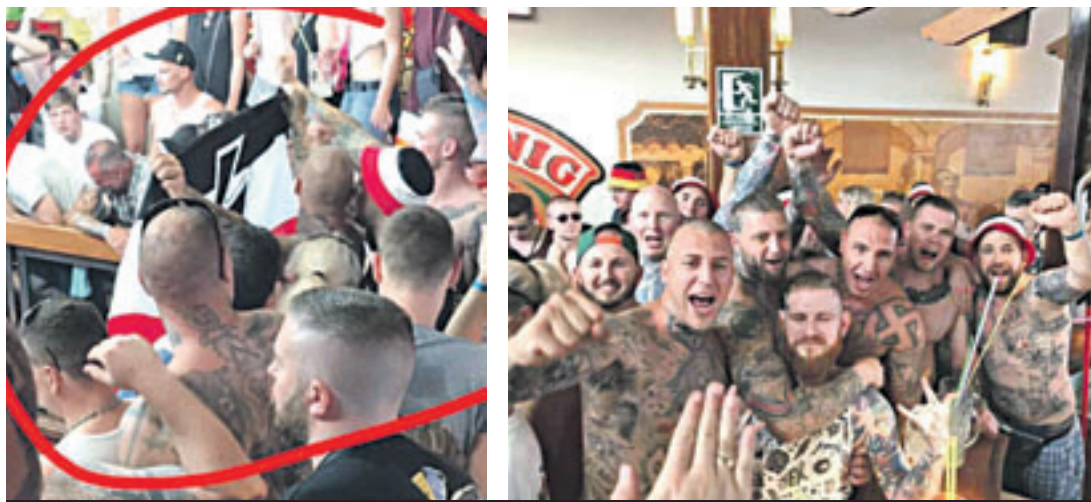
TEN new buses will connect Valldemossa and Soller, allowing for extra stops and more journeys. Chaos reigned last summer when several old buses caught fire on the route.

New medics

A NEW health centre opened at Cala Millor. There are eight treatment rooms, three GPs, and two nurses. It took months to complete and has an elevator for disabled access.

Dragon tax

TAX men raided a warehouse in Palma's Son Castello business park believed to be storing pirate goods imported from China as part of Operation Dragon which targeted 61 warehouses across Spain.



NEO NAZIS: Skinhead group invade Palma's iconic Bierkonig bar.

Fury over Nazi invasion

By Matthew Elliott

NEO-NAZI thugs invaded a gig at a famous Palma bar, shouting racist slogans and unfurling swastikas before they were kicked out. Around 15 skinheads with Nazi tattoos disrupted the Bierkonig gig for 20 minutes, eliciting loud boos from the audience.

The hate group consists of German neo-Nazis who are resident on Mallorca. They displayed their allegiance to the

American white power movement known as the Hammer-skins.

Some wore t-shirts celebrating the 'Mallorca Nazi district.' They loudly chanted "foreigners out" without a hint of irony.

Police are treating the incident very seriously. They claim to have identified all 15 members of the group. Prosecutors are determining whether their actions could constitute a hate crime, punishable by up to four years in prison.

Detectives are also investigating claims that two women were sexually assaulted by men with Nazi tattoos. The incident ended without widespread violence when security guards took effective actions.

Palma mayor Jose Hila commented on the incident on Monday. He pledged to eradicate such behaviour on the Playa de Palma but admitted that the authorities still had much work to do.

Silence over bullying

THE family of a young girl who was brutally beaten during a highly publicised bullying incident at a Palma school is appealing the closure of the ensuing criminal case. Prosecutors have elected not to continue with their investigation after deciding that the only guilty parties are children below the age of criminal responsibility.

The case made national headlines last year when the eight-year-old pupil at a city primary school was viciously attacked by a gang of fellow students. She was admitted to Son Espases hospital with substantial injuries.

The incident was shocking on multiple levels. The assailants were all aged under 12-years-old. There were allegations that teachers were aware of the violence but didn't treat it seriously. Later the girl's mother claimed to have been threatened by other parents, while the girl was forced to move to a different school.

The family have accused both the school and the ministry of education of silence on the matter, and an unwillingness to investigate the role of supervising teachers.

For state prosecutors the fact that the attackers are too young to be charged has made it an open and shut case.

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Model behaviour!

HE quit much-loved soap Coronation Street to pursue an acting career in London, and recently finished filming Bear Grylls' Celebrity Island in Panama.

But work appeared the furthest thing from 33-year-old Ryan Thomas' mind as he whipped up a storm at a pool party in

Magaluf, Mallorca alongside brother and Love Island star Scott, 28.

The pair knocked back vodka before accepting a chocolate cake for Ryan's birthday which he duly smashed into his sibling's face, much to the delight of the rapturous crowd.

Ryan reportedly became close to ex-

The Only Way Is Essex beauty Lucy Mecklenburgh, 25, while being tested to the limit on the Channel 4 survival show.

And the fitness fanatic was also in the Balearics this week as she shot a racy series of swimwear shots in Ibiza after being chosen as the face of V by Very High's summer collection.

LUCY: Racy swimwear.

Summer lovin'

HIS Barcelona team finished second in La Liga and was beaten in the Champions League quarter-finals.

But Argentinian superstar Lionel Messi, 29, clearly remains a winner in love after his stunning partner Antonella Rocuzzo, 29, put on a sizzling display aboard a luxury yacht in Ibiza.

The bronzed beauty topped up her tan after slipping into a tiny tanga-style bikini which accentuated her curvaceous figure.

The pair have been together for almost 10 years and are set to marry in their hometown of Rosario, Argentina, later this summer.

Their children Thiago, four, and Mateo, two, joined them on their aquatic adventure as did teammate Luis Suarez and his wife Sofia Balbi, plus Chelsea's Cesc Fabregas with girlfriend Daniella Semaan and their three children Lia, Leonardo and Capri.

But it was the gorgeous Antonella who stole the show as she relaxed on the side of the boat, dipping her toes into the crystal-clear Mediterranean water.

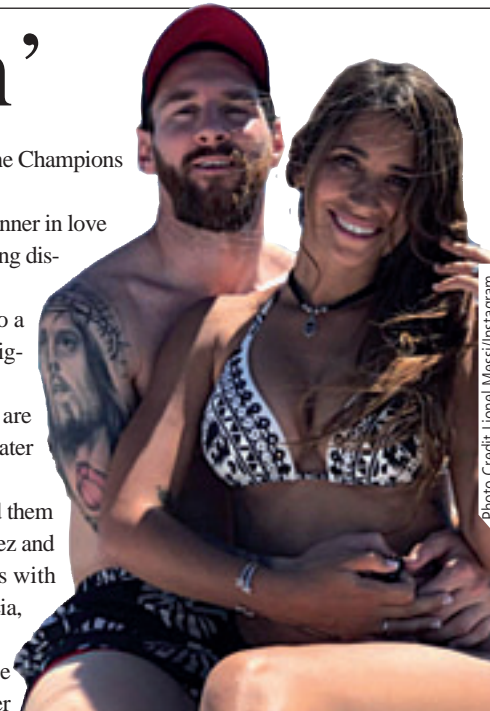


Photo Credit: Lionel Messi/Instagram

LUCKY IN LOVE: Leo and Antonella in Ibiza.

Blue is the colour

SHE is the only Spanish actress to win an Oscar after bagging the Best Supporting Actress gong for her 2008 performance in Woody Allen's Vicky Cristina Barcelona.

And Penelope Cruz, 43, provided ample back-up to British-born American actress Lily Collins, 28, as the delectable duo filmed an advert for luxury cosmetics brand Lancome in Barcelona.

The Iberian icon was a picture in a figure-hugging navy dress while Lily, daughter of Genesis singer Phil Collins, smouldered in a matching navy sleeveless blouse and elegant trousers.



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NEWS EXTRA**Mass
iGrave**

POLICE tracking a stolen phone through the useful Find My Phone application found it and half a dozen other stolen phones buried on the beach at s'Arenal.

Bad budget

TOURISM chief Biel Barcelo claims the Balearic government will have to repay Madrid the €14 million granted to spruce up the Playa de Palma because the money wasn't properly invested.

Heat odds

AEMET, Spain's meteorological agency says there is a 50 per cent chance this summer on the Balearics will be hotter than usual. Its prediction of a sweltering 2016 proved correct.

Top trip

RAYMOND COX, the 87-year-old British tourist who sparked panic after going missing on Mallorca for six days was found alive and well. He checked into a different hotel after losing his friends.

Bad apple

POLICE are hunting a violent young man who assaulted three people for no apparent reason on a Manacor street. Two of his victims had to be taken to the hospital.

Sale season

SUMMER sales across Mallorca's biggest shopping centres will be launched on Friday June 30. Mostly big department stores will offer sales, with smaller shops keeping regular prices.

**Fake cancer
drug trial**

Xavier Busquets (left) and Pablo Escriba.

TWO brothers have confirmed they will testify against two disgraced Mallorca scientists accused of selling fake cancer fighting drugs. The two men lost their third brother to the disease last year after they desperately paid Balearic University professor Pablo Escriba €9,000 for Minerval.

Their testimony this week will be included alongside seven other witnesses who have come forward in support of Escriba and believe Minerval worked for them. Escriba's fellow defendant, professor Xavier Busquets, denies having anything to do with the drug's sale.

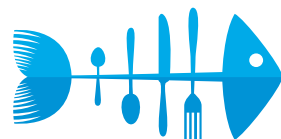
The two professors are accused of developing the drug at a university laboratory and cynically selling it to desperate families despite it neither being authorised or having a con-

firmed cancer-fighting effect.

They are believed to have raked in over €600,000, much of which was paid to the Marathon foundation, which is linked to professor Escriba. Dozens of complainants have come forward with claims against the pair. Police believe many more may have been defrauded.

Escriba told the brothers that the experimental drug might have no effect on their sibling's battle. But they went ahead with the payment because of his glowing reputation and enthusiasm for Minerval's possibilities.

Prosecutors will attempt to prove that the pair intentionally ripped off patients with hugely inflated prices for the drug and demonstrate that medical evidence suggests it is ineffectual.



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NEWS EXTRA

Beach horror

A BULGARIAN bather drowned at Son Maties beach in Palma Nova. The 80-year-old suffered cardiac problems while swimming and couldn't be resuscitated despite medics' best efforts.

Pupil power

THE vast majority of Balearic parents get to send their children to their first choice school, with 85 per cent succeeding. Education ministers are trying to limit classroom sizes to 20 pupils.

Con artist

POLICE arrested a young Moroccan con artist who duped elderly women into letting him into their homes before extracting hundreds of euros from them with elaborate sob stories.

Inflatable plastic protest

By Matthew Elliott

DOZENS of giant plastic objects floated into the bay of Palma yesterday (Wednesday) in a silent and inflatable protest against dumping at sea. The stunt was organised by environmental activist group Greenpeace, who are currently touring the Mediterranean.

Greenpeace's iconic ship, the Rainbow Warrior, has been docked at Palma port for the past few weeks. Activists unleashed two 12-metre long plastic bottles, a pair of six-metre long glasses and numerous inflatable straws which floated provocatively around the Rainbow Warrior.

"We want to make the invisible visible," said campaign manager Elvira Jimenez. "The objects we show are the ones most likely to land in the sea, where they decompose into even smaller particles, which are very dangerous for marine life."

Greenpeace recently revealed that roughly 40 per cent of plastic products dumped in Europe's waters are used for packaging only and are largely unnecessary. Another survey has revealed that almost 96 per cent of the pollution in Spanish waters is caused by plastic.

The Rainbow Warrior is a frequent visitor to Mallorca. It is the third Greenpeace vessel of the same name, the original being sunk by the French in 1985 when she protested nuclear weapons test in the Pacific.



RAINBOW WARRIOR: Greenpeace surrounded the vessel with giant plastic objects.

OUR VIEW

Surprise result raises questions

THERE is little doubt that the Conservative party was caught by surprise by the seemingly disastrous result of the General Election.

The powers behind the throne, the two advisors to Mrs May, Nick Timothy and Fiona Hill resigned almost immediately and now the Prime Minister appears to be trying to carry on as if nothing too untoward has happened.

Her cabinet remains broadly as it was prior to the election, although another Brexiteer Michael Gove returns as environment secretary and will be responsible for reviewing agricultural support following Britain's exit from the EU.

The loss of an overall majority will make it more difficult to enter Brexit negotiations when the EU knows that the prime minister has made a major error of judgement by getting the mood of the nation so wrong.

She said she would use the anticipated increased majority to strengthen her hand with Europe and instead has to keep power by putting together an unlikely and possibly unstable pact with the Democratic Unionist Party which has already caused negative comments from the Republic of Ireland.

Assuming she is not voted out as Tory leader, it is possible Mrs May will have to be a little less hard line in her negotiations with Brussels than she had originally hoped.

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NEWS EXTRA

Super powers

SIX superheroes brought a special briefcase of powers to lend to children battling cancer at Son Espases hospital. Powers included invisibility, sweets and stickers to help with tough treatment sessions.

Knife fright

A HOODED mugger who snuck into a woman's car at Son Ferriol, Palma and put a knife to her neck to demand money was jailed for three and a half years.

Bad blood

A MOTHER and her drunken daughter attacked three nurses, a janitor and security guard at Son Espases hospital after misplacing their personal items on someone else's stretcher.

Olive ebola outbreak

THE disastrous emergence of a deadly olive tree disease on Mallorca has sparked an investigation from the European Union. A group of specialist scientists has been dispatched to the island from Brussels to determine whether a mass felling of olive trees is necessary to contain the outbreak.

The disease is xylella fastidiosa, dubbed 'Olive Ebola' for the catastrophic damage it inflicts on olive trees. A recent outbreak in Italy led to the felling of over one million trees, imposing untold economic damage for the region's exports and on local farmers.

Experts believe the disease entered Mallorca last year on board a ship importing specialty plants and trees from the mainland. It can lurk inside bark and is extremely difficult to detect.

There have now been 156 confirmed cases of olive ebola



OLIVE EBOLA: The disease inflicts catastrophic damage on the trees.

on the island, and a total of 252 across all the Balearics. Plants within a 100 metres radius of an outbreak are considered compromised. Scientists have taken

samples from almost 2,000 infected plants.

The disease doesn't just affect olive trees, but also almonds and other wild vines. In Europe hundreds of species have been identified as vulnerable to the pathogen but most don't show symptoms. This makes them especially danger-

ous to other plants, and olive trees.

Last year was a particularly difficult one for olive growers across the continent. Whether the EU scientists determine that Mallorca must endure an olive tree cull could have major economic ramifications for the island economy.

Half-naked horror

POLICE are investigating after a young Swedish woman was found half-naked and trembling with nerves in an open field near Palma's Son Pardo race-track.

She was taken to hospital by an alarmed resident who told police the 28-year-old had no idea where she was, how she got there, or what had happened in the past several hours.

Police suspect she may have been sexually assaulted. There were no obvious physical injuries and doctors have performed tests to see whether she was drugged.

The woman had no identification with her but it is understood she is a Swedish national who has lived on Mallorca for four months.

Her amnesia of the night's events make it extremely difficult for investigators to determine what happened and whether there is a violent offender roaming free. She was found last week between Son Pardo and Son Hugo and police are looking for witnesses.

Numbers in the news
€580,000 the average cost of a three-bedroom apartment in Santa Catalina, Palma.

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ES SALOBRAR: Wetlands now an official natural park.

Paradise's green upgrade

ACTIVISTS hailed the decision to declare Es Trenc and Es Salobrar de Campos a protected natural marine park as a major step forward in protecting Mallorca's unique environment.

Parliament this week approved a bill bringing the spectacular area on Mallorca's southern tip within the protective umbrella of the Natural Resources Management Plan (PORN).

Es Trenc-Es Salobrar de Campos was already an official area of special interest. Its upgrade to full natural park status will see it enjoy new protections likely to secure its future for decades. Minister for the Environment, Vicenc Vidal, said the bill's passage removed speculation over the area's future.

The decision has been welcomed by local

environmental groups, who now want urgent work to begin on reducing car park spaces and protecting the area from untrammelled tourism.

The approved bill was not without its critics. One parliamentarian accused Vidal of trying to build a house by starting with the roof, condemning the lack of consensus over what happens next. Others dismissed the bill as a purely symbolic gesture.

The new natural park spans 1,500 hectares of wetland and is among the most pristinely conserved natural areas on the island. Its dozens of different trees, salt mines, dunes and hundreds of bird species have drawn countless scientists, nature lovers, and eco pilgrims to the vast expanse.

British baby kidnap fear

A BRITISH mother holidaying on Mallorca has claimed that a mystery blonde woman tried to snatch her baby daughter from the Eurocalas hotel on the island's east coast.

Police are now investigating Blaise Deacon's allegation. She says she was forced to google Spain's emergency services number after the hotel apparently refused to contact the authorities. Deacon believes they were scared of negative publicity.

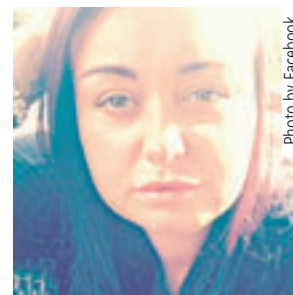


Photo by Facebook

BLAISE: Thanked police.

jump into a waiting car before escaping.

Deacon has spent time with police analysing CCTV images near the hotel and in Calas de Mallorca. She has warned people on Facebook to be extremely cautious with their children while on holiday and thanked Local Police for their help.

“

She has warned people to be extremely cautious.

The business owner from Kent said a woman marched up to her and her sister while they minded 23-month-old Darcie. She then tried to lift the child from her mother's lap, telling the women she was taking her to stop her crying.

When they stopped her, the woman apparently ran outside, where they saw her

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Green flag for bullfight bill while others see red

THE Balearic Parliament gave its official approval to the formulation of strict new bullfight regulations on Tuesday. Political parties are expected to come to an agreement and pass a bill by mid-July.

The new legislation will attempt to sidestep a recent constitutional ruling that makes it illegal to ban bullfighting outright. Instead

the Balearic government plans to ban the death of the bull, or any blood being spilt.

Tough new restrictions on attending bullfights, such as no alcohol or children under 16, are designed to deter people from going. Health and safety regulations will also be cranked up to discourage future fights.

The law will not ban the famous Fornalutx bull run, but will insist that a vet be present to ensure no abuse takes place. Enormous fines reaching up to €100,000 will be imposed on bullfight organisers who don't comply with the new regime.

The restrictions are supported in parliament by Mes, Podemos and the ruling PSOE, who can garner 32 votes between them.

Minor party IP will abstain from the vote, while 22 members from the Popular Party (PP) and Ciudadanos will oppose the bill.

During the debate PP deputy Miquel Jerez claimed the law was a wet dream for insurers and said the government does not possess a divine right to declare what is culture and what isn't.

Ciudadanos leaders want bullfighting to be left to the people.

They expect it will soon diminish in popularity and want politicians to focus on legislative proposals with more practical impact on everyday life.

But supporters are adamant that bullfighting must either "adapt to the 21st century or end," in the words of Mes deputy Margarida Capella, who denounced the needless suffering of animals and showed a graphic video to her fellow parliamentarians.



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BULLFIGHTING: Tradition set to be heavily restricted on Mallorca.

NEWS EXTRA

Solar waste

SEWAGE treatment plants in Cala d'Or and Lluçmajor will have solar panels installed. Just three per cent of Mallorca's energy needs are provided by clean sources.

El scorchio

WEATHER warnings were issued as the mercury shot up to 36 degrees on Mallorca. Hot summer temperatures are expected to continue throughout the weekend, while the mainland experiences a heatwave and people are warned to stay hydrated.

Bus zone

A NEW parking section specifically for tourist buses has been set up at Palma airport. There are 50 spaces directly in front of the terminal which should ease congestion.

