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**COSTA DE ALMERÍA » YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE, YOUR OPINION**

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## Moto champ races by

WORLD champion motorcyclist Marc Marquez visited Mojacar with his brother Alex, also a champion racer. The Spaniard, who at just 24 already has three MotoGP championships under his belt, stopped by the town hall to sign Mojacar's book of honour.

The 'Ant of Cervera' met Mayor Rosmari Cano, who presented him with an Indalo, Almeria's ancient talisman, as a token of good luck for the future. She also handed him the book Legends of Mojacar, quipping "legends for another legend," to which Marquez modestly replied, "not yet."

His younger brother Alex, an upcoming Moto3 champion, couldn't visit the town hall as he is recovering from injury but passed on his best wishes to the people of Mojacar.

The siblings, the first in history to win world championship motorcycle titles, are regular visitors to Mojacar, enjoying its tranquil settings while they recuperate from the gruelling championship tours.

# Cannabis 'factory' shut down

## Up in smoke

By Matthew Elliott

A huge indoor marihuana plantation with more than 3,000 plants was raided in Nijar.

It is the largest indoor drug greenhouse found by Almeria's Guardia Civil in years.

The thousands of plants were cultivated inside an abandoned industrial unit within the Los Grillos industrial park on the outskirts of Nijar.

Inside a 400 square metre perimeter was a factory devoted to drug cultivation, with a large watchdog chained to the fence outside.

Police were alerted to the plantation by locals who grew suspicious of the behaviour of two individuals who regularly entered the seemingly abandoned building.

A patrol team was dispatched to investigate but found no evidence of any human activity after a quick inspection. Later, however, they witnessed two men sneaking inside and decided to stake out the premises.

Having observed a number of people coming and going, police secured a search warrant.

As they approached for a full inspection, a man spotted them and ran inside to lock the door. Peering in through the window, officers saw that he was carrying a shotgun.

They barged in and the man threw his gun to the ground and surrendered.

Inside officers found a sophisticated growing operation with ventilation, halogen lamps, climate control, smell inhibitors and drip irrigation.



Photo credit Guardia Civil

**BUSTED: Police uncover biggest drug plantation in years.**



They arrested the 30-year-old suspect, a Nijar resident, and have charged him with drug trafficking offences and animal cruelty for neglecting the large dog chained outside. The dog has since been given shelter with an animal charity.

## Dogs left to die

A PACK of abandoned dogs were rescued from a roof by Guardia Civil officers in Almeria responding to calls from concerned residents.

They worked closely with Local Police colleagues to secure the ramshackle and dangerous building where the dogs were being held on the roof, exposed to the elements.

Some of the dogs were tied to poles, all of them were lacking food, water and basic supplies. There was no shelter and they were surrounded by dirt and faeces.

It is unclear how long they had been left there for and unlikely they would have survived much longer.

Among them were four potentially dangerous dogs and one puppy just a few weeks old with gashes on its ears.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Bin laden**

FIREFIGHTERS rescued a man who managed to fall into a bin lorry in El Ejido early on Monday morning, fracturing his leg in the process. Luckily he was spotted by the bin men.

**Cor blimey**

IN 2017 more than 1.1 million people will have stayed in hotels across Almería by the end of August. Forecasts predict an increase of 3.4 per cent in overnight stays compared to 2016.

**Moon walk**

MOJACAR'S first moon-light hike saw 51 hardy souls finish the 10km route along the beautiful Mena-Macenas path. There are now three official hikes with maps available from the tourist office.

Protesters return to hotel  
**Checking out**

GREENPEACE activists have again scaled the controversial Azata del Sol hotel on El Algarrobo beach in Carboneras.

Six protesters climbed the front of the 20-floor, 411-bedroom hotel to repaint the 'Hotel Illegal' (illegal hotel) graffiti which has adorned the building in various formats since 2007.

After being freshened up in 2014, disgruntled locals erased the initial letter 'I' so that the text read 'Hotel legal,' but this has now been amended.

The move comes after the Greenpeace vessel Esperanza arrived in Spanish waters on July 8, travelling down the Mediterranean coast to promote conservation of stretches that remain free of construction.

Spokesman Pilar Marcos explained that it forms part of a wider campaign to force the Junta de Andalucía to uphold a

2016 Supreme Court ruling to demolish the hotel, which is built on protected land but has remained in place since 2006.

The organisation has also launched a campaign under the hashtag #TiraelAlgarrobo for members of the public to submit 'risky' demolition ideas.

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**3,000** The amount of hours of sunlight, on average per year, in Spain.



WINNING PAIR: Garbiñe Muguruza and Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (inset).

**Glory days!**

WIMBLEDON 2017 proved to be a superb tournament for Spanish tennis.

Garbiñe Muguruza became the second Spanish woman to win Wimbledon after defeating Venus Williams 7-5, 6-0 to wrap up her second career Grand Slam tournament. She follows Conchita Martinez, who tri-

umphed in 1994 and coached the 23-year-old rising star during this year's championship.

Twenty-four hours later, 18-year-old Alejandro Davidovich Fokina from Malaga became the first Spaniard to take the honours in the boys- singles since Manuel Orantes in 1967.

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# Paper chase

A CRIME syndicate specialising in selling fake identification and residency documents to illegal immigrants was broken up by Almería's Guardia Civil. Officers made 28 arrests as they raided Roquetas addresses used by the gangsters. All have been charged with fraud and abusing the rights of foreign nationals, who they pressured to pay them large sums for the fake documents. Another 11 people are being investigated.

## Ebola watch

THE regional environmental department has set up an emergency telephone number and email to report possible cases of olive or other fruit trees infected with the dreaded *Xylella fastidiosa* bacterium, otherwise known as 'olive ebola.' It comes after the pathogen was recently detected in Valencia after causing devastation in Mallorca last year. Concerned residents should call 955 059 898 or email [info.xylella@juntadeandalucia.es](mailto:info.xylella@juntadeandalucia.es).

