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SEIZED: Almost one ton of hash dragged by underwater anchors.

Subaquatic smugglers held in raid

Sinking feeling

By Matthew Elliot

Specialist police divers seized almost 900kg of hashish in a dramatic underwater operation. The consignment had snuck into Almeria's waters from Morocco aboard five separate vessels.

Guardia Civil officers detected their approach using state-of-the-art sonar technology. The boats were dragging the hash in sealed packages below the surface in order to escape detection.

Police boats stopped the vessels. Divers from the Special Underwater Activi-

ties Group (GEAS) then plunged into the waters just off the El Ejido coast.

They found the hash in separate containers held 25 metres below the surface. At that depth they found 640kg. Above water level, stashed in hidden compartments across the boats they

found another 250kg of the illegal drug.

The haul is worth millions of euros and undoubtedly among the biggest of the year so far. It also reveals new smuggling techniques used by creative gangs trying to elude enhanced coast guard activity.

Hot tot set free from car

A TODDLER almost died after being exposed to temperatures of up to 60 degrees while locked inside a car left out in the burning sun. The mother of the two-year-old girl is now facing criminal charges after abandoning her daughter for at least 90-minutes as outside temperatures soared past 33 degrees.

The girl was rescued by Local Police officers who fortunately passed by the parked car near Almeria's train station and saw her crying for help. She was in a state of clear and extreme dehydration and panic, forcing one officer to smash the glass window and rush her to hospital.

Meanwhile police waited by the car. Eventually the girl's mother and grandmother returned. They took the mother into custody and have transferred provisional custody to the father.

Aged 37 and of Romanian origin, the mother claimed she'd only been gone for 10 minutes. But her parking ticket told a different story, suggesting the girl had been left alone from 4pm until well after 5pm with the windows shut and her scorching hot seatbelt on.

Medics revealed that the car's internal temperature likely pushed 60 degrees, a life-threatening heat for even adult humans. Similar cases have seen parents jailed for endangering their children.

Property Special

37 - 44

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Go to page 33

NEWS EXTRA

Sea cow

HOW a floating cow came to wash ashore a Vera beach remains a mystery. Conservation experts from Equinac were called to the scene by police who initially mistook the cow for a dolphin.

Wild party

MORE than 30,000kg of rubbish was collected from the beaches of the capital after wild San Juan celebrations in Almeria. Mayor Pacheco congratulated citizens on their exemplary behaviour.

Dog duty

AN off-duty policeman walking his dog found 22 budding marihuana plants in a makeshift conservatory in an open field just outside Almeria. His colleagues have now launched an investigation.

Summer sales set to sizzle

THE summer sales have arrived in Spain and with them come incredible bargains as retailers aim

to clear their shelves.

Traditionally the season starts on July 1 and run throughout the summer until late August. However, since the Spanish government has given retail outlets more autonomy to choose when they start and end their sales, there is now some regional variation. Madrid for example will always start a week early whilst other places will continue their sales until the end of September.

Brits travelling abroad for the sales might be slightly disappointed as a less favourable exchange rate than

previous years means they can't get

such big bargains. For everyone living in Spain however it's a great time to buy as retailers slash prices hugely.

The season is often broken into a few different stages. Retailers will start with small discounts of around 20 per cent, and then later as most popular items disappear the price will start to fall until the end of the season when items can go for a 70 per cent discount.

Be careful when showing up at the end of the season, though, as the unbeatable discounts are there because often only the unpopular clothes remain so expect odd sizes and unusual clothes or colours.

For those who prefer a more relaxing experience, online shopping is a genuine option, with websites often displaying similar reductions to those found in shops.

A significant boost to the economy is likely, with 44 per cent of Spanish consumers planning to make purchases in the season and employment in the industry increasing by 30 per cent during these months.



SUMMER SALES: A great time to buy as retailers slash prices hugely.

Numbers in the news
66.6% of people don't eat five pieces of fruit or vegetable a day



Photo by Wikimedia commons

JULY 4: American Independence Day.

Happy fourth of July!

ONE of the biggest events in the US calendar will take place on Tuesday July 4 when Americans celebrate the anniversary of the declaration of independence from Great Britain.

This leaves those wanting to celebrate from Spain with a problem however, as the day is a holiday in the US but naturally not here and so they are left with no choice but to celebrate on the closest weekend or Tuesday evening.

Fortunately for US expatriates in Spain the holiday is easily transferrable and is normally celebrated with pool parties, BBQs and fireworks, all of which are popular past times among the Spanish.

Some larger organisations get involved including The American Society of Barcelona which will this year be holding a fiesta this Saturday with live music and food.

The US embassy in Madrid occasionally puts on special events as in 2015 when they transformed the Conde Duque cultural centre in Madrid into a Broadway stage, while local American Associations all tend to hold a special lunch.

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Flat pack fantasy

A NEW IKEA has been confirmed for Almeria. The Swedish furniture multinational will set up shop in the future Rambla shopping centre just off the A-7 motorway when it is complete. Construction of the centre itself begins early next year with the gardens and outdoor parking. Building is expected to take 12 months, and estimates suggest it will open by the end of 2019.

Mower struggle

GARDENERS in El Toyo are in revolt over unpaid wages. They are threatening to strike and leave the authorities red-faced after promoting the Mediterranean Gardens as a top tourist attraction. It is now on the verge of bankruptcy, but since the council owns a majority share, they argue Almeria should step in to secure their salaries.

Pink paradior

JUST in time for Gay Pride week, planning permission has been granted for Almeria's first gay hotel. Blueprints for the luxury hotel in Canjajar were drawn up with the gay community in mind and have now been given the green light. It will have between 10 and 14 double rooms, each with a jacuzzi and hydromassage equipment.

Smoke signal

A SMOULDERING cigarette butt was the likely spark behind the massive forest fire which broke out in the Cabo de Gata-Nijar Natural Park last week. An evacuation took place and more than 50 firefighters were parachuted in with back-up from two self-pumping trucks, three helicopters and a plane. Fortunately the fire was swiftly put under control.

Sales boost

EXPORTS from Almeria to foreign markets have risen sharply in 2017,

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE... 18

Every July, thousands of amateur daredevils flock to Pamplona, Navarra, to dash through the city streets chased by a herd of raging bulls in one of the most controversial festivals in Spain, and this year's party is close at hoof, taking place from July 6-14.

Feeling horny

CLAD in white shirts with red scarf and sash, more than 1,000 adrenaline-seekers from all over the world take part in the encierros, bull runs which take place at 8am every morning during the festival.

Each includes six bulls of the toro bravo fighting breed, which can weigh 625 kilos, and three to six steers that help keep the animals together as they career through the cobbled streets, covering the 850-metre course in just two-four minutes.

The city's bull ring marks the fin-



BULL RUN: The adrenaline-seekers dress in red and white.

ish, where most of the bulls are later killed during controversial afternoon bullfights.

Entry is free-of-charge and anyone over the age of 18 can take part with no need to register.

A load of bull

THE bull runs form part of the Fiestas de Sanfermin, or Sanfermines, which honour Navarre's co-patron saint.

The festival first became famous outside Spain after being immortalised in Ernest Hemingway's 1926 novel *The Sun Also Rises*, after which the number of foreign visitors snowballed.

Despite its popularity San Fermin is not without its critics and has attracted fierce criticism from animal rights campaigners in particular, who claim the bulls are traumatised and tortured before and after the runs.



INJURIES: Are common at the festival.

Gore blimey!

INJURIES are common at the festival, with dozens of runners injured every year, while 15 people have died since records began in 1924.

In 2009 27-year-old Spaniard Daniel Romero was killed after being gored in the neck, while in 2016 seven people, including six foreigners, were seriously

wounded during a single run.

Hundreds are also hurt during regular bottlenecks at certain points along the course, the most notorious being the entrance to the bull ring and 'Dead Man's Corner.'

Poll of the week - Page 4

reaching over €1.7 billion in only the first four months of the year. The growth of 19.9 per cent placed Almeria among the top four Andalusian provinces for exports, surpassed by only Huelva, Sevilla and Cadiz.

visit Madrid by train. From July the service from Almeria will be equipped with accessible ramps and seating. It comes after furious protests over the treatment of disabled people on Almeria's trains.

prevent a dangerous blaze reaching a petrol station in Mojucar. A wild fire broke out in Paraje Las Alparatas near the A-370 highway and was within 100 metres of a local petrol station when firemen intervened.

Ride the rail

DISABLED people and those with reduced mobility will finally be able to

Close shave

A CATASTROPHE was narrowly averted when firefighters managed to

Metal mayhem

TWO thieves who stole vast quantities of steel cable were finally captured by Guardia Civil officers hot on their tail. The crooks were caught red-handed in a van that was being hunted by police in connection to three robberies across Almeria and Murcia.

Barking mad security measures

SECURITY will be beefed up around the Zoosanitary Centre of Almeria following a spate of thefts in which several dangerous dogs have disappeared. Extra security detail was already planned for the sparsely protected facility, but media coverage after the embarrassing thefts have sped up the paperwork.

Video surveillance will be the major difference. Red-faced officials had to admit to the press last month that there was in

fact no footage whatsoever of the crooks responsible for breaking in and stealing five dogs, designated as highly dangerous by vets.

The Zoosanitary Centre manager claimed the problem wasn't caused by neglect, arguing that banks are also robbed every day. But he welcomed the €8,000 investment. The centre is also facing an inquiry over the apparent disappearance of thousands of cats and dogs in an 'accounting error.'


INSIDE VIEW

News 1 - 26

Finance 31

Property 37

Leapy Lee 45

TV  48

Time Out 50

Letters 54

Health & Beauty 57

Social 60

Albox 65

Classifieds 74

Motor  76

Sport 79

202

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1668 of the Euro Weekly News Costa de Almeria edition, with 48 local stories.

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2010 I Love Marbella - Professionalism award

2005 Working together with Foreigners Department Mijas Town Hall

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Top 5 stories

From June 19 - 26

- 1 50,000 trapped in beachfront town and Iberian lynx released from captivity as Huelva fire rages on - **5,823**
- 2 No let up for historic heatwave in Spain - **3,296**
- 3 Huge wild fire threatens Doñana national park in Huelva as hundreds evacuated - **2,797**
- 4 Two dead after 'kamikaze' French driver careers into oncoming traffic in Tenerife - **2,462**
- 5 Missing man found dead in Almería - **1,599**

Top Social Media comments

British employee saves Icelandic cat at Alicante Airport: Pleased at the happy outcome but an appalling service from the airline's ground crew/handlers and a traumatic experience for the poor cat and its humans - especially in that heat-wave.

Sir Leapy doesn't sound right: Can't argue with conclusions about Theresa May. Trouble is none of her potential replacements look any better.

50,000 trapped in beachfront town as Huelva fire rages on: How awful! Heart-breaking. Thinking of those fighting the flames and those in danger... I remember this as a lovely part of Spain.

We have ash dropping on gardens in Barrosa at the moment. Really bad you can smell it across from the Bay of Cadiz. Houses gone, animals, even birds are dropping out of the sky!! It is chaotic!!

Soaked and bedraggled fugitive hands himself in to Gibraltar Police: The days of British criminals hiding in Spain seem to be over.

UK Government plans to register EU citizens: I'm married to a Spaniard, been together 17 years and live here in the UK, wonder what happens to people in our situation who have married someone from another EU country.

Photo of the Day. Exhausted firefighters sleep outdoors in Portugal: Definitely heroes. Wonderful job they do, stay safe guys, Bless you xx

Dog beaches to open for summer in Marbella: Totally agree, from experience the dog beaches can be cleaner than some others. Nappies, plastic bags, cans etc left on beaches here by some tourists, on the dog beach people pick up after themselves and their dog. Respect!

British stabbing suspect arrested in Benidorm: Well done to the Local Police. I hope he has the book thrown at him, lock him up in a Spanish prison for a few years then deport him to serve more time in a British prison.

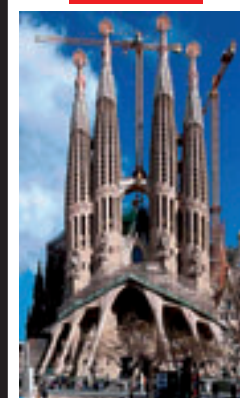


TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Vietnamese language has six different tones, and a change in tone changes the meaning of a word.



The first fish and chips restaurant was opened in 1860 in London by Jewish immigrant Joseph Malin.



The Sagrada Familia church in Barcelona, has been under construction for over 130 years and it's only expected to be complete by 2026.

Did you know?

The parachute was invented before the airplane in 1617 by Croatian inventor Faust Vraneia. Jean Pierre Blanchard was probably the first to use a parachute in an emergency, escaping a hot-air balloon in 1793.

Lost in translation



Office of Mayhem Evaluation

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.

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Little bits on the side

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Beach beating hate crime charge

By *Matthew Elliott*

A TRIAL date has been set for a controversial case involving an alleged assault on a naked gay couple by an angry grandfather on an Almeria beach. Judges will determine whether the incident was explicitly homophobic in nature and therefore categorised as a hate crime deserving of a heavier sentence.

Violence broke out on Torregarcia beach when a grandfather sitting with his son-in-law and two grandchildren spotted the two gay men, who were completely naked. Ricardo and Luis Guillermo de Frutos were a married couple, aged 68 and 54 at the time.

It was not a nudist beach and the pair face exhibitionism charges in a separate trial. As they walked past the family at around 1.30pm, the grandfather reproached them for exposing themselves so close to the children.

Verbal sparring soon gave way to a minor altercation between him and Luis Guillermo. Neither man was injured until the son-in-law, father to the children, intervened, shoving Luis to the ground and punching his partner Ricardo.

Prosecutors then allege that the two men kicked, abused and humiliated the couple with homophobic remarks before chasing them away. They have asked for fines and suspended sentences, acknowledging that the gay couple committed the crime of exhibitionism themselves.

But the Pro-Human Rights Association of Spain has intervened and is demanding the incident be judged a hate crime and both assailants sentenced to between three and six years in prison.

They have testimony suggesting the abuse was extremely homophobic in nature. The older victim Luis,

claims to have suffered severe anxiety and depression in the aftermath of the at-

tack. The case will reach Almeria's criminal court on Wednesday.

OUR VIEW

London faces tragedy again

THE past week has been a terrible one for London with the death of at least 79 people in the Grenfell Tower fire. Add to this the terror attack on Muslims mowed down after prayers and death seems closer and more random than ever.

It was perhaps sadly inevitable that there would be an attack on a Muslim target by a white van driver and this is what appears to have happened in Finsbury Park leaving one person dead and at least eight badly injured.

Those affected by the fire seem to have some considerable reason to criticise their council for spending so much money on the refurbishment of the block to apparently make it appear more attractive to visitors and wealthy residents whilst ignoring safety aspects such as internal sprinkler systems.

An enquiry will take place into the reasons for the speed in which the building became an inferno and will possibly apportion blame but enquiries take a long time and if it proves to be partially the fault of the Kensington Council, its officers will almost certainly be protected from prosecution.

The government has not fared well following the conflagration and despite offering a £5 million (€5.7 million) fund to assist sufferers it has been suggested that the money has not been forthcoming nor has alternative local housing.

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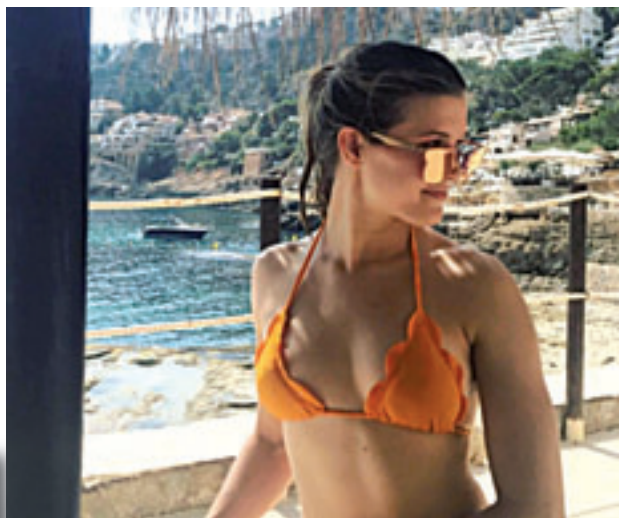
Wow factor

AMERICAN actress Alexandria Daddario's latest movie project, a reboot of 1990s lifeguard series Baywatch, may have flopped at the box office, but the 31-year-old is refusing to keep a low profile with an eye-popping appearance on the cover of men's magazine GQ Spain.



Alexandria Daddario.

Genie in a string bikini



EUGENIE BOUCHARD: A well-deserved tanning session.

SHE was recently beaten by Italian rival Francesca Schiavone in the last 32 of the Mallorca Open. But rising tennis star Eugenie Bouchard, 23, chose the ideal way to get over the loss as she headed to the beach for a well-deserved tanning session and some cooling drinks.

The Canadian made waves earlier this year after accompanying a fan to an NBA basketball game in New York after he tweeted her during the Super Bowl, but this time she had eyes only for hunky boyfriend and professional ice hockey player Jordan Caron.

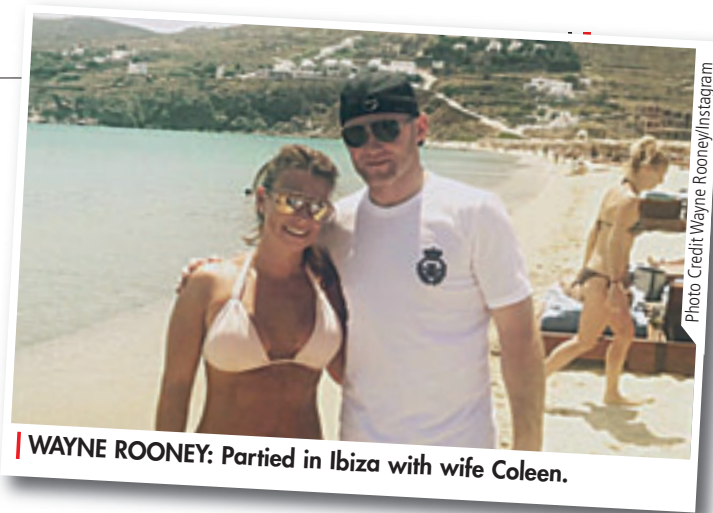


Photo Credit: Wayne Rooney/Instagram

WAYNE ROONEY: Partied in Ibiza with wife Coleen.

Roo's booze cruise

HIS glittering Manchester United career appears to be petering out amid rumours of a summer transfer, but former England captain Wayne Rooney, 31, showed he still has a lust for life as he partied in Ibiza.

After swigging cans of chilled beer on a luxury yacht with stunning wife and mum-of-three Coleen, 31, plus football pals Darren Fletcher, Danny Welbeck, Phil Jones and Alex Bruce, the striker hooked up with a gaggle of celebrities at the Blue Marlin Beach Club.

Both Wayne and Coleen sported painful-looking sunburn after their aquatic adventure, but they continued to soak up the rays while knocking back mixed drinks and chatting to Gossip Girl star Ed Westwick and Real Housewives of

Cheshire's Tanya Bardsley.

As he prepares to head back to the UK, the goalscoring legend is likely to leave the Red Devils before the new season starts, and ex-England boss Sven-Goran Eriksson insists that China would be an ideal destination.

"I haven't spoken to Rooney for a long time, so I don't know what he is thinking, but if he went to China I think he would have a positive experience," said the Swedish coach, who was until recently in charge of Chinese second-division outfit Shenzhen.

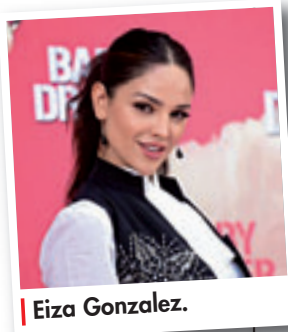
"He has a young family but there are international schools in the big cities and I know for sure he would have every help possible to make him settle. He would be made very welcome."

Cake walk

FOOTBALL superstar Lionel Messi turned 30 last Saturday, and the Argentinian took to Instagram to share a family snap with long-term partner Antonella Rocuzzo and son Thiago, as they posed alongside three giant cakes, one decorated with the Barcelona club crest.

Waist away

MEXICAN siren Eiza Gonzalez, 27, stole the show as she appeared at a promotional event for new movie Baby Driver in Madrid, slipping into a frilled waistcoat dress before posing alongside 23-year-old co-star Ansel Elgort and director Edgar Wright (Shaun of the Dead).



Eiza Gonzalez.

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Los Gallardos - 79,500€ (ref: HNOF2)
2 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 181m² • Build: 77m²
With community fees less than 40€ per month this well proportioned, maintained & fully equipped property with communal swimming pool is an ideal purchase for either holiday or full time use.



Los Gallardos - 124,950€ (ref: HHRM2)
3 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 195m² • Build: 104m²
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Featured Property



Los Gallardos
275,000€
(ref: LGCH)



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Ideal as a large family home or for use as private accommodation with two rental apartments, the property with walled perimeter is very private and offers tranquillity with the convenience of the village of Los Gallardos 2km away and the larger towns and beaches of Mojácar, Garrucha and Vera all 10 to 15 minutes drive away.

The main dwelling could be described as a single storey villa as its 117m² of build space is distributed over one level. Beneath this there are two self contained apartments; one with 2 bedrooms and another with 1 bedroom. Also with an 8x4m swimming pool, terraces and gardens the property could easily be developed for use as a home and rental apartments to generate an income.



Arboleas - 164,950€ (ref: ABLVS)
3 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 653m² • Build: 118m²
This single storey property is presented to a high standard and offers large internal living space, covered external terrace, patios, gardens, pool and parking for multiple vehicles.



Los Gallardos - 229,950€ (ref: HNVMS)
3 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 500m² • Build: 150m²
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Bad drivers spark alarm

NEW data shows that the roads of Almería are plagued with drivers who are repeat offenders. The hardcore minority, who have committed the same motoring offence more than twice, now account for 13.8 per cent of all drivers.

Figures from the General Directorate of Traffic (DGT) show that three in 10 drivers have been penalised in the province.

But, police want to focus their energy on the almost 14 per cent who frequently

flout the law.

In terms of volume, the stats mean that, of the 53,844 drivers who take to the roads every day, 19,027 of them are potentially dangerous repeat offenders. Crimes which are most often repeated include using a mobile phone and not wearing a seatbelt.

Almost 6,000 people have been punished this year after being caught without a seatbelt. Police have urged the public to recall that eight of the 32 people who died on Almería's roads last year were not wearing seatbelts.

The DGT has also warned that in many cases, using a phone while driving is every bit as dangerous as being drunk. They say people distracted by a phone are three times more likely to crash their car.

The Directorate also claims that human error is the decisive factor in 90 per cent of all crashes. Tired, distracted, drunk, stressed and incompetent humans are to blame nine times out of 10 rather than road problems or faulty machinery.

Statistics revealed that the vast majority of repeat offenders are aged between 25 and 34. Men have committed eight times as many offences as women in Almería, although around 80,000 more men drive than women.



SAN JUAN DE LOS TERREROS: Pulpi cove has black flag due to urban construction.

Black flag warnings

By Matthew Elliott

COASTAL hotspots across Spain are immensely proud of their Blue Flags, awarded to the world's best and cleanest beaches. But, a top green organisation is piling the pressure on Almería by slapping the province's worst beaches with Black Flags.