Bean empire

A NEW Starbucks coffee house has opened on the Playa de Palma. It has an outside terrace and is the only beach Starbucks in Spain and the second in Palma.

Plane pain

A BRITISH tourist tragically died on board a flight from Palma to Birmingham. The 62-year-old is believed to have suffered a heart attack and could not be revived.

Wage war

UNIONS representing tens of thousands of hotel workers are negotiating salary increases with the Mallorca Hoteliers Federation. Employees want a substantial rise to reflect much higher hotel profits.

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NEWS EXTRA**Wild one**

A MOTORCYCLIST faces criminal charges after being caught speeding at 158kph on a Fornalutx road with a limit of just 70kph. He has already been fined €600.

After shock

PURCHASING power of Balearic residents fell by 4.5 per cent between 2011 and 2016. Today the average salary is €1,522 per month, compared to €1,640 on the mainland.

Tight rope

FORMER chief of tourism company Tui, Michael Frenzel, said Mallorca isn't as crowded as other holiday hotspots, especially in Italy, but conceded overwhelming numbers might turn locals against tourists.

Beach bus

A NEW shuttle bus from Santanyi to Cala s' Almonia and Calo des Moro beaches was used by 400 bathers in its first two weeks. Tickets cost €1.50 per trip.

Mai weds

YOUNG German starlet Vanessa Mai married her manager at a church ceremony in Pollensa on Monday.

Fan fury after dismal season

FURIOUS football fans pelted the Real Mallorca team bus with bottles and eggs after the players' last home game of a disastrous season. More than 100 die-hard supporters laid in wait for the players they denounced as 'mercenaries' after their 3:3 draw against Getafe last Saturday.

The Getafe team bus passed peacefully through the crowd outside the Son Moix stadium but the

atmosphere turned dark when the Mallorca bus arrived. Police had to forcibly restrain fans from committing more violence after a tempestuous match saw smoke bombs set off and flares hurled.

Real Mallorca were last week relegated to Spain's third division for the first time in 36 years. The team lost 18 matches this year and finished 20th in the Segunda B, ahead of only Elche and Mirandes.

Before Saturday's match, intruders snuck into the stadium

and smeared the coach and substitutes benches with graphic insults. During the match boos rang out against the Mallorca players, with home fans even cheering their opponents, who are in the play-offs to reach the first division.

There were just 3,600 spectators at Son Moix, recently renamed the Iberostar Stadium, which has a capacity of 23,000. The Palma club is owned by American businessman Robert Sarver, who bought Real Mallorca for €20 million in 2016 after losing his bid to buy Scottish club Rangers.



SON MOIX: Trouble flared at Real Mallorca's last home game. |

No money for jailbird

AN innocent man who spent over 16 months in prison wrongfully accused of attempted murder will not receive a penny of compensation.

The foreign national languished in jail for almost a year and a half awaiting trial before a judge found he had acted in self defence and acquitted him.

The incident took place in Inca almost a decade ago. He injured a man during a murky brawl and was imprisoned without bail by the local court.

Deprived of his liberty from December 15, 2008 until April 27, 2010, he decided to sue the state for €141,000 upon his release.

His lawyers calculated the figure as €45,000 for moral damages, €66,000 for unnecessary detention, €20,000 for losing out on gaining Spanish residency rights, and almost €10,000 for lost income.

The case dragged on until it reached the supreme court. Judges rejected his case and all claims for compensation, arguing that justice had been served when he was acquitted, and that the time lag did not of itself constitute a miscarriage of justice.



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Children 40€

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PASSENGER numbers at Palma airport keep on rising. Between January and May no less than 7.7 million people swirled through security, an increase of 6.7 per cent on the same period last year.

In May alone there were more than three million passengers. International travellers were the vast majority, accounting for roughly 2.5 million.

Broken down by nationality, Germans were the biggest contingent at almost 1.1 million. They were followed by 715,773 Brits and roughly half a million Spaniards.

Airport traffic also grew on other Balearic Islands. More than 1.7 million people passed through Ibiza and just over 700,000 through Menorca in the first five months of 2017.

Numbers in the news

62 decibels is the official limit for music bars in Magaluf.

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'Fascist' tribute protected

THE most controversial monument on Mallorca has been granted official protection as a site of cultural interest. The Sa Feixina Obelisk won recognition for its historical importance after a marathon debate among island councillors.

The monument was built as a tribute to the 186 Nationalist sailors killed during the sinking of the Baleares cruiser by Republican forces during the Spanish Civil War. It is considered a symbol of the fascist Franco regime which governed Spain from 1939 to 1975.

Last year Palma's town hall announced plans to keep its campaign promise and demolish the monument. It hastily arranged a commission which decided Sa Feixina had no intrinsic artistic or historical value.

A variety of campaigns demanding that the monument be spared destruction quickly sprung up. Resident's associations, architects, and historians all signed petitions



SA FEIXINA MONUMENT: Controversial hangover from Franco era will stand for foreseeable future.

against the proposed demolition. Surveys have frequently a strong majority of Mallorcans, even registered Socialists, believe the monument should stand.

Reluctantly the town hall backed down and agreed to a formal debate. The monu-

ment will now stand for the foreseeable future, although various fascist symbols and slogans have been removed.

Mallorca was a battleground in the Civil War but fell under Nationalist control after a failed Republican landing in September 1936.

NEWS EXTRA

Top travel

A SURVEY of 11,000 travellers ranked Palma airport the 22nd best on the planet, ahead of El Prat in Barcelona, Madrid's Barajas, and even JFK in New York.

Bad move

A SEXUAL assault on board a Transmediterranea ferry from Valencia to Palma was thwarted by members of the elite Military Emergency Unit who witnessed the attack on a teenage student.

Pirate saga

THE Balearic Parliament voted unanimously to raise fines against pirate taxis on Mallorca to a hefty €12,000. Pitched battles have been fought at the airport between pirate drivers and regular cabbies.



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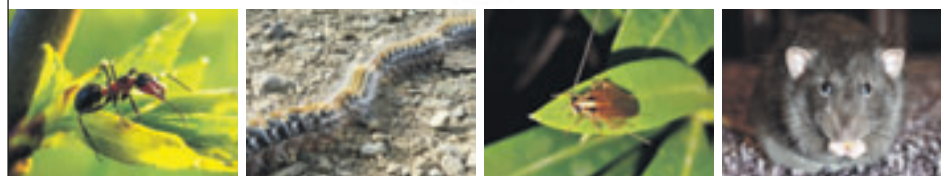
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NEWS EXTRA**Bright new ideas**

TEACHERS are being trained in experimental techniques to enhance the creativity of young Mallorca pupils. Dance, painting, sculpture, poetry and language classes will offer new ways for children to express themselves.

Market hand

WITH short term holiday rentals so popular and profitable there is now a dearth of long term properties available for rent in Lluçmajor. Prices have also risen sharply due to high demand.

Jules Rimet

A FOOTBALL tournament for amateur German teams was thrust into a panic when the trophy went missing. It was recovered after a free beer was promised on Facebook.

Party uproar

THE shame of Cala Agulla becoming an 'open-air nightclub' thanks to raucous partygoers will never be repeated said Capdeperas mayor Rafael Fernandez after public uproar over noise and littering.

Holy hippie

A PRIEST is flirting with controversy over his plans to expand a Portals Nous chapel into a 'spiritual centre.' There is resistance to Toni Guardiola's plans, which include opening a restaurant.

Dark alley

A GERMAN tourist arrested on rape charges was released after detectives found he had drunkenly terrified a woman he grabbed to ask for directions. Taking no chances she ran straight to police.

Euro singer arrested

FORMER Eurovision star Nino de Angelo spent a day in Mallorcan police custody after being arrested on domestic violence charges. The German-Italian singer was on holiday on the island with his wife. He is believed to have flown home last weekend.

The 53-year-old crooner, who cropped up in the UK singles charts in 1984 with the song Guardian Angel, was arrested at the Wellness Hotel Lindner in Bendinat last Thursday.

Receptionists contacted police when they saw injuries on his wife's face and neck.

His wife, 21 years

younger than de Angelo, refused to press charges and he was soon released. The pair have endured a tempestuous relationship since their 2012 wedding, with divorce papers reportedly drawn up in February.

Born Domenico Gerhard Gorgoglione, de Angelo wisely changed his name to something more catchy. He finished 21st for Germany in the 1989 Eurovision Song Contest, beating only Yugoslavia and well behind British act Live Report.



NINO DE ANGELO: Crooner was briefly arrested on Mallorca.

Numbers in the news
10 Spain's world ranking in the best health and well-being category.

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Auld enemies clash

VIOLENT clashes broke out between Scotland and England football fans in Magaluf after the two teams met in a World Cup qualifying match.

Rival fans threw chairs, exchanged blows and were filmed chanting and covered in blood during the chaotic scenes.

Footage showed some

badly injured fans lying prone on the ground during the daytime fracas last Saturday. The brawl ended without police intervention as the rival fans backed

away from one another.

The incident, combined with the variety of other violent affairs covered in this week's *EWN*, provoked security chief and conservative politician Maria Salom to stress that "Mallorca is a safe holiday destination."

She has called for extra police officers on the beat to cope with 'episodes' from individual tourist groups and recently convened a round table of Guardia Civil, Local and National Police to discuss combating violence.



VIOLENT CLASHES: Between Scotland and England football fans.



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NEWS EXTRA

Golf glory

VOLKSWAGEN have filmed a new commercial for its Golf GTI in the quiet village of Portocolom. Old fishermen form the backdrop and make for an interesting contrast to the sleek modern car.

Glass tower

AN Austrian businessman wants to build a life size glass replica of the Palma cathedral on Nassau beach in Portixol. Gunther Aloys says his glass cathedral could become Mallorca's Eiffel Tower.

Air chief

PEDRO MEAURIO, the first civilian president of Palma airport, died aged 76. Appointed airport chief in 1979, he kept the position for 20 years, overseeing its explosion into a major international hub.

Outlaw isles

PALMA and Madrid are at odds over the Balearic government's plans to greatly restrict holiday rentals. A national government spokesman said Mallorca and the islands would be 'outlaws' like Catalonia.

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SON ESPASES: Unions are angry about the lack of spaces for staff.

Free parking furore

SEVERAL workers unions have delivered a petition with more than 7,000 signatures calling for free parking at Son Espases hospital. Employees, patients and business owners have signed the demand, which has been urged since the hospital opened in 2010.

Unions are also angry about the lack of spaces designated for staff. On several occasions private contrac-

tors have taken employees to court, forcing them to pay €65 fines for minor offences, such as exceeding time limits.

The protestors claim they will continue fighting until all parking is entirely free of charge at the facility. Petition authors claim it is unconscionable to charge people up to €11 per day to visit sick and dying family members. Nobody visits the hospital for fun, leisure, or

tourism they point out.

The unions are particularly angry because Balearic president Francina Armengol campaigned for free parking at the hospital while she was fighting for election. A pledge she has so far ignored.

They also point to the government's multi-million bailout of the failing Soller tunnel, which they argue is of less importance than the region's biggest hospital.

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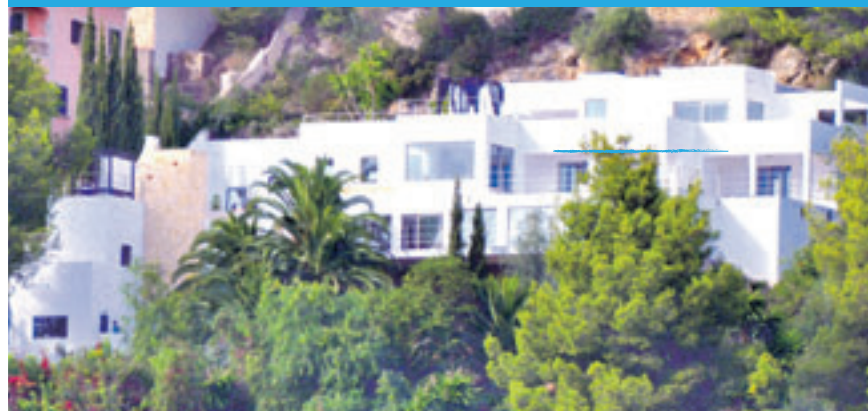
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Southwest Mallorca:

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Santa Ponsa:

Superb family villa with private swimming pool

Sleeps 9 - large garden



Bendinat Golf:

Fabulous south facing sea view villa on the golf course.

6 large bedrooms all en-suite

NEWS FROM OUR FIVE OTHER EDITIONS

Demonstration against smuggling

■ COSTA DEL SOL**IN PROTEST:** Some of the many people who took part.

» *By John Smith*

SOME 3,000 people turned up with the mayor of La Linea de la Concepcion to protest about the lawlessness in the town caused by smuggling.

They were joined by the mayors of San Roque and Los Barrios as well as the national government's delegate in Andalucia as well as the Cadiz authority following the death of Local Police officer Victor Sanchez and the continued problems with drug smugglers in particular.

La Linea is an area which combines relative tranquillity with significant poverty and whilst it has always had an association with smuggling particularly because of the cheaper tobacco prices in Gibraltar, recently with the crack-down on sale of cigarettes on the Rock, drug smuggling has become more prevalent and more violent.

■ AXARQUÍA

Ocean appreciation

TO celebrate the Day of the Ocean, children from a school in La Herradura were treated to a lecture on the importance of the ocean. Following this, they were taken to the beach and aquarium.

Summer cleaning

THE council in Torre del Mar has been preparing for the summer tourist season by ensuring that the beaches are clean with working showers. In addition, the town has been cleaned up and street furniture repaired.

Lost and found

AN Almuñecar worker has been formally congratulated after finding a wallet containing €950 in the local botanical gardens and passing it to the Local Police. Credit cards will help identify the owner.

Motril centre

FOLLOWING complaints from traders who say their businesses are suffering Motril Council will hold an opinion poll over pedestrianisation of the town centre. It is argued that the decision to ban cars was not publicised.

Artistic licence

THE Nerja Council has agreed that eight painters and caricaturists will be granted licences to occupy the Balcon de Europa until October. They may be on site from 7pm to 1am each night.

Dock strike

MOTRIL docks stood silent as stevedores joined in the nationwide strike against the imposition of the new dock workers law. They want to keep their job protection but the EU is determined for change.

■ COSTA DEL SOL

Poop troop

THE new Local Police Delta Group in Benalmadena will patrol the streets ensuring that people comply with local laws, collecting dog waste for DNA testing. In addition, they will keep an eye out for litter louts.

Waste collection

DUE to the very narrow streets in Alhaurin el Grande, it is not always possible to site large rubbish containers. For this reason, the council is launching a pilot scheme for door to door collection.

Stone free

VISITORS to Malaga Cathedral had a scare when a large piece of stonework fell from the building onto the pavement below. There were no injuries, the area was cordoned off and the stone was removed.

Internet loss

MINDLESS vandals have cut the fibre optic cables outside of the President Adolfo Suárez library in Ronda cutting off internet connections. This is particularly irritating for students who use the terminals for exam revision.

Moped thief

OFFICERS of the National Police have arrested an individual in La Linea for stealing five mopeds. His plan was to break the mopeds down and sell the parts on the second hand market.

■ COSTA DE ALMERÍA

Active ageing

AFTER the success of Mojacar's Active Aging programme, similar concepts are set to be rolled out across Almeria. This is a series of activities to improve the mental and physical health of older residents.

Spanish astronaut

SPAIN'S first ever astronaut visited Almeria to attend the province's Sixth Astronomical Conference and receive an honorary doctorate from the University. The 54-year-old visited the International Space Station in 2003.

Hate crimes

HATE crimes increased in Almeria last year, bucking a nationwide trend that saw a general decline in attacks against minority groups. Though they rose, Almeria's figures of 15 are still low.

Summer sense

A SPECIAL plan is in place to protect residents across the province from the harmful effects of excessive temperatures this summer. The prevention plan will focus on some of Almeria's most vulnerable groups.

Miniature heaven

FOR food lovers across Almeria it doesn't get much better than World Tapas Day. The global celebration of miniature marvels takes place today in 55 local bars and restaurants and dozens of cities throughout Spain.

■ COSTA BLANCA SOUTH

Support subsidy

THE City Council of Murcia renewed its support of the Asociacion Traperos of Emaus last week with a subsidy of €50,000 - which will be used to fund psychotherapeutic courses and promote volunteering.

Heat resistant

OLD road signs will be replaced with 2,400 new ones throughout Murcia over the next two years, costing €60,500 - the new signs will be thermo-lacquered and are designed to withstand the soaring temperatures of the summer season.

Seven SUVs

THE Local Police of Murcia recently invested €300,000 adding seven SUVs to its mobile fleet - which now boasts 77 cars, 53 motorbikes, 90 scooters, 31 vans, 19 SUVs and two electric mopeds.

Woman drowns

A 75-YEAR-OLD woman drowned on Saturday at the Mar de Cristal beach in Cartagena - she was pulled from the water by bathers and both lifeguards and medics tried to resuscitate her without success.

Coming home

Alejandro Martinez, the Murcian injured in the terror attacks in London will return to the region this week - he will make the 2,000-kilometre journey by car as he has been medically advised not to fly.

■ COSTA BLANCA NORTH

Going walkies

IBI Town Hall, after asking local residents to nominate sites for a dogs-allowed park, received 10 proposals of which nine are viable according to the local Health department.

Root problem

RESPONDING to a request from the Guanyar party, Alcoy Council is seeking non-invasive substitutes for the plane trees whose roots are damaging pavements in the city streets.

Loving son

THE regional government decorated seven San Vicente policemen who responded to an emergency call from a 90-year-old man whose schizophrenic son threatened to kill him with a kitchen knife.

Staying put

THE Valencia Region's Justice Department does not intend building a new courthouse in Villena and will instead restore and rehabilitate the existing courts in Calle Sancho Medina.

More buses

THE 38 bus between San Vicente and San Juan hospital will run every 90 minutes during July and August, with the first bus departing at 8am and the last at 9.30pm

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SWEDEN**Best uni**

LUND has been named Sweden's top university in the latest rankings and has been named 78th best in the world. The Royal Institute of Technology has also made the world's top 100 list coming in at 98th.

Too drunk

A TOURIST filmed in Bulgaria kicking a cleaner in a hotel claims he was so drunk he doesn't remember the incident. The Swedish man has been remanded in custody awaiting trial.

Coastal clean up

A CLEAN UP operation has been



Sweden Lund University.

carried out along the Bohuslan coastline where some 8,000 cubic metres of rubbish washes up on the beaches each year.

It appears in the currents from the North Sea.

Turbine compensation

LOCALS affected by the noise and obstructed views from local wind farms will be compensated. They will be compensated over the next 25 years.

**NETHERLANDS****Palace hotel**

A FORMER palace is to be turned into a hotel and museum space. The top floor of the Soestdijk palace, will be turned into 14 rooms with an exhibition area on the ground floor. Work is estimated to last a decade.

No to 24/7

PLANS to allow shops in Amsterdam to open 24 hours have been scrapped after just 17 shopkeepers applied to take part in the pilot scheme and most were tourist stores and fast food outlets.

Pricy burger

A DUTCH chef has made the record books for creating the world's most expensive burger. For around €2,000 it contains lobster, foie gras, Wagyu steak and 24k gold leaf.

Female protection

IT is now an offence to shout at or intimidate women on the streets of Rotterdam and those found guilty could be fined up to €4,100. Amsterdam has a similar by-law in place.

**GERMANY****Counsellor stabbed**

A RED CROSS mental health counsellor was stabbed to death in Saarbruecken by an asylum seeker who was receiving counselling. It is believed they got in an argument during a therapy session.

Troop move

GERMANY is to pull its troops out

of its Turkish air bases following a diplomatic row. It is believed the some 270 troops will be moved to Jordan.

Best driver

A BERLIN tram driver has been named the best in Europe.