## Flagged up

CLEAN water and green credentials were awarded as Mojacar formally received four blue flags for its 2017 summer season. The beaches of El Cantal, Venta del Bancal, Ventanicas and Piedra Villazar won the prestigious international stamp of sandy excellence. Meanwhile in Cuevas del Almanzora two blue flags were awarded, one for the Pozo del Esparto beach and the other for Quitapelljos.

## Feeling the heat

THE woman who left her two-and-a-half-year-old daughter in her boiling car for 90 minutes while she went shopping is to be tried in court. She faces two years behind bars for mistreatment and abandoning her child, with the grandmother of the girl also to be prosecuted over the incident first reported in *EWN* (issue 1670).

## Face ache

AN angry patient was jailed for punching and racially abusing a doctor at an Almería hospital then headbutting a security guard who asked him to leave. The 52-year-old took offence when a young girl was given

# Diabetic mistaken for drunk

A DIABETIC worker collapsed in the middle of a busy Almería road after suffering a severe blood sugar crash. Guardia Civil officers raced to the scene, saving the man from being run over, or falling into a diabetic coma.

The incident occurred on the N-340 near Aguadulce. Police received multiple calls from worried drivers about a man staggering drunkenly down the highway. He eventually collapsed, forcing traffic to swerve around his body before police set up a perimeter.

The first officers to attend to the man, who was a highway labourer out on his own, saw that he wasn't drunk at all but seriously ill, with a dry mouth and disorientated, lost stare.

One quick-thinking officer recognised the tell-tale signs of diabetes and kept the man conscious while instructing his colleague to mix sugar in a bottle of water.

An ambulance soon arrived and medics confirmed the diagnosis, telling Guardia Civil that their actions had saved the man from falling into a coma.

## SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...21

### On the last Sunday of July, hordes of revellers descend on the small village of San Asensio in La Rioja to shower each other with thousands of litres of pink wine in the annual Battle of the Clarete.

# Smelling of rosé!

THE festival takes place on the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saint James (Día de Santiago), the Patron Saint of Spain.

Winemakers and co-ops donate up to 40,000 litres of clarete wine, a locally-produced pink tippie, for partygoers to fill their weapon of choice, whether it be water pistols, balloons, bottles or buckets.

The battle commences at 12 noon, when councillors lead the way to the Cerrillo Verballes district, referred to as the Bodegas quarter by villagers since it used to house some 300 private wine cellars.

Once the containers housing the wine are opened, the fun begins, the aim being to douse the enemy, who is anyone in the vicinity, with plonk.

As the wine-soaked madness descends, the compulsory white shirts become a sea of pink as the booze is poured, sprayed or hurled by any means possible.

The only respite is the occasional break for a glass of clarete and a sausage bun known locally as a *peñao*, while a tour of local tapas bars is customary in the wake of the two-hour fracas.



**SLOSHED:** The battle gets underway.

## The grape divide

CLARETE is produced exclusively in the Rioja Alta region around San Asensio, Hormilla, Badaran, Azofra, Cardenas and Cordovin, and is a staple in bars of Rioja, Cantabria and the Basque Country.

Despite hundreds of years of history, it remains undefined under Spanish wine rules, being officially classified as a rosé despite a number of key differences.

While rosés are vinified in the same way as white wines, with the skins removed and macerated in the juice before fermentation, the skins are left on the grapes for a short time during clarete production.

In addition, claretes are made by blending red and white

grapes, typically *gamacha* and *viura*, whereas rosé from Rioja contains only red varieties.

The result is a pale, orange-tinted wine that is best served between 8-10°C.

## Party people

THE battle does not have a long history, having been first fought in 1977 when members of the Peña Clarete social club came up with the idea during a festive meal.

What began as a joke between friends is now a full-blown cultural tradition, with increasing numbers of tourists visiting every year. Its older and more well-known relative is the Battle of the Wine held in nearby Haro every June, which dates back to the late 19th century.



**TRUE COLOURS:** A Rioja rosé (l) and two claretes.

priority over him while they waited to be seen at the Aguadulce Sur medical centre.

## Green light

THE Junta de Andalucía has announced that farmers in the Bajo Andarax area are able to use water from the desalination plant in Almería City to irrigate their crops.

It follows warnings from scientists that the local aquifer is in danger of drying up if exploitation of groundwater is not reduced.

## Air rescue

MARITIME RESCUE evacuated a 22-year-old man with symptoms of a collapsed lung from an Irish warship moored

35 nautical miles off Cabo de Gata. The helicopter rescue came after emergency services received a call from the William Butler Yeats vessel, with the victim transferred to the Torrecardenas Hospital.

## Cheeky pig

A WILD boar stunned sun-worshippers on Genoveses beach in Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park after it scurried onto the sand before heading for the water. After taking a refreshing dip the animal approached a bather who handed it a snack from his portable fridge, before ambling away.

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# 143

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# EWN on the web

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## Top 5 stories

From 11 - 17 July

- 1 Spain sizzles as weather alerts issued for 28 provinces - **9,912**
- 2 Explosion in Fuengirola shopping centre kitchen causes panic - **4,756**
- 3 Sweltering temperatures set to return as another heatwave hits Spain - **3,031**
- 4 Fines and tough regulations hit Spain's beaches this summer - **3,016**
- 5 Sex on the Bench: Couple caught on video during daylight romp in Barcelona - **3,000**



A map of Spain's temperature by region provided by AEMET

## Poll of the week

**With Marbella seeking to ban shirtless tourists, should beachwear be prohibited in town and city centres?**

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**  
 With some malls and shops now opening on Sundays to cater for summer visitors and residents, should seven-day shopping be introduced year-round?