The Banderas Negras campaign from Ecologists in Action was developed in 1999 as a response to the Blue Flags phenomenon. Scientists were concerned that regions would simply spruce up popular beaches to get blue flags and enhance tourist numbers, rather than spend money cleaning damaged beaches.

In its latest report, the group has slapped 12 beaches across Almería with black flags and warned that another seven are close. These are typically places which have suffered contamination, oil spills, degradation

from construction, or even environmental disasters.

There are now black flags in Mojácar, Pulpi, Carboneras, Vera, Roquetas, Garrucha, Cuevas del Almanzora, Adra and El Ejido. Most feature regularly as problematic on Ecologists in Action's annual report.

A black flag doesn't necessarily mean the beaches are unclean or dangerous. It is mainly a warning that the beach is losing its natural character. For example, the group warned that a project to extend the Mojácar playa promenade will be sufficient to earn a black flag.

Destruction from urbanisations is identified as the root cause of most black flags. Luxury homes near Macenas in Mojácar, and an aborted hotel project on playa Algarrobo in Carboneras are cited. Other key problems are ports, power stations and golf courses.

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TRAINING: Vera police learn how to control new colleagues.

Dog detectives

POLICE officers in Vera were certified as expert sniffer dog handlers after undergoing rigorous training over the past few weeks. They worked closely with other units from Carboneras, Roquetas and the Costa Blanca to earn their certificate.

Courses included both physical and mental elements. Officers had to demonstrate they could control, care for and direct the dogs. They were also tested on theoretical knowledge, such as the circumstances under which they would use the dogs, and the legalities of sniff searching.

They were presented with their certificate by Vera mayor Felix Lopez.

“ Officers had to demonstrate they could control the dogs.

Burglary is on the increase.

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

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

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



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Numbers in the news

€5.7 million is the amount singer Madonna has paid for a palace in Portugal



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NEWS EXTRA

Blue flag

VERA mayor, Felix Lopez was chuffed with the new Blue Flag awarded to Las Marinas beach at a ceremony in Cadiz to celebrate the beach’s crystal clear water and pristine environment.

Spaced out

POLICE searched a man sitting suspiciously in his car and found 50 MDMA tablets, seven LSD doses and €100 cash in his possession. The 35-year-old Agudulce native was promptly arrested.

School’s out

STUDENTS from IES Villa de Nijar celebrated the end of term with a performance of a Federico Garcia Lorca play at the Centre of Performing Arts in an emotional tribute to the year.

Road delays

CONSTRUCTION works will temporarily disrupt the AL-5100 road for one month as workers stabilise the slopes. Delays can be expected with signposting indicating the worst points.

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NEWS EXTRA

Life savers

YOUNG adults in Mojacar and Pulpi have completed lifeguard courses to help them enter the job market. The 180-hour courses taught basic first aid, rescue skills and professionalism.

Gay pride

THE rainbow flag, symbol of sexual diversity, is hanging from the balcony of Almería's city hall until the weekend to honour LGBTQ Pride Day which was celebrated yesterday across the world.

Tree crash

A DRIVER was killed when he crashed into a tree in the centre of Almería late at night. It is unclear what caused the 34-year-old to lose control of his vehicle.



JELLYFISH: Phone app takes away their surprise advantage.

Invasion of the body snatchers

BATHERS who want to avoid getting tangled up with jellyfish can now download a special app on their smartphone.

Available for beaches in Níjar and Roquetas, the app tells

users whether there's an invasion of translucent medusas at their chosen playa that day.

Last weekend the majority of Almería's beaches were at the mercy of thousands of jellyfish, preventing countless locals from enjoying their first dip of summer.

High temperatures and a lack of natural predators have seen swarms of jellyfish arrive in alarming numbers, with many washing ashore.

The mobile apps from Níjar and Roquetas allow people to check jellyfish levels, much as they might check the weather

forecast. Residents can check live images of the beaches on their phones and find out early whether there's the risk of an invasion.

Weather updates accurate to the minute are also available. Both apps allow users to gauge air quality, wind speed and direction, even humidity, precipitation, atmospheric pressure and solar radiation.

Both councils have pledged to work on improving the technology to offer residents the best possible analysis of conditions before they set out to the beach.

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A big thank you

FRIENDS, neighbours and residents of Los Gibaos in Huerca-Overa would like to express their thanks to emergency services involved in the search for British man Barry Sidney Lane, who was found dead in Murcia last week.

The police, fire brigade, environmental guards and SEPRONA officers threw everything at the effort, responding promptly once the alarm had been raised, and kept pushing until they could do no more, even enlisting the use of an INFOCA helicopter.



EL CABLE FRANCES: Divers determining whether it is safe.

Judgement day approaches

DEEP sea divers are evaluating the structure of Almería's famous French Cable. They hope to finally determine whether the century-old structure can be of future use to the city.

The old loading dock is a key part of the city's seafront panorama but has been abandoned for decades. City administrations have come and gone

amid failed pledges to either transform, preserve, or demolish the impressive piece of architecture.

Part of the problem is that experts are still largely in the dark as to whether the 313-metre long concrete pier near San Miguel beach is structurally sound. Many believe the safest and smartest option is to demolish it and expand the beach.

Others cherish the monument as a memento from Almería's mineral past. Built in the 1920s, the French Cable is often considered alongside the English Cable as some of Spain's finest industrial architecture.

The English Cable was built by a Scottish engineering company in 1904 and used until the 1970s. It is one-kilometre long and the frequent subject of grand plans to convert it into an above ground promenade or quayside shopping centre.

Numbers in the news

14,927 the number of refugees Spain must take in to reach its target in three months

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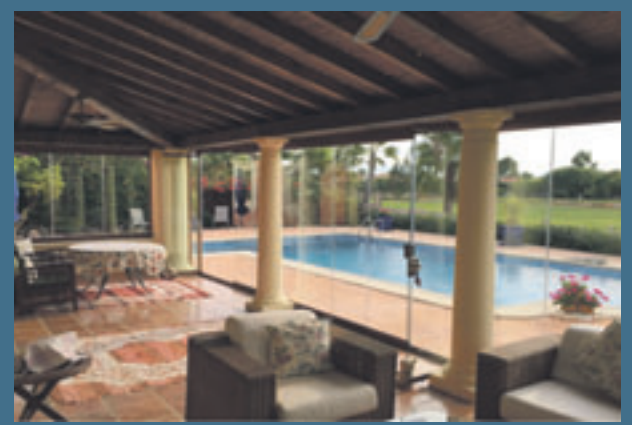


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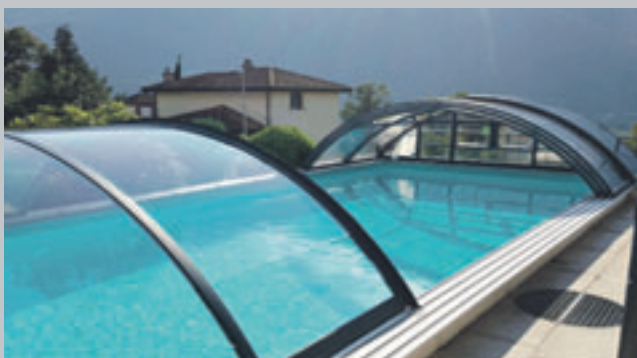
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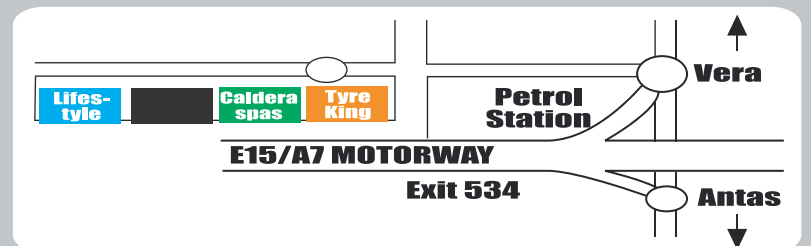
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NEWS EXTRA

Lucky charm

THE Gypsy Federation of Almería gave an honorary award to the Guardia Civil of Berja to thank officers for protecting the local community. Senior members of the gypsy community expressed their gratitude.

Top award

BOTH Vera and Vicar have won the UNICEF seal of approval and been awarded status as international 'child-friendly' cities, courtesy of their cleanliness and local activities available.

Evil twin

AN Antas man who escaped an open prison and posed as his identical twin brother working in Granada was arrested by police after using an ATM machine in his real name.

Renegade creepy crawlie



NEW SPECIES: Avoids the scorching sun by foraging at night.

RESEARCHERS have discovered an entirely new species of ant between Pulpi, Almería and Lorca in Murcia.

It has been given the catchy name *Temnothorax ansei*, with a physical description sent to scientists in London, Madrid, Geneva, and Los Angeles.

The hitherto undiscovered species belongs to the genus *Temnothorax*, which typically inhabits scrubland and semi-arid Iberian regions. It was named *ansei* after ANSE, an association which has been scouring Spanish scrubland helping conserve endangered ecosystems for almost half a century.

This breed avoids the scorching Almería sun by foraging at night. Members operate in small colonies with a maximum of 50 individuals. This may be why it managed to elude detection by scientists for so long.

The first colony was uncovered in Pulpi. Researchers then traced evidence to find dozens more in Murcia and on the Segura basin in the southern Costa Blanca. There are 108 identified ant species in the Segura basin, a large number considering only 290 species are known across the entire Iberian peninsula.

Overnight health fear

CITIZEN right's protest group CC.OO Almería has accused the regional government of abandoning the north Nijar coast and endangering local residents. The union warned that there is a dire lack of health resources along the coast, especially at night time.

Las Negras, Isleta del Moro, San José and Rodalquilar were singled out as particular concerns. CC.OO say it is incredible that none of these areas are prepared for an emergency, each having perhaps one doctor or a few nurses on evening duty.

Ambulances take a long time to access the winding roads, helicopters are in short supply, and there are little medical facilities on hand, even if the knowledge was there, they argue.

In a substantial denouncement of the situation posted online, CC.OO say the lack of resources is absurd given

the population of Nijar quadruples during summer, rising from roughly 5,000 to 21,000 people. Yet medical resources remain identical year round.

They argue it is contradictory to promote Nijar as a top tourist attraction while abandoning residents at night. Even existing facilities are poorly planned out they say, pointing to a double medical team in Campohermoso equipped with just one vehicle.

In response the Andalusian government has said the health care of all tourists who visit Nijar is "guaranteed." Delegates claim there are additional evening services in Cabo de Gata, San José and even Almería.

In all of 2016, only 30 emergency transport vehicles were summoned for health crises in the evenings across Nijar, delegates say, arguing that there is no urgent demand for extra ambulances.

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NEWS EXTRA**Heat alert**

A YELLOW alert was issued as temperatures shot up beyond 37 degrees. They dropped down on Monday and should hover at around the 30 mark with clear skies over the weekend.

Brit death

THERE is no suspicious evidence surrounding the death of 77-year-old Brit Barry Sidney Lane according to police. Mr Lane was found by a farmer after going hiking from Huerca-Overa amid extreme temperatures.

Thirsty work

WATER supply will be guaranteed to Pulpi residents courtesy of a new underground pipeline set to connect the town to the Munto Aguilon reservoir. The 4.3km pipeline will cost upwards of €600,000.

Euro stars

MORE than 50 young students from Almeria have participated in volunteer programmes across Europe, helping people in different countries and teaching Spanish abroad, making the province a leader on the continent.

Lethal threat

STROKES affect roughly 850 people in Almeria each year heard a doctors conference at Torrecardenas hospital discussing the importance of quick reactions. There are 12,000 annual cases across Andalucia.

Boat bedlam

ALMOST 100 immigrants were rescued in multiple incidents off the Almeria coastline in the past week. Passengers on intercepted boats were brought to the port or Alboran Island.

TOUGH new parking restrictions have done little to curb public enthusiasm for Almeria's more spectacular beaches.

More than 4,000 people visited the beaches located west of San Jose in the Cabo de Gata-Nijar Natural Park in the first weekend since the new parking regime came into play.

Private beats public

Beaches including Monsul and Genoveses were packed with more adventurous bathers, while others explored the various coves and caves. Most arrived by private vehicle despite the new restrictions.

There is now a maximum of 399 vehicles allowed past a secure perimeter at any one time. Tickets are charged at up to €5, though discounts exist for the elderly and large families. There were no prob-

lems with space restrictions as the authorities oversaw new arrivals and kept cars rotating.

Of the estimated 4,000 people who arrived from last Friday to Sunday, just 78 came by a new shuttle bus service designed to reduce congestion. Restrictions on private vehicles are in place until September 15.

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WITH Gay Pride parades taking place across Spain, one of the country's leading property portals has released interesting statistics showing which cities are more 'gay-friendly.' Idealista deals with millions of sale and rental home adverts across the country.

The company found that, among rentals adverts, Cadiz was the most gay-friendly

Room with a view

city in Spain, while Almeria was one of the least. In Cadiz 4.8 per cent of all rentals ads were for properties described as 'gay-friendly' by the owners.

In Almeria the figure was 1.1 per cent, roughly one in a hundred.

That contrasts with 2.4 per cent in Madrid, and 2.6 per cent in Malaga and

Barcelona. Almeria still fares well compared to cities in Spain's quieter interior. Less than half of non-coastal cities offered any gay friendly home shares.

Idealista stress that the data doesn't reflect a city's tolerance. Regular flats are not necessarily antagonistic to gays, but just haven't gone to any pains to advertise themselves as 'friendly.'

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Pride and prejudice

GAY PRIDE activists have been forced to change a planned venue for part of the festivities in Almeria. The neighbourhood association of Oliveros has rejected requests from Gay Pride organisers to use community space for banners and other symbols of the movement.

The Platform of Almeria Activists for Pride claim the resident's association have reneged on a previous agreement to let them use the area to hold various events.

International gay pride parades are taking place across Almeria and the rest of the



GAY PRIDE: Not all have warmed to the celebrations.

world this week.

On June 2 an agreement was reached to allow LGBTQ symbols in the community, allowing space for parades. But last Saturday

when they tried to confirm details, they were reportedly told the deal was off.

The resident's group said it was for technical reasons. The pride activists disagree,

and say they experienced homophobic slurs in a heated discussion which followed. They have accused the association of prejudice and note there is never any objection to religious parades or sports races.

Since then they have found a new space for their celebration on Tuesday, at the Almeria museum.

The group thanked Almeria Council for trying to mediate the debate and said being denied space showed that the LGBTQ community still faces trouble being accepted in Spain.

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PUTTING THE WAY: Playa Serena golf club in Roquetas.

Well above par

GOLF will be more strongly promoted as a key element of Almería's appeal to international tourists. Tour operators have signed deals with the public Costa de Almería campaign to promote the sport and the province's dozens of courses more vigorously.

The Costa de Almería tourist agency has been relentlessly promoting the province in recent years. Trips across Europe and even Asia are commonplace as PR men are dispatched to plant Almería firmly in the imagination of foreign tour operators.

Following recent successes in Germany and Holland, golf will be the next major promotional campaign. Politicians and business leaders in Almería have watched enviously as

the Costa del Sol rakes in tens of millions each year in golf tourism alone.

The sector is booming worldwide, evolving into a lucrative and distinct tourism market. Golf courses are perfect choices for business meetings. Those on private trips typically have far more money to burn than regular punters.

Almería has underrated

golfing opportunities, with terrific courses established across the province, especially near Mojacar. Blessed with year-round golfing weather, Almería is also developing better flight connections with the continent.

It also offers far superior value for money for both accommodation and course fees than southern Spanish rivals.

NEWS EXTRA

Nut cracker

A WOMAN who pretended to have been robbed, then kicked a Good Samaritan who came to help in the testicles and stole his watch, was sentenced to two years in an Almería prison.

Bomb scare

AN old mortar, possibly dating from the Spanish Civil War was found on a Cabo de Gata beach, forcing a Tedax explosives team from the Guardia Civil to ensure the projectile was safe.

Card cheat

POLICE arrested a man who accused his Huerca-Overa bank of overcharging him €2,000 on his account, when in fact statements showed he had blown the lot playing on-line gambling games.

Under pressure

ALBOX mayor Francisco Torrecillas has come under fire for not holding a full plenary session of the council in over three months. The PSOE mayor has been accused of bending democratic norms by opposition leaders in the PP.

Local laws insist that plenary sessions are held at least every two months. But Torrecillas hasn't called one since March. Rivals accuse him of a lack of transparency, a sensitive issue in a town which regularly loses mayors to corruption scandals.

The PP spokesman has urged Torrecillas to hold one as soon as possible to get the council back working for the benefit of residents.

Numbers in the news

75% of young people no longer pick up a book on holiday

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TABERNAS: Old Wild West site enjoying filming resurgence.

Cinematic resurgence

MORE than 40 filming licences have been granted across Almería's renowned natural spaces in just the first half of 2017. A flurry of blockbuster films, TV shows, advertisements and musical productions have chosen the province as the perfect creative setting.

A total of 42 licences were secured from January to June, the vast majority either in the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park or in the Tabernas Desert. A smattering of licences were granted for Almería City, including for Domino, a major upcoming thriller from American director Brian De Palma.

During the first half of this year, Almería's natural spaces have received 40 filming requests, either for the filming of films and series or for the production of television, advertising or musical productions, so that the municipality of Tabernas and the Natural Park of Cabo de Gata-Níjar have practically concentrated the locations.

Big names shooting in the desert include Joaquin Phoenix and Jake Gyllenhaal, two of Hollywood's leading men, filming Les Freres Sisters by Jacques Audiard. Meanwhile Volkswagen, Ferrari, Peugeot, and Skoda have shot ads in Cabo de Gata and a Dutch director is paying homage to the spaghetti western in This No Land.

Already there are more productions underway than the total of 30 last year., which was considered hugely successful for the province's filming reputation with Game of Thrones and Mar de Plástico generating a substantial economic boost.

Tabernas mayor Jose Diaz says the resurgence of cinematography has allowed many locals to reinvent themselves professionally to cater to the industry, and see regular well-paid work. New companies have sprung up offering ancillary services to production teams, providing food and even sunscreen.

Waiting lists 'made up'

THE Ministry of Health has once again failed to publish bi-annual waiting list figures. Almería politicians are now accusing the Andalusian government of a lack of transparency, suggesting senior officials have something to hide.

Popular Party parliamentarian Rosalia Espinosa said the last accurate waiting list published for the people of Almería is from June 2016. Under law the government

is supposed to publish a list every six months, but missed last December and now this June.

Espinosa suggests that the absence of accurate, up-to-date waiting lists supports allegations that the government's figures are being made up. She cites data from doctors, nurses and unions which suggest the number of people on hospital waiting lists is 20 per cent higher than the govern-

ment claims.

The latest official data shows there were almost 5,000 people waiting on operations at Almería's four main hospitals. Almost 18,000 are still waiting on a specialist consultation, and roughly 1,800 on diagnostic tests.

Those numbers are from last year and are likely much higher today following a programme of cuts. Critics are urging the Andalusian government to publish fresh figures so patients have a reasonable idea of how long their wait will continue.

Numbers in the news
€8.16 million is the amount British tourists lost to holiday scams last year

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FACE have a full and busy weekend

DESPITE the fact it was the hottest night of the year so far, more than 140 people visited the FACE (Fundraising in Arboleas, Caring for Everyone) Summer Night Market, held at the Bar Kubatin in Arboleas on Friday June 23.

Stalls offered everything from jewellery to handcrafted, painted tiles. MACS (Mojacar Area Cancer Support) and the Arboleas Walk for Life teams were also present, with people on hand to answer questions about the sterling service both charities provide. There was also a tombola and a raffle.

Visitors were well catered for by the staff of the Hostel Meson, whilst enjoying entertainment provided throughout the night by Smooth FM's

Ray Peters and Charlie, the English Singer in Spain

The night markets are always popular and the main aim was to raise money for the various charities FACE supports. This event was no exception with more than €720 being raised.

However, it was not all about fundraising. Money was also presented to deserving local causes. Grupo Scout 106 del Saliente, based in Albox, were presented with five tents valued at €500.

Karen Revel, the President of Harmony Community Support, based in La Alfoquia, was presented with €500 to help Harmony continue the good work they perform throughout the area. 'A donation of €1,000 was made



CHEQUE: Gaye Lazell, 'The Little Owls' receives €1,000 from FACE.

to Gaye Lazell, representing 'The Little Owls'. This will be used to purchase further items of equipment and paraphernalia that will be used by

clients 'The Little Owls' support.

Finally, FACE presented the team from MACS with €1,052.95. This will pay for a complete new set of uniforms

for all the volunteers that work in the five MACS Charity shops in Albox, Huerca-Overa, Mojacar, Los Buganvillas and Turre.

On Saturday June 24, FACE were again on the fundraising trail. At Legends Bar on the Poligano Llanos de Arboleas Estate, a charity concert was arranged featuring the fabulous Bella Luna who travelled from Alicante to perform at this one-off event. A fabulous evening was had by all with a further €324 raised.

FACE is urgently trying to recruit new members for its committee. If you would like to join this dedicated band of volunteers, please make contact via their website www.face-charity.com or through their Facebook Page.

The Great GoF Cake Off

THE Almazora Group of Friends wish to thank everyone who entered and attended their Great GoF Cake Off competition.

All the cakes were beautiful and it was a difficult job for the judges. In the end, judges Tricia Eden of the Cake Boutique and Wendy Wood from the AGoF, awarded first prize to Tonia Gray, from Chapman's, Albox (where the event was held) for her Victoria Sponge.

Joint second went to Dolores Naylor for her Lemon Drizzle Cake and Kathy Moorhouse for her German Apple Upside Down Cake.

The ladies received a lovely posy from Persa Florist shop, a commemorative ceramic spoon holder from Alfareria Los Puntos pottery and a choice from a selection of great cookery books donated by Tricia and some of the AGoF members.

Watch out for next year's competition, which they may hold earlier in the year so that the heat does not affect the cakes on display.



WINNERS: Pictured with their posies and ceramic spoons.

Michael v Gaga postponed

DUE to unforeseen circumstances, the Michael Versus Gaga show due to be held tomorrow (Friday) at Valle del Este Golf and Spa Resort, Vera, has had to be cancelled.

Helping Hands Sur registered charity has already contacted ticket holders explaining the situation but are pleased to announce it

has been rescheduled for October 8 at Hostal Rural Turre and promises to be worth the wait featuring top international acts Mampuele and Carolina Serrato.

For further information or to book tickets for this spectacular show, call Linda from Helping Hands on 634 456 701.

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NEWS FROM OUR FIVE OTHER EDITIONS

Miro painting sells in London

MALLORCA**WOMAN AND BIRD: Miro sculpture in Barcelona.**

» *By Linda Hall*

A WORK of art created by Joan Miro was sold for £24.57 million (€27.8 million) at an auction organised by Sotheby's in London.

The Catalan artist created the piece called 'Femme et Oiseaux' (Woman and Birds) as part of his collection, 'Constellations.' The painting fetched this large sum of money despite its 38cm x 46cm size.

Miro was active in the art community throughout the 20th century until his death in 1983 and was a leading Spanish surrealist in the time of Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali.