The competition took place in Tenerife with teams from different

countries taking part. Franka Sonntag won the competition for female drivers.

Global citizen

POP stars Shakira and Pharrell Williams are amongst the stars announced to take part in the first Global Citizen festival taking place in Hamburg.

**DENMARK****Something new**

A CHAIN of Danish hostels are promoting sustainable eating habits by offering insects on its breakfast menu such as worms and grasshoppers. The food items have been developed for maximum nutritional benefits.

Behind bars

THE jetski driver who collided with a boat in Copenhagen's harbour, killing two people, has had his custodial sentence extended. He is charged with double manslaughter and recklessly endangering lives.

English care

COPENHAGEN is working to provide childcare for the expat community as it announces plans to open two English language day care centres for youngsters up to age six.

Climate change

THE climate council has claimed that Denmark's plans to reduce climate change are too easy and should set itself more ambitious targets as it can reach the target of reducing CO2 emissions by 2030 relatively easily.

**FRANCE****Third victim**

IT has been confirmed that a third French citizen was a victim in the London terrorist attacks. The missing Frenchman's body was found in the River Thames.

Isolated attack

THE Notre Dame hammer attack has been named an 'isolated incident' by the authorities. The 40-year-old Algerian-born man is reported to have attacked a police officer shouting "this is for Syria."

Back with a bump

ASTRONAUT Thomas Pesquet has held his first press conference back on Earth after spending six months on the International Space Station. He said it was taking time to get used to gravity.

Pollution claim

A YOGA teacher is suing the state claiming she 'nearly died' when air pollution in Paris was so bad it triggered serious medical problems. The 56-year-old claims the state failed to protect her from air pollution.

**BELGIUM****Irate passenger**

A PASSENGER trying to board a Ryanair flight at Brussels airport has been criticised online after footage emerged of him being abusive and irate with an employee, leaving the woman in tears.

Joint agreement

BELGIUM has joined Germany and Denmark in pledging to increase the world's offshore wind capacity by five times in the next 10 years.

Growth forecasts

FORECASTS predict a growth of 1.6 per cent for the Belgian economy this year and next, according to the country's Planning Bureau.

Daesh threat

AN investigation has been launched by the Coordination Unit for Threat Analysis (OCAM) to assess how serious an alleged terror threat against Belgium is. The message advised Muslims to stay away from public places.

**NORWAY****Future fjords**

A 42M all electric ferry will be introduced in Norway next year to navigate passengers through the famous fjords. It is already in the process of being built and is expected to be operational from April 2018.

New budget

THE government has agreed a revised national budget after two weeks of negotiations. The budget promises more funds for teachers, clearing pollution from the sea and improved safety at work.

Cycling map

CYCLISTS are being asked to use an app to chart the route they cycle. The authorities will use the data to help find the best places to create new cycle lanes and improve the cycling infrastructure.

Police shooting

A MAN was shot in Bergen by police after threatening officers with weapons. The 36-year-old was taken to hospital to treat his gunshot wound but his condition was not critical.



Billionaire criticised for cancer donation

By John Smith

WHEN billionaire Amancio Ortega, decided to offer funds for the treatment of cancer, he probably didn't expect to receive so much criticism.

A new book being published in the USA suggests that the majority shareholder of Inditex - the Spanish fashion retail group - had a small tumour that had to be removed and this is what spurred him on to make the offer.

In Britain, hospitals are more than happy to accept donations

€320 million

is the amount that the Amancio Ortega Foundation has made available to health authorities across Spain in the fight against cancer.

but already four health authorities around Spain have been criticised by their own employees for accepting donations estimated at €17 million each, with staff saying that health funding is the job

of government not an individual.

One medical professional even went so far as to suggest that it would be more appropriate for Mr Ortega to spend his money making life better for his employees

and those producing his stock in Asia rather than meddling in what is a matter for the government to deal with.

His donations have been used to buy mammogram and radiography machinery as well as for investigation into the causes of cancer.

If this was a 'simple' illness, easily cured, the position of medical practitioners would be more easily understood say cancer charities, but any advance in treatment doesn't just help Spain but sufferers all over the world.

Liberbank suffers on stock exchange

SET up in 2011 after the amalgamation of three savings banks, Liberbank which employs 4,850 has seen a drop in share value.

The sudden sale of Banco Popular seems to have caused a backlash for this supposedly vulnerable bank, with its shares dropping well below the €1 mark.

In a bid to show support for the bank, major shareholders have been purchasing the cheaper shares and are attempting to push the price back up as with assets of more than €38 billion and a 2016 profit of €128 million, they do not consider it to be a risky investment.

Quote of the Week

The basis of the management model of the Popular Party in our Madrid community is debt," according to Podemos spokesperson Lorena Ruiz-Huerta.



Valua Vitay / Shutterstock

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Against CETA

MADRID streets were taken over by hundreds of protestors demanding that the Spanish government should block the free trade deal between the EU and Canada. They believe that the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will damage the Spanish economy.

Pound down

IMMEDIATELY following the news of a hung parliament, the pound slipped against the euro and the dollar. Conversely, shares in the FTSE 100 rose as larger companies benefit from a weak pound especially when repatriating foreign earnings.

IMF comment

THE International Monetary Fund has congratulated the European Central Bank on the speed of action to resolve the potential bankruptcy of Banco Popular. The sale to Santander, will it believes, bring stability to the Spanish and European market.

APPLYING for a Movistar Money loan.

Telefonica to offer consumer loans

IN the UK, directory enquiry company 118 118 runs an unsecured loan business and now Spain's Telefonica is to do the same.

Movistar Money, is now to start offering loans from €600 to €3,000 in order to expand its sources of revenue and will initially market its services to customers who have obtained their mobile phones through the company finance division although once tested, they intend to expand the service to

a wider market.

Everything will be applied for, approved and distributed online without the need to provide any paper documentation and loans for periods of up to three years at interest rates in the region of 16.5 per cent, will if approved, be transferred to bank accounts within 48 hours.

The company arranging the loan, Telefonica Consumer Finance, is part owned by Caixa Bank, one of Telefonica's largest shareholders.

Catalonian economy plans

DESPITE the fact that the Catalonian government plans to hold an Independence Referendum, the Spanish government has just approved loans of €5.3 billion until September.

Whilst much is made of the value of the Cat-

alonian economy and there is no doubt that industry there generates large amounts of income, the government there is not so healthy and needed €1.3 billion to cover the budget deficit and the balance for interest and to repay debts.

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Worthless money!

Old British fivers now out of circulation

MORE than £150 million (€177m) in old British five pound notes officially withdrawn from circulation have still not been handed in.

Some of the old fivers now worthless when shopping are undoubtedly still held by British expats living in Spain, according to one banking source.

“We are not exchanging the notes here as they are no longer officially legal tender” the Costa del Sol based money man said.

However, he claimed that some of the old-style cotton-paper notes not handed in before the final deadline ahead of the more modern and new notes will still be in wallets and travel bags used only by expatriates when travelling back to the UK.

“We all do it, putting notes aside when we return from a trip to the UK, and we only look at the money when we next travel. In some cases the trips can be a year apart meaning many expats probably have some - and perhaps in certain cases many - worthless fivers in wallets and purses used when travelling.”

The Bank of England in London is legally obliged to encash the old notes - taken out of circulation from midnight Friday May 5 - when handed over the counter in person.

Expats not travelling to the UK can post the old five pound notes directly to the Bank of England.

But when posted this action is done at ‘sender’s risk.’

If the amount of old fivers is viewed as large, identification may also be sought.

Additionally banks, building societies as well as post offices



Photo Credit: Africa Studio Shutterstock

Hoping to exchange old £5 notes.

throughout the UK are still accepting them, but only in person, with many seeking an explanation as to the source and reason they were not handed in before they went out of circulation.

There are even online companies who will purchase these and other withdrawn notes at 92 per cent of face value.

BANCO POPULAR SOLD FOR €1

The story behind the sale

IN what was something of a surprise announcement, Banco Santander Group Executive Chairman, Ana Botín announced that the Bank had paid €1 for Banco Popular.

According to her, this now makes Santander the largest bank in Spain and one of the largest in the world although existing shareholders in Popular are likely to lose their entire investment.

The acquisition was completed following an auction conducted by the Single Resolution Board and FROB in which Santander was selected as the successful bidder, paying a notional consideration of €1.

As part of the transaction Santander will complete a rights issue for a total amount of €7 billion in order to cover provisions in Popular’s balance sheet caused in the main by bad property debts.

It is reported that quite substantial investments in the failing Banks had been made from South America recently and these investors together with an estimated 300,000 disap-



Photo Credit: Banco Santander

Ana Botín announcing the Banco Popular takeover.

pointed shareholders will only be offered the opportunity to have preferential rights to purchase new Santander shares although there are rumours of legal action.

The Governor of the Bank of Spain Luis Linde declined to make any statement about Banco Popular when he appeared before a Senate Budget Committee saying that he was unprepared for the question and Ana Botín reportedly denied that Santander had been put under any government pressure to take over Popular.

Popular will be brought under the Santander umbrella in Spain and

Santander Totta in Portugal and the combined operation will promote vital SME lending - loans to small and medium sized companies - in Spain fuelled by the recovery of the economy and expects to hold 25 per cent of the entire market.

Although there will be the need to write down part of the value of the Popular balance sheet, Santander expects to reduce the number of bad debts and properties quickly so that it forecasts a return on investment of 13 to 14 per cent by 2020 and an overall cost reduction of €500 million by the same year.

The combined entity will be led by the current management team of Santander Spain with Rami Aboukhair as CEO.

“We welcome Banco Popular customers as part of the Santander Group and will work hard to continue serving them at the highest standards through the transition and beyond” said Ana Botín when making the announcement of the takeover.

Chinese emporiums investigated by tax office

THE Spanish Tax Agency is targeting Chinese-owned companies in Spain which it suspects may be importing or selling goods without paying tax.

More than 300 officials have been tasked with visiting 60 warehouses of wholesalers in 11 different provinces including Elche and Madrid in order to audit books and identify possible evasion.

This is one of a number of regular investigations into Chinese entrepreneurs who have opened wholesale operations and shops in numerous towns and cities throughout Spain thanks to earlier financial incentives from the government.

Similar actions have taken place in recent years and resulted in the discovery that up to €100 million of unpaid or evaded tax existed.

Gibraltar’s cybersecurity

IT is particularly appropriate that following the massive disruption by the Wannacry hacking that Gibraltar should have hosted its first Cybersecurity conference.

Organised in association with the Royal Gibraltar Police, this event was particularly important to hold in Gibraltar with its many internet betting companies and new tenants in the recently opened World Trade Centre, all of whom are potentially vulnerable to disruption.

Expert speakers arrived on board the Sunborn Yacht Hotel to warn delegates about the dangers of cyber-attack and the way to protect their companies.

Later in the day, the event was opened to the general public and their families in order to pass on tips and advice to consumers who can also be vulnerable to cyber-infection.

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SPANISH COMPANY FIGHTS FOR ITS LIFE Fallout from Banco Popular sale

JUST one year away from the 160th anniversary of its founding, industrial company Duro Felguera must be wondering if it will last that long.

Shares in the company which specialises in the implementation of turnkey projects for the energy and industrial sectors, as well as the manufacturing of goods lost 26 per cent in one day, following the sale of Banco Popular to Banco Santander and in four years its value has fallen by €800 million.

The problem for the company is that it has very large borrowings which it is having difficulty in refinancing, so shareholders fear that now with a worth of less than €100 million that it could fail or could be vulnerable to an aggressive take-over.

This company faces a typical dilemma as it appears to be quite adept at obtaining new business but it is burdened with so much accumulated debt that



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**President of
Duro Felguera,
Ángel Suárez.**

it may find the rush to sell its shares may either bring it down or frighten off new potential clients.

The fact that shareholders in Banco Popular may receive next to nothing for their shares after acquisition of the bank by Santander for €1 is driving small investors to desert this and other vulnerable companies following what is being called 'Black Wednesday' in the Spanish financial press.

2012 tax concession unlawful

ALTHOUGH it will not affect retrospectively anyone who took advantage of the 2012 Spanish tax amnesty, the Constitutional Court has upheld complaints that it was unconstitutional.

The matter was laid before the court by some 50 delegates of the PSOE political party who argued that it was an abuse of the constitution to allow some high earning tax payers to pay just 10 per cent of outstanding tax over €100,000.

According to the complainants, those who were honest and paid their taxes in accordance with the law paid far more than those who had hidden their income and then simply declared it when the discounted offer was made.

Current Minister of Finance Cristóbal Montoro was cited as being responsible for the introduction of this unconstitutional offer although the government argued that this was a way of collecting additional income which it might never have received.

The court however considered that it would have been better to use the law to beat tax dodgers, rather than encourage them to benefit from their deception.

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.



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Beds and laying in them comes to mind!

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



I WOULD have loved to have been a politician. Of course, when I was a young man, those who aspired to these lofty positions were deemed untouchables; people who came from some planet of intellectual hierarchy that was far beyond the reach of mere mortals.

Therefore very few of us who came from somewhat humbler backgrounds, ever dreamed that it may be possible to attain any sort of success in these areas.

Well, after the recent performance of Ms May and her scurrying, utterly browbeaten 'Yes Minister' minions, I'm now convinced that even I could have stood a good chance of occupying the portals of Number Ten!

In fact a large number of this column's perusers would probably have a good chance as well. The utterly naive, egotistical mis-calculation of the public's intelligence by the May



THERESA MAY: Even her post-election address outside Number Ten was atrocious.

Photo by Reuters Media Express

brigade simply beggars belief. Three weeks ago I voiced my concerns about her manifesto content and method of campaigning. Well, almost unbelievably, it actually managed to get worse.

Even her post-election address outside Number Ten was atrocious. Almost in denial of the unmitigated disaster her arrogance (or ignorance) had led her party into, she spoke as

though there had actually been no election at all and nothing had changed. Well, as strange as it may seem, I personally think that in the circumstances it was a great result. May got her ego quite rightly kicked into touch.

The fishy Kranke from Scotland realised that screaming freedom at every opportunity doesn't exactly endear herself to all of our north of the

border friends. Salmond has now finally sunk beneath the rivers of obscurity and, despite his young supporters fanatical attempts to make sure they had no country for their own children to grow up in, Corbyn and his Union bully boys (hopefully!) won't be photographed grinning from the steps of Number Ten.

All in all a pretty good result and firm kick up the backside for all our

so-called leaders, who most certainly don't originate from that distant planet I mentioned, nor do they live in the non-mortal bubble they all seem to think they do.

And what a chance for this ol' boy's column to Phoenix itself up from the morass of baleful boredom we seem to have been sinking into of late. Particularly with the emergence of the DUP party.

This party, founded by para military supporters, is led by a woman who has been declared sexist, wants a soft Brexit and denies climate change. It also dislikes women's rights and is anti-abortion and gay marriage. And they are offering to be the new 'stabilisers' of British politics!

Well, good luck with all that Ms May. Beds and laying in them comes to mind! Lots of fun and frolics coming up folks. Enjoy your week. Keep that mail coming. Thanks for all your votes, they don't go unnoticed! And whatever ya do, always.

Keep the faith

Love Leapy.

leapylee2002@gmail.com

Advertising feature

It's all about the food at O'neill's

RETRO classics, bread & butter pudding along with rhubarb & apple crumble are just two of the old favourite desserts that are part of the 'Sunday specials' available at O'neill's bar restaurant in Palma Nova. Other favourites like Bakewell tarts, cheesecakes (various flavours) fresh meringues and the house special: chocolate & Guinness cake with a frosted Baileys top are all part of the home cooked traditional desserts available every Sunday.

"It's all about the food" said owner and chef Stuart, "Everything we serve here is home cooked, sourced from local ingredients" added his wife Nicky who alongside Stuart adds a personal touch to the excellent service.

I know it's strange to start with desserts but these are so fantastic I couldn't resist. Of course Sunday lunch comes first with a choice of lamb, roast beef, pork, honey roast ham and chicken served with six different vegetables, roast potatoes, mash and of course home-made gravy.

However, O'neill's is more than a Sunday restaurant, offering daily specials every day (closed Mondays) for less than €10. The stand out among these is Friday's fish & chip special. Beer battered fresh fish with hand cut proper chips (no sign of anything frozen here) accompanied by the obligatory mushy peas.

All sports are shown on a large flat screen



O'NEILLS: A family restaurant popular with locals and tourists alike.

TV displayed on the comfortable terrace with another four flat screen TVs inside.

Situated next to Eroski in Palma Nova with easy parking, O'neill's family restaurant is popular with locals and tourists alike.

Children's meals are available from just €5 and I can personally testify to the finest pint of draught Guinness available on the island - not to be missed!!

So the next time you are thinking of eating out why not give O'neill's a try as I would recommend the fine home cooked food and of course desserts to die for.

Kitchen open Tue - Fri 9.30am to 9pm
Sat, Sun 9.30am to 8pm
Full menu available for take away.
C/Paris 8, Palma Nova - 971 683 010



Trudy
Stewart



Le Geek C'est Chic

MY name is Trudy and I am a geek - and proud! I've earned my badge with my love of all things Star Wars, comic books and video games.

For a long time, the general consensus was that geeks were 'sad' however, with the success of shows such as The Big Bang Theory and The IT Crowd, geeks and nerds are finally having their moment in the sun.

The first documented case of the word 'geek' actually dates all the way back to 1916. The term was used to describe sideshow freaks in circuses. It was typically attributed to those circus performers who were known for doing crazy things like biting the heads off small, live animals. These performances were often called 'geek shows.' The word itself came from the word 'geck,' originally a Low German word which meant 'fool' or 'freak.'

The first documented case of the term 'nerd' was back in 1950 in Dr. Seuss's 'If I Ran the Zoo.' The specific text read, 'a Nerkle, a Nerd, and a Seersucker too.' A year later, in 1951, in a *Newsweek* magazine article, we find the first documented case of 'nerd' being used in a similar way to today. It announced that 'someone who once would be called a drip or a square is now, regrettably, a nerd.'

By the 1960's, usage had spread throughout

the USA and beyond. Its popularisation was cemented in the 1970's by its heavy use in the American TV show Happy Days.

The two most popular theories for the derivation of this word are that it came from 'knurd' (which is drunk spelled backwards) and was used to de-

scribe people who studied rather than partied. The other theory is that it's an alteration of the 1940's term 'nert' meaning stupid or crazy - itself an alteration of 'nut.'

Whatever the origin, the word has become

synonymous with the stereotype of large glasses, braces, acne and high-waist trousers that we all picture when we hear it.

However, with celebrities such as Natalie Portman (who studied at Harvard) and even Megan Fox (a Lord of the Rings nut) being revealed as geeks/nerds, the stereotype of shy, quirky and unattractive individuals is no longer accurate.

Though originally meant as derogatory, the words geek and nerd are being reclaimed and redefined by some as a term of pride and group identity.

There is even a Nerd Pride Day here in Spain! Celebrated on May 25 since 2006, the date was chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the release of Star Wars: A New Hope.

The meteoric rise of Silicon Valley and the computer industry in general, has allowed some nerds to accumulate large fortunes (Bill Gates anyone?).

As American political commentator Charles J Sykes said, 'Be nice to nerds. You may end up working for them. We all could.'

With that in mind we should all take heed as it might well be that in the end, the geek shall inherit the Earth!

trudystewart75@gmail.com



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Votes versus integrity

Cassandra Nash

A weekly look

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

MANUELA CARMENA, mayor of Madrid, recently received the parents of Leopoldo Lopez, a political prisoner in Venezuela.

In doing so, she has distanced herself from Podemos whose votes put her in City Hall, because Pablo Iglesias and the party hierarchy are close to Venezuela. Formerly well-paid assessors to Hugo Chavez and his disastrous successor Nicolas Maduro, they have conscientiously refrained from criticising the chaotic and inept regime that is dragging its supporters and opponents down into misery.