Yes = 62%  
 No = 38%

## Top Social Media comments

**Lorry drops into the ocean from a Cadiz bridge** - Oh poor driver!! Sometimes you can't help doing wrong for doing right. Very pleased he was so gallant, also that he was saved, so lucky someone quick witted was watching and took action. Well done to all. I hope the original drivers and passengers were ok as well. *Elizabeth Saunders*

**Spain warned for non-compliance of Plastic Bags Directive** - I wish supermarkets in Spain (everywhere) wouldn't use polystyrene and hard plastic containers for meat and fish etc. Such a shame. *Sandra Russell*

**UK airports warn EU flights could be suspended post-Brexit** - This is one of many things that remain unclear, when anyone points this out Brexiters just shout 'scaremongering' so maybe it just needs to happen, and then we'll see... Not long to go. Also; this warning was made by an Airport Trade Association, Michael O'Leary (CEO of Ryanair) and by their actions, the easyJet board (who have set up a subsidiary company within the EU - Austria). I think it might be reasonable to assume these persons have something of an insight as to the future of EU air travel. Maybe they should just ditch their concerns and call it scaremongering. *Andrew V Smith*

**Police shut down gang who targeted Costa del Sol tourists** - Scum, just don't leave items in your car unattended. They work in airports, one distracts you asking questions whilst another takes your stuff, they act like lost tourists, if someone asks you something in an airport, look behind you or around you for a person lingering. *Pps Estepona*

**Heatwave claims the life of a road worker in Sevilla** - Oh no! Not again!! Surely these employers will learn one day they have a 'duty of care' to their employees, and they can and must 'order' the employees to stop work if they endanger themselves. It's all part of 'Health and Safety'. Poor man and his poor family, I do hope his employers 'do the right thing' by them. (I know what I mean by the last remark, but I fear his employer will not) *Elizabeth Saunders*

**Swimmer loses rag over red flag in Campello** - Must have been in Spain the bulls here have the same reaction to the red flag???? *Patrick Scanlan*  
**Brits ordered to pay in Thomas Cook's first win against fake compensation claims** - Great news. Now it needs Insurance and Travel companies to investigate all suspicious back claims, get a few more people sweating. We are paying for these free loaders. *Ted Milsom*

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## TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The British drink 165 million cups of tea every day, over 20 times more than that of the average American.



The Dutch village of Giethoorn has no roads; its buildings are connected entirely by cycle paths, canals and footbridges.

Stonehenge - built around 3000 BC - has stood on England's Salisbury Plain for more than 5,000 years, and is older than the Great Pyramids of Egypt.

★★★★★★  
**Did you know?**  
 Zero scores in tennis are referred to as 'love' because in France, where tennis became popular, the round zero on the scoreboard looked like an egg. French for 'the egg' is 'l'oeuf,' and when tennis was introduced in the US, Americans, mispronounced it 'love.'

## Lost in translation



A NICE ELECTRIC SHOCK

**CORRECTIONS**  
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Little bits on the side



**OUR VIEW**

# Shorter lives for those in England

FOR many years, doctors have been talking about the growth in life expectancy but a new report suggests that this has ground to a halt in England.

For more than 100 years, there has been a steady increase but according to Sir Michael Marmot of University College a study in England suggests that this growth has now slowed to almost nothing.

As governments consistently worry about their ability to cope with paying pensions for the elderly it may well be that the financial situation won't be so bad, but research elsewhere suggests that the English result may be a localised situation.

In other parts of the world, life expectancy continues to increase and it appears unlikely that those living in England have simply exhausted the limits of human life.

Sir Michael suggests that there may be a very real comparison between the last five years of austerity which has seen a reduction of funding for both the NHS and social care and the number of people who have died.

Understandably the British government rejects any suggestion that its policies could have anything to do with this latest study, but for those of us who enjoy the Spanish way of life this may be another justification for living here.

*Now we want to hear your views.*  
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# Nine superior beaches

By Matthew Elliott

A NEW online campaign will promote nine of Almeria's lesser-known beaches to a Spanish and international audience.

Launched by the 'Costa de Almeria' promotional outfit, the campaign includes nine videos showcasing the different enclaves along Roquetas de Mar's 16 kilometre stretch of coastline.

The aim is to attract more domestic and international travellers to Roquetas, which has long been outshone by its more glamorous neighbours in Mojacar and the Cabo de Gata Natural Park.

The videos are targeted towards tourists aged between 25 and 65, from origins as diverse as Madrid, Barcelona, the UK and Germany.

Published online alongside the videos will be specific information about each beach, including length, lifeguard schedules, security and services.

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# Hot to tot!

SHE gave birth to twins Sir Carter and Rumi last month. And pop megastar Beyoncé Knowles, 35, gave the babies their first taste of global stardom by taking to Instagram wearing a men's kimono from Spanish designer Alejandro Garcia Palomo.

The garment is made from vintage silk organza from an old shop in Cordoba, Andalucia, according to its creator.

The post, captioned 'Sir Carter and Rumi one-month today' almost brought the internet to a standstill as it racked up almost 10 million likes.

It comes after the Crazy in Love singer's pregnancy announcement in February became Instagram's most popular post ever.

She now has three children with rapper husband Jay Z, 47, as the newborns join the couple's five-year-old daughter Blue Ivy.

**DOUBLE TROUBLE:** Beyoncé introduces her new twins.

# Babe on the beach

SHE is often said to be one of the world's sexiest women and is among the highest-paid models on the planet.

And Brazilian beauty Alessandra Ambrosio certainly lived up to the hype as she rocked a range of revealing beachwear during a sun-soaked family break in Ibiza.

After donning a microscopic multi-coloured two-piece, the 36-year-old later chose a sultry brown swimsuit which left little to the imagination as she frolicked in the shallows.

She even took time to pose with a local hat seller after slipping into yet another skimpy bikini to send temperatures soaring.

The siren was spotted with her long-term beau Jamie Mazur, daughter Anja and son Noah, plus a group of close friends.



**TOP THAT:** Alessandra Ambrosio.

# Making a splash

SHE has appeared on the cover of Vogue and Elle, and has modelled for Victoria's Secret. And Australian model Elyse Taylor, 30, displayed her effortless beauty after posting an eye-popping bikini shot to Instagram as she holidayed on the island of Formentera near Ibiza.

But it was only a flying visit for the mum-of-one as she captioned the photo: 'Out Paradise! Missing You Already.'