Miro was living in France when he began the collection but fled back to Spain before the Nazi occupation of Paris and settled in Palma where it was finished. Mallorca became the artist's permanent residency until his death.

AXARQUÍA

Unexplained accident

FOUR people including a two-year-old baby were injured in a road accident on the A-44 at Velez Benaudalla. All four were taken to hospital for treatment.

Better beaches

WORK has been completed on the beaches of Torre del Mar to ensure that showers are in working condition and toilets have been refurbished. Information boards have also been constructed to assist visitors.

Rubbish rules

THE Almuñecar Council has introduced summer time rubbish collection meaning that residents' refuse must be placed in bins between 4pm and 6pm only.

This will then allow for collection to take place before 9pm.

Bright dog

POLICE dog Otto, alerted his partner to the fact that he had detected the scent of drugs on a person at the Almuñecar bus station. The suspect, a British citizen, was carrying cannabis and opium.

Nerja bridge

THE old bridge in Nerja has been reopened to traffic after a complete overhaul of the road and the laying of tarmac. Work will continue to clean up the pavements and railings on the bridge.

Animal free

FOR the first time, the Circus Las Vegas which includes no animal acts will visit Torrox with performances running from July 7 to 23.

COSTA DEL SOL

Driver jailed

A DRIVER who injured four officers from the Guardia Civil during a chase on the A-7 has been arrested and jailed. The court in San Roque has set bail at €8,000.

Fire death

A WOMAN believed to be in her 60s died in a fire in the kitchen of her flat in the La Luz area of Malaga. Officers attempted to resuscitate her at the scene but were unsuccessful.

Tax area

ALTHOUGH in principle agreement was given several months ago for a special tax area for La Linea, no terms have yet been agreed. The Spanish government continues to consider how this should go forward.

Water shortage

THE Junta de Andalucía recognises that one of the most important problems being faced in Malaga Province is a shortage of water. It is therefore setting up a special group to study the matter.

Overtaken car

AFTER overturning his car at a roundabout on the A-404 road in Churriana, a 27-year-old man was transferred to hospital. Local Police are investigating the cause of this so far unexplained accident.

COSTA BLANCA SOUTH

Drunk saved

AN 18-year-old girl was rescued from the sea in the early hours of Sunday during the 'Crema' finale to the Alicante Hogueras fiesta. The teenager, said to be under the influence of alcohol, had lost consciousness.

Important vote

THE fight to save Cala Mosca, on the Orihuela Costa, has received political support. The Environment Committee of the Valencia Parliament voted in favour of a motion to oppose building 1,500 new houses.

Landmark demolished

AFTER lying derelict for decades the disused outdoor cinema behind the Strip at Punta Prima has been demolished.

Welcome help

SOME 2,500 elderly or disabled residents of Alicante are expected to benefit from a €200,000 donation from La Caixa Welfare Projects. The money will be allocated to 11 different projects in the area.

Plane hits car

AN aircraft operated by Vueling travelling from Alicante to Rome had an unexpected accident when it ran into a car whilst taxiing to the runway. Passengers were evacuated whilst the plane was checked for safety.

MALLORCA

Shark shock

A TWO-METRE long blue shark that caused panic amongst bathers on a beach in Illetas, Mallorca at the weekend has been put down. Experts discovered that it had an injury to its mouth from a hook.

More police

THE Calvia Council has announced that there will be nine Local Police officers patrolling at night in Magalluf and Santa Ponsa to combat anti-social behaviour.

Palma population

ACCORDING to the Palma Council, the number of residents has increased by 5,865 in the past year. Population is now at its highest ever with a record 434,516 inhabitants.

Cleaner power

AS part of a planned move to clean energy generation by 2050, the Balearic government has announced its plans for the Es Murterar power station in Alcudia. By 2020, 50 per cent will be closed.

Punch up

A FIGHT which broke out between a group of Germans and Poles in Palma was broken up officers of the Local Police. There were no serious injuries but the altercation frightened a number of tourists.

COSTA BLANCA NORTH

Cold comfort

FIREMEN had to cut free a cook trapped in a cold storage chamber in San Juan after a shelf fell, blocking the door at the same time. She was treated in hospital for a damaged wrist.

Car death

A 20-YEAR-OLD died when the car she was travelling in ran into an irrigation channel in Las Virtudes (Villena). She was accompanied by her boyfriend, who was able to escape.

Pond life

RESTORING ornamental ponds in Alcoy could cost so much that alternative uses might have to be found for them. Ponds were drained and fountains turned off years ago to prevent the spread of Legionnaires' disease.

Road closures

TRAFFIC in Altea's Old Town is now restricted until September 12. From Monday to Friday, the streets close from 7pm until 3am but on Saturdays and Sundays from 1pm until 3am except for residents.

Clear water

FINESTRAT has solved the problem of cloudy water by connecting its supply to Benidorm's Terra Mitica treatment plant.

Advertising feature

Golden Leaves for professional help and advice

“I MADE a phone call to Golden Leaves on the Wednesday afternoon, as my wife was seriously ill and I needed to be prepared. My wife had just turned 59 years old and we had been thinking about a plan for both of us, but we put it on hold as we were selling our property.

Everything was explained to me before we took out a plan.

“Once I had made the call, a very helpful agent came to visit and explained everything to me before we administrated a plan for my wife. The payment was taken immediately by phone to Head Office in Alicante within minutes and my wife was covered.

“On Thursday morning at 11.45, I made a phone call to Kim (the GL agent) to say that my wife had taken a turn for the worse and had sadly passed away. Kim made the phone



GOLDEN LEAVES: Their compassion throughout was outstanding.

call to Golden Leaves 24-hour emergency helpline on my behalf, as I was in a state and needed help. The company prepared everything with

the Funeral Director Louisa in Mojacar, who was fabulous throughout. Kim went above and beyond and even took me to the hospital, which

meant so much to me, especially as I don't have any family out here.

“At the hospital, they guided me through everything, as we waited for

about an hour for the Funeral Director to arrive who was travelling from Mojacar to Almeria. Once they arrived, I signed the papers for my wife to be taken to the Chapel of Rest in Mojacar.

“The following day, I went to the Chapel of Rest and Kim accompanied me. She helped me arrange the funeral and was such a massive help. The funeral took place on the Monday as my wife had wanted and I would like to thank Golden Leaves and Louisa for their very professional help and advice throughout and their compassion was outstanding.”

K. L. White

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NETHERLANDS



Town expansion

MINIATURE town attraction Madurodam is investing in expansion and new attractions to entice visitors and in order to survive against competition. The plans will cost around €45 million.



MADURODAM: New attractions.

GDP rise

THE Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rose by 0.4 per cent in the first quarter of the year compared to the same period in 2016, according to the national statistics office.

Pensioners in court

A GROUP of pensioners could be taken to court as they refuse to eat

the food provided in their sheltered housing complex and have been ordering in takeaways. The centre argues they are breaking the terms of their lease.

Jab decline

FEWER babies and children are receiving the standard vaccinations in the Netherlands with numbers falling by 0.5 per cent for the third year in a row.

GERMANY



Thai target

TWO teenagers, aged 13 and 14, are being investigated for attempted criminal assault after shooting air rifles at the entourage belonging to the King of Thailand who owns a villa in south-west Munich.

the country's refugees will still be out of work in five years time and many will remain unemployed for up to 10 years.

following a suicide bombing in Kabul.

Out of work

A GOVERNMENT minister is claiming that up to three quarters of

Going home

DEPORTATIONS are expected to commence next week with failed asylum-seekers being sent back to Afghanistan after they were stopped

US spies

REPORTS are suggesting that German intelligence carried out surveillance on a number of American businesses and government, including the White House from between 1998 and 2006.

FRANCE



Blogger's death

A POPULAR French lifestyle and fitness blogger has been killed after a faulty whipped cream dispenser exploded and struck her chest. Rebecca Burger's family have warned against using the dispensers.

Car ban

AS part of anti-pollution measures as levels reached worryingly high levels, authorities in Paris introduced a driving ban as the city's bike-sharing programme was free.

Daesh pledge

THE man who recently attempted an attack in Paris' Champs Elysees avenue, is believed to have pledged allegiance to Daesh. The man was killed when he drove a car full of arms and explosives into a police convoy.

Skirted drivers

BUS drivers in Nantes protested against not being allowed to wear shorts during the heatwave by wearing skirts as they were an authorised outfit. Bosses said they will look at the company dress code.

BELGIUM



Terrorist shot

A SUSPECTED terrorist was shot dead by soldiers at Brussels railway station after he attempted to detonate a small explosive belt. No one was hurt in the incident and four people have since been arrested.

It's a heatwave

BELGIUM has been basking in an official heatwave with five consecutive days with temperatures over 25 degrees celsius, but the air quality has been very poor with high ozone levels.

People watch

ANTWERP has announced it is monitoring 557 people, as part of the fight against radicalism with 189 of these being of particular concern.

PM protection

ALL eyes have been on Brussels as British PM Theresa May has been presenting her project to project the rights of EU citizens in the UK ahead of the Brexit negotiations.

NORWAY



New route

NORWEGIAN AIRLINES are launching flights from the UK to Argentina. The maiden flight is February 2018 and is believed to be the longest non-stop route from Gatwick.

Memorial rethink

A PLANNED memorial to the victims of the 2011 Anders Breivik massacre is being rethought after residents complained the memorial was too invasive and would harm the local community and landscape.

Let down

A COMMITTEE investigating historical child abuse cases says victims of serious abuse were let down by the welfare services and many cases could have been avoided.

Rain rain go away

WHILST much of Europe has been enjoying a June heatwave, Bergen has seen rainfall every single day of the month so far and is headed for having one of the wettest months in memory.

DENMARK



Commute nightmare

A THIRD of commuters are reporting daily congestion on their commute to and from work when travelling by bus, train or metro. Around 37 per cent of car drivers questioned said they experience delays three to four times a week.

Top country

AN American thinktank has rated Denmark as the world's number one country for its quality of life assessing 50 different indicators including free speech and political freedom.

Anniversary opening

TIVOLI, Copenhagen's famous theme park is marking its 175th anniversary with a first-ever winter season opening during February as well as its usual seasonal opening at Halloween and Christmas.

Aiming high

PLANS have been approved in principle for skyscrapers in Copenhagen which would be among the tallest buildings in Europe and means the Hans Christian Andersen-inspired theme park tower could become a reality.

SWEDEN



Case dropped

SWEDEN has dropped its investigation against WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange who was accused of rape in 2010. Assange has been living inside the London Embassy in Ecuador but could still be arrested if he leaves for skipping bail.

Fingerprint sharing

A DEAL has been done which will allow Swedish police to browse fingerprint registers in the USA and vice-versa. Previously requests took two weeks to process.

India's thanks

INDIAN PM Narendra Modi, has thanked the Swedish Prime Minister for Supporting the 'Make-In-India' week which saw over 18 Swedish companies take part. There are currently around 160 Swedish companies operating in India.

Vulnerable areas

A NEW report by national police has listed 61 problem areas, with 23 of these considered particularly vulnerable. These areas are socio-economically vulnerable and generally have a high crime rate.

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Faulty rockets



KAZAKHSTAN: Proton M rockets blast off into orbit.

■ AN engineering company which provided faulty space rockets will pay millions in compensation to Russia's space agency, Roscosmos. The Proton-M rockets malfunctioned and crashed in Kazakhstan with three extremely expensive satellites in 2013. They lasted mere seconds before evaporating after take-off.

Wild fires

■ HUGE forest fires broke out in the Siberian hinterland, tripling in size in just days to threaten more than 32,000 hectares of land and spawning an enormous effort from hundreds of firefighters in the Irkutsk region. Just north of Mongolia, the area endures dozens of serious wild fires every year.

Beer border

■ A MINI-RUSSIAN adventure and a few cheap beers proved too tempting for four British hikers who crossed the border illegally from Finland and were arrested on their return. They snuck into Russia for 15 minutes, sunk some beers, then climbed back over the fence to find Finnish police waiting.

Cult crisis

■ A DANISH Jehovah's Witness is languishing in an Oryol jail accused of involvement in an extremist group. He was arrested during a police raid of the religious sect's office in the southwestern city. Recent laws designated the Jehovah's Witnesses as a dangerous foreign cult.

Beard brigade

■ A LEADER of the Old Believer faction of the Orthodox Church has urged men to grow out their beards to protect themselves from homosexuality. Metropolitan Kornily, who sports a beard down to his chest, said adherence to God's creation, including beards, staved off moral corruption.

African spy

■ A TANZANIAN masquerading as an American spy was captured by a Russian border patrol sniffer dog named Zhom. The man was fleeing Chinese police for visa crimes and tried to convince Russian police that he was an important CIA hacker. Now he faces two years of hard labour.

Trapped cub

■ SURPRISED residents of a busy Moscow neighbourhood found a bear cub locked in a van which had occupied a car park in Cheremushki for several days. The cub was hungry but well and was taken to Moscow zoo for treatment. Police are still looking for the driver.



BEAR CUB: Was found far away from home locked up in Moscow van.

18 arrested for royalty fraud

By John Smith

AFTER a long investigation, 18 people are to appear in court over an alleged multi-million euro music royalty scam.

The General Society of Authors and Publishers (SGAE) collects royalty fees on behalf of composers and musicians when their works are broadcast in Spain.

There are fees charged for recorded music played in bars, clubs, restaurants and other public places as well as when broadcast on radio and TV.

It is alleged that a number of high ranking members of the SGAE claimed

€100 million

is the amount estimated by the prosecutor to have been earned from fraud in 'The Wheel' case.

that they had made significant changes to certain pieces of music, thus putting them into a non-royalty category and then supplying the original pieces, labelled as adapted, for use by TV stations to play during the night.

Those involved also registered the musical pieces through their own publishing companies and collected royalties through the SGAE, often, it is claimed, charging excessive amounts for the use of the pieces thanks to the

suspected collusion of certain TV producers.

According to the presiding magistrate in this case which is known as 'The Wheel,' the co-founders of Eurodelta Music, Manuel Carrasco and Fernando Bermúdez were heavily involved in this fraud and along with Rafael Tena have been granted bail of €100,000 each after being charged with corruption and belonging to a criminal organisation.

Officers of the SGAE have stated that they have done all in their power to assist the police and tax agency investigation.

Keeping cool costs money

THE hot weather has brought a breath of fresh air to companies selling fans and air-conditioning units as well as larger bills for consumers from the energy companies.

With temperatures around Spain staying high for an extended period of time, people have been rushing to purchase methods of keeping cool.

For those who are too impatient to wait for the installation of air conditioning units, low noise free standing fans have been particularly popular but online retailer Amazon has revealed that sales of air conditioning units have shot up compared to the same time last year.

Quote of the Week

"It would be a mistake if the CETA agreement was not finally approved by Spain," according to Mariano Rajoy on learning that the PSOE would not vote in favour of the Canada EU Trade Agreement.



Casa S.M. del Rey

King Felipe celebrating BP's 50th anniversary.

More fuel, leading to more deceit

IT is easier to obtain motor fuel than ever before but there are fears that fraud is costing the Spanish government approximately €540 million each year.

The number of petrol stations in Spain continues to increase with a high proportion of the new openings coming from discount operators offering cheaper fuel, but there appears to be reluctance by some operators to properly report IVA collected.

According to the Association

of Petroleum Operators (AOP) there are now, for the first time, more than 11,000 service stations across Spain although the three largest brands, Repsol, Cepsa and BP continue to dominate the market.

Many of the new stations offer a discount of up to 15c when compared to the better known brands but make their savings by cutting back sharply on staff, not offering any shopping or bathroom facilities and purchasing their fuel from different sources.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Cheaper broadband

CHEAP broadband and mobile contracts form competitors have led to Telefonica losing 51,000 customers in the past four months. This compares with increases for its three largest competitors and the most successful Mas Movil gained almost 100,000 new customers.

Bank strength

THE US Federal Reserve undertakes an annual review of major banks and has announced in advance that two Spanish banks Santander and BBVA are fine. Other banks around the world are being reviewed for capital reserves but these two are safe.

Banco Popular

THERE is a possibility that should shareholders in Banco Popular sue Santander for their losses following the €1 takeover that Brussels may have to pay. EU regulations suggest as it was involved in promoting the sale, it will be responsible for losses.


Bah Humbug is not so real

THE concept of an elderly Scrooge is common in fiction but not so accurate in real life!

Research suggests that the elderly are actually more generous than the young even when they are likely to receive nothing in return.

In a study undertaken by the University of Singapore, it is concluded that age may release different chemicals into the brain which increase feelings of trust in others, especially if their generosity assists the community.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

NEW SELF-EMPLOYED RULES TO BE VOTED ON IN CORTES

Social Security costs reductions

IN order to encourage the self-employed to work legally, the Spanish government plans to increase the period of reduced monthly fees of €50 to one year.

This is a special reduction in the rate to be paid to register with the social security department for new self-employed workers, even if the start-up goes on to employ staff.

This is possibly the most important of the concessions being offered to encourage new business start-ups and also those who are working cash in hand to consider registering for the benefits which include medical treatment and pensions.

Additional proposals include women who return to work after giving birth will be able to take advantage of the reduced rate for 12 months and those who employ family members (provided they have not sacked employees in the same position) will be able to extend employment benefits subject to certain requirements.

There will be discounts for those who are out of work for any period of time and also the ability to continue work after retirement age and receive part pension and part salary.

In the event that any person is late in paying their contribution, the 'surcharge' will be reduced for the first month that the payment is overdue and anyone injured whilst travelling to or from work will also be covered by social security.

There will be a €12 per day tax offset for food purchased from a restaurant or café during a weekday if the individual is away from home on business and those who work at home will be able to claim 20 per cent of utility costs including telephone.

As is often the case with Spanish legal matters, there are a number of rules and regulations that have to be met, but generally speaking this is a proposal likely to make life easier and less ex-



SELF-EMPLOYED
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pensive for the self-employed.

Estimates suggest that there are between 3.2 and 3.6 million people working for themselves in Spain but there is a very large additional number who haven't registered, don't pay tax and don't contribute to social security.

It is possible that this new proposal which still has to be voted into law may encourage some of those working but not reporting their income to take advantage of the reduction in cost and increased benefits to register themselves officially.

Spain wants to reduce taxes

IN an interview with the magazine *Values* published by accountants KPMG, Mariano Rajoy has announced that he intends to reduce taxes and review electricity charges.

He was speaking to the magazine as part of its 10th anniversary celebration and spent some time congratulating his government on all that it had achieved to strengthen the economy and to reduce unemployment.

The promise to reduce taxation came with a proviso which was that it could only be done if target deficit figures were reached and this would be known by 2019.

As far as energy is concerned, he pledged to do all that he could to progressively reduce prices although he made no mention of the matter of private solar powered energy which has been problematic for the government in the past.

SOLD AT THE REQUEST OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

Two more banks taken over for just €1

THE European Central Bank warned the Italian government that two of its banks were close to bankruptcy and gave permission for their sale for €1.

Like Banco Popular in Spain, Banca Popolare di Vicenza and Veneto Banca in Italy have been sold to a stronger bank for €1 but there is a considerable difference in the way that private shareholders and investors will be treated.

In the case of the Spanish takeover, Santander are expected to be responsible for the shortfall in accounts of some €7 billion and are not expecting to pay any compensation for losses to shareholders, although they may be sued in a combined action.

The Italian arrangement is completely different as the Italian government has not only agreed to pass only the good parts of the two banks to Intesa Sanpaolo Group but is immediately injecting €5.2 billion into the operation to protect assets and jobs.

In addition however it has put a further €12 billion to one side and retained the bad part of the businesses to cover the likely call from shareholders for compensation and to cover in-



PIER CARLO PADOAN:
Italian Economy Minister.

vestor's deposits as well as bad debts which might be encountered by Intesa.

According to a statement from the Italian Minister of the Economy and Finance Pier Carlo Padoan, there was no alternative than to undertake this 'bail out' as the alternation could have seen a removal of funds from those and other banks and a possible panic and worsening of the economy in Italy.

It is generally understood that the Italian banking sector has a serious problem with potential bad debt which may total €350 billion in all and represents a little more than 30 per cent of

the Eurozone's total bad debt.

When comparing Spanish and Italian banks, one thing that becomes immediately obvious is that many of the plethora of small regional 'building societies' which existed prior to the financial crisis have been amalgamated into larger banks and in many cases have become much stronger.

This was not of course the case with Bankia which was formed from such a group but arguably, its problems were caused by bad management, coupled with reckless abuse by individuals who are currently on trial.

Banks are in the money

SPANISH banks had a very good first quarter with profits of €3.465 billion, an increase of 17 per cent over the same period last year.

Whilst income has improved in all operating areas, as the economy continues to recover, losses caused by bad debt have also dropped by a significant amount to 5.5 per cent.

According to the report issued by the Spanish Banking Association (AEB) much of the increase is due to improved efficiency leading to greater margins as well as an increase in the value of fees.

Another aspect which has helped is the sale of assets by certain of the banks but in some cases, operating costs have increased and those banks affected will need to consider remedial action.

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TOO MANY TOUTS CONTROL TICKETS

Musicians want to protect fans

MANY people in Spain feel that it is totally wrong that 'ticket tout' obtain large numbers of concert tickets and sell them at inflated prices.

In fact it is illegal for tickets to be sold on the streets at higher prices, but owners of websites appear to be protected from the threat of prosecution because the 1982 law didn't envisage the power of the internet.

The Anti-Rebellion Alliance, spearheaded by singer and musician Alejandro Sanz wants to see the law changed to take into account sale through websites and to set a maximum price for any ticket offered for sale by a third party.

One of the problems is that these 'internet tout' speculate on purchasing large numbers so tickets for concerts which they believe will be popular and the artists want to see their



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ALEJANDRO SANZ:
Wants to control
ticket prices
for sale through
a third party.

fans pay the correct price to see their favourite performers.

Profits for the re-sellers can be greater than those earned by the promoter and artists, but the problem has been partially resolved by legislation in Britain and France so the Alliance wants Spain to follow suit.

The Spanish easily adapt to US living

WITH a percentage of young Spaniards considering moving to the USA in order to start their careers many young Americans believe that money buys happiness.

According to a recent Mintel report, a high proportion of those interviewed and aged between 23 and 40 believe that earning money to secure their future is more important than having a good time.

When they do have free time, they are less interested in owning goods than their parents, preferring to be involved in activities, experiences or travelling.

Fifty-one per cent of this group, known as Millennials believe that they understand and can manage their finances well and think their future looks quite healthy.

Interestingly, the report highlights the fact that this group, more than most other generations, wants to have money available for emergencies and also many want to pay utility and credit card bills as quickly as possible.

All are technology aware and a high percentage are happy to use online and mobile banking facilities as they believe that this is a quick and efficient means of dealing with finances.

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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In 1996 we purchased our present office premises which have now become a Mojacar landmark.

Having steered the company through two market recessions, one



TEAM PB 2017.

in the early nineties of the last century and another, much longer and

worse recession, from 2007 to 2014, we think this to be a success story in

itself! Managing to keep all of our staff together through both recessions we think is another, but how does one rate success. To many people in business it's money, and we would be hypocrites to disagree, but Price Brown is not a conglomerate, we are a company where all our staff work as a team, and who are ready and able to 'take the wheel' for one and other when needed - possibly our greatest asset.