Carmena, who is 73 and a former judge, knows about oppression. She co-founded the Madrid law office in Calle Atocha where five labour lawyers were gunned



MANUELA CARMENA: Mayor of Madrid.

down in 1977 by neo-fascists. It was only by chance that Carmena was not there that January night.

However actions speak louder than words and by meeting Lopez's parents Carmena made her position clear: as mayor she needs Podemos votes but she needs integrity more.

Blame it on dad

MANUEL MOIX, Public Prosecutor for Anti-Corruption had to resign over his quarter-share in Panama-registered company, Duchesse Financial Overseas.

It was his father's fault, he claimed, and the company was

set up in 1989 to protect a property during a dispute with its builder. Dad clearly knew his way around the labyrinths of finance and the law but Moix's avowals of ignorance regarding the company ring hollow, as he was allegedly present at the signing.

Why is it that explanations for dodgy issues always sound like excuses? Or worse.

Ignored siren song

PEDRO SANCHEZ hopes his Left-leaning siren song will lure back voters seduced by Pablo Iglesias and Podemos. But Sanchez was secretary general in the December 2015 and June 2016 general elections when the PSOE suffered its greatest-ever losses. Go figure, as the Americans would say.

The scapegoat that got away

SUSANA DIAZ'S failure to become PSOE secretary general did not come as a blow only to Susana Diaz. It wrong-footed Pablo Iglesias too. As well as satisfying his known liking for grandstanding and showboating, Iglesias's Vote of No Confidence in Mariano Rajoy should have given him the chance to put Diaz on the spot.

The censure motion was bound to fail but the Podemos supremo was preparing to blame Diaz. Andalusia's regional president was instrumental in ousting the past - and now present - secretary general Pedro Sanchez so that the PSOE could abstain during Rajoy's investiture bid last October. This time Pablo can only blame himself and any censure was for him and him alone.

Advertising feature

A holiday without your pet is not a real holiday

MAYBE you are thinking about visiting your country this summer taking your cat or dog away with you. If this is the case you should check if the PET passport is due and if your insurance extends abroad (in some cases, cover for travel abroad could be an add-on to your existing policy that you need to apply for separately).

When you travel in Europe, the requirements will not vary much from one country to another. In both the European Union and most other countries, the Pet Trave Scheme is unified.

This document is valid for dogs, cats and ferrets and contains the animal's whole health history and all its identifying data and also those that refer to the owner. The Passport must be processed through a veterinarian. It must be taken into account that, in a generalised way, travel is not allowed with animals under three months.

If you are one of those who likes the option of travelling by car, whether near or far, here are some tips to make the road more than comfortable to your most loyal friend:

1. Keep your pets safe and secure in a well-ventilated carrier. There are a variety of wire mesh, hard plastic and soft-sided carriers available. Whatever you choose, make sure it is large enough for your pet to stand, sit, lie down and turn around in. It would be good to get your pet used to the carrier in the comfort of your home before your trip. And please be sure to always



LOYAL FRIEND: Keep your pets safe and secure in a well-ventilated carrier.

secure the crate so it won't slide or shift in the event of a quick stop.

2. Your pet's travel-feeding schedule should start with a light meal three to four hours prior to departure. Don't feed your pet in a moving vehicle - even if it is a long drive.

3. Never leave your animal alone in a parked vehicle. On a hot day, even with the windows open, a parked automobile can become a

furnace in no time, and heatstroke can develop. In cold weather, a car can act as a refrigerator, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.

4. What's in your pet's travelling kit? In addition to travel papers, food, bowl, leash, a waste scoop, plastic bags, grooming supplies, medication and a pet first-aid kit, pack a favourite toy or pillow to give your pet a sense of familiarity.

5. Make sure your pet has a microchip for identification and wears a collar with a tag imprinted with your home address, as well as a temporary travel tag with your cell phone, destination phone number and any other relevant contact information.

6. Don't allow your pet to ride with his head outside the window. He could be injured by flying objects. And please keep him in the back seat in his crate or with a harness attached to a seat buckle.

7. Opt for bottled water or tap water stored in plastic bottles. Drinking water from an area he's not used to could result in tummy upset for your pet.

In any case, you must consider that there are many different pet insurance policies on the market, but **Liberty Seguros** is the only company that offers the best possible cover across the European Union at an affordable price, leaving you with total peace of mind knowing that your pet is covered against accidents and illness as well as public liability, telephone assistance, a stay in kennels/cattery if the owner is in hospital, help with expenses for finding your pet when lost and much more!

Liberty Seguros can be contacted by telephone on 913 422 549 for the name of your nearest broker or agent, or visit www.libertyexpatriates.es for more information on all the insurances they offer.

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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1
15 JUNE	6:15pm Pointless	4:45pm Nature's Weirdest Events	7:00pm ITV News London	5:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	6:00pm 5 News at 5	1:30pm Live World Cup of Pool
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	5:15pm Operation Iceberg	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours	5:30pm Boxing
	7:30pm BBC London News	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm Home and Away	7:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm The Jewel Raiders: Tonight	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	8:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	8:30pm EastEnders	7:30pm Springwatch	9:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm All New Traffic Cops	8:30pm Football Gold
	9:00pm Kat and Alfie: Redwater	8:00pm Great British Menu	9:30pm The Real Full Monty	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm On Benefits	8:40pm Super League Gold
	10:00pm DIY SOS The Big Build	8:30pm Springwatch	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm The Supervet	10:00pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	8:55pm Rugby League
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	9:30pm Britain's Greatest Invention	11:30pm ITV News London	10:00pm Wife Swap	11:00pm Big Brother	11:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	11:30pm BBC London News	11:00pm Mock the Week	11:40pm The Late Debate	11:00pm Battling the Bailiffs	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	11:30pm Boxing Gold
	11:45pm Question Time	11:30pm Newsnight	12:10am Piers Morgan's Life Stories	12:00am One Born Every Minute		11:45pm Boxing Gold
	12:45am This Week	12:15am Cricket				12:00am Premier League Legends
	16 JUNE	7:30pm BBC London News	7:00pm Eggheads	7:30pm ITV Evening News	4:00pm Fifteen to One	6:00pm 5 News at 5
8:00pm The One Show		7:30pm Springwatch	8:00pm Emmerdale	5:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	6:30pm Neighbours	8:10pm Football Gold
8:30pm A Question of Sport		8:00pm Great Continental	8:30pm Coronation Street	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away	8:20pm Football Gold
9:00pm EastEnders		8:30pm Great British Menu	9:00pm River Monsters	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	8:30pm Football Gold
9:30pm Count Arthur Strong		9:00pm Gardeners' World	9:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm Police Interceptors	8:40pm Live European U21 Championship
10:00pm Have I Got News for You		10:00pm Versailles	10:00pm Lethal Weapon	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm There's a Croc in My Kitchen	11:00pm European U21 Championship Highlights
10:30pm Hospital People		11:00pm Frankie Boyle's New World Order	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Big Brother	11:30pm Championship Highlights
11:00pm BBC News at Ten		11:30pm Newsnight	11:30pm ITV News London	9:00pm Gogglesprogs	11:35pm Big Brother's Bit on the Side	11:30pm Boxing
11:25pm BBC London News		12:05am Confetti	11:40pm Benidorm	10:00pm The Last Leg	12:35am Big Brother	12:00am Premier League Legends
11:35pm The Graham Norton Show			12:40am Take Me Out	12:05am First Dates		
12:25am Disturbia						
17 JUNE		6:45pm Regional News	3:30pm Cat on a Hot Tin Roof	1:30pm Tipping Point	4:35pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	5:50pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
	6:50pm Weather	5:15pm Flog It!	2:30pm 3 Men and a Baby	5:35pm Big House, Little House	6:45pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	3:00pm Rugby Union
	6:55pm Pointless	6:00pm Gardeners' World	4:30pm Confederations Cup	6:35pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it	7:35pm 5 News	3:30pm Boxing
	7:45pm Doctor Who	7:00pm Trooping the Colour	7:15pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Channel 4 News	7:40pm Funniest Ever Crazy Cats	5:30pm Live European U21 Championship
	8:30pm Pitch Battle	8:30pm Venice Biennale Sink or Swim.	7:25pm ITV News and Weather	8:00pm The Autistic Gardener	8:30pm Blind Date	8:00pm Boxing
	10:00pm Casualty	9:00pm Rugby Union	7:35pm You've Been Framed!	9:00pm Iron Man 2	9:30pm Before They Were Stars	8:30pm Live European U21 Championship
	10:50pm Mrs. Brown's Boys	11:30pm Kevin Bridges: A Whole Different Story	8:30pm The Voice Kids	11:25pm The Maze Runner	10:30pm Big Brother	8:30pm Live European U21 Championship
	11:20pm BBC News	12:30am Versailles	10:00pm Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason	1:35am The Stone Roses: Made of Stone	11:30pm The Michael McIntyre Story	11:00pm Live Fight Night
	11:35pm Weather		12:05am ITV News and Weather		1:00am Super Casino	1:00am Boxing
	11:40pm Shanghai Knights					
	1:30am Weather for the Week					
	18 JUNE	7:30pm BBC News	3:30pm Rugby League Challenge Cup	3:00pm The Voice Kids	3:00pm The Simpsons	11:50am Make You Laugh Out Loud
7:50pm Regional News		6:00pm Rowing	4:30pm Confederations Cup	3:30pm The Book of Life	12:15pm Police Interceptors	4:30pm Rugby Union
7:55pm Weather		7:00pm The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway	7:15pm Local News and Weather	5:30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	1:15pm Police Interceptors	5:00pm Rugby Union
8:00pm Countryfile		8:00pm Dragons' Den	7:25pm ITV News and Weather	6:30pm Homes by the Sea	2:15pm Footloose	5:30pm Live European U21 Championship
9:00pm Antiques Roadshow		9:00pm The Life Swap Adventure	7:35pm Britain as Seen on ITV	7:30pm Channel 4 News	4:20pm Dirty Dancing	8:00pm Premier League 100 Club
10:00pm Poldark		10:00pm 20 Days - Battle for Supremacy	8:00pm Vera	8:00pm A Very British Hotel	6:55pm Monster-in-Law	8:00pm Premier League 100 Club
11:00pm BBC News		11:30pm Mock the Week	10:00pm The Loch	9:00pm Great Canal Journeys	9:00pm Now That's Funny!	8:30pm Live European U21 Championship
11:20pm Regional News		12:00am White Gold	11:00pm ITV News and Weather	10:00pm The Handmaid's Tale	9:55pm 5 News	8:30pm Live European U21 Championship
11:25pm Weather			11:20pm Peston on Sunday	11:15pm Merciless	10:00pm Big Brother	11:00pm Football
11:30pm Thor 2 - The Dark World			12:20am Lethal Weapon	12:10am End of Watch	11:00pm The Paul O'grady Story	11:00pm Premier League 100 Club
1:10am Weather for the Week					12:30am Before They Were Stars	1:05am Premier League 100 Club
19 JUNE		8:30pm Supersize Cabbies	1:00pm Athletics	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours
	9:00pm EastEnders	2:00pm Tennis	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm Home and Away	5:30pm Live European U21 Championship
	9:30pm Would I Lie to You?	7:00pm Eggheads	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm 5 News	8:00pm Football's Greatest Teams
	10:00pm Supermarket Shopping	7:30pm Curious Creatures	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Criminals Caught on Camera	8:00pm One2eleven 2016/17
	10:00pm Secrets	8:00pm Mary Berry Everyday	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:30pm Police Interceptors	8:40pm Live European U21 Championship
	11:00pm BBC News	8:30pm Great British Menu	9:00pm Amazing Animal Births	9:00pm Dispatches	9:30pm The April Jones Murder: 5 Years on	11:00pm Football's Greatest Teams
	11:30pm Regional News	9:00pm Horizon	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:30pm How to Stay Well	11:00pm Big Brother	11:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	11:40pm Weather	10:00pm Ripper Street	10:00pm Fearless	10:00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	12:00am European U21 Championship Highlights
	11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More	11:00pm Detectorists	11:00pm ITV News	11:00pm Loaded		
	News for You	11:30pm Newsnight	11:40pm The Real Full Monty	11:50pm Wife Swap		
	The Graham Norton Show	12:10am Weather	1:10am Jackpot247	12:55am Battling the Bailiffs		
	20 JUNE	7:00pm BBC News	1:00pm The Daily Politics	2:00pm ITV Lunchtime News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:00pm 5 News
7:30pm Regional News		2:00pm Tennis	2:30pm ITV Racing Live	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours	5:30pm Live European U21 Championship
8:00pm The One Show		7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	8:00pm European U21 Championship
8:30pm EastEnders		7:30pm Curious Creatures	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News	8:00pm Britain's Greatest Bridges
9:00pm Holby City		8:00pm Mary Berry Everyday	8:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Britain's Greatest Bridges	8:00pm Meet the Hedgehogs
10:00pm Broken		8:30pm Great British Menu	9:00pm Martin Lewis Live	9:00pm Tried and Tasted: The Ultimate Shopping List	9:00pm Our Dream Hotel	8:30pm Live European U21 Championship
10:00pm BBC News		9:00pm Natural World	10:00pm Trouble in Poundland	9:30pm Supershoppers	10:00pm Big Brother	11:00pm British and Irish Lions Tour Highlights
11:30pm Regional News		10:00pm Hospital	11:00pm ITV News	10:00pm One Born Every Minute	11:00pm Big Brother's Bit on the Side	11:00pm British and Irish Lions Tour Highlights
11:40pm Weather		11:00pm QI	11:40pm Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera	11:00pm First Dates	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	12:00am Premier League Legends
11:45pm Fight Game: The McGuigans		11:30pm Newsnight	12:40am The Chase	12:05am 24 Hours in A and E		
12:15am Fight Game: The McGuigans		12:10am Weather				
21 JUNE		5:30pm Street Auction	12:30pm The Daily Politics	2:00pm ITV Lunchtime News	3:10pm Countdown	4:15pm Hit and Run
	6:15pm Pointless	2:00pm Lifestyl	2:30pm ITV Racing Live	4:00pm Fifteen to One	6:00pm 5 News	5:30pm Live European U21 Championship
	7:00pm BBC News	2:10pm Tennis	7:00pm Local News and Weather	5:00pm Best of Both Worlds	6:30pm Neighbours	8:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	7:30pm Regional News	7:00pm Eggheads	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away	8:30pm Live European U21 Championship
	8:00pm The One Show	7:30pm Curious Creatures	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:30pm 5 News	11:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	9:00pm Eat Well for Less	8:00pm Mary Berry Everyday	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm Police Interceptors	11:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	10:00pm The Met: Policing London	8:30pm Great British Menu	9:00pm Love Your Garden	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	11:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Gardeners' World	10:00pm Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera	8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	11:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	11:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Brexit Means Brexit	11:00pm ITV News	9:00pm Ackley Bridge	12:05am Big Brother	12:00am Premier League Legends
	11:40pm Weather	11:00pm White Gold	11:40pm Trouble in Poundland	10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E		
	11:45pm Room 101	11:30pm Newsnight	12:45am BTCC Highlights	11:00pm Fargo		
	12:25am Supersize Cabbies	12:10am Weather		12:05am 24 Hours in Police Custody		

Exterminate! robots - How soon will they replace British jobs post-Brexit?

Nora Johnson
Breaking Views

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

NEWS that the next likely governor of California is preparing for battle against Silicon Valley's job-killing robots shouldn't come as any surprise.

After all, 60,000 workers in a Chinese factory owned by the manufacturer of the iPhone have already been replaced. But what about British jobs potentially lost to robots post-Brexit, that's the million-dollar question.

After all, we already have the first 'affordable' household robot. With its big blue eyes and saccharine voice, this toddler-sized machine called Zenbo is billed as a friend for children, a personal assistant to parents and a carer for the el-



derly. All for less than the cost of a new iPhone.

There's no getting away from the fact that the age of the robot is already here. It's just a question of how many there'll be and how quickly they'll replace humans. (But hang on! Don't they already run the civil service, the public sector - and the EU?)

When I discussed this Zenbo robot with a friend, she asked would it make a cup of tea, wash up, make the beds, get her kids off to school, iron,

hoover without knocking chunks off the furniture and trim her daughter's pony's hooves? No? Then, next to useless! And as for buying one to care for an elderly relative, she couldn't see that catching on unless Social Services are salami-sliced to death. Even more slashed to the bone.

But just to add some facts. We already have robots in numerous essential areas like medicine. They assist surgeons and do a better job of surgery than anyone could do on his

own, so horses' hooves would be a doddle. Not sure about psychiatry and how robots could help there, though.

Which reminds me of an old joke. A man goes to a psychiatrist to complain that the song 'Delilah' keeps going through his head and he can't sleep or work. The psychiatrist tells him he has the 'Tom Jones Syndrome.' The patient then asks: 'Is it common?' To which the psychiatrist replies: 'It's not unusual.'

Very soon, robots won't be that unusual 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.

THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Graham Braben

Isn't it a bit scary?

IN my defence, I really didn't know.

You see someone asked me who I thought was the wickedest soap opera character ever. Unfortunately, I don't watch soaps, so, like an idiot - which in this context I am - I said the first name that came into my head. Ena Sharples.

As stunned silences go, it was up there with the best of them. I can understand it and I can understand the resulting ridicule. I've since checked, Ena Sharples left Coronation Street in the spring of 1980! Oops.

Maybe my ignorance shouldn't be such a big deal, but today, with wall-to-wall soap operas and reality shows throughout the day and night, it inevitably is.

Just look at how the lives of a Kardashian or two fascinate audiences. Unfortunately, I still haven't passed my GCSE in Kardashianology so don't have a clue what they do to be so famous; does one of them play in goal for St Mirren? No of course not, everyone knows their goalkeeper is Billy O'Brien.

There are people worse than I am though. I knew someone who thought Taylor Swift was an express delivery company. Silly, everyone knows he's a singer.

Today celebrities are all over the place, in jungles, on dance floors or, a new one, potentially washing dinner guests' dishes. We can't escape them - just look at the daily diet of models, actors and sports stars that fill our newspapers.

That brings me to the point - well maybe not a point, just an excuse for this nonsense - so many people are obsessed with celebrities, they mimic what they say and look up to them as role models. Isn't it a bit scary? Hasta la vista baby!

Readers interested in submitting articles for this guest column should send articles of 3-400 words on topics felt to be of interest to the cosmopolitan EWN readership to editorial@euroweeklynews.com.

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What is it with choices?

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



SO the election has been and gone and to be honest Mrs May got what she deserved. That's all I've got to say about that because I only get a limited amount of words and I don't want to waste any more of them on slime bag politicians.

What is it with choices these days? My daughter has just bought her first house and needed to buy some white paint. 'No big deal,' I said to her, 'go down to B & Q and buy a pot.' Simple. Job done. Oh no not any more. There are so many it's ridiculous. She sent me a list of 20 different whites. But these days it's the same with everything.

We are all spoilt for choice. Try buying anything. It gets on my nerves. You spend hours online just comparing prices. Then you find something and think you have cracked it. But no - it's not quite the same thing - it's either a little smaller or a little lighter in weight. Have you ever tried to buy a computer? What a minefield that is! You go into the store and ask the salesman to help. Then come the questions.

How much storage, how much memory, how much ram, dual core, quad core, bloody apple core and then you make your choice and off you go all happy with your lappy or desktop only to find a week later that the one you got sold has just been superseded by a newer model and yours is now defunct. It's all so infuriating!

Talking about computers this one peed me off this week. I was trying to log on to my Apple account. I try one incorrect password, try second incorrect password, try third incorrect password and I am now locked out. It says 'please reset password.'