**SO HOT:** Elyse Taylor.

# Cheeky devils

MANCHESTER UNITED'S Spanish trio David de Gea, Juan Mata and Ander Herrera were pictured alongside stunning actress and model Emily Ratajowski, 26.

The meeting came at an Adidas event in the wake of the Red Devils' 5-2 pre-season victory over Los Angeles Galaxy as the club continue their stateside preparations for the new Premier League season.

Other celebrities present included actress Bella Thorne and Hollywood heavyweight Jamie Foxx.



**ON TOUR:** Spanish trio.

# Mama mia!

SHE recently announced that she is expecting a baby with boyfriend and The Only Way Is Essex star Jake Hall.

And Misse Beqiri, 30, showed that the pregnancy is going swimmingly after proudly displaying her baby bump in a racy snap taken during a boat trip in the Balearics.

She is now settled in London with her squeeze after making her name on seasons three and four of The Real Housewives of Cheshire.

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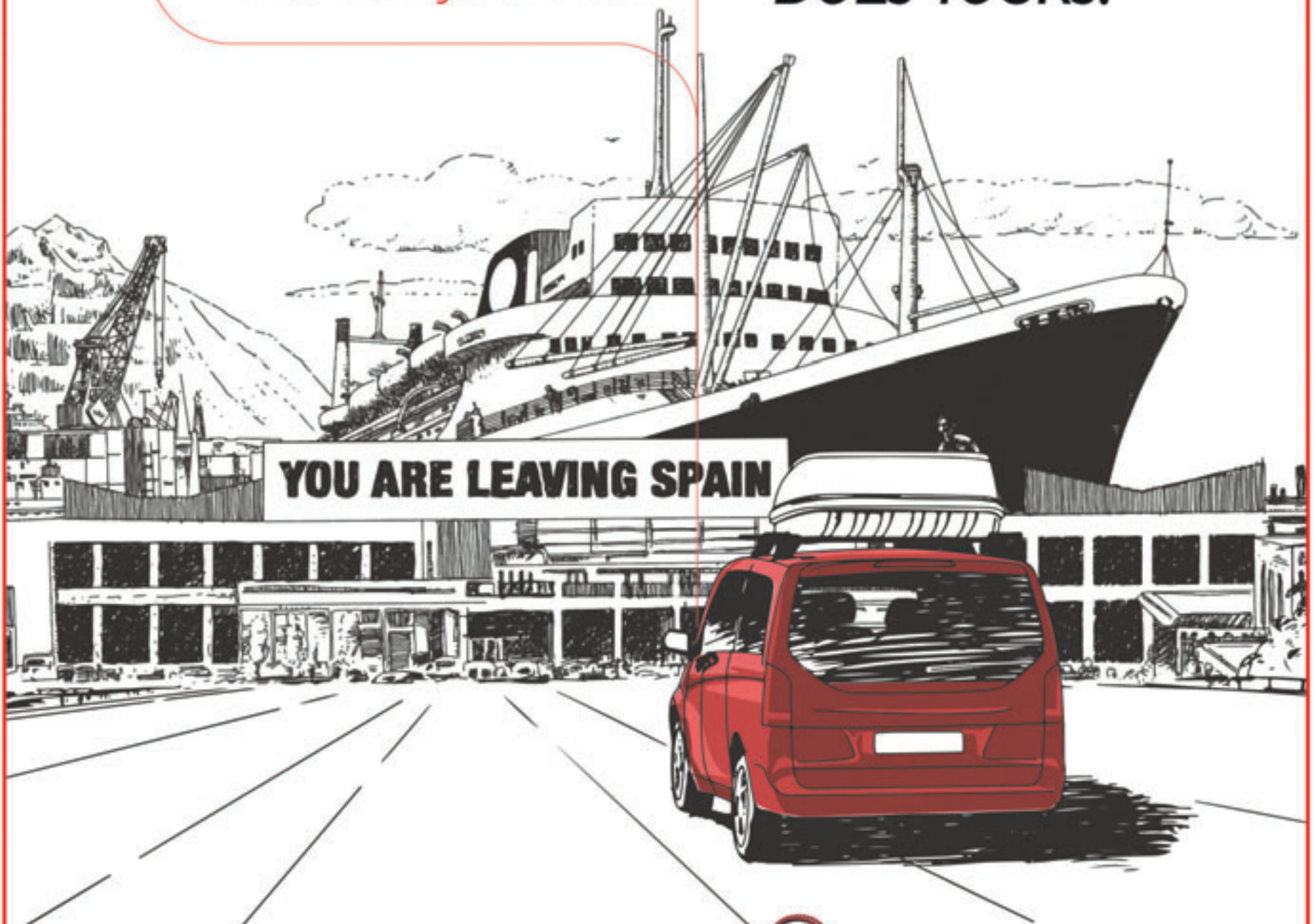
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Now the council is planning to capitalise on the renewed interest by preparing an ambitious plan to bring more luxury hotels, bars, restaurants and fancy 'glamping' sites

to the sparse region. They've employed consultants for the job who point out the favourable location of the desert, just half an hour to the coast, and 40 minutes to the Velez natural park.

Though it is best-known for its Wild West filming history, the future for Tabernas appears to be in the lucrative adventure industry.

Earlier this year Ferrari filmed an advert showing the new 812 Superfast speeding through the desert dust.

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# New stars for Walk of Fame

By Matthew Elliott

HOLLYWOOD'S Walk of Fame is under pressure from Almería's very own Paseo de la Fama, which has added another two stars to the 13 al-

ready forming a constellation in the city.

Iconic American film director Brian de Palma, of Scarface and Mission Impossible fame, and Danish actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau from Game of

Thrones, were awarded their places in Almería history by city mayor Ramon Fernandez-Pacheco on Tuesday.

Both men are in Almería shooting de Palma's latest directorial effort Domino, which

stars Coster-Waldau as a Danish policeman travelling across Europe hunting for the Islamic terrorist who murdered his partner.