Having been established in Mojacar for over 30 years Price Brown maintains an unbeatable reputation for honest, friendly and straightforward advice to clients about all aspects of buying and selling in this region of Spain, and clients can be assured that we take the time and effort to obtain all the necessary property documentation as established by law under the Decree 218.

The ability to offer clients a wide selection of property in the price range to suit their budget is essential and this is reflected in our portfolios. Great effort is made to maintain the best selection possible for our buying clients.

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Price Brown is a qualified, well-known and long established company of estate agents specialising in the sale and purchase of new and resale properties in Mojacar and neighbouring areas, with a popular selection of rental properties in Mojacar for short and long-term periods.

Their offices are based in Pueblo Diana, Mojacar, at 171 Paseo Mediterraneo, (Beach Road) between the Imperial Palace Chinese restaurant and Sundance Spas.

Superb place to buy

By Matthew Elliott

NEWS that Mojacar house prices are among the top three fastest growing in Spain show that Almeria's property market is thriving. Especially around the expat hotspots of Nijar, Albox, Carboneras, Pulpi and Mojacar.

Sales are increasing, prices are shooting up. The national property market is in fine shape, supercharged by the tremendous recovery along the Mediterranean coast. With its glorious weather, unrivalled natural scenery and strong local communities, Almeria is in pole position to attract new investment.

The province is idyllically located between the larger Costas, offering buyers incredible value for money and the best of both worlds. Little wonder that smart investors are increasingly turning to Almeria as a strong Spanish property market tells the world that

it's open for business.

Almeria also offers investors the deep local knowledge of an incredible variety of real estate agents and property experts. If you are thinking of buying or

selling then you need to know how. Choose one or several of the property specialists featured in this supplement for the best advice on one of coastal Spain's fastest growing regions.



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Saying Adios to Spain? Enjoy serious savings when sending money back to the UK.

If you're planning to send money back to the UK from Spain, getting the right support could make all the difference - particularly in the current climate. While Spain remains one of the most popular European emigration destinations, recent events have left some expats reconsidering their tenure here in Spain.

Since the UK voted to leave the EU in June 2016, it's fair to say that uncertainty has been the order of the day. And with the UK's Brexit negotiations getting a bit of a battering before they'd even begun thanks to the surprising outcome of the 2017 UK general election, the outlook for British nationals living abroad remains murky.

When UK PM Theresa May called for a snap general election back in April, bets that the Conservatives would increase their majority helped the pound climb. However, opposite results have reduced confidence in the government's ability to negotiate a good deal for Britain while the GBP/EUR exchange rate dropped to its lowest levels since November 2016.

While the pound weakness is bad news for anyone needing to buy foreign currency with Sterling, it does mean anyone selling euros for pounds will get more for their money.

So, if you need to move money back to the UK from Spain, what three things should you be aware of?

1. Transfer timing

As the past year has shown, exchange rates are capable of sudden, dramatic movement. The pound dropped 8% in the wake of the EU referendum result and lost 2% on the day after the UK general election.

Timing can make a huge difference when it comes to getting the best return on your currency transfers, so stay up-to-date with the latest news if you want to be able to time your transfer effectively and move your money when the exchange rate is in your favour.

2. Transfer fees

Most banks apply a transfer fee when moving money abroad, but you can avoid this charge by using a reputable currency broker to manage your funds instead. Currency brokers are also able to offer more competitive exchange rates than other providers, potentially saving you thousands on larger transfers.

3. Transfer deals

Leading providers of international money transfers, like Currencies Direct, may also be able to give you access to special deals. Currencies Direct's relationship with CaixaBank means that anyone selling a property in Spain is able to deposit their banker's draft in Currencies Direct's euro account without incurring all the usual fees before repatriating their funds.

With uncertainty likely to remain the watchword as 2017 progresses, it's essential that you have access to expert support and insight when you need to move money from Spain.

At Currencies Direct, we've helped over 150,000 customers save on their currency transfers since 1996. Just pop into your local Currencies Direct branch or give us a call to find out more about how you can save money on your currency transfers.

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4 bed, 3 bath, detached villa of 202m² on a plot 500m². Sea & mountain views. Private pool, gardens & parking for 2 cars + 2 underground spaces for guests nearby. **DV1412 345,000€**



Turre

Modern 3 bed, 3 bath, end of terrace townhouse of 99m². Great views of the surrounding countryside. A/C & furnished. 2 allocated parking spaces. **LV735 140,000€**



Mojácar Playa

Very desirable 2 bed, 2 bath townhouse of 82m² on a small complex near to the beach. Furnished & well maintained. Allocated parking, community pool & gardens. **LV736 128,000€**



Cuevas del Almanzora

Townhouse with 8 rooms ready for renovation spread over 2 levels plus 2 bathrooms, kitchen & living room. Integral garage + 1 further room. Central location. **LV731 59,950€**



Mojácar

4 bed, 3 bath, brand new townhouse of 145m² in a semi-rural complex of 4. Easy driving distance to towns and beaches. **SDV643 155,000€**



Mojácar Playa

2 bed, 1 bath, ground floor apartment of 79m². Private terrace with limited sea views. Excellent location for the beaches. A/C & mosquito blinds. **A1258 82,000€**



Mojácar Playa

Ground floor 2 bed, 2 bath, apartment of 82m² with sea views. Parking. Community pool. Quiet residential location but short distance to beaches. **A1304 128,000€**



Mojácar Playa

Spacious ground floor apartment of 95m². 3 bed, 2 bath, ample terraces & sea views. Communal pool, located next to the property. Very close to the beach. **A1306 165,000€**



Mojácar Playa

Spanish style 2 bed, 1 bath, top floor apartment of 68m² on a small front-line community. Newly decorated & no community fees. Shops & restaurants close by. **A1308 89,000€**



Mojácar Playa

1st floor 2 bed, 1 bath, apartment of 98m² with sea & village views. 2 ample terraces. Small gated community with pool. Close to the beach. **A1309 145,000€**



Mojácar Playa

Modern 2 bed, 2 bath, apartment of 72m² plus large terrace with outstanding sea views. Allocated parking, community pool & gardens. Furnished. **A1310 125,000€**



Valle del Este

Stylish 2 bed, 1 bath ground floor golf apartment of 72m² + porch & terrace. Golf views. A/C. Community pool & gardens. Gated community. **A1300 119,000€**



Mojácar Playa

3rd floor 2 bed, 1 bath apartment of 76m² with lift access. Garage parking in adjacent building. Sea views & just a stone's throw from the beach. Communal pool. **A1298 115,000€**

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Spanish Property Choice NEW LISTINGS



PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

Ref: B1113 S/Cabrera 495,000€

NEW LISTING



This is a truly stunning, two-storey villa with private swimming pool located in the prestigious area of Sierra Cabrera with some of the best views you could ever wish for. The living space consists of an immense, bright living room, an equally large kitchen which is equipped with all appliances and having an abundance of storage space, a separate dining room beneath the typical Sierra Cabrera dome. The property is located on a large plot of 1,500 m² with a build of 248 m². 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, air con, central heating, garage and private swimming pool with stunning views. EPC G 267 - G 62

OUR PROPERTIES HAVE THE POWER OF TV BEHIND THEM



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MANAGERS CHOICE

Ref:A833 ZURGENA 199,995€

NEW LISTING



This lovely detached 3 bed, 3 bath villa, is accessed via its own private driveway that leads down to the double car wooden car ports and adjacent to this area there is a gateway which leads you into the well planted borders of the main leisure terraces of the property, which also hosts a large Roman end family swimming pool. Along with all of these benefits there is another garden area to the opposite side of the property with further storage sheds and staircase that leads up to the roof solarium. The open plan kitchen has a wide range of wall and base units and a separate utility to the rear. 25 mins to the beach

IF YOU HAVE A PROPERTY TO SELL CONTACT US NOW

NEW LISTING !

Ref:A840 Velez Rubio 230,000€
3 bed, 2 bath Villa. EPC E

NEW LISTING !

Ref:A836 Albox 185,000€
3 bed, 2 bath Cortijo. EPC AF

NEW LISTING !

Ref:B1110 Turre 79,950€
2 bed, 2 bath Duplex. EPC E

NEW LISTING !

Ref:B1105 San Juan 249,9500€
3 bed, 2 bath Duplex. EPC F

NEW LISTING !

Ref:A810 P/Lumbreras 359,000€
5 bed, 5 bath Villa. EPC E

NEW LISTING !

Ref:B1104 Mojacar 395,000€
5 bed, 5 bath Villa. EPC AF

NEW LISTING !

Ref:B1096 San Juan 229,000€
3 bed, 3 bath New build villas.

NEW LISTING !

Ref:A838 Albanchez 114,995€
3 bed, 2 bath Villa. EPC D

NEW LISTING !

Ref:A837 Lubrin 380,000€
5 bed, 5 bath Cortijo. EPC G

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Advertising feature

1st step on the Spanish property ladder

Property of the week

Brought to you by Voss Homes

CASA Alexandra is ideal if you are looking for a 'starter home,' holiday home or rental property.

THIS is a very well presented, ready to move into:

- 2 bed
- 1.5 bath
- 2 storey
- terrace duplex of 77m² with air con
- low maintenance front driveway of approx 25m² PLUS a back garden of approx 30m².

The property also has access to two large communal swimming pools with gardens. An extra bonus is walking distance into the village of La Alfoquia with shops and restaurants etc where all the amenities are open all year round.

The community fees are an amazingly low €235 per year and rates and rubbish collection together are approx €302 each per year.

To the front is the tiled driveway and covered porch. Inside the house has a spacious open plan living / dining room, fitted kitchen with appliances, downstairs toilet and access to rear pa-


€69,950

CASA ALEXANDRA: The property has access to two large communal swimming pools and gardens.

tio and fenced garden with country views. The total plot size is 101m².

Marble stairs lead up to the two large double bedrooms both with fitted wardrobes and share a large family bathroom. The main bedroom has a small conservatory and terrace to enjoy the views.

The house has mains electricity, water, phone and internet connected.

Casa Alexandra has quick access to two large

and well-kept communal swimming pools and gardens, one with orange and lemon trees. The pools are open usually from Easter to October. There is plenty of on road parking.

There is a municipal pool with cafe / bar and a restaurant within 300m and the small town of La Alfoquia with shops, cafes, restaurants etc is five minutes walk away. The towns of Zurgena and Arboleas are less than five minutes drive away. The A7 motor-

way is less than 10 minutes drive away and the major market town of Huerca-Overa is less than 15 minutes away. The coast at Vera, Garrucha and Mojacar is approx 25 minutes drive away.

Voss Homes are a British, family-run estate agents in Huerca-Overa. We cover the Huerca-Overa, Zurgena, La Alfoquia and Taberno areas of Almería and look forward to helping you find your ideal Spanish property.

For more information or to arrange a viewing or a meeting in our office please call us on 0034 950 616 827 or 0034 678 002 006 or visit our office in Huerca-Overa. We are just 1km off exit 553 of the A7 motorway, 100m passed Lidl.

Touch of a button

'DIGITAL natives' are posing a new challenge for the real estate sector and property developers. One both arms of the industry are eager to meet.

Tech-savvy home buyers represent a new generation who have very different ideas about what they want from their properties than their parents had.

Robust construction has been substituted by robotic systems and smart designs. Young professionals who grew up with computers now expect a property where electricity, energy, sound and climate control can all be synchronised and changed at the touch of a button.

They want to be able to control the finer points of home living remotely, using smart phones to put the oven on or close the downstairs window.

Such increasing demands have sparked a response. The Spanish Congress of Intelligent Buildings is now in its fourth year. The most notable evolution has been the ap-



TECH-SAVVY: Home buyers represent a new generation.

plication of new technologies in residential homes, rather than being confined to the experimental headquarters of innovation companies.

The trend can only get stronger. Many of the new 'digital natives' are aged 25-40 but already considered dinosaurs by the internet generation hot on their heels.

Woman occupies her own property in Barcelona

THE potential dangers of companies such as Airbnb have been highlighted by the plight of a landlady who has had to occupy her own property.

Although long term rental prices have increased and availability of such property has decreased in Barcelona, a new scam has been uncovered whereby professional tenants obtain multi leases for different apartments.

In this particular case, the landlady signed a rental agreement with an individual charging €950 per month on a long-term lease.

She was however horrified to discover, after she was unable to contact the tenant, that he had changed the locks and then advertised the property in the tourist area of Barceloneta through Airbnb for

€200 a night.

The only way that she could gain access to her own apartment was to book it through Airbnb and once she had gained entry, she changed the locks again and made a formal complaint to the company according to local newspaper *La Vanguardia*.

In fairness to the company, they immediately withdrew the entry on their website, but there are claims that this is not an isolated occurrence but is part of a professional scam being undertaken in Barcelona at least.

The City Council has an exceptionally low opinion of the internet letting company, fining it €600,000 for advertising properties such as this which do not comply with local short term letting regulations.



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VH1149 €119,950 CEE E208 4

NEW LISTING



- 2 / 3 bed, 2 bath Country House
- 157m2 build
- 628m2 garden with jacuzzi
- 3 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1151 €60,000 CEE TBC

NEW LISTING



- Possible 6 bed Country House
- In need of renovation
- 194m2 build, 30,000m2 of land
- 15 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1146 €224,950 CEE TBC

NEW LISTING



- 4/5 bed, 3.5 bath Country House
- Swimming pool, Jacuzzi, great views
- 7,500m2 of land. Walk to amenities
- 9 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1148 €239,950 CEE TBC

NEW LISTING



- 3 bed, 3 bath WOW Villa
- Splash pool & amazing views
- 9,660m2 of land
- 12 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

WE HAVE LOTS OF CLIENTS OF ALL NATIONALITIES WANTING TO BUY OR RENT IN THE HUERCAL-OVERA, TABERNO, LA ALFOQUIA & ZURGENA AREA.

IF YOU HAVE NOT CONTACTED VOSS HOMES DIRECTLY TO LIST YOUR PROPERTY...

THEN HOW CAN WE SELL OR RENT IT TO THEM???



VH1145 €239,950 CEE TBC

NEW LISTING



- 3 bed, 2 bath Country Villa
- Swimming pool & Summer Kitchen
- 22,000m2 of land, amazing views
- 15 mins drive to V Rubio & P Lumbreras

VH957 €169,950 CEE E178 5

RE-LISTING



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- Pool, garage & 1,000m2 plot
- Walk to popular restaurant
- Zurgena area

VH1127 €149,950 CEE F41 49

NEW LISTING



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- Swimming pool & sun roof
- 417m2 garden
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

VH852 €129,950 CEE G45 33

BARGAIN



- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 346m2 garden
- Jacuzzi & sun roof
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia



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Will do anything to gain power

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT

OTHERS THINK IT



SOME people just never seem to be satisfied. Personally, I thought the recent evacuation of the Camberley high rise apartments was perfectly reasonable and justified.

However unlikely a fire of the Grenfell devastation would have occurred quite so soon (if at all) it was nevertheless a possibility. To hear the moaning and whinging of those evacuated, you would have thought they would have preferred to chance an agonising death than be disturbed 'at that time of the night!'

Well I think Georgia Gould, the Camden councillor who made the decision, was very decisive and extremely articulate in her explanation for the evacuation and had tried a number of alternatives that didn't come to fruition. She simply wasn't prepared to take the risk, however unlikely, of seeing more people perish. Good for her.



CORBYN: Everywhere at the moment.

Have you noticed the sting has also gone out of the left unashamedly trying to turn the whole tragedy into a political incident?

Well I think the reasons come clear in the following text kindly submitted to me by David from the UK. 1. The block of flats was not run by the council, but by the Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation which comprises of eight tenants, four councillors and three inde-

pendent members. Emma Coad elected Labour MP was on this board who are being accused of not listening to tenants. 2. Labour holds the seat the block is situated in. 3. Labour run the London council who manage the un-

derfunded London fire service. (Sadiq Khan produced a report saying the fire service didn't need more funding!) 4. The decision to change contractors during the refurbishment was made by the KTCMO. As was the decision not to spend 138k on sprinklers. 5. KTCMO was formed under the 'right to manage' legislation passed when Labour were in power in 2002. No wonder the Corbynites have changed tack and

shifted to only blaming the government for not handling the aftermath well enough. Typical.

Couldn't believe Corbyn, who seems to be everywhere at the moment, actually turned up at Glas-

tonbury. Blatantly pontificating like some 1960's Guru, he used this opportunity to try and bend the minds of even more youngsters, who have no idea what life would be like should

he and his Marxist party ever to come to power.

His final puffed up 'message' to Donald Trump to 'build bridges not walls,' was pure 'flower power' jargon, Utopian rhetoric that finally petered out when the 60's flower children came of age and began to see sense. Unfortunately the kids lapped it up. No wonder the left want the voting age lowered to 16. It's the same ploy used by Blair and Brown, who let in floods of immigrants purely to obtain their votes.

Labour will do anything to gain power. They have no morals, shame or scruples when it comes to using the gullible to mark an X against their party. I would almost like to see them get in, just to be able to tell these misguided youngsters when the whole country falls apart, 'I told you so.' On second thoughts, perhaps not. Don't forget to download Leapy's book. Leapy Lee, Amazon Kindle, will link you up. Have a rewarding week.

Keep the faith

Love Leapy

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Some dodgy side effects!

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



DO you remember Model 720 - the innocent enquiry that the Spanish tax office made telling everyone they had to declare all worldwide assets valued at over €50,000 or be fined?

We were told it wasn't for any real reason - nobody was ever going to do anything with it. They were just gathering information. Well I have to inform you that surprise, surprise it was absolute lies. Am I shocked? Of course not. Am I peed off? Well, yes I am because I thought if everyone did the right thing, played the game and did the declaration that would be the end of it.

But this week we got a letter from the Spanish tax office telling us that we had underpaid our tax in 2012 which is a load of cobblers. We had paid the tax in the UK for the rental on the property there that we owned and paid the tax here on our rental properties here. The difference is not a fortune and we have given it to our accountant to sort out. His was 'just pay it.' Mine is 'why?' Why should we once again get mugged off? Let me know if you hear of others with this problem.

I was on TRE Viewpoint show talking about the terrible fire that killed all those innocent people recently. I read today that 34 high rise flats in

17 local authority areas have failed fire cladding safety tests. All in the name of 'savings.' It's disgusting and I hope those responsible go to prison!

Mrs S gave up smoking a few months ago but now has started again. So I thought I'd look at some of the things that could help. Vaping is out, as are patches and that gum stuff. Then I saw an advert on US TV for a product called Chantix. I thought to myself 'that looks like a fantastic product.' I'll try and get her some of that. Then, just as the ad was finishing the voice came up and started to reel off the possible side effects.

Here are a few. Abnormal dreams, chronic trouble sleeping, gas, head pain, incomplete or infrequent bowel movements, throwing up, angina, trouble breathing, acute infection of the nose, throat or sinus, drowsiness, dry mouth, excessive sweating, intense abdominal pain, low energy, abnormal heart rhythm, behaving with excessive cheerfulness, delusions, depression, diabetes, giant hives, thought of suicide, paranoia, psychosis, thoughts of hurting or killing others, muscle pain, nosebleeds, ringing in the ears, sensation of spinning - and, as I said this is just SOME of the side effects! What is this stuff? Pass me a ciggy quick! How on earth can you sell a product that can do so much damage? If you get a chance have a look at some American adverts and see how you can die taking something that supposedly helps you stop dying of your original illness!

Email me mikesenker@gmail.com.

LEGALLY SPEAKING

A breath test for passengers?

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.

BREATHALYSER TEST: Law changes.



A RECENT story has been circulating on the internet over changes to the law which will come into force in July, stating that a second person in a vehicle must pass an alcohol breathalyser test not just the driver.

The article stated 'A new measure proposed by the Directorate General of Traffic (DGT) will also force drivers and those accompanying the driver, to blow in the BAC test. The new measure will be launched July 1 in order that this summer we can have safer roads in our country and so that at least one of the companions can count as an alternative driver.'

However, the N332 Traffico team, said the message may have been lost in translation and the actual proposal is in the event of a driver being stopped and fail-

ing an alcohol test, a passenger, or the next appointed driver, must prove their sobriety and pass a breathalyser test as well as having all the appropriate documentation and qualifications to drive, in order for the group in the vehicle to continue their journey.

If none can do so, then the vehicle and its occupants, will not be going anywhere.

If a group of people are in a vehicle, only the driver is legally required to remain below the maximum permitted alcohol limit, although the passengers, however much they have consumed, are still required to act in a safe and appropriate manner in the vehicle, although they cannot be called upon to take over the role of the driver.

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

Can they restrict the pool?

Q. On our community we have owners who owe thousands of euros in fees.

Some have let their properties out for years and are not paying.

Perhaps they are not paying tax to the Hacienda either. These tenants and owners use the pool and gardens.

We are told that a law was passed in 2013 to allow communities to stop these

debtors using the community facilities, so my questions are:

a) Can you tell me the wording of this law and its reference?

b) How far can we go to enforce the law? We hope to get some payment if the owners think they will lose their tenants and revenue.

c) How do we report these owners to the Hacienda?

A. First, I advise you to instruct a lawyer. At your AGM you must authorise the President to do this and to proceed legally against the debtors. The law you mention is Ley 8/2013,

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



but it does not specifically authorise the restriction of the swimming

pool. Some communities have now enclosed and locked the pool area and issue keys to the paying owners. Yes, you can report the possible tax dodgers. Let your lawyer do this.