So in I go and answer all the security questions and reset my password and as I hit enter with my new password and up comes the writing 'you cannot use a password that you have used before!' I didn't think I had so I tried two other passwords that I use and they aren't accepted either. One is too weak and the other I'd used before so now I have to think of a new one.

Like I don't have enough already I now have to use a capital letter and a number and now a special symbol. It's exhausting and frustrating. And then the emails start telling me that I've changed my password. I know. You don't have to tell me! Why does life have to be so complicated?

Email me mikesenker@gmail.com

LEGALLY SPEAKING

With or without a licence?

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



A REGULAR question that occurs is 'can I drive a small microcar' without a licence?

According to the N332 Guardia Civil team, many people say you can drive them without a licence because you don't need to have a Category B licence which is for cars. However, to say you don't need any licence is not correct as you must have a Category AM licence which is the category required to be able to ride a moped.

Because these 'microcars' have such a small engine, they are classed as mopeds and can even be driven by teenagers as long as they have the Category AM licence. However it must be noted that these vehicles must be driven on the hard shoulder where there is one, or as far to the right as possible, and they are not permitted on motorways.

The vehicle itself must be registered and insurance is still needed. It follows the same requirements as normal cars and it must have a logbook and ITV inspections must be carried out.

To obtain a Category AM licence your local driving school will be able to give you all the information you need, including requirements for a medical report if necessary.

So drivers should be reminded that yes they do need a licence for a vehicle and to drive any vehicle without a licence is breaking the law. Similarly, if you don't have your licence with you when you are driving it can be assumed you are driving without one until proven otherwise and you may be arrested until you can prove you are qualified to drive.

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

How much capital gains tax?

Q. We purchased a property for €110,000 two years ago and we are selling it now for €300,000. We intend to spend about €200,000 on our next home in Spain. We are residents

of Spain and our house is our permanent residence Can you help us with what we should expect to pay for capital gains tax?

A B (Costa Blanca)

A. You have tripled your money in two years, turning a profit of €200,000.

It seems you will have to pay the full rate of Spanish capital gains tax, at 23 per cent of your profit, for a hefty tax of €46,000.

Reductions are available

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



but you do not seem to qualify. If you are a tax resident of Spain, this means you pay Spanish income tax.

1. If you have tax returns for the previous three years.

2. And if you have held your principal residence for three years.


3. And if you use all your profits to buy a new principal residence in Spain, you would be free of capital gains tax.


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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An exclusive interview

Today Michel Euesden, Managing Director went along to Oakland Furniture to meet and interview Steve Day, Managing Director of Oak Land Furniture Spain.

The Euro Weekly News were delighted to be able to get the interview as Steve is not well-known to hold them and doesn't like the limelight, so it was certainly an exclusive scoop for the coast's number one expat newspaper.

■ **MICHEL:**

Well Steve, here we are at your San Pedro store and I must say it looks magnificent with such a large choice not only of solid oak furniture but also wonderful sofas too. Firstly I would like to say thank you for allowing us this interview as I understand you don't like publicity and interviews. May I firstly ask as it's intriguing why is that?

■ **STEVE:**

Ha ha, straight to the point as always Michel, wouldn't expect any more from you, but that's why I enjoy my team working alongside the EWN Media Group as it does exactly what it says it's going to do. You have a fantastic group of newspapers here in Spain.

■ **MICHEL:**

Thanks for the compliment Steve but you haven't answered my question and this is only my first one!

■ **STEVE:**

I guess I'm quite a shy person deep down but it's more than that, the business is not about me, it's all about the furniture and my great team of employees, without both of those the business wouldn't achieve what it does. I often wish wardrobes could talk as they and other items are the real success of the business!

At the end of the day if you haven't got a quality product then there's no longevity to your business, rather like your newspaper hey Michel! If you printed rubbish people wouldn't read your newspaper, but as we know you deliver a great read and that's why you have been on the coast for so many years! It's the same for my furniture, we deliver a full USP, 100 per cent solid oak throughout the product, building a product that will last the client a lifetime. It's not about me, it's about the furniture and so I like to sit in the background and allow the furniture to stand out and do the talking, customers can come in store and see the quality of the product and it stands out.

On the shop floor our ethos is the furniture sings out and the store staff just answer questions and explain procedures, we don't employ sales people in effect as the aim is to build the highest quality and designs that stands out.

■ **MICHEL:**

Steve, whilst we are not here to talk about my newspapers thank you again for the compliment, but yes we carry that same ethos within our business. Now can we stick to the questions without the swing back to me!

So obviously all this lovely furniture



The cuts of wood we use to manufacture the furniture are of the highest quality.

in store, who designs it all and where does it actually come from?

■ **STEVE:**

Well as you can see the cuts of wood that we use to manufacture the furniture are of the highest quality, the wood itself comes North America from substantial forests complying with all strict EU timber regulations.

We use the highest grade which is North American white oak grade 1 on all the natural oak finished ranges. These are the cleanest cuts with the least knots if any and the most beautiful grains. With our rustic oak finishes we use grade 2 as we want the slight blemishes and knots to create the rustic look.

Anyway the logs are sent to our factories in both China and Vietnam where 90 per cent of the world's oak furniture is produced, the factories work to our designs and produce the furniture en masse to ensure the manufacturing process is economical to be able to offer our low retail prices. So for instance we do a production run of double wardrobes and then ship 40 foot sea containers to the warehouse in Swindon of double wardrobes, Swindon warehouse receives on a daily basis around 35-40 containers per day, every day six days a week.

The designs of our furniture are all exclusive to us and design protected and are all actually designed in-house by ourselves which I feel we are very good at, but this also saves huge designer fees to which again we pass on the savings to our customers.

Designer fees are very large in the industry we are in, so as we all have an eye for design we make some great savings.

■ **MICHEL:**

So Steve do you go to the Far East yourself to the factories and what's it like there if so?

■ **STEVE:**

In the early days of the business, the answer is yes, I probably spent 50 per cent of the year there, you had to as we had to train factories how we expected our furniture quality to be produced. I lived in Dalian which is north China, where the majority of factories are, as

STEVE DAY:
Managing Director.



well as Qingdao, China. Whilst huge it is strange as different products are manufactured in different regions, although we did get down to Shanghai and Beijing many times.

North China is beautiful and not how you would imagine, lovely coast line, great sea food and clean air! Over the last few years China has changed so much, I remember the first ever trip back in 2001 and as myself and my travel companion went down for breakfast we didn't like the look of the food as it was quite extreme to say the least, so we decided to stick with what looked hard boiled eggs, the waiter brought them over in a basket with a pair of chopsticks, we knocked the top off the egg to discover the chop sticks were for eating the chick!

Thankfully as the years have gone by and the country has become more modern, better food is now more available!

I don't go as much now as all the production is built up and as the business has grown Quality Control teams are now in place.

Vietnam we also use too, they have caught up with the supply market and chain and do a fantastic job as well. In fact in furniture making terms they are now more competitive and trips there are enjoyable, but again less frequent as QC teams on the ground.

Lovely places to visit but now I focus my main time here in Spain in the sunshine as we have a lot of work to do as we progress through Spain, Portugal and France.

■ **MICHEL:**

Yes Steve I saw on your website that delivery options are available to Portugal and France too, was that planned?

■ **STEVE:**

In truth no, it wasn't in the initial plans but when we launched in Spain some eight months ago now, lots of inquiries came in via the website requesting it and so we set up the delivery infrastructure to incorporate the ex-pats in those countries as well. No point turning away valued business!

■ **MICHEL:**

You haven't hung around there then Steve, so what was the initial plan and why Spain?

■ **STEVE:**

At my age I don't have time to hang around these days Michel! If I was as young as you maybe I would have more time!

■ **MICHEL:**

For someone who claims to be shy you are a bit of a charmer that's sure! Now back to the question why Spain?

■ **STEVE:**

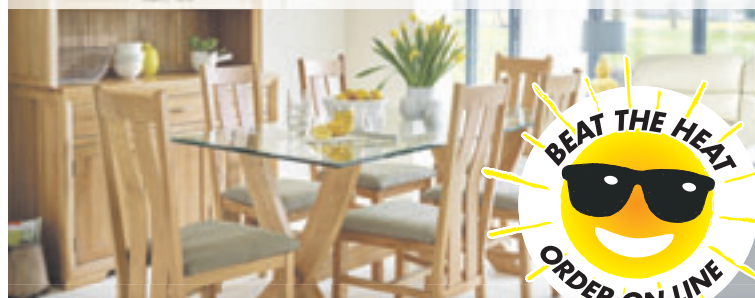
Firstly I have always loved Spain and it was a good excuse to move here, but more importantly we could see the potential, we had customers on a weekly basis inquiring in the UK operation if we delivered to Spain. At the time we didn't and customers were paying a small fortune to ship the furniture over themselves. So clearly there was a market opportunity and a service to provide. Customers obviously know our



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MICHEL EUESDEN:
Managing
Director.

“

We have launched a website in Spanish for the Spanish nation.

times, but I always believe there's room to improve. Everything is about the customer within our company. As we cover so many thousands of miles on delivery routes so our customers can enjoy the benefits of our furniture, we have to strive hard and we do with a great delivery infrastructure, as well as fantastic communication channels from the team to the customer.

■ **MICHEL:**

So Steve simple question, what's your biggest frustration?

■ **STEVE:**

Honestly, foot flow to the store, yes I know that the trading patterns are different here in Spain, but I still can't get my head around it totally, yes I get it's a modern world and people use the Internet and website, I get they know our quality product and brand but it still frustrates me, that's probably because I'm used to large store foot flows. The Store Manager Nik probably holds the largest conversion rate ever because everyone who comes to the store purchases in the main as they have already done their homework via the web. I guess I'm just an old-fashioned retailer but I will always find it strange that a customer will order say from Mijas on the web when the store's only 15 minutes away. I guess it doesn't really make any difference to us, but we do like to show off our fantastic products and showroom. Just a personal frustration really, just an age thing I guess!

■ **MICHEL:**

Okay that's your frustrations, but do you have a pet hate?

■ **STEVE:**

I try not to have them as it's never the end of the world, but there

are a few. Advertising reps calling the store phone number has always been one for 30-odd years now. The phone line is for our customers to inquire about furniture not a free tool for advertising reps who can't be bothered to call in store and show what they have to offer.

It does really wind me up this especially as the phone line could be engaged whilst a customer is trying to get through. I can't believe advertising reps can't see it's annoying and reduces their chances of obtaining business!

I have to say we don't get it too bad here as we have carefully selected our media partners like yourself Michel but it's a pet hate of many years. Calls have dropped in recent years but at the same time spam emails have gone up which are just as bad. I believe if you have something decent to offer go out and demonstrate and sell it.

■ **MICHEL:**

So with the showroom open in San Pedro, the website clearly fully operational and the delivery structure all in place with deliveries basically going out on a weekly basis across Europe to what appears rapid rate, what's next?

■ **STEVE:**

The first thing is always to both maintain and improve where possible standards and customer service. You have to establish a solid foundation to ensure when you do further expand you are ready for it and that it doesn't affect current business and customers.

We have though launched a website in full Spanish for the Spanish nation, we love Spanish people, their way of life and thank them for allowing us to bring our business to their country. At the same time I

hope they will enjoy and take advantage of our great product ranges and quality furniture. The website is www.oaklandmuebles.com.

We have employed recently the lovely Lola Lopez to work both at the showroom and operate the Spanish website. It's a very important project for me at present.

We also have as many customers know a superb choice of sofas at the finest low prices so we have also added www.sofastorespain.com.

■ **MICHEL:**

Another store Steve?

■ **STEVE:**

Yes for sure, the next one will be in the Costa Blanca somewhere in 2018 I would imagine, but it may change route dependent on how the Spanish website performs. Things never go to plan so it's a matter of how it all unfolds, maybe your readers could tell us if they want a store in Costa Blanca, if they do they can let me know by emailing info@oaklandfurniturespain.com.

■ **MICHEL:**

Steve it's been an absolute pleasure to meet you today and thank you so much for the interview. I know you don't like doing them so it's an honour for us at the *Euro Weekly News* to have one. Thanks again and I'll leave you to get on with your work as I see the email inbox on your computer is filling up. Thanks again Steve.

■ **STEVE:**

Never an issue for you Michel and thank you for the amazing services you provide to **Oak Land Furniture Spain**. Shall we go for a pint now? All this talking has made me thirsty in this heat!

product and brands so in realistic terms it made sense.

■ **MICHEL:**

Many people reading this could be thinking about starting a business here themselves, how did you find it to the UK and how different is it?

■ **STEVE:**

Patience is required for starters and a few deep breaths at times! But overall it's rather much the same although trading patterns are very different to the UK, the main reason being that the expat market is very spread out along the coast in the main. So we get less people to the showroom and more through the website. As the expat knows our brands and products from the UK and of course see the UK adverts on TV here in Spain, we had to build the infrastructure internally to cover all options to enable us to deliver further distances from our Malaga-

based warehouse. For instance delivery vans at home go out for a day's work but here in Spain they can go out for a week's work.

It took a lot of planning and selecting the correct delivery teams was important too. Yes of course we have the product but we have to back the product up with the service.

■ **MICHEL:**

Yes I agree, the customer should always receive good service, I've taken a look at the reviews on your website and see that you have a 9.8 five star rating on the independent review website Trust Pilot, that's very very impressive!

■ **STEVE:**

I'm sorry it's not impressive enough, it should be 10.10 in my book, but we will achieve it. Yes it's a great score because we work so hard to deliver the full customer service at all



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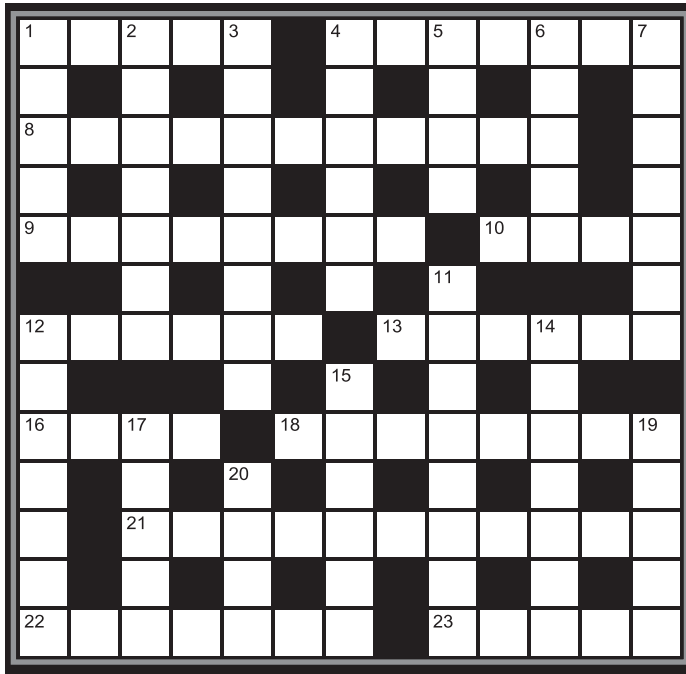
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Support parade proudly (5)
- 4 Plots resistance in different places (7)
- 8 Commemorate memorial, it's rebuilt (11)
- 9 Take flight until tar is repaired (4,4)
- 10 Eye infection encountered in the first years of life (4)
- 12 Increases the number of dandies (6)
- 13 The approach or escape includes tedious tasks (6)
- 16 Ailment causing nasty eruptions, initially (4)
- 18 Detective is indeed comprehensive (8)
- 21 Hag can smell crooked coppers (5,6)
- 22 Beginning the climb after first of November (7)
- 23 Fibre used in optics is altered (5)

Down

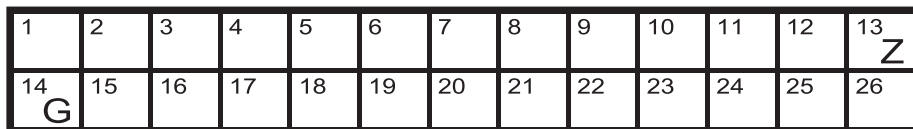
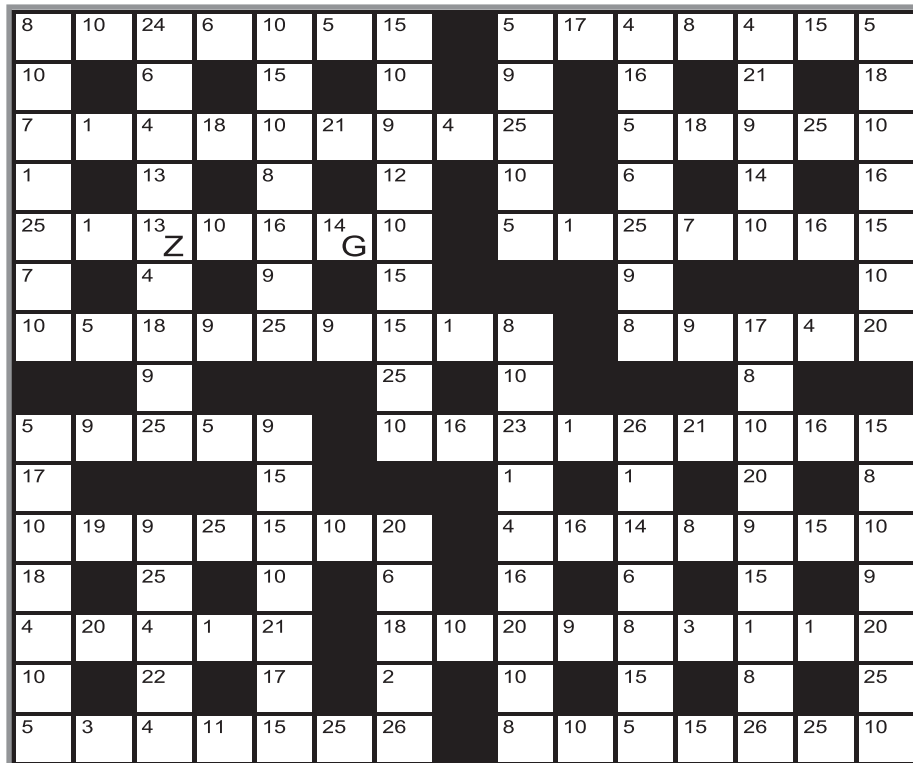
- 1 Broke the family, in a way (5)
- 2 Regret about an inspector (7)
- 3 Accelerator or choke (8)
- 4 Good natured head of clan is wearing tartan (6)
- 5 Bitterly reproach perjurer for going back (4)
- 6 Upstanding characters from



- Crete (5)
- 7 Bags of cash confused alien skinhead (7)
- 11 Covers The Ashes broadcast (8)
- 12 Rank of Victoria for example (7)
- 14 Softens on the French in tears (7)
- 15 Farmer loth to consume wine (6)
- 17 Sent school head faulty dens (5)
- 19 Live in Erskine Caldwell's house (5)
- 20 We must accept silver as payment (4)

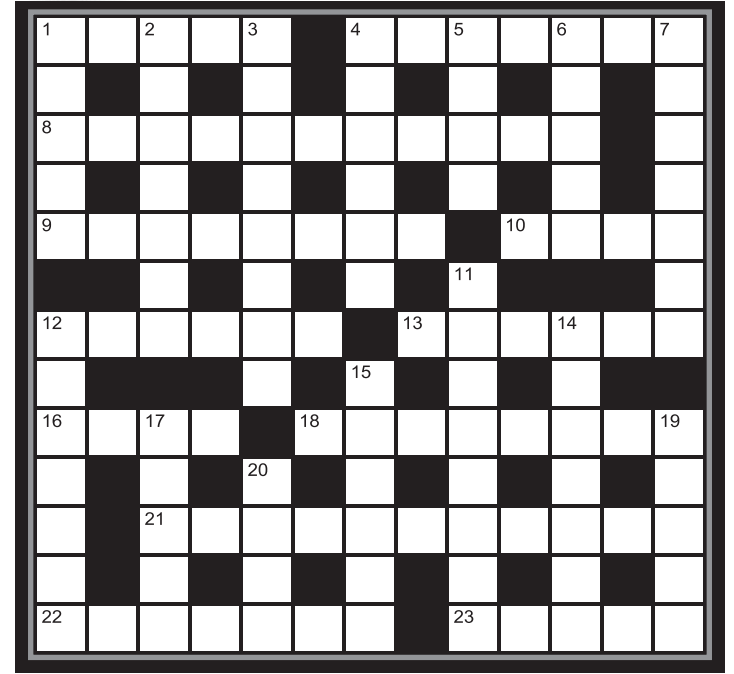
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 13 represents Z and 14 represents G, so fill in Z every time the figure 13 appears and G every time the figure 14 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.