Shooting has recently taken place in the city's bullring and will soon move on to the airport, port and Adra in the south of the province. It is one of the very few international films set in Almería but not in the Wild West playground of the Tabernas Desert, a favourite of Spaghetti Western maestro Sergio Leone.

The film co-stars Mad Men actress Christina Hendricks and will also be shot in Antwerp, Brussels and Copenhagen. It is a pan-European production involving Spanish,

Belgian, French and Danish companies.

Mayor Pacheco said the new stars on Almería's own Walk of Fame, which is found on Calle Poeta Villaespesa, symbolised the fulfillment of a long-term plan to relaunch Almería Province as a top film shooting location.

"Municipalities across the province have become locations for films, TV series and advertisements that are popular across five continents, projecting destination 'Costa de Almería' to a global audience," he said.

The mayor also pledged to facilitate the arrival of productions of all sizes to help generate wealth and create jobs.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Body mystery

THE body of an African man was found floating near the Mojácar promenade early on Sunday evening. Police don't believe he had been in the water long.

### Silly move

A YOUNG woman from Huerca-Overa was caught with two kilograms of marijuana after she clumsily reversed to avoid a routine traffic stop. Police discreetly followed before pulling her over.

### Bad vibes

JUDGES jailed an Almería man for five years for sexually assaulting two female guests in his home while drunk. His victims later suffered extreme anxiety and will be compensated with €25,000 each.

### Blue line

VERA officials received diversity lessons from the police chief of Fuenlabrada, a Madrid suburb with thousands of immigrants and 33 different religions. Vera is embracing 'social intervention' strategies to reduce crime.

### Blind alley

POT holes, cracks and crumbling steps make Almería's Avenida Mediterraneo a pedestrian hazard according to PSOE officials who demanded the council properly paint zebra crossings to prevent a tragedy.



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It may be early days in the Brexit negotiations, but there is some reassurance for expatriates living in Spain and other EU member states.

On 26th June, Theresa May's government published their "fair and serious offer" on EU citizens' rights after Brexit. While this focuses on residency and benefits for EU nationals in the UK, subject to mutual agreements being in place, the Prime Minister committed to "continue to export and uprate the UK State Pension and provide associated healthcare cover within the EU."

#### What this means for pensions

Currently, Britons permanently living in most countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA) have the value of their State Pension payments frozen. Meanwhile, retired expatriates within the EU/EEA are eligible for annual increases in line with the government's 'triple lock' commitment – whichever is highest: the rate of inflation, earnings or 2.5%.

Theresa May's offer to "export and uprate" the State Pension means British retirees living in the EU post-Brexit can expect to continue receiving increases in their State Pension payments each year.

While this is clearly encouraging,

# Current pension and healthcare rights may survive Brexit



By Gerald  
Turner, Partner,  
Blevins Franks

you should also consider how your other pensions, savings and investment income can provide for your future, and how they may be affected by Brexit.

#### What this means for healthcare

The UK's offer on citizens' rights also provides some comfort that existing entitlements to healthcare may continue for Britons in Spain

after Brexit. The proposal states the government will "seek to protect" current healthcare arrangements.

However, this is subject to the EU27 making similar guarantees for their nationals living in the UK. You may prefer to secure peace of mind by lining up private health insurance.

#### The path to securing agreement

This is just the start of Brexit negotiations and there are no guarantees that what the UK is proposing will be accepted by other EU member states.

Crucially, though, both sides agree that securing reciprocal rights for citizens is an absolute priority. Earlier in June, the EU27 pledged a lifetime guarantee of UK citizens' current rights in the EU, provided Britain could match the terms.

Some feel that the UK's formal offer falls short of this. One sticking point is likely to be who has the authority to

guarantee the rights of EU citizens in Britain. Theresa May has rejected the EU27 demand for the European Court of Justice (ECJ) to have jurisdiction, insisting British law should apply.

#### How best to prepare

The final terms of any new reciprocal agreements could prove less favourable than today. With under two years of certainty left, now is the time to review your residency, estate planning, investments, pensions and general tax planning options.

As well as securing your position, this can enable you to identify current opportunities that may have a limited shelf-life, such as transferring your private UK pension funds without paying UK tax. Given these uncharted waters, it is also sensible to look into the best currency mix for your investments and ensure you have a diversified portfolio – not overly

exposed to UK assets – that can weather any Brexit turbulence.

Speak to a regulated professional adviser about how best to structure your finances and help prepare for the uncertainty ahead. Armed with the right strategy, you can make the most of your chosen lifestyle in Spain and adapt accordingly as Brexit negotiations take shape.

*All information in this article is based on Blevins Franks' understanding of legislation and taxation practice at the time of writing; this may change in the future. It should not be construed as providing personalised taxation, investment or pension advice. You should take advice for your circumstances.*

Keep up to date on the financial issues that may affect you on the Blevins Franks news page at [www.blevinsfranks.com](http://www.blevinsfranks.com).

“With so much uncertainty over Brexit,  
how can I separate fact from fiction?”

Talk to the people who know.

We are closely following Brexit negotiations so we can make sense of the noise and keep you informed of the implications.

You may want to take action now, under known rules, rather than wait to see what happens and risk missing opportunities.

Keep an eye on the Blevins Franks website for Brexit news - [www.blevinsfranks.com/brexit](http://www.blevinsfranks.com/brexit) - and contact us if you want to sign up for regular updates.

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# New motorway among urgent projects

A MAJOR construction group has released a comprehensive survey of Almeria Province and identified six key investment priorities for the next three years. Seopan, which comprises the largest construction and engineering firms in Spain, estimates that the six projects will cost €321 million.

Seopan commissioned engineering experts from Sener to carry out the survey last February but only made the results public last week. Water infrastructure is identified as Almeria's central deficiency, accounting for four of the six urgent projects recommended.

The report urges the competent authorities to build a new water treatment plant in Antas as soon as possible after the previous plant was ruined in 2012 floods. It also suggests the cleaning and refilling of the Adra river and of the Charcones stream in Pulpi. The Antas river also needs to be more



**URGENT NEED:** The Rio Antas.

efficiently channelled, it warns.