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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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1
29 JUNE	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	5:00pm Tipping Point	4:00pm Fifteen to One	4:15pm Left to Die	10:00am Barclays Premier League World
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:30pm Curious Creatures	6:00pm The Chase	5:00pm Best of Both Worlds	6:00pm 5 News at 5	10:30am Live European Tour Golf
	7:30pm BBC London News	8:00pm World's Most Extraordinary Homes	7:00pm ITV News London	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours	6:30pm Premier League 100 Club
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Great British Menu	7:15pm ITV Evening News	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm Home and Away	7:00pm Premier League Legends
	8:30pm EastEnders	10:00pm Horizon	7:30pm Confederations Cup	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	7:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	9:00pm The Sheriffs are Coming	11:00pm Mock the Week	10:15pm Killer Women with Piers Morgan	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	8:00pm Live Super League
	10:00pm DIY SOS The Big Build	11:30pm Newsnight	11:15pm ITV News	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm In Sickness and in Wealth	Leeds Rhinos v St Helens
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	12:15am Who Should We Let in? Ian Hislop on the First Great Immigration Row	11:45pm ITV News London	9:00pm The Supertvet	10:00pm Big Brother: Live Eviction	11:30pm Boxing Gold
	11:30pm BBC London News		12:00am Fearless	10:00pm Host the Week	11:35pm Big Brother's Bit on the Side	11:45pm Boxing Gold
	11:45pm Question Time		1:00am Jackpot247	11:00pm Naked Attraction	12:35am Big Brother	12:00am Premier League Legends
	12:45am This Week			12:05am Real, Fake or Unknown		
	FRIDAY 30 JUNE	7:30pm BBC London News	6:15pm Flog It!	8:00pm Emmerdale	4:00pm Fifteen to One	4:15pm Jane Doe: How to Fire Your Boss
8:00pm The One Show		7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm Coronation Street	5:00pm Best of Both Worlds	6:00pm 5 News at 5	6:30pm Premier League 100 Club
8:30pm A Question of Sport		7:30pm Curious Creatures	9:00pm The Secret World of Posh Pets	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours	7:00pm Premier League Legends
9:00pm EastEnders		8:00pm World's Most Extraordinary Homes	9:30pm Coronation Street	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm Home and Away	7:30pm Beneath the Black: A Journey Through New Zealand Rugby
9:30pm Count Arthur Strong		9:00pm Great British Menu	10:00pm Lethal Weapon	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	8:30pm Live European U21 Championship Final
10:00pm Peter Kay's Comedy Shuffle		10:00pm Gardeners' World	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Police Interceptors	11:15pm Premier League 100 Club
10:30pm Mrs. Brown's Boys		11:00pm Frankie Boyle's New World Order	11:30pm ITV News London	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm Blind Date	11:45pm Premier League 100 Club
11:00pm BBC News at Ten		11:30pm Newsnight	11:40pm Bird on a Wire	9:00pm Gogglesprogs	10:00pm The Best of Bad TV	12:15am Sporting Triumphs
11:25pm BBC London News		12:05am Best of Glastonbury 2017	1:45am Jackpot247	10:00pm The Crystal Maze	11:00pm Big Brother's Bit on the Side	
11:35pm The Graham Norton Show				11:00pm The Last Leg	12:00am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	
12:25am Entrapment				12:05am Naked Attraction		
SATURDAY 1 JULY		6:25pm BBC News	8:00pm Natural World	5:00pm The Chase	4:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm 5 News
	6:35pm Regional News	9:00pm Manchester International Festival: Everyone Welcome	6:00pm Paul O Grady for the Love of Dogs	4:35pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	7:05pm Funniest Dogs Behaving Badly	4:30pm British and Irish Lions Tour Highlights
	6:40pm Weather	9:30pm Dad's Army	6:30pm Little Big Shots U.S.	5:35pm Big House, Little House	8:00pm Blind Date	5:30pm Football Gold
	6:45pm Pointless	10:00pm Melvyn Bragg on TV: The Box That Changed the World	7:25pm Local News and Weather	6:35pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it	9:00pm Greatest Celebrity Wind-Ups Ever!	5:40pm Super League Highlights
	7:30pm Doctor Who	12:00am Sex and Drugs and Rock and Roll	7:35pm ITV News and Weather	7:30pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Big Brother	5:55pm Live Super League
	8:30pm Pitch Battle	1:50am The Deep	8:30pm The Voice Kids	8:00pm The Autistic Gardener	11:05pm Moments That Rocked	8:00pm Boxing Gold
	10:00pm Casualty		10:00pm Quantum of Solace	9:00pm Life of Pi	11:05pm Talent Shows	8:30pm Live Fight Night
	10:50pm BBC News		12:05am ITV News and Weather	11:25pm Last Vegas	12:30am Lip Sync Battle	12:30am Boxing Gold
	11:05pm Weather		12:25am Rebound	1:30am Ramsay's Hotel Hell	12:55am Access	
	11:10pm Marvel's Avengers Assemble					
	1:25am Weather for the Week					
	SUNDAY 2 JULY	7:55pm Countryfile	2:00pm Athletics	1:35pm Babushka	3:30pm Dante's Peak	1:40pm Police Interceptors
8:00pm Antiques Roadshow		6:00pm Inside the Factory: How Our Favourite Foods are Made	2:35pm The Voice Kids	5:35pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	2:40pm Police Interceptors	7:30pm British and Irish Lions Tour Highlights
9:00pm Poldark		7:00pm The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway	4:05pm Bear Gryll's Survival School	6:35pm Homes by the Sea	3:40pm Made of Honour	8:30pm Premier League Legends
10:00pm BBC News		8:00pm Dragons' Den	7:05pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Channel 4 News	5:40pm 13 Going on 30	9:00pm Premier League Legends
11:00pm Regional News		9:00pm The Life Swap Adventure	7:15pm ITV News and Weather	8:00pm Grand Designs	7:30pm The Flintstones	9:30pm Premier League Legends
11:20pm Weather		10:00pm George Best: All by Himself	7:30pm Confederations Cup Final	9:00pm Dunkirk	9:05pm That's So...1984	10:00pm British and Irish Lions Tour Highlights
11:25pm Miranda Hart - My What I Call Live Show		11:30pm Mock the Week	10:30pm The Loch	10:00pm The Handmaid's Tale	9:55pm 5 News	11:00pm Football Gold
11:30pm The Week the Landlords Moved in		12:00am White Gold	11:30pm ITV News and Weather	11:15pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	10:00pm Big Brother	11:00pm Football
			11:50pm Lethal Weapon	12:10am Trance	11:05pm OMG: Painted, Pierced and Proud	11:10pm The Premier League Years
			12:45am Take Me Out		12:05am The Vow	
MONDAY 3 JULY		7:30pm Regional News	7:30am Bargain Hunt	6:00pm The Chase	5:00pm Best of Both Worlds	3:20pm NCIS: Los Angeles
	8:00pm The One Show	8:15am Bargain Hunt	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:00pm Four in a Bed	4:20pm The Mentor	3:00pm Premier League Legends
	8:30pm Bus Wars	9:00am Antiques Roadshow	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	6:00pm 5 News	4:00pm Spanish Football Gold
	9:00pm EastEnders	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	4:30pm Football Gold
	9:30pm The Betrayed Girls	12:00pm The Daily Politics	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	5:00pm Football's Greatest
	11:00pm BBC News	12:30pm Wimbledon 2017	9:00pm Amazing Animal Births	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News	6:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	11:30pm Regional News	9:30pm Today at Wimbledon	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Dispatches	8:00pm MotoGP	7:00pm Premier League Legends
	11:40pm Weather	10:30pm Ripper Street	10:00pm Fearless	9:30pm How to Stay Well	9:00pm All New Traffic Cops	7:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	11:45pm Peter Kay's Comedy Shuffle	11:30pm Newsnight	11:00pm ITV News	10:00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody	10:00pm Eamonn and Ruth Do Dubai	8:00pm Boxing
	12:15am Have I Got a Bit More News for You	12:10am Weather	11:45pm Killer Women	11:00pm 50 Shades of Gay	11:00pm Big Brother	12:00am Premier League Legends
			12:45am The Kyle Files	12:05am 24 Hours in A and E	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	12:30am Premier League Legends
TUESDAY 4 JULY	7:30pm Regional News	7:00am The TV That Made Me	4:00pm David Dickinson's Name Your Price	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	6:00pm 5 News	3:00pm Premier League Legends
	8:00pm The One Show	7:30am Bargain Hunt	5:00pm Tipping Point	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	3:30pm Premier League Legends
	8:30pm EastEnders	8:15am Super League Show	6:00pm The Chase	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	4:00pm Fight Night
	9:00pm Holby City	9:00am DIY SOS The Big Build	7:00pm Local News and Weather	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News	6:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	10:00pm Broken	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	7:30pm ITV Evening News	9:00pm Tried and Tasted: The Ultimate Shopping List	8:00pm FIA World Rally	6:30pm Premier League 100 Club
	11:00pm BBC News	12:00pm The Daily Politics	8:00pm Emmerdale	9:30pm Supershopper	9:00pm Championship Highlights	7:00pm Premier League Legends
	11:30pm Regional News	12:30pm Wimbledon 2017	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	10:00pm Life Behind Bars: Visiting Hour	9:00pm The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies	7:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	11:40pm Weather	9:30pm Today at Wimbledon	11:00pm ITV News	11:00pm First Dates	10:00pm The Hotel Inspector	8:00pm Live Horse Racing: Winning Post
	11:45pm Cadet Abuse Cover-Up - Panorama	10:30pm Hospital	11:40pm Davina: Life at the Extreme	12:05am 24 Hours in Police Custody	11:00pm Big Brother	10:00pm Fight Night
	12:25am Bus Wars	11:30pm Newsnight	12:40am The Chase		12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	12:00am Premier League Legends
		12:10am Weather				
WEDNESDAY 5 JULY	2:45pm Wimbledon	8:15am Bargain Hunt	5:00pm Tipping Point	5:00pm Best of Both Worlds	3:20pm NCIS: Los Angeles	4:30pm Football Gold
	7:00pm BBC News	9:00am See Hear	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Four in a Bed	4:20pm In the Dark	4:45pm Football Gold
	7:30pm Regional News	9:30am Great British Menu	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	6:00pm 5 News	5:00pm Football's Greatest
	8:00pm The One Show	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	5:30pm Football's Greatest
	9:00pm Watchdog Live	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	6:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	10:00pm The Week the Landlords Moved in	12:30pm Wimbledon 2017	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News	6:30pm Premier League 100 Club
	11:00pm BBC News	2:00pm Wimbledon 2017	9:00pm Love Your Garden	9:00pm Ackley Bridge	8:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	7:00pm Premier League Legends
	11:30pm Regional News	9:30pm Today at Wimbledon	10:00pm Joanna Lumley's India	10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E	9:00pm The Highland Midwife	7:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	11:40pm Weather	10:30pm The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	11:00pm ITV News	11:00pm The Windsors	10:00pm Where There's a Blame, There's a Claim	8:00pm Live Horse Racing: Winning Post
	11:45pm Room 101	11:30pm Newsnight	11:40pm Paul O'Grady for the Love of Animals: India	11:30pm Fargo	11:00pm Big Brother	10:00pm Fight Night
	12:25am Doctor in the House	12:10am Weather	12:45am Piers Morgan's Life Stories	12:30am Life Behind Bars: Visiting Hour	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	12:00am Premier League Legends

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

Lies, damned lies & alternative facts in elections & referendums

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.euoweeklynews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson

WHO do you trust? Politicians? Bankers? The police? Trust is now at an all time low - for many, mainly due to those at the top who have let the rest of us down. Indeed, it was once suggested all UK MPs should attend 'honesty' classes. And that's the truth, honestly!

I mean, did you believe 'promises' made during the EU Referendum campaign? For example: 'Two thirds of UK manufacturing jobs depend on demand from Europe' (Alan Johnson). Wrong! Or: 'The EU costs the UK £350+ million every week, nearly £20 billion annually' (Vote Leave campaign). Wrong!

Or, during the recent election? Corbyn's financial 'promises' cat-



POLITICIANS: Do you trust them?

egorically refuted by the Conservatives as Labour's 'magic money tree.'

But let he who is without sin cast the first stone. After all, haven't most of us been occasionally economical with the truth? 'Nice outfit' tends to go down better than 'you look a bit podgy in that.' Or: 'That's weird. You were definitely on the guest list!' Or: 'I've had a few problems with my email. Must be the server!'

According to one study, 60 per

cent of Brits lie at least once during a 10-minute conversation. Another found that 25 per cent lie about their days off simply to impress others.

And politicians? They've raised lying to Olympic standards. Remember Bill Clinton's: 'I did not have sexual relations with that woman.' Plus all Trump's, err, 'alternative facts'

Just why and how people lie - and the impact this has on others - is a subject that's always fascinat-

ed me and inspired all my novels (all profits, as you know, to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity).

Psychologists claim we lie to compensate for the gaps between who we are and who we want to be and between what we have and what we want to have. Telling a white lie not to offend and paying a false compliment to give pleasure are both natural deceptions adopted at an early age.

Winston Churchill, however, blatantly ignored these social 'rules.' When he met Labour MP Bessie Braddock who accused him of being plastered, he retorted: "Madam, you are ugly. In the morning, I shall be sober." Nuff said.

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 (€0.99;£0.99) and iBookstore.

THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Brian Eagleson, Mojacar

Doesn't make sense

With apologies to the wonderful Mike Senker. He's not the ONLY Grumpy Old Man!

Why do UK broadcasters have such a problem with the expat telly audience? Why do they keep switching us off? Now that Sky's disappeared yet again with only a few rubbish channels left behind what's it all about?

Anyone with a bit of technical knowledge will be aware that our UK telly comes from a satellite (or two) up in space hovering over the equator. So how come it hovers instead of zooming round and round with our telly dishes having to track it across the sky like Jordrell Bank? Well, that's 'cos its orbit speed is the same as the Earth's rotation. So it stays in (roughly) the same place every day and your dish doesn't need to move. Clever, eh?

But wait a minute. If it's over the equator it must be nearer to Spain than the UK 'cos the UK's further north than Spain. So how come the UK gets perfect reception on all channels while we just get rubbish? Well, that's because it's like a spotlight aimed at the UK with Spain on the fringe of the beam and also due to something called encryption. Y'see, for some unknown reason the UK broadcasters don't want to let anybody outside the UK watch their programmes so they encrypt them with secret codes and now they're even more secret than they used to be and they keep changing all the time. Clever, eh? Hmm. Not so sure. Might be stupid.

After all, if you pay a fortune to launch a satellite into space wouldn't a bigger audience make more money for your business than a smaller one? More adverts reaching more people? The broadcasters don't seem to think so. Has anybody asked the advertisers though? Doesn't make sense to me. But then, does anything?

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@euoweeklynews.com.

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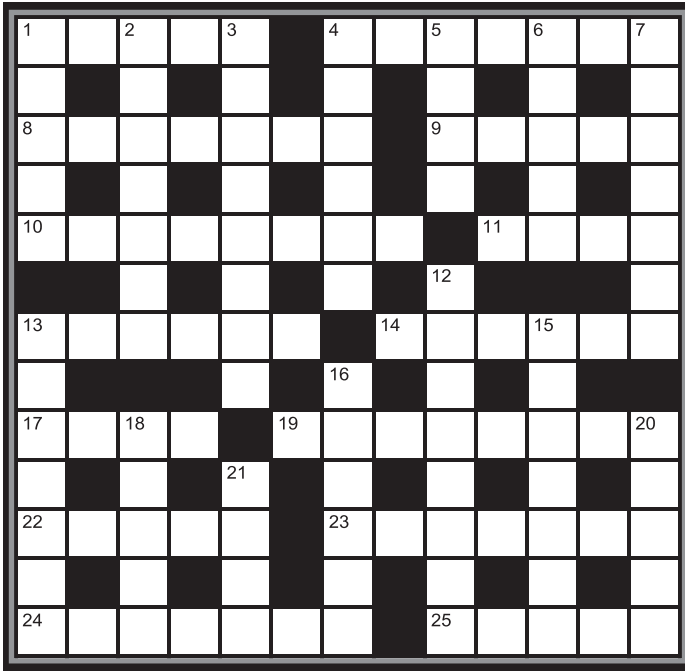
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Weapon seen in some circles as a breakthrough (5)
- 4 I'm in afterwards as a reformer (7)
- 8 Tree rat built a hideaway (7)
- 9 Book space for Heather (5)
- 10 Ready to destroy red paper (8)
- 11 Hard time for an Olympian queen (4)
- 13 One not eating more quickly (6)
- 14 Gifted characters move restlessly (6)
- 17 Usually had a friend (4)
- 19 Blame the salesman and the fish (8)
- 22 Burning coal in Nuremberg (5)
- 23 Light metal ignited him outside the university (7)
- 24 Apparition in Hampton maze (7)
- 25 Some classicism earned a bad mark (5)

Down

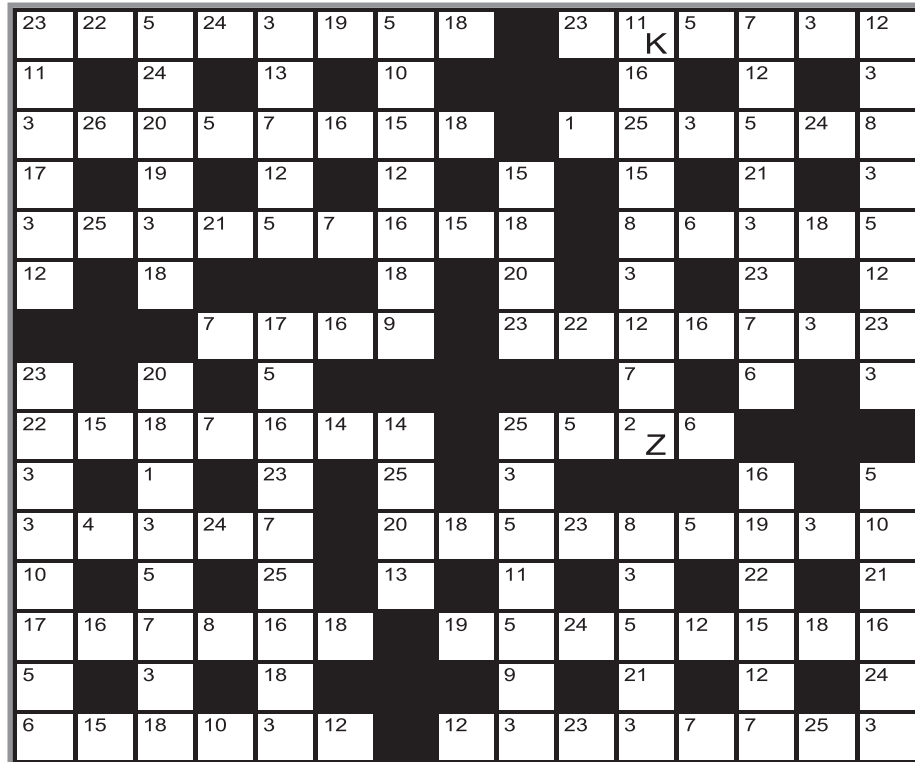
- 1 Way to strike or flog (5)
- 2 Baseball players clubs (7)
- 3 Disorganised Eve's late, so gets a lift (8)
- 4 Carpenter's tools in the flat he's bought (6)
- 5 First sign of taking up barmy army instrument (4)



- 6 Dudley is the new Romeo (5)
- 7 Men rant about last part (7)
- 12 Leaves jet and speeds (8)
- 13 Get angry at a sign of distress (5-2)
- 15 Stone that comes from Tangier (7)
- 16 Wrongly blamed for state of uproar (6)
- 18 Balance parts of Bali, Brazil and Bolivia (5)
- 20 Pigeon poet? (5)
- 21 Humour is about right in this court order (4)

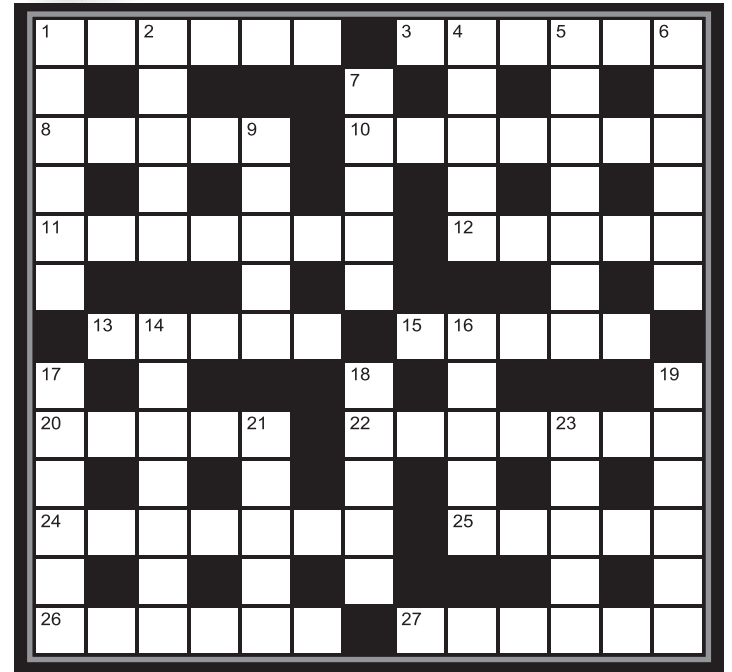
Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 2 represents Z and 11 represents K, so fill in Z every time the figure 2 appears and K every time the figure 11 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.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

Quick



Across

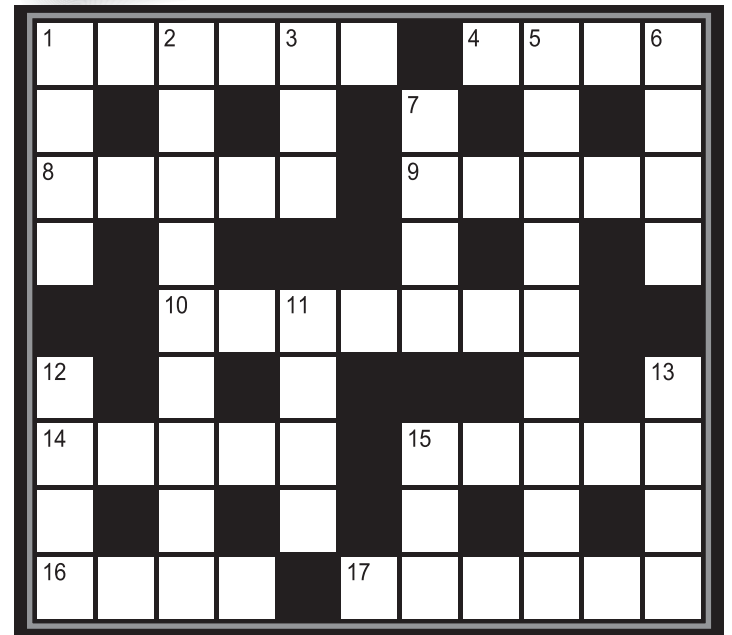
- 1 Not being in a specified place (6)
- 3 Assistant (6)
- 8 Velocity (5)
- 10 Journals (7)
- 11 Absence of sound (7)
- 12 Experiments (5)
- 13 Disturb the balance or stability of (5)
- 15 Alloy of copper and zinc (5)
- 20 Watchful (5)
- 22 Put into a proper or systematic order (7)
- 24 Ahead (7)
- 25 Flat (5)
- 26 Stable (6)
- 27 Dreaded (6)

Down

- 1 Be of service (6)
- 2 Take without the owner's consent (5)
- 4 Precise (5)
- 5 Catholic clerics (7)
- 6 Strive against (6)
- 7 Calculated a total (5)
- 9 Closely compacted in substance (5)
- 14 Get ready (7)
- 16 Relating to the countryside (5)
- 17 Short moral stories (6)
- 18 Great in size (5)
- 19 Uttered a sudden loud cry (6)
- 21 Attempted (5)
- 23 At no time in the past or future (5)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Cheap (inexpensive) (6)
- 4 Ass (donkey) (4)
- 8 Prawn (5)
- 9 Sobrina (5)
- 10 El más largo (7)
- 14 Shower (5)
- 15 Joke (5)

Down

- 16 Buttonhole (of garment) (4)
- 17 Agencia (6)
- 1 Bolsas (para llevar algo) (4)
- 2 Beetroot (9)

3/15 Bolsita de té (3,3)

- 5 Maíz dulce (9)
- 6 Abierto (4)
- 7 Rodilla (4)
- 11 Ordenado (4)
- 12 Hatred (4)
- 13 Perezoso (4)
- 15 See 3

CROSSWORD PAGE

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' A HARD BREXIT IS JUST CUT THE BRITS LOOSE - A SOFT BREXIT IS MAKE SURE THEY NEVER EVER WIN THE EURO SONG CONTEST! '

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



TARGET:

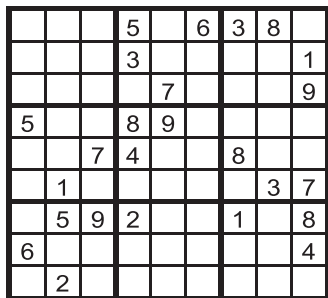
- Average: 7
- Very good: 15
- Good: 10
- Excellent: 19

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

able alba alec bald bale balk bled calk clad clap dale deal kale kelp lace lack lade lake lead leak leap pale peal plea pleb pled alack aleck baled black blade bleak cabal cable decal laced paled pedal place plead balked cabled calked lacked palace placed blacked capable packable BACKPEDAL

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

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

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY
Saturday June 24



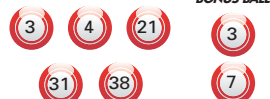
IRISH LOTTO
Saturday June 24



EURO MILLIONS
Tuesday June 20



Friday June 23



LA PRIMITIVA
Saturday June 24



EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
Sunday June 25



YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS



AQUARIUS
(January 21 - February 19)

Putting all of your eggs in one basket is rarely to be advised. It should particularly be avoided this week. For the sake of speed and ease it will be tempting to take short cuts and make decisions that are bland. These will, of their nature, not be of the 'good' or 'great' categories. You are capable of better.