Code Breaker



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

Quick



Across

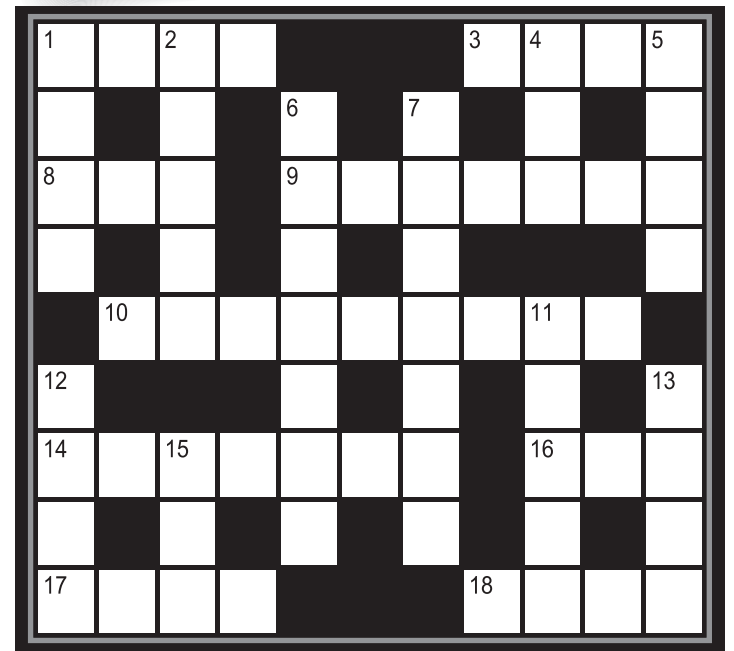
- 1 Omits (5)
- 4 Pairs of people who live together (7)
- 8 Fundamentally (11)
- 9 Manifold (8)
- 10 Adhesive (4)
- 12 Expensive (6)
- 13 Purchased (6)
- 16 Dark shade of blue (4)
- 18 Messages informing of danger (8)
- 21 Capable of being classified (11)
- 22 Spectacles (7)
- 23 Fragrance (5)

Down

- 1 Water vapour (5)
- 2 Rude expressions intended to offend or hurt (7)
- 3 Showing reason or sound judgment (8)
- 4 Appreciably or disagreeably cold (6)
- 5 Unattractive (4)
- 6 Faithful (5)
- 7 Propose (7)
- 11 Joins (8)
- 12 Marked by skill in deception (7)
- 14 Real (7)
- 15 Differs (6)
- 17 Russian spirit (5)
- 19 Depleted of content, energy, force, strength (5)
- 20 Requests information about (4)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Well (in a good manner) (4)
- 3 Celery (4)
- 8 Cálido (climate) (3)
- 9 Estirar (7)
- 10 Nightmare (9)
- 14 Mayor (7)

- 16 Ceniza (polvo) (3)
- 17 Toad (4)
- 18 Pinzas (4)

Down

- 1 Owl (long-eared) (4)
- 2 Between (5)
- 4 Mascota (animal doméstico) (3)
- 5 Eight (4)
- 6 Normalmente (7)
- 7 Alabanzas (7)
- 11 Dejar (5)
- 12 Alfombras (pequeñas) (4)
- 13 Este (4)
- 15 Taza (recipiente) (3)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday June 10

10 18 28 **BONUS BALL**
 35 36 50 2

IRISH LOTTO

Saturday June 10

5 6 19 **BONUS BALL**
 20 24 29 39

EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday June 06

20 22 25 **BONUS BALL**
 37 40 7

Friday June 09

9 20 27 **BONUS BALL**
 39 43 11

LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday June 10

18 19 22 **BONUS BALL**
 29 35 45 8

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday June 11

2 3 13 **BONUS BALL**
 29 43 0

YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)

This is a time to consider finances and keep your options open. Someone who tries to get a fast decision out of you by pushing you into a corner is doing you no favours. You will decide what (if anything) needs to be done when you are good and ready.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

Keep things simple. Getting involved in other people's problems is not for you at the moment. It may be necessary to delay a decision to give yourself time to think. Could you manage a few days away somewhere? Maybe you could stay with a friend or relative. You need some peace and quiet on your own.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

Although things are going pretty well, there are some things that could be just a little better organised. The time and money that this saves could be small, but it's the ongoing positive attitude that counts. There have been times recently when you have wondered if your progress on a certain matter would ever start up again.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

It is better if you don't get involved in any high profile, high risk business deals. Success is not assured. This is a time for financial consolidation. Count your pennies and see the pounds collecting in the future. On a cold winter's night it can give a pleasant glow to realise your action during the summer is keeping you warm.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Partnerships see you leap ahead on something that was a bit stuck in the mud. A leap in your bank balance follows. Some quick decisions may be called for so it is better to share responsibilities, whatever the outcome. You have a chance to show just how clever you can be, but do it because it gives you personal satisfaction rather than to impress.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

After a hectic start to the week, things seem to have slowed down. Look carefully at what has happened, but remember that there is no point in worrying over something that you cannot change. Sitting tight and waiting for this period to pass could be the best solution. Certainly, it will prove less stressful than fighting a losing corner.

LEO (July 24 - August 23)

Money is good and this can make you over-confident. Beware bank managers offering loans in large amounts. Nothing is for free and you need to look carefully at interest rates right now. Another, more personal, investment also needs looking at right now. Are things going exactly the way you want them to?

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)

Aim a bit higher than usual and you may be surprised at your success. When seeing the bigger picture, you realise that it is not so daunting after all. If one person can do it, then so can another. It is a matter of how you approach it. What you have to ask yourself this week is why you should accept the minimum when the maximum is so close by.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)

This should be a great time for your finances. Any glitch is likely to be because you have overspent. Even if things still need close attention, you can win if you concentrate. A bit of plotting and planning can work wonders at the moment. Most of your big expenses are behind you and if you can just tighten that belt a wee bit more.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

Although things seem fine, this is not a time to overstretch your finances. Spending a lot this week without thought is problematic later. This is a week of shifting and changing and that certainly means your finances. The other area is your social circle, where people come and go, sometimes without warning.

SAGITARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

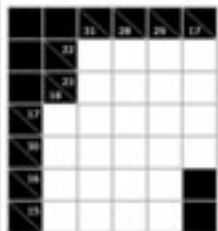
This is not a particularly lucky week for you, so I would certainly advise caution. Gambling is not recommended. Being clever with money is as much about not spending it as about how you spend it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

Look at the long-term picture when considering money matters. What seems like a good deal now may not be so a few years down the line. Someone who appears to be telling a lie may simply have either misunderstood or have the wrong information.

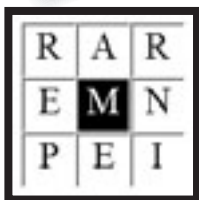
Kakuro

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.



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



TARGET:

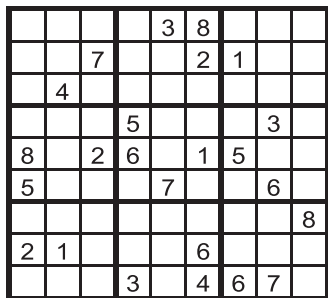
- Average: 9
- Very good: 17
- Good: 12
- Excellent: 22

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

come comp meet mete mont mope mote neem omen poem pome teem temp tome comet compt emote monte motet tempo tempt totem cement compete contempt COMPETENT

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.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Talisman, 4 Deal, 8 Libya, 10 Acreage, 11 Reagent, 12 Eats, 14 Notary, 16 Stigma, 19 Grit, 21 Inspire, 24 Insular, 25 Alert, 26 Lush, 27 Asteroid.

Down:

- 1 Tolerant, 2 Shame, 3 Awaits, 5 Exact, 6 Lied, 7 Ernest, 9 Blast, 13 Talented, 15 Rattle, 17 Grime, 18 Tigris, 20 Rests, 22 Stale, 23 Pill.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Shampoo, 5 Cocky, 8 Buddy, 9 Piranha, 10 Uproars, 12 Stein, 13 Desire, 15 Closed, 18 Bling, 19 Epsilon, 21 Expands, 22 Apart, 23 Surge, 24 Success.

Down:

- 1 Subdued, 2 Adder, 3 Pry, 4 Oppose, 5 Chrysalis, 6 Confess, 7 Yearn, 11 Arrogance, 14 Skipper, 16 Donates, 17 Versus, 18 Bless, 20 Leave, 22 Arc.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Marcador, 7 Nadar, 8 Awake, 10 Hoe, 11 Oca, 12 Oil, 13 Aisle, 14 Traje, 15 Bookshop.

Down:

- 2 Address, 3 Carbonero, 4 Diamantes, 5 Anchoas, 6 Replies, 9 Abogado.

KAKURO



CODE BREAKER

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

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LETTERS

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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Cover up! It's time for a new law

SIR,

When is Spain going to clean up its act and ban tourists... and sadly in a few cases local residents... walking around the streets half naked.

While it is easy to blame the Brits having now lived near Mojacar for the last five years I can assure you some German and also a few Scandinavian visitors – though to a lesser degree – are also among those who choose to walk around the streets and go window shopping without shirts on, or in the case of women, in just bikini bottoms.

In the South of France local laws are in place making such behaviour illegal, and anyone walking around without a shirt or in beach attire can be fined on the spot.

Keep beach wear and partial nudity where it belongs, which is the beach.

Spain will be a better and more attractive summer destination if and when it makes such attire illegal away from around pools and on the beach.

Nora Caulcott
Torre

Security smile

I AM delighted – yet a little surprised – to note (*EWN Issue 1665*) that Marbella is now considering installing CTV cameras in various places including Puerto Banus and La Canada shopping mall.

Having lived on the Costa del Sol for almost 10 years, when the idea of such security checks in Puerto Banus was mooted several years ago, local businesses fought the suggestion as it was feared cameras would frighten some clients away.

One can glean for ones-self the base of such concerns given the criminal leanings of a few of the big spending people who frequent the ritzy port throughout the year, and especially in summer.

Marbella is well aware of this, as are many people living and vis-



PUERTO BANUS: Security likely to be stepped up.

iting Spain.

Additionally having once been robbed in the car park of La Canada – I was distracted by a stranger, only to later discover my handbag had been stolen while giving directions – CTV cameras will be a huge

bonus, for the mall offers excellent facilities, but in this day and age crime is something we must all fight against.

R Craddock
Estepona

Adios English!

WHY is it that so many British living in Spain do not even try to learn at least a little Spanish.

I have now been here for three years, and can still only master a few simple sentences, despite numerous lessons and ongoing attempts to improve.

But one thing is clear.

My efforts, however poor, are invariably welcomed by local Spanish people, who either do their best to understand me, or try to speak to me in my own mother-tongue English.

I look forward to the day when – just perhaps – I am fluent, for despite the fact I am now retired and many say I am too old to learn a new language, just imagine the pleasure I will get from mastering all the idiosyncrasies that seem to exist.

Having said that, perhaps in reality it is the strange English language that is befuddling my linguistic brain!

Name and address supplied
Costa Blanca

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

Readers who have missed correspondence can see all letters – which can be edited before publication – posted on: www.euroweeklynews.com

Comments from EWN online

» Gay friendly traffic lights in Madrid

Surely Spain as a country emerging from years of recession would have better things they could spend the money on !!!

Anyway, where are heterosexual people supposed to cross the road now?

Rob Ogden

It's good to see some light in Madrid!

Amandine

» Have the dissenters gone quiet? (Leapy Lee)

Media commentators can skew our perceptions away from reality if we're not careful. The dreadful terror attacks in the UK have been truly awful for those caught up in them and my heart goes out to the victims, their families and friends.

But everywhere else in the UK and the whole wide world billions of the rest of us have been leading normal lives at work, or we've been out and about enjoying ourselves, or having a quiet night in without experiencing any terrorism at all - except maybe for those who were glued to the blanket media coverage.

While it is undoubtedly important to take action against terrorism, it is vital that we keep a sense of proportion. Countless billions of us live our entire lives into a ripe old age

without ever becoming involved in a terrorist incident. The vast majority of people on the planet never see terrorism at first hand. Without the 24-hour news media they might not be aware of it at all.

It's a fact there are many more deaths every year from accidents at home than from terrorism, but we don't waste time being afraid of our own homes!

Brian Eagleson

» Mega drug bust in Madrid

They are a greedy and arrogant bunch. They are making their money by hurting others.

How many OD because of their actions?

Too many!

The authorities are helping put these criminals behind bars where they belong.

Great job guys on a job well done!!!!

Guy Campbell

» Battered, bothered and bewildered by a boring election campaign (Nora Johnson)

Spot on about everything-especially Brown and Blair - yesterday's men!

Stevie

» Scottish voters save the Conservatives

Great Scot! That clever Ruth Davidson has saved Theresa May's bacon by delivering 13 Scottish Tory MPs! A lucky number for her and 12 more than before, undoubtedly keeping the keys to No 10 in Theresa's handbag - for the moment. Her huge losses to Labour in England would have made her position completely untenable without those additional Scottish MPs. Who would have thought Scotland would save a Tory government? Life is full of surprises these days.

With the SNP still the third largest party in Westminster, the DUP in a government coalition, and all those Scottish Tory MPs in government, Scotland and Northern Ireland now have more power over the Brexit negotiations than ever before. How ironic, considering the PM previously ignored both countries completely! It's worth remembering both those countries voted to stay IN the EU. A second EU referendum is now much more likely. Some MPs are even saying Stormont has just imposed Direct Rule on Westminster! It's usually the other way round. Talk about a Coalition of Chaos!

The Irish border will dominate the talks at last. Seriously, how can a UK which has left the EU continue to have an open border with it in Ireland? I've said before I wouldn't want to be in Theresa May's shoes. That's even more true now. Boy, those high heels must be killers! And she's bound to lose the keys to No 10 sooner rather than later.

Brian

Be warned

I'VE been coming to Benidorm now for the last 14 years twice a year with my wife. It is brilliant we love the place and have never had any problems. On Wednesday June 7, I took my wife shopping and she bought a €160 leather coat before we decided to go to the church in the Old Town. An opportunistic thief stole the coat which was beside my wife in the church, leaving her devastated.

Geoff, Wirral, Merseyside

Election mess

WELL, after all the huffing and puffing, the election was finally decided and it resulted in a hung Parliament. That I would suggest is the last thing that anybody wanted, however it demonstrated the arrogance of Theresa May and the total misreading of the British electorate. She gambled, she lost, big style. Her 'strong and stable' government is anything but.

What a shambles!!

Philip, San Fulgencio

Skin cancer awareness week

MORE than 250 dermatologists evaluated thousands of Spaniards across 49 provinces in a bid to detect and prevent skin cancer.

The initiative was part of the 2017 melanoma campaign organised by Spain's Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (AEDV), in which 33 other EU countries also participated.

According to AEDV, around 4,000 melanomas are diagnosed each year in Spain and believe around 80 per cent of these could have been avoided if adequate sun protection was used.

Cases are more common in those aged over 50, particularly as sun protection and the damaging sun's rays were less known about a few decades ago, but there are more and more cases of young people being diagnosed due to unhealthy habits of sun exposure.

However, the good news is that 80 per cent of melanomas are cured with surgery and early diagnosis means it is unlikely to

have spread to other parts of the body.

During the week-long campaign, specialists analysed moles and offered free consultations to check people's skin. Different activities were also arranged to remind people of the importance of protecting the skin from the sun's harmful rays and in checking moles for any changes. Remember if you have an existing mole that has changed shape, colour or size, you should get it checked.

Also, look for new moles, spots or lesions that are red, can bleed and are not healing.

SUN DAMAGE:
Get your moles checked out.



EXPERTS are warning against the so-called 'sleeping beauty' diet.

The 'diet' advocates sleeping as long as possible so there are less hours in the day to eat. Many women are also relying on sedatives and sleeping pills to enable them to sleep up to 20

Avoid sleeping beauty diet

hours a day and are at risk of overdosing and becoming addictive.

The diet could also have an impact on the mental health of

followers unable to interact or socialise, spending most of the day in bed leading to social isolation and potentially depression. It can also affect a person's

body clock and dieters are more likely to binge eat when awake.

Experts warn sleeping pills should always be used with caution. A study by Keele Uni-

versity found that as they can cause drowsiness and impaired balance, the risk of a fracture doubled in those who relied daily on sleeping pills to get to

sleep. In 2015, a University of Washington study also showed a worrying link between sleeping tablets and dementia and researchers from Nottingham University in 2012 found that sleeping pills increase the risk of contracting, and dying from, pneumonia during their study.

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Good or bad boredom?

BOREDOM. What is boredom? Simply being fed up, having nothing to do at the weekend? Lacking enthusiasm in your work, being uninterested in things?

Boredom has many different levels and experiences and it can affect different people in different ways. It can be healthy, but can also be harmful.

Now, experts have suggested there could be up to five different types of boredom and the 'wrong' sort of boredom can be self-destructive and could lead to an earlier death.

A type of boredom known as 'reactant' is deemed the most harmful by experts. They say this involves strong negative feelings making people restless, angry and stressed. This can also lead to long



FED UP?: Boredom can affect different people in different ways.

term boredom with people more likely to skip school or quit their jobs, as well as smoke, take drugs and binge drink; all factors that can reduce the life expectancy as it was found that the boredom leads to bad habits.

However, 'indifferent' boredom could be beneficial. This is the state where people are not actively doing anything, but they are calm and quiet and so allow their mind to wander off.

This has proven to boost creativity and it is often rec-

ommended to allow children to be 'bored' so they can spend time with themselves, be more creative and stimulate their minds to play and be active without outside factors such as electronics and video games being given to entertain them.

Donors above average

SPAIN continues to break records on the number of organ and tissue donations and transplants.

For 25 consecutive years, Spain continues to be a world leader and in 2016 again increased its figures to more than 43 donors per million inhabitants, totalling 2,018 donors and 4,818 transplants, well above the European average.

The figures were announced as the country marked National Organ Donor Day to celebrate and thank the altruistic gesture of all donors and their families.

The Spanish model of organ donation and transplantation is often used as a worldwide reference and is deemed as an example to be followed for all countries that want to improve their donations and transplants. It is based on a 100

per cent public system with an extensive network of health professionals with specific and impeccable training.

Those who donate do not know who receives it and do not receive any

compensation. Equally the recipient does not know the donor or have to pay in a way to guarantee equality.



TRANSPLANTS: Spain leads.

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Jellyfish stings



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

What happens if a jellyfish stings me?

The common symptoms of jellyfish stings, assuming the patient is not allergic or suffering from some type of illness which could worsen the effects, are: Pain, burning, inflammation and reddening and bleeding.

How do I treat a jellyfish sting?

When a jellyfish stings us, the pain and itchiness is immediate. The first thing that it is necessary to do is clean the area affected by the sting. We should never use freshwater, because it could break the stinging cells, causing another sting.

To clean the area, a saline solution is perfect. In case you don't have one, salt water could also be a solution. For approximately 15 minutes, you should apply cold to the affected zone.

If you use ice, don't apply the ice directly to the sting, but rather cover it with a cloth or a towel.