More practically for Almeria residents, the survey advises the quick construction of an Almazora motorway connecting Baza in Granada with Purchena. The two towns are currently connected by the A-334.

The motorway is already in the pipeline with work scheduled to begin by 2021. Seopan

also suggests that it be expanded all the way to Cucador, and then connected with the A-7. That would require a total investment of €263 million, well above the €63 million currently earmarked.

Unsurprisingly the final investment recommendation is that Almeria finally shed its reputation as the worst province in Spain for rail connections.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

## Beach books

BATHERS in Carboneras can rent a book for the day as part of the Biblioplaya (beach library) initiative. Book carts will be wheeled between El Ancon and Barquicos beaches on weekdays.

## Fake news

POLICE arrested a man who faked the theft of his €700 phone. The Vicar man had already sold the phone but hoped to double his profits with the lie.

## Heat relief

A HEATWAVE which saw temperatures soar past 40 degrees came to an end. The mercury is expected to settle in the more manageable low 30's with clear skies into the weekend.

## Two crooks

TWO Vera men were convicted of drug trafficking and sentenced to two years in prison. The brothers-in-law were found with more than 150 grams of cocaine when police intercepted their car.

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# Plastic sea may save the planet

FAMILY farming networks in Almería employ a model that could save the world according to a new United Nations report. Global experts agreed that Almería is at the

forefront of sustainable and effective farming practices and offers an important example to the world.

The alarm bell-raising report is titled 'Wake up be-

fore it is too late: Make agriculture truly sustainable now for food security in a changing climate.' In it a team of 50 climate and agriculture experts consulted by the UN evaluate different strategies to feed the eight billion humans set to populate the earth in a few decades.

They identified key characteristics of a successful, sustainable model. Increased productivity using a minimum of natural resources, zero damage to the environ-

ment, and a smaller volume of agrochemicals are top priorities.

The scientists also valued foods with high quality but little impact on the land, and the use of traditional farming models based on small and family-run businesses, committed to protecting local ecosystems. They warned against the monopolisation of agriculture by large, international corporations.

Only in Almería did they find such a blueprint. The

UN report marvelled at Almería's efficiency of production, energy saving measures by using vast greenhouses, known as the 'plastic sea,' family-run farms, collective organisation, and scientific prowess in developing new growing techniques.

If Almería's example was followed across the world, it concluded, humanity would have a far better chance of survival without experiencing ecological collapse.



PLASTIC SEA: Almería's greenhouses are renowned worldwide.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Gas guzzling

SUPER-efficient Almería uses less natural gas than any other Andalusian province and nine times less than Huelva. It consumes just 7 per cent of all energy across the region.

### Citrus punch

CITRUS production soared in Almería's 2016/17 season with a total of 216,685 tons of oranges and lemons grown. The total across Andalusia exceeded two million tons.

### Sick senior

A GRANDFATHER was sentenced to five years in prison for sexually abusing his four-year-old granddaughter. Luckily doctors found the Almería girl was unaware of the severity of what had happened.

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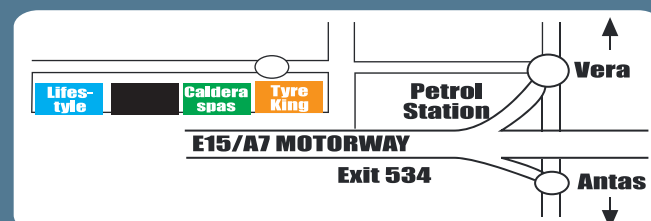
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## NEWS EXTRA

**Monday  
music**

NIJAR residents attended a hugely successful 14th edition of Classics in the Park, enjoying top classical music free of charge in a blissfully unusual start to a Monday morning.

**Sea death**

A MAN died in Torrecardenas hospital one day after being rescued from the El Zapillo beach in Almería. He was seen floating 200 metres from the Gatos pier and rushed ashore by coastguards.

**Blade threat**

POLICE arrested a man walking down a Pulpi street with a large kitchen knife late at night, moments after he was witnessed threatening to kill another man during an altercation.

**Red carpet**

TRAVELLERS arriving at Almería airport will be treated to the sight of a new €180,000 roundabout on the AL-3113 to El Toyo, which was built to improve newcomer's perception of the province.

**Road smash**

SIX people were injured in a weekend collision between two cars in El Ejido. All six were transferred to Poniente hospital for treatment, though no injuries are life threatening.

**Post thief**

A HABITUAL thief with 30 fraud convictions stole €2,380 from an 84-year-old Almería woman by breaking into her letterbox and making a duplicate of her new debit card.

SOME of the Almanzora Valley's most charitable citizens were celebrated during a glitzy award ceremony on Saturday night. The gala was held by local Spanish newspaper *La Voz de Almería* and was the eighth edition of the annual award ceremony.

For eight years it has recognised the efforts of local residents across

# Cream of the crop

the Almanzora Valley who have contributed to the region's cultural identity and the well-being of its people.

Among those awarded was Eduardo Cruz, a sculptor who won the culture prize, Spain's first Masterchef,

Juan Manuel Sanchez, and the Que-seria Serones Artesano cheesemakers in Seron, which scooped fourth place in the 2017 Spanish Cheese Championships.

Club Deportivo Fines was recog-

nised for its tireless charity fundraising, helping more than 100 disadvantaged and sick children across the region.

Companies J Autoline and Maquinaria San Antonio won the innovation and best company prizes respectively, while Cantoria's Spanish Association Against Cancer won the best charity award.