LEO
(July 24 - August 23)

With high energy you are seeking to get as much done as possible in a small amount of time. Rather than go at it 'hammer and tongs', it could be easier. Let someone help you out. They will find it satisfying and so you will both be happy.



VIRGO
(August 24 - September 23)

You are freer than you imagine. Your imagination is letting you down a bit at the moment. Not for some time have opportunities been throwing themselves at you like this. The question is not if you should take up an offer but rather which one you should choose.



PISCES
(February 20 - March 20)

How you feel about someone will change dramatically during the week. This will surprise you. Thinking about it logically, though, you have been missing the point for some time. Someone who you always thought of as a friend turns out to be much more. How you deal with this is very much an individual thing.



LIBRA
(September 24 - October 23)

Give others the benefit of the doubt and your infinite patience this week. Situations will change from minute to minute. It would be a waste of energy to take anything at facevalue. Time is often the first thing to solve many problems. As with health, given a few days simple things will sort themselves out.



ARIES
(March 21 - April 20)

With your engine revving and the road ahead clear, a sense of great freedom is with you. There are those for whom this week is a chance to really make headway. For some, though, it is an irksome task. The difference is that some of you are taking a negative attitude. Make sure that yours is positive and you will have a chance to make real progress.



SCORPIO
(October 24 - November 22)

Although you are only too aware that you are capable of great good when you put your mind to it, it would be wise to bide your time this week. You may not realise that you are expending too much energy until your weary head hits the pillow. Be kind to your body. Some things that are taken for granted should not be so. This can lead to neglect. In neither home nor business is this recommended.



TAURUS
(April 21 - May 21)

Wanting to put things right with someone close is a good instinct to have. It would certainly give you peace of mind. Indeed, this should be a quiet and peaceful week and one that is long overdue. Being successful in business is only one part of success. The light is dawning that what you have always wanted has changed.



SAGITTARIUS
(November 23 - December 21)

It may seem that everyone wants your attention at the moment. There are times when you would like nothing more than to go away and clear your mind. This is not only possible but essential. You need some quiet moments. Even a day away can renew your spirits and energy.



GEMINI
(May 22 - June 21)

Someone very special could come into your life. You must, however, be at the ball to meet the prince. This opportunity for happiness is not going to jump up and bite you. A phone call could be the start of it all. Accept invitations and get out and about. Be aware of what is going on so that you can be in the right place at the right time.



CAPRICORN
(December 22 - January 20)

So strong have been the practical considerations of late that you have been in a bad position. You need to live more for the 'now' and less for the 'tomorrow'. Of course, life should be a mixture of both but sometimes it all gets a bit jumbled. Getting a few hours peace and quiet on your own may be all that you need. Getting enough sleep is also important in this situation.



CANCER
(June 22 - July 23)

What is the reason that you are being held back? Are you sure that you are, in reality, being held back at all? These are not trick questions. Being honest with your answers this week will lift a cloud from your horizon. Perhaps you are seeing ghosts when there are only shadows.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Cycle, 4 Hosts, 8 Prosper, 9 Laird, 10 Torso, 11 Saddles, 12 Nutmeg, 14 Pastor, 18 Panache, 20 Satin, 22 Liner, 23 Tendril, 24 Sober, 25 Calms.

Down:

- 1 Capstan, 2 Choir, 3 Explore, 4 Harass, 5 Solid, 6 Skillet, 7 Aides, 13 Tenants, 15 Arsenic, 16 Rankles, 17 Pewter, 18 Pulse, 19 Carob, 21 Tyrol.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Rush, 3 Progress, 9 Measles, 10 After, 11 Meets, 12 Easier, 14 Errors, 16 Cinema, 19 Battle, 21 Serve, 24 Alike, 25 Dispute, 26 Shepherd, 27 Less.

Down:

- 1 Remember, 2 Share, 4 Rested, 5 Grabs, 6 Extreme, 7 Sure, 8 Closer, 13 Careless, 15 Realise, 17 Insist, 18 Tender, 20 Teeth, 22 Route, 23 Cats.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 2 Araña, 6 Deaf, 7 Draw, 8 Tired, 9 Bite, 10 Roar, 11 Ridge, 12 Burn, 13 Seed, 14 Obras, 15 Pato, 16 Edad, 17 Nests.

Down:

- 1 Películas, 2 Afternoon, 3 Abridores, 4 Addresses, 5 Camareras.

KAKURO



CODE BREAKER

1	Z	B	S	T	F	U	N	I	R	L	K	J	Q
14	W	A	C	D	P	H	X	M	Y	E	O	G	V

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Sangria, zurra, or tinto de verano!

Ric Polansky

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

THE difference today from how it was back in 1969 is best served up using the receipt for making old sangria versus what is served today. The difference is night and day.

In fact, if you want to get technical and use the Real Academia's written version, 90 per cent of the indigenous populace confuses what is a Zurra for what is suspecting of being an authentic Sangria. And, no one every ordered a sangria drink. It had to be prepared weeks in advance and served up ONLY for the immediate family. Foreigners never got a taste nor ever knew about it, other than from legend and myth.

Bar rules were different then and the drink was reserved for that unique special occasion of a son returning home or a daughter announcing her pregnancy. Even then, advance notice for making the concoction had to be served up

and planned well in advance to not break the 'ancient sangria rules.'

Back in the day there was an unwritten bar law that if a drink was poured and the customer didn't get the fair measure and another bottle had to be opened - his drink was free.

So, when the barman came to your table to pour you a shot of brandy or anis he first examined the bottle to make sure he had enough. If he could see that there wasn't enough then he passed back behind the counter and dumped the errant measure into a large caldron.

Made no difference what it was, green chartreuse, anis, brandy, gin or whisky, if it was not a full

tot it would go into the family barrel. The dregs of the wine went in too. Now Grandma wouldn't visit the bar often but when she did it was only to check on the

gauge of the caldron being filled for the special event. After it got a quarter full she would peel fruit and throw that in. Apples, pears,

apricots or what ever. A few stirs and cover it with an old towel. That sat and saturated until next Saturday morning when she re-

SANGRIA: The modern drink has no heavy alcohol in it.

turned to add more magic, possibly fruit or a sprinkle of red wine or cinnamon.

Every bar in this corner of Spain followed these exact rituals never knowing they were in fact making what was known as a zurra (in the rest of Spain).

On the day of drinking other specialty ingredients will be added, freshly cut oranges topped off with gaseosa (or lemonade) and filled to the brim with fresh red wine.

Stirred and stirred and served up.

Naturally each participant eats the fruit first. This sends

tongues a wagging. Following that, no one really needed to imbibe the drink. Within

minutes merriment flowed from the mouths of all.

Even the pleading young were given a portion, possibly the mother-in-law too.

Modern sangria has no heavy alcohol in it, much similar to today's tinto de verano (without vermouth).



Advertising feature

Off Plan Property Deposit Refunds could help you

IT is a major decision when anyone decides to purchase a new property in Spain and in the majority of cases all goes well.

After the financial crises from 2008 onwards however, a surprisingly large number of building companies were unable to complete projects for which they had received substantial deposits or full payment and it was a heart-breaking time for those who lost large amounts of money.

Whilst for several years it appeared as if the money was lost forever, it might just be possible to be able to recover some or all of it.

In a number of circumstances, it is perfectly

possible to obtain a refund of what you have lost thanks to a ruling by the Spanish government and the involvement of a knowledgeable group of lawyers and advisors.

A very well-informed real estate agent, Sheldon Grossmith found himself in exactly this situation but not only did he have a good idea of the law, he also knew a very astute and successful lawyer who actually

helped him recover his funds.

Now, through his company Off Plan Property Deposit Refunds which is based in Estepona, Sheldon and his Spanish associate will do their best to assist expatriates and Spaniards to recover their funds, even if, as is often the case, they were lost 10 years ago.

The concept is very simple, although recovery can take some time, as banks with whom the original deposit was lodged could well be responsible in law for the refund of the monies lost, provided that they didn't insist that monies lodged were covered by bank guarantees, separate insurance policies or in escrow accounts which many didn't.

Almost none of the money lost was ever in a 'safe haven' and this is where OPP can assist.

Sheldon still remembers how sick and upset he felt when he thought that he had lost such a large sum and wants to help others recover what in some cases could be their entire life savings.

To be fair, he isn't totally altruistic as he will make a charge for putting this together, but this will be on a no win, no fee basis!

Those who have suffered such a loss are invited to get in touch with him and send

him a copy of the original purchase contract and proof of payment (as well as where it was paid to).

A decision as to whether there is a viable case to prosecute can be made very quickly and if the decision is positive then it is intended that there will be a three-way agreement, signed between the person losing the money, OPP and the lawyer who will undertake the case.

Once an agreement to proceed is reached, it is likely to take between 12 and 18 months to obtain a final court ruling and in the event of the Judge making an award to the person whose money has been taken, there will be a 15 per cent charge (plus IVA) from OPP and the lawyers will keep any interest that has been awarded by the court.

Should the case be unsuccessful however, then no costs are charged to the client.

Off Plan Property Deposit Refunds was formed at the beginning of 2016 and as a regular advertiser in *Euro Weekly News* has received a number of enquiries from those who lost money and is currently actively pursuing more than 30 cases.

So if you want to find out more, visit www.off-planpropertydepositrefunds.com or call Sheldon on 642 740 708.

| Sheldon Grossmith.

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Come on, you know it makes sense

SIR,

The one single factor that separates EU citizens from the British are the identity cards used instead of passports.

An ID card has always been opposed by successive British governments, but it is time to face reality and accept that the advantages far outweigh the inconvenience. These have to be carried at all times and not only provide proof of the holder's identity but are an essential tool to enable police forces, health and administrative departments or stores to be able to carry out instant identity checks. They make life easier for everyone.

In the post Brexit era I firmly believe in the introduction of an EU identity card for British citizens, which would grant everybody legally entitled to obtain one, the same rights as all other EU citizens. This would replace the European Health Insurance Card which will become obsolete after Brexit. This might be seen as a means to carry out the greatest survey of the population since the Domesday Book but it would also identify all those who

Cycling menace

AS a North American cyclist spending part of the year in southern Spain, I was not very surprised to read about your 'Road Rage Alarm' article in your issue no 1666. And as it reminded me of what I recently read about the Spanish police being worried about the increasing number of run-over cyclists, I thought I'd drop you a line.

“ It's a pleasure having you stressed-out folks around.

The by far most ruthless and disrespectful drivers I encounter as a cyclist on rural roads in the



ROAD RAGE: Most disrespectful drivers are British.

province of Almeria (area around Mojacar - Lubrin) are test drivers with a British licence plate.

Sitting in their usually large tank-like SUVs and sports cars they seem to be thinking they are kings on race tracks in this normally so relaxed part of the country. And no, it's not test drivers in

general, it's particularly British test drivers.

Great you are bringing your (traffic) attitude to Spain, thanks! It's a pleasure having you stressed-out folks around.

Jeff Tony Auth,
Washington/Mojacar

have no right to remain in the UK which might be useful at a time when the terrorist threat is real.

Peter Fieldman, Madrid

Changing times

LIFE will never be the same again.

When I first experienced a mobile phone that included a camera, I failed to identify with its need.

Turn the clock forward a few years and in recent weeks my wife and I have had some repairs done to winter storm damage caused to our villa, with an insurance claim covering the costs.

In total three different workmen were involved; a plasterer, then a painter, and finally an electrician.

Each took a photograph on completing his work... using his mobile... presumably for company files. And the insurance accessor who called before approving the work also took a photo, with his mobile, of the damage caused.

Technology has really made modern-life more convenient, and to a degree I accept the changes and improvements, even though at 70+ some are hard to totally grasp!

N Withey
Torre

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

New weapons in the fight

»Bring that down to Andalucia!

WE seem to be suffering from a particularly aggressive 'Tiger' mosquito plus the ordinary - and I'm covered in large red bites. The creams from pharmacies seem to agitate them further and the bites blister.

Dave

»800 households to be evacuated from London tower blocks

THE lady council chief who organised this has done a wonderful job and explained everything so clearly - a future prime minister perhaps!

Robert Fudge

Where are they planning to accommodate all those people?

Christina Petrie

»Fortune taped to a man's waist causes bomb scare

IN the US the police would take your money without investigation. All legal.

Nasuno

Comments from EWN online

»A masterclass in how to snatch defeat out of the jaws of victory (Nora Johnson)

SPOT on! We just witnessed a true masterclass in how to lose an election - and one that was supposed to be a certain win. David Cameron was obsessed with 'modernising' the party, but Theresa May, although starting well when she became Prime Minister, gave out confusing messages to voters. There was too much 'I' and not enough 'we' in the Conservative campaign. She seemed to forget that...

Karen

»50,000 trapped in beachfront town as Huelva fire rages on

HOPE every one is ok. I know the scary feeling of flee-

ing a home through a fire scene with young children in the car ...

Kris Jackson

My thoughts are with the firefighters and all of those affected by this fire including the poor animals.

Sallyann Wiseman

Man killed after gunman opens fire during San Juan celebrations in Galicia

ALL these shootings it's getting like another country with lots of Sans in it San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, San Bernardino.

Michael Hearne

»Cocaine coconuts discovered at Madrid airport

WELL done, lock them up and throw away the key!

Sallyann Wiseman

»Road rage driver released

GOOD God no!! Should have been held without bail... What were they thinking!?

Anne Coyle

Trumped up

LOVED the clip of Trump barging his way to the front at the NATO photo call. To me that totally typifies just what sort of a person he is. The last time I saw posturing like that by a world leader was in old grainy clips of Mussolini, Il Duce himself. That's the man who Leapy Lee drools over. Where's the wall Trump? That was your first priority, remember!

Philip, San Fulgencio

Dear Leapy

OUR neighbour, who has a flat in Spain, has given us a copy of your brilliant article in *Euro Weekly News*. You are so right in condemning Tony Blair. After all, as you say, he was responsible for so many deaths in the Middle East and possibly indirectly responsible for the rise of Daesh and Al Qaeda.

I have always wondered why he was so starry-eyed about George Bush and the two of them together made a really appalling combination! Then, there's his awful money-grubbing wife!

Frances Wood, Woking, Surrey

Advertising feature

Ready for anything when you travel?

Christina Sharp

GLOBELINK INTERNATIONAL

christina@globelink.co.uk



WOULD your hand luggage pass the test for a trip-savvy, seasoned traveller?

As millions of us grab passports and head for our holidays, it is a timely reminder that literally hundreds of thousands of baggage items go missing every year. Usually it's because your luggage is checked onto the wrong plane. Fortunately the airline generally get it back to you within 48 hours. However, what do you do in the meantime?

Our advice is to be 'ever-ready' when you travel and pack smart when it comes to your hand-luggage. It will avoid no end of stress if your luggage does decide to go on a trip of its own.

Here are our Top 10 Essentials to carry in your hand luggage:

1. *Travel documents and valuables*

Carry essentials in an easily accessible separate compartment, or folder. Include passport/visa, boarding pass, reservations, all relevant contact numbers, cash, cards and valuables (including spectacles). Don't keep all cash/cards in one place and ideally split it between you and any travel companion for added security.

2. *Prescribed Medication*

Carry enough medication for at least two days in case your luggage is delayed. It's a good idea to carry the prescription too. Note that you're allowed to carry essential medicines of more than 100ml in your hand luggage, as long as you have supporting documentation from your doctor, or a copy of the prescription.

3. *First aid kit*

Pain killers, indigestion tablets, anti-diarrhea, travel sickness tablets, allergy medication, anti-bacteria gel, plasters, small disinfectant cream etc. You can fit these into a small clear plastic travel/toiletry bag.

4. *Toiletries*

Basics, including travel toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, razor. Save space with travel-size items and keep within carrier regulations with liquids no more than 100ml. Add anything else that's essential to you such as make-up that you really can't live without (you may not be able to buy your preferred brand locally, or it could cost three times the price).

5. *A spare set of clothes*

Trust me, this will save you no end of hassle if your luggage is delayed. Chose light and compact items. It's amazing how small you can fold/roll cotton shorts/trousers and a t-shirt.

6. *Snacks*

It pays to take some food and it saves you paying top prices at the airport. Chewing gum is especially useful as it helps with ear popping and is an instant breath freshener.

7. *Mobile phone / tablet*

Helps stay connected and occupied during the journey. Don't forget earphones.

8. *Portable Charger and Adaptor*

It's well worth carrying these compact items as it could be a real pain sourcing replacements while you're away.

9. *Pen and paper*

Always handy and often overlooked in this digital age!

10. *Travel Insurance*

We would say that wouldn't we? Travel Insurance is a must and comes into its own if your luggage is delayed. Most Comprehensive Travel Insurance policies cover baggage delay, and Globelink is no exception. Your baggage is usually considered 'delayed' if you don't have it after 12 hours. Baggage Delay cover provides a monetary sum to purchase essential items until your luggage turns up, like clothing, medication, and toiletries. Always get confirmation of the delay from your carrier and keep receipts for purchases.

Do you have any great travel tips that you would like to share? Email me and we can publish the best ones next time: christina@globelink.co.uk.

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Specsavers Opticas and ONCE launch campaign to support the deaf and blind

JUNE 27, 2017 - On the International Day of Deafblindness, Marcelo Rosado, ONCE representative for Andalucía, Ceuta and Melilla and José Ángel Moral-Tajadura, Retail and Business Development Manager for Specsavers Spain held a press conference to announce a new fundraising campaign, which will launch at Specsavers Opticas stores around Spain on Monday July 3.

Specsavers Opticas will be supporting the ONCE Foundation for the Deaf-Blind (La Fundación ONCE para la Atención de Personas con Sordoceguera - FOAPS) over the next six months. They will be offering free comprehensive eye tests at all eight of their opticians and asking patients to donate €1 to FOAPS after their test until the end of the year. Their aim is to raise €6,000 to fund 400 hours of interpreting for the Deaf-Blind.

All funds raised will be donated to FOAPS to fund interpreters who are crucial to allow deaf-blind people to



JOINT CAMPAIGN: Will launch around Spain on July 3.

lead a full life and communicate. This is part of FOAPS' 10-year anniversary campaign to raise awareness of the issues that deaf blind people face and boost funding so they can help more of these vulnerable people who are totally isolated without their help.

Specsavers' Retail and Business

Development Manager José Ángel Moral-Tajadura commented, "One of our key objectives in Spain has been to collaborate with an organisation such as ONCE, which is so important in helping people with sight loss. I hope that this collaboration won't just last for six months, and that we will collaborate with ONCE



and their foundations over the long term." He added that his commitment was to beat their €6,000 target and that he would be working closely with all the stores so that in January he can return to ONCE and celebrate the end of a highly successful campaign.

He also commented in his speech that "our eye tests are comprehensive and centered around professionalism and clinical care. We offer eye tests of the back of the eye and take digital retinal photography, as well as other tests which can detect signs related to glaucoma, age related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and other issues. These issues, if not caught early and referred to an ophthalmologist, can cause partial or total sight loss, problems which ONCE understand very well."

ONCE representative Marcelo Rosado explained the very important

work that the FOAPS interpreters undertake. He added that there are 100 interpreters working in Spain, offering a very personalised service depending on the level of visual and hearing loss and the different personal situations of each individual. Rosado said that FOAPS is currently offering interpreter service to 377 people; 260 adults and 117 children - more than 46,000 hours in 2017.

"As we add more activities there are more needs and so initiatives such as this one from Specsavers Opticas are very important."

Those who wish to participate in the campaign should visit their nearest Specsavers Opticas store for a comprehensive eye test and donate just €1 between July and December 2017.

Specsavers Opticas have eight stores in Spain, on the Costa Blanca, Costa del Sol and in Mallorca.

www.specsavers.es

Cassandra Nash

A weekly look- and not entirely impartial reaction -
to the Spanish political scene

French fashion

FRANCE'S Socialist Party (PS) needs examining under a microscope, because it is now microscopically small.

Far Left-leaning Benoit Hamon was trounced in the first round of the presidential elections and the party did no better in the recent parliamentary elections.

President Emmanuel Macron's En Marche-MODEM coalition won 350 of 577 seats while the PS plummeted from 284 to 40-odd. Former socialist prime minister Manuel Valls retained his Paris seat by the skin of his teeth and 139 votes.

Pedro Sanchez, on a roll after the PSOE national conference, will find reasons to dismiss parallels with the choice of Hamon as the PS leader and his own re-enthronement as secretary general.

Sanchez is safe for the time being as Spain still lacks a Macron and is unlikely to acquire one. Meanwhile he and the PSOE sector should ponder Hamon's fate, while thinking long and hard.

Do the maths

PEDRO SANCHEZ naturally hopes to evict Spain's president, Mariano Rajoy, from the

Moncloa Palace.

That's part of a political party's job description but simple arithmetic shows that with 85 out of 350 seats the PSOE can't pull this off alone.

Sanchez hopes to square the circle by persuading Ciudadanos and Podemos to join him in toppling Rajoy.

Ciudadanos was originally a civic movement opposed to Catalan independence. Meanwhile Podemos flirts with the notion that Spain is 'a nation of nations.' Ciudadanos and Podemos are the twain that never shall meet so Sanchez might as well try to square the circle - and that's geometry, not simple arithmetic.

Be very afraid

THE PSOE barons or regional presidents never took to Pe-

dro Sanchez but pledged their loyalty and support the second time around.

Apart from Francisca Armengol in Balears they were instrumental in removing Sanchez last October, so Susana Diaz, Ximo Puig and their fellow barons have much to fear.

The newly-elected PSOE executive committee stres-

sed that it will not seek to oust them from their dual roles of president and regional secretary. But neither, stressed the committee's spokesman Oscar Puente, would it hinder grassroots moves to do so.

The committee should nevertheless tread warily. Those barons were elected by voters, not the card-carrying party membership, and the newly-selected Executive Committee ignores this at its peril.

Freedom of speech

EL PAIS, and the SER radio station and others were recently excluded from an informal Podemos breakfast meeting. As none are to the party's liking this puts a new slant on freedom of the press. In other words, write what you like so long as it's what Podemos supremo Pablo Iglesias wants to hear.

Emmanuel
Macron.