If any of the tentacle is still stuck to the skin,

remove it, but never with the hands. Use some kind of pincers.

You should also use some kind of antihistamine, for the reaction, and a painkiller for the pain. Pregnant women must pay special attention when taking antihistamines. If the pain is very intense, or the victim's condition worsens, they should seek medical attention immediately.

It's not necessary to rub yourself, either with towels or with sand; not with anything that could hurt you even more.

How can I avoid being stung by a jellyfish?

You should keep an eye out for the appearance of these animals on beaches or places where you regularly swim. You should never touch or handle jellyfish if you are not wearing appropriate protective gloves.

Limit yourself to looking at them from far away. They may be curious creatures, but you shouldn't forget that their stings can be dangerous.

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

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Travel back in time

THE newly opened Museo de Artes Decorativas has been garnering rave reviews and is now a must-see attraction for residents and tourists on Mallorca alike.

The decorative art museum opened last month and features some 15,000 individual items showcasing the island's unique history.

Located at Son Pacs on the Soller road, the stunning collection stretches back more than six centuries, offering a visual journey through Mallorca's fascinating historical timeline. Clothes, crockery, jewellery, medical equipment, religious icons and individual possessions make up most of the thousand of items.

There is a special focus on luxury items from the differ-

ent eras, allowing guests to imagine noble life on Mallorca over the centuries. The entire exhibition offers a unique insight into daily life before industrialisation changed the face of both Mallorca and Spain.

The museum is situated on a grand 34,000 square metre space that provides ample room to wander round the sights. Its creation was encouraged by the Balearic Island Foundation which is dedicated to preserving the distinct cultural heritage and history of the islands.

Open on weekdays from 10am to 6pm, admission costs just €8 for adults. On weekends it opens from 10am until 1.30pm. Guided tours are available and there is a car park and café.

Wouldn't it be nice



THE BEACH BOYS:
Once in a lifetime opportunity.

AFTER months of anticipation the date is finally here. On Sunday the fantastic Son Fusteret Arena will be bringing Pet Sounds live to Mallorca as the legendary Beach Boys play on the island for one night only.

Tickets are still available for this once in a lifetime opportunity to catch one of the pioneering bands of the 20th cen-

tury live. They can be purchased online through Son Fusteret's website, on tickettea.com and at the Trui Theatre.

Prices begin at €35 and the show kicks off in Palma at 8pm with an expected finishing time of 10pm. Last year was the 50th anniversary of Pet Sounds, their iconic psychedelic pop album, and the gig will feature all their biggest hits.

www.thebeachboys.com

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VILLA MARCH: Also known as Sa Torre Cega, has magnificent gardens.

GREENFINGERS and flower lovers have another excellent botanical garden to visit on Mallorca. Summer guided tours are now taking place at the magnificent Villa March in Cala Ratjada.

The tours offer a terrific alternative to the newly opened Royal Gardens at Palma's Marivent Palace and demonstrates Mallorca's abundance of green attractions.

Villa March is more than a century old. It was built in 1911 by famed businessman Juan March, who established a bank in his name and was once Spain's wealthiest man.

While the building is itself a historical marvel, the enormous surrounding gardens spanning more than 60,000 square metres is the real attraction. Juan March's son Bar-

Flower power

tolome had renowned British garden architect Russell Page redesign the space, which soon boasted dozens of sculptures from some of the 20th century's most famous artists.

Later the Bartolome March Foundation opened the gardens to the public. By the late 1990s they included a mesmerising array of exotic plants, flowers and artworks.

A huge storm at the turn of the millennium saw it closed for a substantial period of time. Art was hurriedly moved to Palma for safe-keeping. In 2010 the gardens reopened, more

vibrant and colourful than ever before.

Though open year round with a relatively cheap admission fee of just €4.50, this summer there are special guided tours on Wednesdays and Sundays. Registration is required and can be made by calling 971 819 467.

Anyone who hasn't yet visited the Marivent Palace should also consider a tour of the Royal Gardens. Now open to the public they rival Villa March for the island's best sculpture garden after 12 genuine Joan Miro pieces were donated in May for a permanent exhibition.

American music in Palma

IF you like American music then visit the Summer Pie Festival now in its fifth year and organised by the Pecan Pie cultural association in Palma.

Presented at the Es Baluard Museum of Contemporary Art on Friday and Saturday will be eight concerts by artists from Mallorca and international music scene, but all with an American theme.

Friday sees the following performers: 8pm Lava Fizz, 9pm Emily Baker, 10pm The Whells, 11pm Evening Hymns.

Then on Saturday there are five different acts:

8pm both Marcos González and amp and Los Nice bambas, 9pm Co-Pilgrim, 10pm Zinedines and 11pm The Wooden Sky.

A ticket for a single night will cost €20 at the box office and €30 for both nights with more information at <http://www.esbaluard.org>.

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If you want to eat like a King at great prices then come on down to Meson del Rey in Santa Ponsa. It is a traditional Spanish restaurant that does fantastic grilled meats, fresh fish, shoulder of lamb and paellas. With more than 35 years in the restaurant business, Meson del Rey is a big venue with ample space for up to 200 people, making it ideal for events such as weddings, christenings, company meals, etc. Apart from choosing the best dishes on the menu, you can also peruse our highly varied set menus where you can eat for €10 at lunchtime, and 15€ at night on weekdays. €15 on Saturdays and €20 on Sundays. We are open every day of the year.
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Baroque recital

FRIDAY sees an unusual performance of music from the Golden Age of Baroque music from the 16th and 17th centuries in both Spain and the UK.

Fiona Stuart-Wilson (soprano) and Guillermo Femenías (vihuela, lute and baroque guitar) will present a selection of work by composers Alonso Mudarra, José Marín, Juan Hidalgo and John Dowland at the Església de Deià, Carrer Reverendo Jerónimo Pons, 1.

Tickets cost €12 which includes a glass of cava during the interval and further details and reservations may be made by emailing fiona@fionastuartwilson.com or calling her on 681 648 528.

Jimmy Carr to perform in Palma

IT may be several months away, but the arrival of a major British comic in Mallorca means that tickets are likely to sell very quickly.

Jimmy Carr, perhaps best-known for 8 out of 10 Cats does Countdown and for creative offshore accounting will be bringing his Best of Ultimate Gold Greatest Hits World Tour to the Palma Auditorium on Wednesday August 23 starting at 10pm.

With his cackling laugh and sometimes very naughty humour, always performed with a twinkle in his eye, this is likely to be a very professional and enjoyable evening from a man who has won the British Comedy Award for 'Best Live Stand-Up Tour.'

He has released a number of DVDs of performances from his nine sell-out tours and it is estimated that he has entertained around two million people around the world following 2,000 live appearances.

Tickets cost from €29 to €35 and may be obtained from the Auditorium box office.

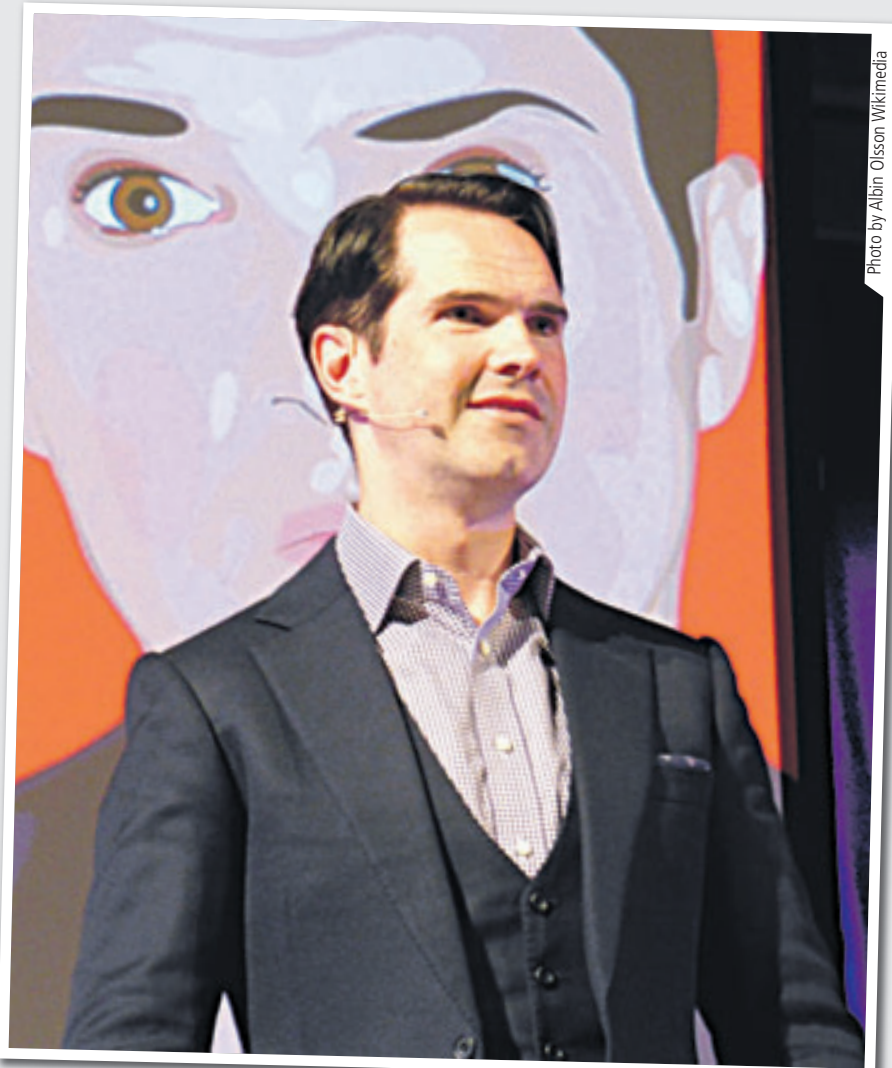


Photo by Albin Olsson Wikimedia

| JIMMY CARR on stage.



Photo Credit Port Adriano.

| PORT ADRIANO: Will transform into a street food festival this weekend.

Vintage street food

NOW in its eighth year, the Port Adriano Street Food Festival is back this weekend and promises to be bigger, better and more delicious than ever before.

The festival starts tomorrow and runs for three days until Sunday, starting at 12pm and finishing just before midnight each day.

The vintage theme that has made past events such a suc-

cess will return. Food of all colours, shapes and sizes from a wild variety of ingredients will be served from various old school caravans, trucks and buses.

Special food trucks will have eating areas inside, lending a summery, surreal atmosphere to the weekend.

Food will vary from hearty classic Mallorcan dishes, to seafood specialities, monster

burgers, curries and a kaleidoscope of vegetarian options. With cakes, sweets, beers and wines galore the only problem is picking where to go first and leaving enough room for more.

If past years are anything to go by the atmosphere will be electric, with live music in the evenings adding to the vintage flair. Best of all, entrance is entirely free.

Heavy metal beach

A WEEK-LONG heavy metal music festival has been announced for Mallorca this autumn. From October 15-22 the Club Iberostar in Cala Barca will hold the thrash festival which has already secured some big names.

Queen of metal Doro Pesch will be joined by bands including Kreator, Ross the Boss, Beyond the Black, Hardbone and Skyline.

Following the success of heavy metal cruises around Mallorca, organisers of the Wacken Open Air festival conspired to combine a beach holiday with extreme headbanging noise.

For the princely sum of €1,129 hard core heavy metal heads will be able to secure a week-long package of accommodation, relaxing by the pool, and catching some of the biggest names in the business live.



DORO PESCH:
The queen of metal.

Separate identity

A POWERFUL new solo exhibition from acclaimed Mallorcan artist Josep Santamaria will open at the CCA Andratx contemporary arts centre a week on Saturday.

Santamaria is a young artist from Palma, whose work is quickly growing in popularity on the mainland and beyond. His multidisciplinary style encompasses drawing, sketching, painting and collages.

At CCA Andratx his exhibition focuses on attempting



NEW EXHIBITION: Will open at the arts centre.

to separate the self from the social, cultural and historical identities humans are born into. With a variety of original cut outs and paintings he hopes to tap into a universal human truth by avoiding classic styles and techniques.

CCA Andratx is considered one of the finest contemporary art museums on the continent. Exciting exhibitions are held almost every day. Check their website for more details.



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GARRY WAITE



ONE OF THE MOST ANNOYING THINGS ABOUT BARS AND RESTAURANTS in this part of the world is attempting to get a Sherry.

If very lucky you may be offered a Tio Pepe, but apart from that you will get a Manzanilla!

And yet we are only a spittoon's distance from the home of Sherry. Jerez is a fabulous city and a visit to the Sherry houses is always worthwhile, as is the Real Escuela Andaluza del Arte Ecuestre (Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art) to see an incredible horse show.

I have loved Sherry since I was a kid. It was my Christmas treat even at the age of 10. Just like Mateus Rosé, Liebfraumilch, Blue Nun and Entre-Deux-Mers it was the sort of wine that 60's people drank... as long as it was Bristol Cream!

But to discover the delicate chalky overtones of a delicate Fino, like La Ina, or a rich Oloroso is worth the wait. I once held a dinner where I paired food with Sherry, starting with a great Fino with Oysters and finishing with a rich dessert with the fabulous Pedro Ximenez.

Though I could go on about the attributes of a great Sherry, instead I have asked my friend Rex Leyland, London restaurateur (ret'd) and Sherry aficionado to give me his perspective on the state of Sherry in Andalusia.

**BLUE WINE:
Unusual.**



SPANISH SHERRY: A visit to Jerez is worthwhile.

REX SAYS "I share Garry's annoyance that when I arrive in a restaurant in Andalusia and ask for a copita of Sherry all they offer is a glass of Manzanilla, which technically is not Sherry as it comes from Sanlúcar and not Jerez.* Sometimes they may also offer a glass of Fino, which is of course Sherry, but very dry.

I prefer the other slightly richer Sherries, like most English people, while the Spanish prefer Fino.

Jerez produces many varieties of Sherry that for me are much more exhilarating - namely Old Amontillado, Oloroso Seco, Palo Cortado and abocado, ligadillos, [both local Andalusian words], in common Spanish it is mitad mitad, which is a mix of normally dry and sweeter varieties. These are normally dispensed in front of you so that you can choose which balance of dry and sweet you prefer.

Why can't every restaurant stock the province's most famous wines. This beggar's belief. I can only assume that the Spanish have just lost appreciation of their own incredible invention.

This is so sad as the wines have so much to offer and can be enjoyed primarily as an aperitif, or drunk with various foods including ham, seafood, cheese, and of course for the English, all Sherries complement fine smoked salmon.

Sherry is robust enough to withstand many strong flavours which then, as with the sweeter varieties, allow them to be enjoyed as a digestif; as cream and old Oloroso, can accompany various puddings and cakes.

A good way to enjoy the sweeter wines is to prick plump sultanas or raisins and macerate for 24 hours allowing them to engorge the Sherry and serve with ice cream!

Sadly now, for aficionados, good Sherry has to be found in England as it is so difficult to obtain in Spain. The best stock of these great wines are in gentlemen's clubs in St James's in London.

Recently I was in a small bodega in Puerto Santa Maria called Bodegas Obregon where we were spoilt with locally produced varieties of Sherry including Muscatel and other sweet wines which were all mixed with dryer types.

Rosé, Red, White or BLUE?

THIS WEEK'S WINE CORNER is extremely unusual and a first in my case. I am familiar with blue tonic but this is the first time that I have encountered BLUE wine!! Baltar de Alort was given by a friend to try. I admit to having been a little hesitant, even though it looks pretty! Trying to find information about this

wine, however, has proven difficult. The Bodega, which is in Alcázar de San Juan (Ciudad Real) seems to specialise in sparkling wine. Nothing is mentioned about this 'still' version!

It has very little nose, because of its colour one cannot determine the freshness of colour, hue just to say... it's blue!! On the nose it has undercurrents of acetone (yes nail polish!) and little fruit. I did try two small glasses!! But was obviously not convinced.

(WINE SHOWN IS THE FRIZZANTE FOR WHICH THE BODEGA IS BETTER KNOWN)

“ If penicillin can cure those that are ill, Spanish Sherry can bring the dead back to life.
Alexander Fleming

If God had not made Sherry, how imperfect his work would have been.
Benito Perez Galdos

Deals on meals

I WAS VERY SURPRISED when asked by a colleague to find a place to hold a lunch for 60- 80 people in Marbella that there is a shortage of premises/restaurateurs willing to hold such an event.

Having arranged many similar events across Spain as an organiser for Classic Car Clubs and the like, including such lunches in my own restaurants, I have normally been greeted with some enthusiasm.

It's true that the budget offered is normally well down on the average spend per head that many venues are used to achieving, but if you have a place that is empty on that day then to me it's fairly logical. Criteria are parking space, a large enough room to lunch and a quality, value for money menu.

Maybe Marbella restaurants are doing so well, they don't need the extra €2,500 such an event can bring in!!

A copa in this bar costs very little - perhaps a couple of Euro - with tapas to accompany. You can also take away any of the Sherries from the barrels for about 6€ a litre, but they charge an extra 1€ if they have to provide a bottle! For those who adore Spanish brandy as I do, they also produce their own, which is well worth sampling and of course it's for sale.

Finally there are other Spanish wines that 'pose' as Sherry namely Montilla and Chicalana, and although they seem to drink better when consumed in their respective town's bars, I prefer to avoid them elsewhere as they can never match the great wine called Sherry!"

**Manzanilla can technically be considered Sherry. It has a separate DO (denominación de origen) as it only comes from Sanlúcar, but is run by the same Consejo Regulador, in Jerez.*

ON THAT NOTE I will bid farewell until next week and should aspiring restaurateurs need some help or advice, please do contact me. A toast to Good Food, Good Wine and Good Friends.

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



Home staging trend improves sales



IMPRESSIVE: A recent survey found that just over half of properties which underwent formal home staging saw an increase in their selling price above the average for 2016.

A NEW marketing technique which helps people sell or rent their properties quicker is taking off in Spain. 'Home staging' is gaining adherents across the country among property owners and real estate agents.

The blossoming trend involves sprucing up homes for potential sale or rent with intelligent interior design adaptations. The

changes are based on well developed psychological techniques which enhance the property's attractiveness to buyers or tenants.

A recent survey found that just over half of properties which underwent formal home staging saw an increase in their selling price above the average for 2016. Constanza Subijana, president of Spain's

Home Staging Association the AHSE, claims that in 59 per cent of cases, rental prices rose by 25 per cent or more.

But most important for many homeowners is the speed of sale. An AHSE study found that in 72 per cent of cases, homes undergoing home staging sold in less than 60 days. Just over six in 10 sold in under 40 days.

On average it takes 10 months to sell a property in Spain. The extra eight or nine months provided by home staging is invaluable to an owner, saving them money on maintenance costs and other fees.

Home staging costs an average of €1,800 according to the AHSE, but the expense certainly appears to be worth considering.

Back on track as house prices climb in a slow and steady march upwards

HOME prices shot up by 3.6 per cent last month compared to May of 2015. The increase was most pronounced in major cities and on the Mediterranean coast, where prices rose by 4.7 per cent.

May's increase means that average prices across Spain are now roughly comparable with December 2013. Adjusted for inflation there are also similarities with September 2003.

Research from Tinsa showed that Spain's slow but steady march towards prices seen during the boom years is continuing well into 2017.

Prices are on average 40 per cent lower today than they were at the height of the property market's un-



GOOD NEWS: May's increase means average prices across Spain are roughly comparable with December 2013.

sustainable success in 2007.

It may take another decade for them to reach those heights. But property experts are confident that gradual progress will continue. In many respects slower is considered better, allowing the market to evolve organically, rather

than rushing into another period of untenable highs.

May's news comes as BBVA released a comprehensive report into the first quarter of 2017. Its Real Estate Observatory of Spain report notes a positive sales performance which accelerated price growth.