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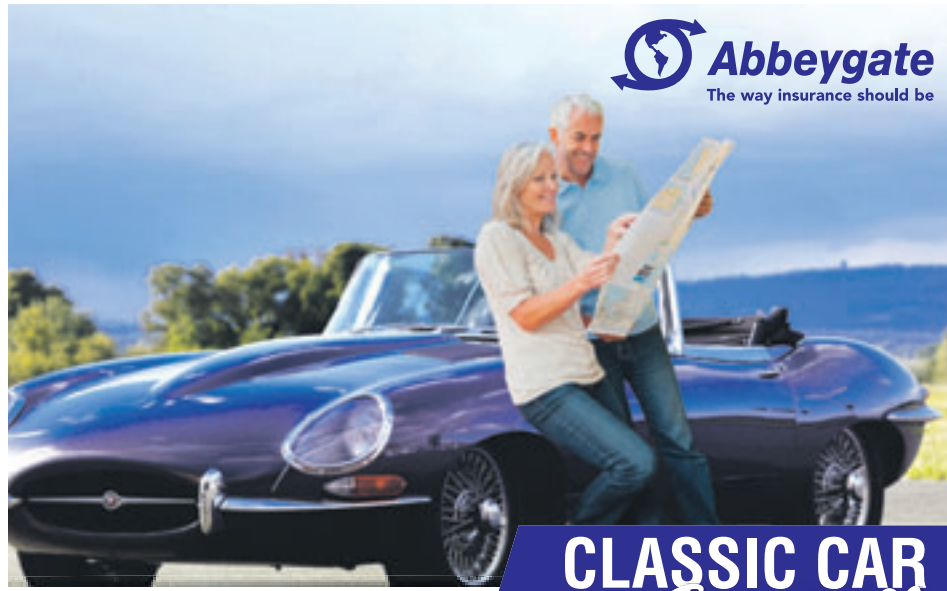


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# Back on home soil!



**ALL SMILES:** The Spanish Royals visited Oxford at the end of their UK State Visit.

THE benefits of closer ties between Spain and the UK could well help both nations in the all-important next 18 months.

With at least 300,000 Brits in Spain and 125,000 Spanish nationals in the UK, the three-day royal visit by King Felipe and Queen Letizia helped nurture cultural and commercial relations between the countries

as Britain prepares to leave the European Union.

The UK is the number one destination for overseas Spanish investment, estimated to have reached around €82.5bn at the end of 2015.

The thorny issue of Gibraltar was barely mentioned during the jam-packed tour, although the King did say he hoped the

matter could be resolved in a manner “acceptable to all involved” during a Westminster speech.

A lavish state dinner thrown by the Royals for their Spanish counterparts was attended by the Queen, Prince Phillip, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince Harry and Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall.



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**NEWS EXTRA**

**War games**

MORE than 26,000 people toured Spanish Armada ships docked on the Almeria coast in the last 12 months. The naval command focuses on terrorism, piracy, migrants, and war game exercises.

**Sea crisis**

COASTGUARDS rescued 52 people on two boats in the space of hours, one stranded in the Alboran Sea, the other just seven miles south-east of Garrucha, with 60 more people over the weekend.

**Chalk cuts**

SCHOOLS across Almeria have suffered a budget cut of €22 million since austerity measures were imposed in 2013. The province is now the regional leader in prefabricated classrooms.

**Baby names**

THE most popular baby names in Almeria Province last year were Maria for girls, and Hugo for boys. Other popular names include Sofia, Martina, Daniel and Alejandro.



A SAVAGE PAST: A dying bull at the Plaza de Toros, Marbella.

**Bullfight backers exposed**

THE activist group Anonymous has leaked customer information from a bullfighting website, including the full names, emails and phone numbers of ticket purchasers.

The site is operated by a company called Teyci, one of the main bullfight promoters in Spain. In an announcement released by Anonymous they explained the "customer data was not protected, so those who thought they could support and engage in animal torture with impunity are now known to us."

Independent researchers IPSOS conducted a study during 2013 and found that 79 per cent of the Spanish public opposed using public funds to support bullfighting, and only 29 per cent said that they supported bullfighting in general.

In a statement after the hack, Anonymous said "bullfighting is nothing more than a relic of a savage past and it is inevitable that one day it will be banned."

"Those who bought tickets through this company will be contacted to inform them they now face the consequences."

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# Promenade debate squashed

THE expansion of Mojácar's promenade will not result in job losses according to the council. An extraordinary plenary session was held last week to discuss changes proposed to the original blueprint by opposition councillors.

They and local chiringuito owners have raised concerns that the expanded promenade would impact the views and space of beachside bars and restaurants. This would make them less attractive, increase running costs, and ultimately cause job losses, they warned.

A motion to reduce the width of the promenade and move the proposed cycle lane next to the

beach bars was rejected by eight votes to five.

Mayor Rosmari Cano asked why it had taken so long to lodge objections when the plans had already been approved and have been publicly available since July 2016.

She was adamant that chiringuitos would not suddenly find themselves blocked from the sea by the new promenade, assuring owners that the walls would be low and unimposing.

Cano also argued that a cycle lane next to the beach bars would be dangerous and insisted jobs would be created rather than destroyed as more people flocked to the new look promenade.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Chem trail

THREE men found with 17 grams of MDMA at the Dreambeach Villarcos festival had their two year prison sentences upheld after failing to prove they were merely drug users.

### Port city

ALMERIA 'Port City' is the latest theme being explored to attract visitors to the capital. A complete overhaul of the port has secured financial backing from the Andalusian government.

### Work week

THOUSANDS of public sector workers across Almeria who recently secured a 35-hour working week face a legal challenge from the national government in Madrid who demand it be restored to 37.5 hours.