Travel

Spirit of Dali remains in Figueres

THE modern town of Figueres, Girona has a population of 45,000 people and from most angles looks very normal for northern Spain. The area can claim an eclectic history however being the birthplace of Narcis Monturiol, the inventor of the first motor powered submarine, and singer Monica Naranjo.

The huge Castell de San Ferran dominates the town but no more than the presence of world famous Catalan surrealist Salvador Dali.

The legacy of Dali can be felt over Figueres, even decades after his death. The Dali Theatre and Museum helps to preserve his heritage and if you have one day in the town this is one of the best places to visit.

It is built on the site of a theatre where Dali's first exhibitions took place which was destroyed by a fire during the Spanish Civil War. In the 1960s Dali decided to rebuild the monument and dedicate it to his works and inspirations.

A visit to his museum will provide a vivid insight into the ec-



DALI MUSEUM: Designed like a Moorish palace with eggs on top.

centric imagination of Dali evidenced by the outside of the building which is designed like a Moorish style palace wall but decorated with giant eggs. Dali wanted his museum 'to be a single block, a labyrinth, a great surrealist object' and this he certainly achieved.

The museum does not feature

Dali's most well-known works like 'The Persistence of Time' or 'The Elephants' as many of these are displayed in museums across the US as well as in Brussels and Madrid or held by private collectors.

Instead the museum houses many pieces from Dali's private collection, which are no less impressive, and together constitute the single largest collection of Dali works in the world by far. To truly understand the artist, a trip to this museum is essential.

Included in the pieces on display are paintings, sculptures, collages, mechanical creations and other items which display Dali's vivid imaginings.

Other artist's works do feature in the museum. A Frida Kahlo exhibition recently ended and numerous surrealist displays of art by artists in Dali's private collection are permanent features.



Hay fever affects younger population

ALMOST half of Brits (48 per cent) aged between 16-24 have experienced a seasonal allergy, such as hay fever or an allergy pollen, in the past year. That's according to a report from Mintel, the world's leading market intelligence agency.

“ Hay fever sufferers can keep track of pollen levels during the pollen season.

Their research found that whilst 48 per cent of the 16-24 age group had suffered an allergy, just 25 per cent of those aged 55 and over had experienced an allergy. But it isn't just age which shows a significant impact, region also plays a role.

Whilst you may expect the rolling hills and wildflower meadows of the countryside to be a nightmare for sufferers, it seems that the pavements of London are a common place to encounter a hay fever sufferer as some 46 per cent of Londoners have experienced a seasonal allergy in the past year,



ALLERGY SUFFERERS: Over half experience a stuffy or runny nose.

compared to a national average of 39 per cent. The North East, North West, South East or East Anglia were found to have lower numbers of sufferers with 35 per cent of residents in each of these regions having experienced a seasonal allergy in the past year.

Over half of allergy sufferers experienced a stuffy or runny nose, 57 per cent suffered with sneezing and 47 per cent were plagued with itchy or watery eyes. However, while a third (32 per cent) of consumers choose to treat seasonal allergies, a long-suffering quarter (26 per cent) of Brits suffer in silence. Almost half (47 per cent) of hay fever sufferers keep track of pollen levels during the pollen season and residents in Spain can do the same with pollen counts able to be viewed at www.meteovista.com.

Andalucia and central areas are known to have high olive pollen counts and grass counts are often high but they usually go down by mid July. Grass counts also lessen in mid July in northern Spain and the Costa Brava. Low to moderate pollen counts are found in the Costa del Sol, Costa Almeria and Costa Dorada. Usually, coastal areas have lower pollen counts.

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We speak

What does your birth month say about your health?

RESEARCHERS from the University of Alicante say they believe that your birth month could be related to what illnesses and diseases may afflict you.

The scientists carried out the study on 30,000 people and mapped birth months to 27 chronic diseases to see if it made a difference to long-term health, and said they found there was a significant impact for some conditions. For example men who were born in September were almost three times more likely to suffer thyroid problems than those born in January.

Their study follows one from Columbia University researchers who found similar results in a study they conducted in 2015.

So what does your birth month potentially tell you about your health and what ailments could you be more prone to?



BIRTH MONTH: There was found to be a significant impact for some conditions.

January

Men; constipation, stomach ulcer and low back pain while for women, they are more likely to suffer from migraine, menopause problems

and heart attack.

February

Men; thyroid problems, heart conditions and osteoarthritis. Women; osteoarthritis, thyroid problems and blood clots.

March

Men; cataracts, heart conditions and asthma. Women; arthritis, rheumatism, constipation.

April

Men; asthma, osteoporosis, thyroid problems. Women; osteoporosis, tumours and bronchitis.

May

Men; depression, asthma and diabetes. Women; chronic allergies, osteoporosis and constipation.

June

Men; heart conditions, cataracts and chronic bronchitis. Women; incontinence, arthritis and rheumatism.

July

Men; arthritis, asthma and tumours. Women; chronic neck pain, asthma and tumours.

August

Men; asthma, osteoporosis, thyroid problems. Women; blood clots, arthritis and rheumatism.

September

Men; asthma, osteoporosis, thyroid problems. Women; osteoporosis, thyroid problems and malignant tumours.

October

Men; thyroid problems, osteoporosis and migraines. Women; high cholesterol, osteoporosis, anaemia.

November

Men; chronic skin issues, heart conditions, thyroid problems. Women; constipation, heart attack, varicose veins.

December

Men; cataracts, depression, heart condition. Women; chronic bronchitis, asthma and blood clots.

Ask The Doctor

Brought to you by



Jellyfish stings part 2



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

Are jellyfish stings dangerous?

In general, although irritating and sometimes painful, jellyfish stings do not tend to cause serious reactions. In some cases, mostly in children and the elderly, there can be extreme reactions that can cause people to die.

How can you tell you've been stung?

The area stung tends to become very itchy, followed by intense pain in the area affected. After a few minutes skin will appear red which can in some cases lead to infections, and ulcers.

Is there any aftercare treatment?

You have to keep the affected area clean and cool for several days after being stung to avoid infections. As long as there are no major reactions, the effects of the sting should only last a few days.

Do treatment myths,

such as urinating on the sting, work?

No, urinating on the affected area is unlikely to help. In fact, pouring vinegar over the sting is more helpful as it is proven to help prevent further nematocyst discharge. It does not however, provide pain relief.

Fresh water also worsens symptoms, so make sure to use salt water to relieve pain, but only once the tentacles have been removed using tweezers. DO NOT scrape them off, as this can push parts of the tentacle further into the skin, causing more pain.

Soaking the affected area in hot water also helps reduce pain and inflammation. If there are any severe symptoms, or if a large or sensitive area of the body has been stung, such as the face or genitals, call emergency services for treatment.

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

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SUMMER is here, the perfect time to sip a glass or two of something cold, but are we drinking too much?

A report has revealed that the average British drinker is risking their health by drinking 10 and a half glasses of wine a week and around 21 units of alcohol a week, double the government's maximum safe limit.

The figures were made

Drinking double

based on alcohol sales from 2016, which was then divided amongst the 83 per cent of adults who drink. The figures were worse in Scotland where adults drink an average 24 units a week.

Whilst worrying, experts say this is the average so in fact there will be some drinking much more than this and others much less but the Alcohol Information Partnership, which represents

the industry, has accused the report of 'scaremongering' saying it is not possible to get an accurate picture relating sales to consumption as alcohol is often bought and then left in a cupboard unopened or is used in cooking.

Campaigners seized on the data to call on the government to impose a minimum price for alcohol to help curb sales.



ALCOHOL: Do you drink too much?

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Become a Hollywood star

A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME opportunity is on the cards for Almería residents who wish to be seen in a Hollywood film. The latest effort from acclaimed Scarface director Brian de Palma is shooting in Almería this summer and casting calls for extras are now taking place.

Domino is a thriller written by a Norwegian scribe and directed by the veteran American, best known for Carrie, The Untouchables and Mission: Impossible. It is a classic pan-European thriller following a Danish policeman travelling to Spain in pursuit of an Islamic terrorist who killed his partner.

It stars Nikolaj Coster-Waldau of Games of Thrones fame, and Christina Hendricks as a CIA operative lending a further layer of intrigue. Shooting has already begun in Belgium and is scheduled for Almería in the first two weeks of July.

Unusually the film isn't set in the Tabernas Desert, which hogs much of Almería's filming credentials. Rather it

is set in the city itself with likely locations being around the port and the bullring.

Casting for extras opened yesterday and continues today, tomorrow and Saturday from 10am until 2pm and from 4pm until 8pm in the city's Palace of the Mediterranean Games. No advance booking is possible and entry is restricted to 300 people per session.

Casters are looking for men and women aged over 35. They will favour those with an Arab, black, or foreign appearance, typically Spanish looking extras, and band musicians with instruments.

CHRISTINA HENDRICKS:
Chance to act alongside Mad Men star.



A new breed of festival

EXPECTATIONS are rising for what is set to be one of the biggest rock music festivals held in Spain this year. Organisers behind the Juergas Rock Festivals scheduled for August in Almería believe it could attract more than 10,000 revellers each day.

Tickets are selling quickly for the fifth edition of the festival. It will be held from August 2 to 5 at the Adra Fairgrounds and attracted some major bands. Top names include Riot Propaganda, The Root, British Skindred and Marky Ramone.

Last year's festival brought almost €1 million in tourist revenue for the coastal Almerian town, sparking the decision to extend the event this year. On August 2 there will be an entirely free welcome party to kickstart the festivities as an estimated

30,000 rockers flocks to Adra.

Though aimed at younger generations, previous festivals have attracted a wide variety of music lovers from across the province. With rock concerts a relative rarity in Spain, home to trance and flamenco, Juergas is fast gaining a reputation as the best band festival in the country.

This year the party will be extended beyond the music, with camping, stalls, shops, and food halls providing rest and stodge to festivalgoers and locals outside the grounds. Thousands of people are expected to flock to Adra even without tickets, but simply to enjoy the vibrant festive experience.

Tickets can be bought online and start at just €45 for a four-day pass.

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Seaside art

THERE are just a few days to catch a stunning art exhibition in Mojacar. The exhibition from Raquel Jimenez entitled Mojacar y el Mar, is open today and tomorrow before moving on.

Jimenez is a renowned photographer whose work has appeared in Tokyo, London and Paris. She has three Masters degrees in her subject and brings a highly personalised style to the art, making it well worth a visit.

She makes interesting use of pine wood frames to showcase photography in even more vibrant form. Visits can be made to the Mirador del Castillo Arts Centre today and tomorrow 9am until 2pm to catch a glimpse of her works.

Also concluding tomorrow is an exhibition at the Centro La Fuente from Bernice Willis and Didi Arias. Both artists are exciting talents in their own right and this exhibition can be visited from 9am until 1pm today and tomorrow.



GRAVITY: Exercising in pools is great for injury prevention.

Underwater stretches

SWIMMING season starts in Albox on Saturday with an exciting range of healthy underwater activities available for local residents of all ages. Two of the town's three public pools opened last Friday, and all will be up and running once Las Pocicas opens its doors on Saturday.

The sports department of the council has patted itself on the back for offering residents an unprecedented range of facilities and activities. With temperatures set to regularly soar past 40 degrees in the coming months, it is vital people have a chance to cool off.

Access to pools this summer will be offered

at a discounted rate of just €2 for adults, €1 for children, and free admission for youngsters under four. In both the outdoor and inside pools there will be daily schedules of classes and activities.

The indoor pool offers uninterrupted daily access from 12pm to 8pm, the outdoor pool from 4pm to 8.30pm and Las Pocicas opens from 10am to 2pm and from 4pm to 8pm.

Activities include water sports, swimming classes, and healthy exercise for senior citizens and pregnant women. Exercises will come under Aguagym classes and schedules will be put up in the respective pools.

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Chilled out flamenco

TOP electronic-flamenco band Chambao are playing in Almeria tomorrow night. The acclaimed Malaga-based band are known for generating their very own music style, dubbed Flamenco Chill.

They have released half a dozen studio albums and are coming hot on the heels of their hugely successful Ten Years Around the World tour. Chambao will be playing popular songs from their latest album Nuevo Ciclo at the Alamar flamenco music festival being held at the city's Meson Gitano.

Frontwoman Maria del Mar Rodriguez will likely be stealing the show. The soulful 42-year-old is something of a star in her own right. Her separate stage name is La Mari and she has collaborated with some of the world's top singers, including Ricky Martin and Helena Papparizou.

Chambao play at Meson Gitano tomorrow evening, with other Alamar festival gigs running from tonight until Saturday.



LA MARI: Chambao frontwoman coming to Almeria tomorrow.

Racing under the stars

ORGANISERS of a night race are planning to smash participation records as countless Almerians prepare to fight cancer on their feet. The stage is now set for the third annual Night Race Against Cancer on Saturday July 8.

Thousands of residents from across the province are expected to show up in the capital to show solidarity with sufferers and their families. They will run, walk or even take a wheelchair along an extended six-kilometre route, up from the usual five.

"We're almost ready, all that's left is putting up signposting and spreading the word to attract more participants," said Jesus Diaz, event director of the Spanish Association Against Cancer. Diaz reckons there are a few hundred signed participants so far, and expects the numbers to rise sharply as awareness gathers

and the date approaches.

It is an unusual race, held under streetlights and in the historic centre of the capital, rather than the vast open spaces that attracts so many sporting competitions to the province. Many previous participants have concluded a day trip to the city with the short run, taking in the sights and helping an excellent cause.

Diaz and his association want to use sport to express solidarity. They welcome everyone from professional and amateur runners to regular folk that want to do their part for charity and might speedwalk rather than run.

Anyone interested in entering the race can log on to the website of the Andalucian Athletics Federation to register. It costs just €10 with the full amount going to charitable causes.

Modern guitar godfather

GIANT guitars and tremendous music will keep the streets of Almeria alive with passion until tomorrow evening as the city celebrates the European Music Festival. Free gigs have been taking place along the city's Rambla as Almeria celebrates the 200th anniversary of the birth of Antonio de Torres, the Almerian credited as the father of the modern guitar.

The festivities end tomorrow night, leaving

just two days to experience the festival atmosphere. The city has united the twin celebrations of European music and the de Torres anniversary to offer an excellent free music schedule featuring classic artists to visitors and residents alike.

The busiest areas are around La Rambla, Avenida Federico Garcia Lorca, and the Cathedral.

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Hacked off to Nick

THOSE REGULAR READERS will recall, I have been following the case of Gordon Ramsay's father-in-law Chris Hutcheson. He has been sentenced to six months in prison after admitting conspiracy to hack the chef's computer systems after he was sacked from his role as chief executive of Gordon Ramsay Holdings.

Hutcheson Snr, 69, and his sons, Adam Hutcheson, 47, and Chris Hutcheson Jr, 37, admitted a scheme to hack into Gordon Ramsay Holdings (GRHL) between October 23, 2010 and March 31, 2011. The two sons were given four-month jail terms, suspended for two years.

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



It brings to an end a long, bitter quarrel where the whole of Ramsay's wife Tana's family were under investigation. Fortuitously it has come to an end as The Gordon Ramsay Group has announced a return to profit for the first time since 2012, driven by 'strong trading' across its 14 London restaurants, according to audited results

for the year ending August 31, 2016. The 31-strong group reported profit after tax of £739,000, up from £2m loss the previous year, and revenue up 3.2 per cent to £51.9m.

However I don't get the feeling that the family will be gathering for Christmas lunch any time soon.

“

A hen's egg is quite simply a work of art - a masterpiece of design and construction with, it has to be said, brilliant packaging.

Delia Smith

It's in the bag



WHICH TYPE OF PLASTIC CAUSES THE MOST PROBLEMS?

MUCH IS MADE about plastic bags and the charges made by supermarkets and other retail outlets. I have never quite understood why such a fuss is made solely about plastic bags. A far greater quantity of plastic is used for packaging. Just about everything in a supermarket comes with a polystyrene type base - covered in plastic film. Other items come packed in sealed plastic bags such as bacon, ham, smoked salmon and the like. Not to mention the small plastic bags for your vegetables and fruit! What happens to all this?

But that's nothing compared to things purchased in a hardware store. Rigid plastic packaging that are lethal to open. The same applies in auto accessory shops and toy stores. And don't let us forget plastic water bottles, oil bottles and even in garages with all the oils, liquids etc all in hard plastic containers. All in all, far greater amounts, than plastic bags. So unless there is a levy to the manufacturers on these containers, then the plastic bag seems to be the only plastic for which there is a charge. There is a difference between the types of plastic of course. The rigid stuff (water bottles, containers etc) can be recycled - hence the reason for our yellow bins.

So what happens to the two cent charge in Spain or the 5p charge in the UK. In the UK the amount of plastic bag usage has gone down by 85 per cent since the introduction of the charge which is pretty impressive. But the UK government made £18 million from this, because 1p of the 5p goes to the chancellor the supermarkets, they then give some of the rest of the 4p to charities. Some as much as the whole 4p and others, a measly 1p. Which charities you may ask? I would like to think it was for cleaning up beaches and oceans!

Here in Spain the charge is two cents. But that is all going to change next year when every retailer will be obliged to charge a minimum of five cents up to an eye watering 30 cents for a bag.

Oh, and what happens to the hard plastic when it is recycled? It goes in to making rigid packaging... funny old world!

Why don't all supermarkets use brown bags like the United States. Destructible, burnable and free of charge!!

Speaking of Nicks!

PLANS TO TRANSFORM two wings of Bodmin Jail in Cornwall into a 63-bedroom hotel have been unanimously approved by Cornwall Council.

Twelve architects submitted proposals earlier this year to redevelop the Grade II-listed jail into a hotel, alongside a visitor experience, teaching and learning resource, and a venue for private hire.

The £30m project could start development in October, with the site scheduled to be completed in 2019. A hotel operator is yet to be named.

Chris Wilkes, the manager of Bodmin Jail, said "We're absolutely



BODMIN NICK - SOON TO BE A PLACE YOU MAY WANT TO STAY!

delighted to have achieved this unanimous decision. It's great news for the jail, for its owners and for not just Bodmin itself but for the whole county."

"Sorry darling, won't be home this evening, I've been detained overnight!!"

Going, Going, Gong

MANY HOSPITALITY NAMES were among the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Throughout the industry, hoteliers, restaurateurs, company directors were awarded a mixture of MBEs and CBEs including a sprinkling of well-known Indian restaurateurs and chefs, especially north of the border. But perhaps better known names to our readers will be that of Delia Smith and Sir Terrence Conran. The latter came to prominence as a designer in the 60's with the iconic Habitat brand. A passionate foodie and wine connoisseur he soon branched out into the restaurant business.

Conran founded Conran Restaurants in 1991 with Joel Kissin before the business (now D&D London) was sold in 2006 to David Loewi and Des Gunewardena as part of a management buy-out. Conran still owns Bibendum in London, which earlier this year was relaunched with



DELIA - QUEEN OF COOKS.

chef Claude Bosi at the helm.

Television presenter and cookery book writer Delia Smith has been on our TV screens for as long as many of us can remember. At 76



CONRAN - BY DESIGN.

years of age, she still writes prolifically but some years ago she decided she did not want to make any more TV programmes as she became disillusioned when she was

asked to entertain rather than educate.

Both were awarded Companions of Honour; she, for services to cookery but Conran for design.

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 you are contemplating setting up an operation in Spain, or indeed having problems with an existing project contact him on garrywaite@euroweeklynews.com

Saving lives

MORE than 50 residents of Zurgena and Purchena have taken first aid courses aimed at families in the past month. The free public courses provide all family members with basic knowledge on how to cope with an emergency.

Given that the first few minutes can be crucial in a crisis, the knowledge is extremely important and may one day prove decisive. The courses shed light on preventing accidents, treating bleeding, fainting, trauma, bites, stings and burns alongside resuscitation techniques.



FIRST AID: Knowledge can prove decisive in a crisis.

A LOCAL politician has urged the council to provide free entrance to Albox's three swimming pools to children after they opened for summer. Juan Perez Quilles of the Popular Party wants free entrance for minors and subsidised access for poor families.

Rates are cheap at just €1 for children over four and €2 for adults but

Breaking barriers

sending children for a swim every other day over summer will add up says Quilles, who notes that many local families have no employed adults.

By starting a means-tested subsidy no child will be left without swimming classes. Quilles believes the council will support the idea so that swimming doesn't become a luxury.

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Local insurance company wins another award

LOCAL insurance company Albox/Mojacar Insurance Director Glenn Unwin has accepted another award at the Fairmont Springs hotel in Banff Canada from Liberty Insurance director Paul Oudenhoven.

This award along with the previous one that was awarded in 2014 in Japan is a big pat on the back, not just for Glenn but the rest of the team Jayne, Ben, Holly and Ged. Glenn points out that along with the fact that they are the largest Liberty agents in Almería, Glenn and the team make sure their clients get the best price for the best cover.

Please contact Albox insurance at www.alboxinsurance.es.



WELL DONE: Glenn Unwin accepts award.



STOLEN: Goods taken from three properties by thieves.

Bad hiding place

POLICE found one suspected thief hiding under a bed when they raided the Albox home of his accomplice. Guardia Civil officers arrested the two local men, believed responsible for a spate of three thefts in the area.

Goods reported stolen include electrical equipment, a tractor engine and a tool set. The men, identified only as MVCF, 42, and VSG, 40, are well-known to neighbours and are set to appear before a Huerca-Overa court.

The arrests were made several weeks ago but have only just been revealed in a Guardia Civil press release. Officers have revealed how residents saw the pair acting suspiciously. A quick investigation recovered the stolen items.



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Hard drive of the community

FOUNDER of the Albox Computer Club, David Shear, has been commended for his invaluable contribution to the Zurgena community by the town hall.

Local school Juan Andres Toledo de Zurgena has benefited tremendously from recycled computers and equipment provided by the Albox-based group.

Mr Shear was presented with a plaque and a ceramic plate in gratitude for his altruistic work by the town hall. The Albox Computer Club has helped install new computers at schools across the area, as well as in the municipal library.

Deputy mayor Lola Garcia thanked the Albox Computer Club for the devotion and valuable help of members during a tribute at the Zurgena theatre. All members of



COMPUTERS: Can transform a local library or school.

the association received a red rose in thanks.

The group donated roughly 60 computers last year and continues to receive heartening offers of help from computer experts and donators. With Pirda, the group also run free work-

shops on computer literacy, making an incredible difference to Almanzora Valley communities.

They are closely linked to multiple local charities and have even donated equipment to police forces and schools in Africa.

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Kevin Lewis

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You can now decide how TV shows on Netflix end with ‘interactive storytelling’

Richard Shanley
Dishing the Dirt
OF EUROPA DIGITAL



NETFLIX has already revolutionised the way we (binge) watch our favourite TV shows, and thankfully it's showing no sign of stopping its drive for innovation. The streaming giant has introduced a brand new feature called ‘interactive storytelling,’ and it's all about placing the power in users' hands.

There is a catch, though - at the moment, the technology is only available on a select number of children's titles. Not that this would stop us from tuning in. Netflix will launch its brand new narrative tech with *Buddy Thunderstruck: The Maybe Pile* and *Puss in Book: Trapped in an Epic Tale*. Hoping to ‘push the bounds of storytelling,’ the interactive feature will offer viewers the chance to directly engage with the story they're watching by influencing its progression.