Year on year sales of residential properties rose by a healthy 19.5 per cent, suggesting that 2017 is on course to meet the lofty targets set at the beginning of the year. Experts were optimistic that up to 600,000 transactions could take place by December.



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SMALLER IS BETTER: Across all five coastlines the most common new homes have either one or two bedrooms, with five bedroom houses being a tiny minority.

Coast versus coast

AN interesting new study has shown the differences of the new homes market on Spain's different Mediterranean coastlines.

There are 2,483 new homes on sale on the Costa del Sol, compared to 2,110 on the Costa Blanca. There are 345 on Costa Calida, 378 on Costa Dorada and 279 on the Costa Brava.

The study from ST Valuation Society analysed differing features among the roughly 5,600 new housing units on sale on the five coastlines.

It found they have an average asking price of €210,760 and an average area of 112 square metres. Prices are lowest on the Costa Calida at €151,000 on average, and

similarly cheap on Costa Dorada at €154,400.

Average prices of the new homes on the Costa Blanca and Costa Brava are roughly equal at €196,000 and €199,400 respectively.

The Costa del Sol bucks the trend with an average price of €353,000, with 12 per

cent of the homes costing in excess of €500,000.

Across all five coastlines the most common new homes have either one or two bedrooms, with five bedroom houses being a tiny minority. The vast majority have swimming pools, more than 70 per cent on each coastline.



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- 5
- 3
- ✓
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- m²
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- 1
- ✓
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Rising like a phoenix

THOUGH prices and sales are marching on to ever more impressive numbers, secondary industries associated with real estate are lagging behind.

Mortgages, appraisals, and construction industry expenses are much less active than they were a decade ago. So much so that the wider property market's activity is today gauged at a level estimated to be at around a fifth of 2004 activity.

The data from Euroval suggests that the real estate sector in its entirety is around 80 per cent smaller today than it was at the beginning of the housing boom.

The number of appraisals offers a striking example. There were 625,000 housing appraisals in 2016 compared to almost 1.4 million in 2006. Construction offers

2008

There were 536,600 homes built.

another insight. In 2008 there were 536,600 homes built compared to just over 50,000 last year. The number of permits issued for new housing has plunged by 91 per cent since 2004.

Euroval's report shows just how deeply the real estate sector was tied in with Spain's greater economy when the recession struck a decade ago. It also demonstrates the immensely important strides the housing market has made since then, as prices and sales transactions rapidly make up ground on a lost decade.

Investment sweet spot

SPAIN'S coastal property market is enjoying a sweet spot for investment success according to new analysis. Despite a sharp rise in prices, they remain substantially below 2007 levels, offering substantial value for money for smart investors eager to capitalise.

Analysis from Tinsa found that prices on the Mediterranean arc rose 6.4 per cent in the past year. On the islands it is even better at 9.4 per cent. These are areas where prices plummeted by as much as 50 per cent during the recession.

Jorge Ripoll, director of the Tinsa Research Service, believes continued construction is key to securing long term property prosperity on the coast. His opinion is echoed by Jose Antonio Perez of the Institute of Business Practice, who said a shortage of housing must be accompanied by more infrastructure investment.

Old product stock is on the verge of being sold out. With new developments almost ripe, experts believe that Spain will be at a perfect intersection of supply and demand, with prices only set to increase further.

Importantly, demand is not only driven by foreigners, but also Spanish nationals, for whom the dream of a house on the beach is no longer out of reach.



NEW HOMES: Number of permits has plunged.

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

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Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€

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Ref 3030, Randa, 290,000€

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Ref 2194, Vallgornera, 180,000€

Apartment with views to the sea. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, kitchen, laundry room, large balcony, parking place, community pool. Living area 80m².



Ref 2997, Lluçmajor, 175,000€

Charming little chalet with 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bathroom, garage. Electricity with solar panels. House 73m², plus 25m² garage, plus 25m² covered terrace plus 30 m² storerooms.



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



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Jacaranda tree - is it friend or foe?

By Graeme Tyrrell

A JACARANDA tree in full flower is a spectacular sight to behold. Its almost iridescent mauve flowers brighten up streets and gardens all around the world and it is celebrated with festivals in many countries when in flower.

“ Pruning a Jacaranda spoils its natural shape and they don't recover well.

Spain is fortunate to have many Jacaranda trees as the climate here is almost ideal for them to thrive in coastal regions and frost free zones.

The flowers appear in late spring and early summer. A healthy tree will produce hundreds of bell-shaped flowers in conspicuous large groups or panicles that will

cover the whole tree.

The fern like leaves are also very attractive. They create a softer environment and lighter shade which allows the flowers to be more dominant but add their own qualities of softness when the flowering season has finished.

The tree generally grows slowly to a height of 20 metres over several decades in average soil but will grow faster in nutrient rich soil.

I have a tree that is 20 years old that I add no compost to now that it is established and has reached about 10 metres. This is an ideal size to appreciate the flowers but not have it take over the garden as its neighbouring mulberry tree attempts to do.

The Jacaranda require no pruning except to remove deadwood. Pruning a Jacaranda spoils its natural shape and they don't recover well from pruning. Pruning also stimu-



Photo Credit: Angela N Peirymann Shutterstock

SPECTACULAR SIGHT: A Jacaranda tree in full flower.

lates vertical growth of branches which is contrary to its natural horizontal form. It spoils the look of the tree to have vertical growths so it becomes a chore to have to keep removing them.

The difficulty of having a Jacaranda tree however is that it sheds material practically all year. Never plant one even remotely near a pool or over driveways, paths or any area that you do not want covered

in plant debris. If you do, you will be constantly sweeping and cleaning the area of spent flowers, fern needles and seed pods. This is where they become a foe.

They must only be planted

where they can happily shed their plant material without spoiling anything else otherwise they become a menace. The Jacarandas' shedding characteristic can be an asset however as in the right place, such as an open field or the centre of a large garden bed or as a bordered feature on a lawn, the fallen flowers can look wonderful and provide a mulch around the tree and for the garden.

So the answer to whether it will be a friend or foe depends on where you place it. For the Jacaranda to be a valuable asset to admire without the complication of constant clean up, place it in a position where it can be a benefit to provide an abundance of mulching material for the garden away from built structures that can be adversely affected by its debris.

In this way you can enjoy one of the most beautiful flowering trees in the world.

Shady flowering shrubs

EVERYONE loves summer, but when temperatures are at their highest and the garden is lacking in the shade department, then it's all too easy to crawl back inside for some relief.

Adding shade to the garden with towering trees and shrubs can make the garden a more inviting prospect in the summer. It's useful to plant shrubs and flowers to cast shade on walkways and for maximum

shade, choose plants that are one to three feet tall.

To keep patios cool and shade specific areas, it's a good idea to plant trees that have dense foliage. Also, try using an arbor and train a vine round the structure, including a Chinese Wisteria that looks good, twisting and turning to a height of 30 to 50 feet. The flowers are on show in spring and they tend to droop down providing extra shade for the ground below.

It's also a good idea to plant taller shrubs around patios and garden beds, to ensure that both plants and people are protected from the unrelenting heat.

The Rhododendron (Hydon Dawn) is one of the few plants that can withstand full sun. Its mature height is five feet, making it perfect shade next to a porch or other plants. An added bonus is that it displays large pink flowers in the spring.

There is no need to shade the outside area completely, but to have a good balance of sun and shade is ideal, which will keep sun-worshipping visitors happy.



SHOES: There are many ways of storing shoes, including buckets and pallets.

Storing bits and bobs

KEEPING a house tidy can be quite a challenge when there always seems to be a huge amount of 'stuff' lying around, stashed away in drawers or hanging over a chair.

Life is so busy and it takes time to organise ways of storing and knowing where to start. Putting pen to paper may help to get the ball rolling, because when looking at what needs to be stored, it can become so overwhelming, that it gets left and ignored.

If a list is made that puts everything into categories, it gives an idea of how much 'stuff' there is, time to think about where it should go and what to store it in.

If there is a pile of vegetables rolling

around in a drawer, then why not place some baskets inside to contain them. The 'under the sink' cupboard can be a nightmare and products that are stored, can be difficult to get at. However, if a tension rod is placed inside, all spray bottles can be hung up out of the way.

Major offenders that clutter are cables and mobile chargers, but for a quick solution, use a toilet paper tube to store them in, label and decorate them if necessary.

Another item that tends to get under our feet are shoes, but there are many ways of storing them, which include the use of a wine rack, buckets, pallets and even a plastic bottle.



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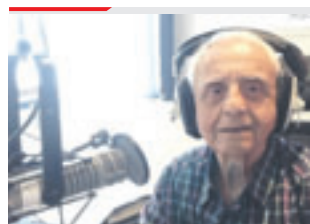
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rounds the torso as well, with connecting straps between them for added reinforcement and control. The design allows for distribution of force which may prevent choking; a dog will also not be able to slip free from a harness as they may easily do from a standard collar. Harness usage is growing in popularity among many pet owners, especially for those with smaller breed dogs. Buttonholes in pet clothes allowing access to harness straps are among recent adjustments to accommodate the increasing use of harnesses.

Assistance dogs will sometimes wear a harness if part of their job requires guiding or providing physical mobility for a disabled person. Generally, the harness design includes a built-in handle for the person to grip; this type also offers reinforcement to the handler as well as a padded breast plate for the dog's comfort. Sturdiness of the design depends on whether the dog is gently leading, acting as a brace, or physically pulling a wheelchair.

Sled dog harnesses vary depending on the purpose of the animal; the two basic duties of

a sled dog is hauling freight or some sort or racing. Harnesses come in three main types: the freight harness, the H-back harness, and the X-back harness. Dog sports are growing and more types of harnesses are being developed, including the Y-back style and guard or distance harness.

The freight harness is often an H-back harness that forms a ladder-like effect across the back with a wide chest band and extra padding. The construction distributes the weight across the chest and over the shoulders because of the broadness of the area; is designed to help the dog pull heavy weights efficiently.

The X-back harness gets its name from the straps that form an 'X' across the back of the dog. It is used more frequently than the H-back, with short versions that ride farther forward on the dog's body.

The Y-back is a hybrid somewhat similar in appearance to the H-back. The tug line attaches to the harness on top of the dog's back and stretches parallel to the ground or upwards to whatever is being hauled.

A DOG harness is piece of equipment for dogs, similar to harness tack for horses. There are various designs, depending on the type of use. Harnesses can be used on Seeing Eye dogs in assistance of a disabled person, on working dogs that haul a cart or sled, or even in sporting events, such as in the Scandinavian practice of skijoring and pulka. Harnesses are also worn by non-working dogs for training purposes.

A harness is often worn in conjunction with a dog collar and used as an alternative for a dog leash attachment. While a collar only encircles the neck, harnesses have a loop that sur-

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Clarkson
Quote of the Week

“Braking in this car is so brutal, it would actually be less painful to hit the tree you were trying to miss.”

Some might say...



Motoring shorts

Do not disturb

TECH powerhouse Apple has announced a new iPhone feature which will block all notifications during driving. The Do Not Disturb While Driving option can detect whether users are at the wheel and how fast the car is travelling.

If it determines that you are in fact driving, it will block all phone calls, text messages and emails. Contacts will be told that you are driving through an answering machine mechanism or text replies.

If it's an emergency, contacts can use the word 'urgent' and the driver's phone will simply state that word to alert them.

The Do Not Disturb feature will be available on all recent iPhones which can handle the new iOS operating system being rolled out after summer.

Most powerful 911 ever

By Matthew Elliott

PORSCHE has released the most powerful 911 Turbo ever made. The Turbo S Exclusive Series went on sale in Germany last week and is scheduled for an extremely limited release of just 500 units worldwide.

Priced at roughly €260,000 the Coupe boasts 607hp with a 3.8 litre six-cylinder biturbo flat engine. It can reach 100kph from a standstill in just 2.9 seconds and is distinguished by a golden yellow metal paint finish. Top speed is 330kph.

Front seats adjust 18 different ways. The limited edition model naturally includes Porsche Dynamic Chassis Control, Porsche Active Suspension Management, and the Sport Chrono package.

The bonnet is carved from carbon fibre. Built entirely by an in-house team, it is the first Porsche to advertise the team's badge, Porsche Exclusive Manufaktur. The move has prompted speculation that the German brand is planning to wheel out regular exclusive edition models to cater to a growing luxury market.

Other colours are available, at a price. There are also 500 watch-

es. The smoothly named Porsche Design Chronograph 911 Turbo S Exclusive Series Watch costs a cool €10,000 and is forged from lightweight titanium. A bespoke luggage set is also on offer.

EXCLUSIVE: Turbo S Exclusive Series most powerful 911 ever built.



Porsche press release.

Audi shifts gear

AUDI is putting the diesel scandal behind it to become the latest motoring monster to throw its hat in the electric ring. The German giant has unveiled its self-described 'strategic transformation,' which involves an exclusive focus on the luxury market this year and a gear change towards electric in 2018.

Audi debuts its glamorous A8 hybrid in Barcelona next month, then will start the hype train rolling on its Q8 and Q4 concepts, set to go into production in 2019.



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Two superyachts together in Spain

MOTOR YACHT A owned by Russian billionaire Andrey Melnichenko has arrived at the Navantia shipyard in Cartagena for an update and general service.

Now 10-years-old, the superyacht reportedly cost €272 million when originally purchased but is being tested now to ensure that everything is working to specification and any new technology can be installed.

Whilst this may be one of the most luxurious superyachts in the world, it slightly pales into insignificance alongside its new stable mate Sailing Yacht A which has just been tested in Gibraltar and Spanish waters after costing more than €400 million.

The pair of yachts, owned



MOTOR YACHT A: The 10-year-old superyacht being tested out at sea.

by Mr Melnichenko have been seen together in Cartagena although it is not known when the oligarch will arrive

to spend time on either of the vessels.

According to media speculation, each of the vessels

simply carries the letter A on its stern so that it will be at the top of any registration lists.



CATARA: The original 18th century name.

The Emir of Qatar visits calm Palma

DESPITE the fact that Qatar is having difficulties with a certain few of its Middle Eastern neighbours, the Emir has managed to send his superyacht Katara to Palma.

Originally referred to as Catara, the name Katara was adopted in the 18th century to describe what is now the Qatar peninsula and this yacht is believed to have cost €266 million when commissioned from the German Lürssen shipyard in 2010.

This 124 metre superyacht has accommodation for 28 people in 14 cabins and boasts a crew of 60 sharing 30 cabins.

With its helicopter pad, regularly landing A7-HMD owned by the Emir, its 24-metre chase boat Katara II following behind, a tender garage, swimming pool, gym, spa and jacuzzi, this is an example of sheer luxury enjoyed by a member of a very wealthy Royal family.



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Scots denied, Lions roar, Hamilton wins again and Nadal is supreme

Tony Matthews



International Sports

A former player, Tony is now the world's most prolific author of football books with 150 published since 1975. He has also been a PE teacher and a policeman, and is now a quiz-organiser, fund-raiser, for various charities, and sports correspondent for Spectrum Radio.

Costa de Almeria

➤ From Back page

And we have three more friendlies on Saturday featuring the second Argentina v England Test, Japan v Ireland and Australia v Scotland (in Sydney).

TENNIS

In the French Open at Roland Garros, Jelena Ostapenko beat Simona Halep in the women's singles final. The Latvian, ranked 47 in the world, is the first unseeded winner since 1933. The imperious Rafael Nadal, for the 10th time, won the men's final, overcoming Swiss star Stan Wawrinka in straight sets.

This week Roger Federer is back in action in the ATP championship in Hannover, and injured Russian Maria Sharapova will not compete in the Wimbledon qualifiers.

CRICKET

The first Champions Trophy semi-final between England and Sri Lanka or Pakistan took place yesterday in Cardiff while today's second 'semi' at Edgbaston features Bangladesh against India.

England won all three Group 'A' matches,

knocking out Australia in the process in a rain affected game at Edgbaston. Ben Stokes hit a brilliant 102 not out to seal a 40 run victory via the DL method as England scored 240-4 (in 40.2 overs) opposed to Australia's 277 for 9 (off 50). Mark Wood and Adil Rashid took

four wickets apiece to restrict the Aussies to 5.54 runs per over.

India, meanwhile, thrashed South Africa by eight wickets in their last Group 'B' game.

A crowd of 24,500 will attend Saturday's final at The Oval.

MOTOR SPORT

Fernando Alonso - after his Indy 500 exploits - returned to F1 last Sunday in Montre-

al's Canadian Grand Prix which was won for the sixth time in 10 years by Lewis Hamilton, with Valtteri Bottas second and Danny Ricciardo third.

Presented with an Ayrton Senna helmets 24 hours before the race, Hamilton started on pole for a joint record 65th time and is now 12 points (141-129) behind championship leader Sebastian Vettel.

Italy's Andrea Dovizioso won last weekend's Cataluña MotoGP in Barcelona with Spain's duo of Marc Marquez and Dani Pedrosa second and third. Maverick Vinales (111 points) leads the rider's Championship from

Dovizioso (104) and Marquez (88).

Three British drivers, Ashley Sutton, Colin Turkington and Mat Jackson, all won races at the BTCC at Croft, North Yorkshire last Sunday.

And on June 17/18 we have the 85th Le Mans 24-hour race.

ROUND UP

Around 30,000 fans in Kingston, Jamaica, saw masterful Usain Bolt win his last 100m race on home soil.

Jakob Fuglsang (Asanta) won the Criterium du Dauphine cycle race; GB's Chris Froome was 4th.

New Zealand beat GB's Land Rover BAR-sponsored yacht, with Ben Ainslie at the helm, in the five-race semi-final play-off in the America's Cup. "We did well" said Ainslie,

"It's the start of something big for us."

In the World Triathlon championships last weekend it was 'B' for Britain as Alastair Brownlee, his brother Jonny, Tom Bishop and Alan Bowden finished 1-2-3-4.



RAFA NADAL:
Won the French Open for the 10th time.

CONNOR MURRAY:
British and Irish Lions vs Crusaders





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DID YOU KNOW?

Between 1929 and 1934, Britain's Fred Perry was the world table tennis champion and he also won all four Grand Slam tennis finals in Australia, France, the USA and Wimbledon.

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LEWIS HAMILTON wins the Canadian Grand Prix in Montreal for the sixth time in 10 years, with Valtteri Bottas second.

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

Scots denied victory, and Lions roar

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GOLF

Starting today we have the first of four rounds in the USA Open golf championship in Wisconsin.

FOOTBALL

In 2018 World Cup qualifying matches last weekend, England's skipper Harry Kane scored a dramatic late equaliser to deny Scotland a famous victory in Glasgow. The hosts, 1-0 down with three minutes of normal time

remaining, grabbed the lead with two incredible free-kicks by Lee Griffiths, only for Kane to the net on 93 minutes.

Elsewhere Northern Ireland beat Azerbaijan 1-0, the Republic of Ireland drew 1-1 with Austria, Serbia likewise with Wales and Spain beat Macedonia 2-1, while Germany smashed San Marino 7-0, Holland whipped Luxembourg 5-0 and Sweden beat France 2-1.

On Tuesday, England were in France for a friendly international.

Last Sunday England's youngsters beat Venezuela 1-0 in the final of the World U20 Cup... the country's first global victory since 1966!

England's women beat Switzerland 4-0 in a pre-WC friendly.

Manchester United will pay Benfica £30.7m for defender Victor Lindelof while Zlatan Ibrahimovic will not be offered a new contract at Old Trafford.

Gary Monk, former boss of Swansea and Leeds, has been appointed manager of Middlesbrough and Russian Leonid Slutsky has taken charge of Hull.

And Chelsea's Eden Hazard will miss the start of next season after suffering a serious ankle injury with Belgium.

RUGBY UNION

The British and Irish Lions won their third game of



KANE & BERRA: Scotland were denied a famous victory.

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