While interactive storytelling is sticking with a younger audience for now, so as to en-



HEAT: Poses a series of dangers during the long Almería summer.

courage them to ‘think, engage and inspire their creativity,’ we're sure it's only a matter of time before us adults get a shot at it, too. Sure, we probably shouldn't have the power to change how the likes of *Orange Is the New Black* and *House of Cards* play out, but we certainly want it.

Earlier this month, the BBC officially announced that Tom Hardy's Victorian crime caper *Taboo* would be coming back for a second series, which means more James Delaney, more of his grimy cohorts from the league of the damned, and even more grunting. The first season aired on BBC One in the United King-

dom on January 7, 2017. Filming on series two is expected to begin in early 2018. “I'm trying to write it as quickly as I can,” said series creator Steven Knight. “I would say we would hope to be shooting it... early next year.” So, while an official air date has yet to be announced, we'd predict a similar scheduling for *Taboo* series two as the first - probably around January 2019. Sir Ridley Scott, who will again executive produce the series, added: “We're thrilled people want to know what happens next and that the BBC and FX are up for more adventures with the devil Delaney and the league of the damned.”

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

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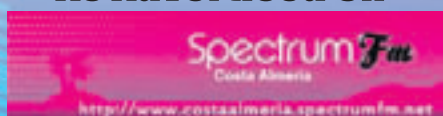
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Channelling your inner Wonder Woman

Trudy

Stewart



I AM beyond excited about the new Wonder Woman movie!

Ever since I first saw Lynda Carter striding across the screen in her California Tan tights, wielding her lasso of truth, I've been a super-fan.

After years of reading the comic books, my favourite superhero has finally been brought to the big screen in the form of real-life Wonder Woman, Gal Gadot.

Born in 1985, her beauty led to her being crowned

Miss Israel at age 18.

At 20, Gadot enlisted as a soldier in the Israeli Defence Forces serving as a combat trainer.

In preparation for her role in Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice (the first outing for Wonder Woman), Gadot was trained in swordsmanship, kung fu kickboxing, capoeira and Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

As a mother of two young daughters, she takes her role-model status very seriously.

She was born to play this part and I can't wait to see her interpretation of my favourite feminist.

I am so happy to see a strong, powerful woman take the lead for a change. It's part of what drew me to and made me fall in love with

Wonder Woman in the first place.

Growing up, I didn't find fairy-tales very inspirational.

The female leads spent most of their stories either sleeping or trying their best to bag a Prince (in one extreme case, the 'heroine' indulges in some breaking and entering with a side-line in porridge theft!)

The year I was born (1975), Margaret Thatcher became leader of the Conservative party and just four years later, became the first female Prime Minister of the UK.

At the time, I imagine I was more interested in the Mup-

pets and grew up taking it for granted that a woman was the leader of the country.

Whatever you thought of her, Mrs Thatcher was

unique and had a huge influence, shaping the

world we live in today.

The UK now has another female PM (although by the time we go to print, who knows!) as well as a female First Minister in Scotland, (my particular favourite) Nicola Sturgeon.

All over the world, women are leading their countries with last year seeing the US just a whisker away from their first female President.

Women are increasingly working in areas traditionally dominated by men. We are redefining ourselves as more than just our gender. But that doesn't mean men and women have equal rights and opportunities and we can hang up our feminist spurs.

There is still a gender pay gap and the glass ceiling is yet to be smashed completely.

The stereotype of a feminist as a man-hating, hirsute, embittered cat parent is outdated and inaccurate.

Thankfully, a new generation of self-proclaimed feminists such as Daniel Radcliff and even Prince Harry are redefining the term.

Hopefully, one day men and women will all have equal rights and opportunities and we can thank the real-life Wonder Women who paved the way.

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WONDER WOMAN: I'm a super fan.



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Capers - A Mediterranean wonder

GRAEME TYRRELL

FEW plants have the wondrous qualities of the Caper plant (*Capparis spinosa*). To ornamental gardeners it is sometimes called the Flinders Rose.

The Caper's white petalled flowers with contrasting sprays of long violet stamens and just a single stigma are sweetly and delicately scented which gives them a unique appeal. Butterflies love caper flowers so they are a good way to attract butterflies to your garden.

But they are not usually grown just for the beauty of their flowers. They are mainly grown to provide the traditional Mediterranean delicacies of caper buds, caper leaves and caper berries.

These are not the only advantage for the Mediterranean gardener who wants to enjoy their time in the garden without too much fuss.

The capers are one of the best adapted plants to grow in the Mediterranean climate.

Once established they are about as hardy as a plant can be. They only grow to a maximum one metre high and spread to two metres. They will survive the long hot summers without needing supplementary watering at all. They need minimal pruning as they usually die back in winter, so they just might need clipping back to the stump in winter.

Many of my neighbours just cultivate over the capers in their fields with their tractors but the caper plants return again the next spring. The caper's deep root system makes them almost indestructible so you might only need to be sure that where you plant them they can stay.

Capers will also survive in the poorest of soils so any additional soil improvement is to help them thrive rather than survive. They can some-

times be seen growing in rock crevices and stone walls to demonstrate their strength as a plant.

They will grow in full sun to partial shade. Traditionally in some almond-growing regions they are planted between the well-spaced out almond trees where the sheep are used to keep down the grass and weeds.

Sheep don't usually bother the capers much as capers have spines to deter the sheep. If you grow them in a domestic garden you can find spineless varieties that make harvesting and caring for the plants much less painful.

The caper buds are the best known part of the plant. They are commonly served along with olives and pickles in Spain. They are also an ingredient in tartar sauce.

Contrary to most fruits or berries, the smaller the bud the greater it is valued, so harvesting the newly formed buds when less than the size

of a pea gives the best quality. Early morning before sunlight is on the plant is the best time to harvest.

The caper berry is the matured seed after flowering, so the flower buds that are too big to harvest can be left so you enjoy the flower and can later reap the berry. The berry is more commonly used in Greek dishes (Mezze) as are the leaves.

Caper plants are a great way to appreciate the wonders of Mediterranean gardening.



Photo Credit: Reacheryst Shutterstock

FLINDERS ROSE: Beautiful flowers of the caper.

Robot takeover

THE advances made in the last few years in household robotics have been unprecedented and nowadays there is a whole army of smart machines ready to help with all your least favourite chores.

Very useful for the less able and the lazy alike, these devices can save hours of time that could be spent in the Spanish sun.

The unrealistic 1950s visions of humanoid metallic robots taking all our unpleasant jobs in their stride haven't quite come true but the modern robot is built with functionality in mind and often

“ The caper buds are the best known part of the plant.

looks similar to its human operated predecessors.

The smart vacuum cleaner is the most affordable and useful every day robot and they often come with a range of different settings. Although lacking in power it can systematically clean the floor or use fitted cameras to plot the best route around your rooms.

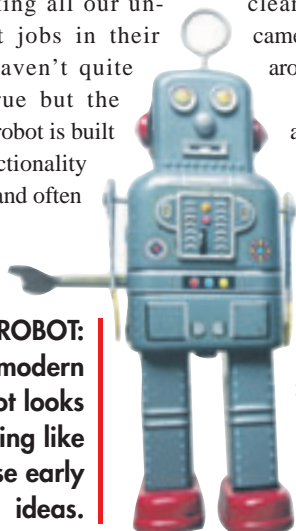
Many also include an app available on smart phones which can get the cleaner started before you get home and makes it very user friendly.

Other household robots can mow the lawn, mop the floor, clean the windows, clean out the grill and even clear the gutter.

All of the machines

mentioned are now getting cheaper and it's likely they will become a regular member of the household in the coming years.

1950s ROBOT: The modern robot looks nothing like these early ideas.



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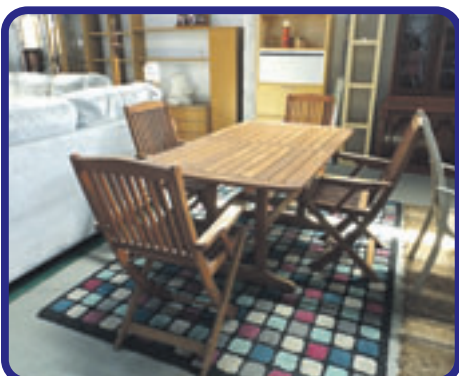
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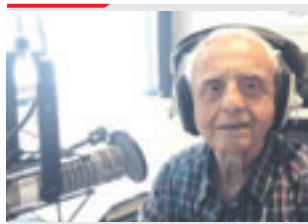
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Puppy-proofing

er harmful items. Puppies can be quite persistent; make sure yours can't get to anything by jumping or nosing open a cabinet door.

Do your best to make electrical and phone cords inaccessible.

Research your plants. Many common household plants are hazardous to dogs. Make sure harmful plants are out of reach and that leaves won't fall where your puppy can reach them.

Make sure your puppy can't access any dangerous areas. Consider everywhere your puppy can reach. Can he fit through railings on the stairs or on a deck and possibly fall? If so, you may need

to cover the openings with chicken wire until he's larger.

How can I protect our possessions?

Eager, active pups don't have a concept of how expensive your household objects are. Prevent accidents by:

Removing expensive rugs and throws until your puppy is older and house trained.

Moving waste bins, toilet paper rolls, tissue boxes, etc, that are within reach.

Keeping children's toys out of reach or in chests with latches.

What puppy supplies should I have on hand?

Prepare for puppy with the following:

A safe and comfortable place

for your puppy to sleep

A crate/den/playpen for when you are out

Puppy food, dishes and toys

Cleaning supplies for those inevitable accidents

Collar, leash and pooper scooper

Plan ahead and be prepared for your puppy's homecoming to make the first days with your new companion less stressful and more enjoyable. Let the puppy sleep in your bedroom for the first week in his secured box and gradually move him to another room.

Because you won't need to worry about your possessions, you can focus on getting to know him.

The Rainbow Bridge poem

THE real Rainbow Bridge is near Lake Powell, Arizona, and is a sacred Indian stone bridge.

The legend says:

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge.

There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable. All of the animals who had been ill or old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing: they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. Her bright eyes are intent; her eager body quivers. Suddenly she begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, her legs carrying her faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face, your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together...

PUPPY-PROOFING your home protects your possessions from damage and your new pet from unexpected harm. With a little forethought and effort, you can make your house a safe habitat for your new friend while keeping your sanity and maintaining the relationship. Consider these steps.

How should I prepare my home for our new puppy?

Take the following measures:

Keep all poisonous or hazardous items out of your puppy's reach. This includes cleansers, gardening products, insect sprays, medications and any oth-

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Clarkson
Quote of the Week

“It’s really sad that you can now buy Hummer aftershave. It comes in a jerry can of repressed homosexuality.”

Some might say...



Motoring shorts

Fastest
ever
go-kart

THE world’s fastest go-kart can go from 0-100kph even faster than a Bugatti Chiron. The C5 Blast Ultimate can hit that speed in just 1.5 seconds, roughly twice as quick as the speediest cars on the planet.

The lithium battery-fuelled, lightweight go-kart is built by Canadian engineering company Daymak and costs around €55,000. There are 12 Electric Ducted Fans, eight on either side of the driver’s seat and four crammed behind.

A teaser trailer online shows a suited up driver step into the go-kart, but Daymak’s bold acceleration claims are yet to be confirmed. A slightly slower version is available for €10,000, reaching 100kph from a standstill in under four seconds.

Leaving the nest

POLESTAR is set to become a stand-alone brand under the wider Volvo umbrella. The Swedish firm

is putting its weight behind the technology as it hopes to create a rival to Mercedes’ AMG or BMW’s M brands.

At present, Polestar is mainly an add-on power

pack option for Volvo drivers wanting to crank up the performance levels on their cars. There are engine optimisation options for certain turbocharged models and a few Polestar dominated limited edition models such as the S60 and V60.

That all changes with the decision to make Polestar a “truly differentiated stand-alone brand within the Volvo Car Group” in the words of president Hakan Samuelsson. Polestar will be given ample marketing and engineering freedom

to distinguish itself from classic Volvo styles and expectations.

Polestar, in its new incarnation, will specialise in hybrid and electric high-performance vehicles combining serious power with smooth green energy. Samuelsson envisions a near future where Polestar is a major player in a hugely competitive electric marketplace.

Earlier this month, Volvo announced that some 100,000 cars have now undergone Polestar powertrain enhancements. In just a few days, the heavily hyped XC-60 SUV goes on sale and is expected to showcase the latest in Polestar performance technology.



NEW XC-60: SUV will showcase Polestar’s performance credentials.

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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

Infiniti Q60 Premium Tech

INFINITI is the stand-alone luxury brand of Nissan, pitched against premium models from BMW, Mercedes, Audi and Lexus.

The latest Infiniti is the Q60, a four-seat, two-door coupe with stand-out styling that turns heads and delivers fast, refined performance. It is also generously equipped – the kit list on my test model ran to 82 individual features!

Q60 prices start at €38,508 (£33,990) with flagship versions up to €52,897 (£46,690). My test model was a mid-range Premium Tech version with a

2.0 litre petrol engine and 7-speed auto gearbox, costing €42,700 (£37,690). With 208 hp on tap, the 0-100 kph time is just 7.6 seconds and top speed is 235kph (146 mph). It is not as 'green' as some rivals, but otherwise performs brilliantly.

Progress is smooth and responsive, with a suitably sporty but not over-intrusive note from the twin exhausts. The auto box is seamless, the steering precise and intuitive, the ride quality understandably on the firm side but overall still very comfortable. I found the Q60 a beautiful, effortless drive. It delivers

on other fronts too. The visual styling is elegant, with a very distinctive look, and the potent front-end design makes German rivals appear rather muted.

In the cabin, the good impression continues with use of quality trim materials. The dashboard is well laid out, with twin dials behind the steering wheel and twin screens on the centre console, one for infotainment and sat-nav, the other for driver-information and connectivity features.

Access to the rear is tight but once inside, the back seats are surprisingly spacious with plenty of legroom, though tall passengers will find headroom slightly compromised. The boot is a large boxy shape, offering 352 litres of space and the rear

seat folds down to accommodate longer items.

Highlights from the 82-item equipment list include alloy wheels with run-flat tyres, BOSE audio system, intelligent cruise control, forward collision warning and emergency braking, blind-spot intervention system and all-round monitor with moving object detection and parking guidance. You also get LED lights, front and rear sensors, dark maple-wood interior trim and memory-linked drivers seat, steering wheel and door mirrors.

The Q60 is more exclusive than most rivals, generously equipped, with great driving dynamics and eye-catching visual cachet. It is a formidable contender in the niche luxury performance sector.

INFINITI:
An effortless drive.

Stats panel:

Model: Infiniti Q60 Premium Tech
 Engine: 2.0 litre petrol
 Transmission: 7-speed auto
 Performance: 0-100 kph 7.3 seconds, top speed 235kph (146 mph)
 Economy: 14.7 kpl (41.5 mpg)
 Emissions: 156 g/km



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

Plan B for British cars

BRITISH cars are getting more British than ever, just as manufacturers warn a 'hard-Brexit' would be disastrous for the industry. The next two years of negotiations will be crucial but the biggest fear is widespread uncertainty spooking much-needed investment.

The good news is, recent efforts to make the UK's car industry more independent seem to have made a difference. The Automotive Council has revealed that 44 per cent of parts for British cars are now sourced from within the country, the highest level in years, up from 36 per cent five years ago.

Production has shot up under the new laser-sharp focus on building British. The number of British built cars has risen by 72 per cent in under a decade while profits in the industry have skyrocketed.

But, the progress faces derailment if the Brexit talks flounder and UK-EU trade relations revert to World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules. Chief executive of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), Mike Hawes, said "no deal is simply not an option."

He urged the government to work on a Plan B in case talks collapse and substantial tariffs emerge, all but blocking the trade of parts and materials from the UK to continental Europe and vice-versa.

"Our sector needs a unique, comprehensive and bespoke EU trade agreement," he said, arguing that it was in everyone's interests for the motoring industry to remain within the EU's single market, regardless of where Britain's wider economy eventually ends up.

A fall back to WTO rules could seriously hamper the UK's booming exports to Europe and force British drivers to fork out thousands more for cars built overseas.

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Lions 'tamed', win for England cricketers, Wimbledon looms

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 Almería

THERE were mixed fortunes for several European competitors and teams over the last few days, including defeats in rugby, cricket, tennis and football but do not fret, there are many more opportunities coming up for all that to change!

RUGBY UNION

The British & Irish Lions lost the first Test by 30 points to 15 against New

Zealand at Eden Park in Auckland. The second Test takes place in Wellington on Saturday; the third and final one is back in Auckland on July 8.

CRICKET

England's cricketers have once again beaten South Africa, this time by two wins to one in the T20 series. They won the first game by nine wickets at Southampton; lost the second by three runs at Taunton and

won the third by 19 runs in Cardiff. Dawid Malan scored 78 on debut in the latter game.

It's Surrey versus Nottinghamshire in the Royal London 50-over Cup final at Lords on Saturday. And the women's cricket World Cup is now underway but England's lassies didn't start too well, losing their opening Group game against India by 35 runs. Their second versus Pakistan took place on Tuesday.

And the 'voice of cricket', 77-year-old Henry Blofeld, OBE, a BBC Test Match Special commentator for

45 years, will retire in September.

FORMULA ONE

Lewis Hamilton was battered, bumped, hampered and crushed by 'Mad Max' German Sebastian Vettel in last Sunday's hectic Azerbaijan Grand Prix. Daniel Ricciardo (Red Bull) won the race with Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes) second and 18 year-old Lance Stroll (Williams) third. Vettel, who finished 4th in Sunday's Bacu race now leads the driver's championship by 14 points from Hamilton (5th).

MOTOGP

Italian ace Valentino Rossi won last Sunday's Dutch MotoGP in a very exciting finish, ahead of fellow countryman Danilo Petrucci and Spain's Marc Marquez.

CYCLING

On Saturday, the 104th Tour de France gets underway in

Dusseldorf. Riders will cover 3,540 kilometres over 21 stages in 23 days.

TENNIS

Spain's Feliciano Lopez won the men's singles title at Queen's club last weekend, while Petra Kvitova triumphed in the women's tournament in Birmingham. And the ever-impressive Roger Federer is back to form - he won his ninth Halle title in Germany last Sunday.

Wimbledon fortnight starts on Monday... and the draws for both singles tournaments takes place today. And GB's Dan Evans has tested positive for cocaine.

FOOTBALL

Ex-Dutch international Frank

de Boer is Crystal Palace's new manager and Argentine Mauricio Pellegrino, who led Alaves to the Copa Del Rey final last season, has taken charge at Southampton.

Liverpool have signed ex-Chelsea star Mohamed Salah from Roma for £34m.

England meet Germany and Italy played Spain earlier this week in the semi-finals of the European U21 championship.

And it's Chile v Germany and Mexico v Portugal in the Confederation Cup semi-finals.

ROUND UP

Not too bad for me at Royal Ascot horse race meeting last week - five selections two winners (including

a 5-1 shot), one second and one third... and Irish supremo Aiden O'Brien was the top trainer at Royal Ascot last week - taking the title for a record eighth time.

Team GB won a record eight medals at the recent European boxing championships.

And the Gotland Games, which involves islands with less than 100,000 inhabitants, are taking place in Gutavallen, Sweden. Around 3,000 athletes from 23 islands are competing in 14 different sports.

PETRA KVITOVA:
Triumphed in the women's tournament in Birmingham.



ENGLAND:
Beat South Africa again.



VALENTINO ROSSI:
Won last Sunday's Dutch MotoGP.



Aguilon Golf Members Report

THERE has been plenty of success away from Aguilon to report on for the members of late.

The weekend of June 3 and 4 saw Glyn Ombler and Dave Sharp represent the club at the Marriot Hotel, Denia in the Campbell Lamont golf league Grand Final.

The regional winners, from all over Europe, contested knock-out golf over four rounds and our pairing did them proud - halving their match - which was decided by the pairs going to the putting green and losing in a sudden death 'putt off.'

Friday July 16 and the members sent a team to La Envía to compete in the 'Top Banana' event, which saw teams from Almería and Granada competing for the title.

It proved to be a very successful day with the team winning overall and crowned 'Top Banana' with Jim Laing and Mark Newall winning individual prizes for best individual



WINNER: Of an individual prize.

and nearest the pin respectively.

For further information log on to their website at aguilonmembersclub.com.

Badgers, heat and injuries

TUESDAY June 20 saw Badgers golfers on the road to Aguilon Golf Resort.

All were well equipped with sun cream, hats and plenty of water as it promised to be the warmest day of the year.

The course was looking good and generally most players gave a good account of themselves.

However, the heat got the best of Rod Goff who had a dizzy spell, fell, and damaged his wrist. "Nothing to do with the Cider."

Full Results:

1st Gerry Nash 36 points,

2nd Tony Robottom 34 points, 3rd Ray Farmer 34 points.

Nearest the pin. 3rd Julie Nash, 8th Dave Ryder, 11th Jock Glynn, 17th Dave Ryder.

Only one two on the day went to the winner, Jerry Nash. Well done Jerry.

Badgers also play on Saturday mornings, for further information call Duncan Smart on 634 331 059.

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LIVERPOOL have signed ex-Chelsea star Mohamed Salah from Roma for £34 million.

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

Young starters

By Tony Matthews

THE Premiership was introduced 25 years ago and owing to the large number of young footballers joining the respective Academies at most of the top clubs, England introduced U16, U17, U18, U19, U20 and U21 teams - to cater for all age groups.

Prior to 1992, England schoolboy, U18 (youth team), U21, 'B' and full international sides, and some years prior to that there were schoolboy, youth and U23 squads.

There are competitions worldwide for each of these age groups... and therefore it gives youngsters a great opportunity to gain experience by performing in all countries and playing against totally different and unknown opponents.

Some of course hit it off immediately... as they set

foot on the road to stardom.

Many of the current England squad including Dele Alli, Ross Barkley, Ryan Bertrand, Eric Dier, Harry Kane, Adam Lallana, Raheem Sterling, Daniel Sturridge, Theo Walcott and Kyle Walker all won caps at lower levels.

CURRENT SQUAD: Alli, Lallana and Sterling.



Valle Del Este Golf Society



WELL DONE: Ernie and Andrew.

AFTER unavoidable delays, the 2016 Pairs Knockout Final culminated in a very well fought match with Ernie Edington and Andrew Tatlow coming out on top. Well done guys.

For the rest of the members, it was the usual Thursday Stableford. A slightly reduced field this week - due to a number of members being back in the UK - but that didn't prevent some very good scoring in great conditions.

Derek Pearce took full advantage of this by scrambling to first place with a score of 39 points. (The Captain took great pleasure in informing him of a significant cut in handicaps).

Jim Quigley continued a great run of con-

sistency to come second with Sean Walsh taking third.

- 1st Derek Pearce 39 points
- 2nd Jim Quigley 35 points
- 3rd Sean Walsh 32 points
- Nearest the Pins
- 6th Hole Eleanor Cripps
- 14th Hole Derek Pearce

Valle Del Este Golf Society is affiliated to the Valle Del Este Golf Resort in Vera. They play every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Singles competitions are played every Thursday including a Monthly Medal.

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