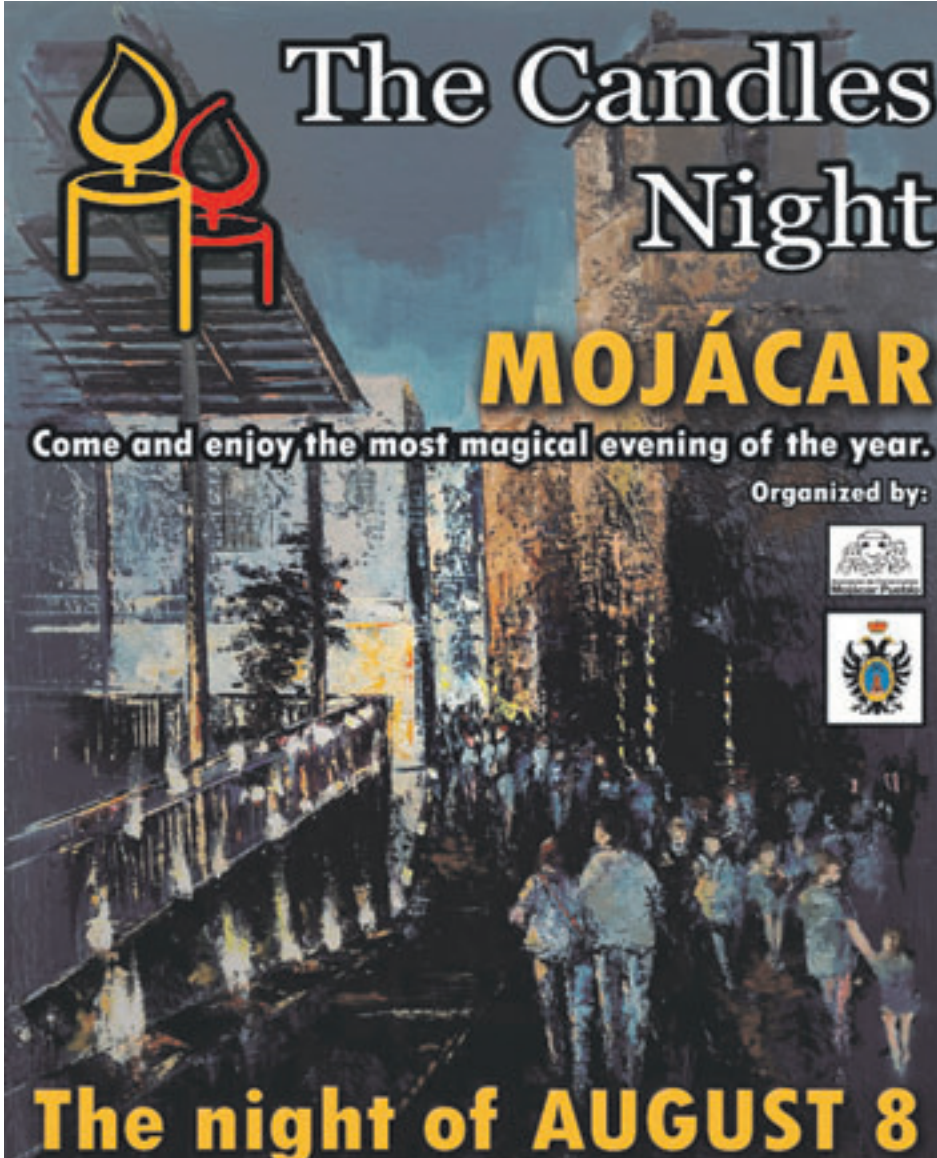
**1.5 million** The amount, in tonnes, of olive oil produced in Spain each year.

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# Restoring a masterpiece

WORK begins on the long-awaited renovation of Almería's old railway station in October. The contract has been formally awarded to construction

company INECO, which has been charged with a complete overhaul of the building's structure and façade.

The old station has been abandoned for 12 years and

is in line to be declared a Property of Cultural Interest (BIC) which would secure its protection from demolition. Almería's council is waiting to see whether the renovation is a success before granting protected status to the building.

The station's ultimate fate

remains a mystery. It may yet be reinvented as a modern new train station, converted into a museum or shopping centre, or kept as a historic monument and potential tourist attraction.

Built between 1890 and

1893 the old train station is considered a masterpiece of iron and glass architecture. It is the work of architect William Langle, who also renovated the School of Arts in 1841, which was later used in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.



MASTERPIECE: Old train station is one of Almería's architectural gems.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Equal space

PEOPLE with reduced mobility finally have seating options on the Almería to Madrid train route. One carriage has been adapted to have two new disabled spaces and an accessible toilet.

### New road

PRESIDENT of Andalucía, Susana Diaz, visited Almería to snip the red ribbon on the new La Mojónera road in Roquetas which is now in service and expected to relieve tourist traffic.

### Tough guy

SUPERHEAVYWEIGHT boxer Aymer 'Kiki' won a silver medal at his debut Spanish national championships. The fighting 27-year-old from Almería is the Andalusian regional champion.

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## NEWS FROM OUR FIVE OTHER EDITIONS

# Health centre addition

## ■ COSTA BLANCA NORTH



■ BIGGER: Bernabe Cano (centre) at Pinar de Garaita.

» By Linda Hall

THE Pinar de Garaita auxiliary health centre in La Nucia has another primary care doctor.

The town hall, which constructed the centre and ceded the building to the regional government in 2007, added a €26,000 extension with two consulting rooms for a doctor and a nurse.

The Pinar de Garaita centre now has four doctors, three nurses, a paediatrician and an auxiliary, reducing the patient-doctor ratio and waiting times.

"Health care is a priority for the town hall, as we make plain each day," said La Nucia mayor Bernabe Cano. "When the regional government informed us that more consulting rooms were needed for increased medical staff we got to work straight away."

Cano went on to say that La Nucia wanted residents to have the best possible health care: "We demonstrated earlier this month by providing a car so that doctors and nurses can make home visits," he continued.

## ■ AXARQUÍA

### Distressed animals

ANIMAL charity FAADA has criticised the Almuñecar Council over terrible management of animals in the Peña Escrita park which is being closed down. The charity blames the council for lack of communication causing problems with placing the animals.

### Almuñecar superfoods

A CREW from Channel 4 visited a fruit farm in Almuñecar to film a segment about mangoes and other fruits for the programme Superfoods. El Pinero is an agro-tourism operation which combines production with accommodation.

### Flamenco time

THE 48th Festival of Flamenco returns to Salobreña on August 5 with a major line-up of singers, dancers and musicians. Entry is just €12 and tickets may be obtained from the tourist information office.

### Ram raid

AFTER driving his car into the cashier's window at a petrol station in Motril a hopeless thief then tried to force the door also without success. His damaged car was spotted later and he was arrested.

### Miss Nerja

THE tourist office of Nerja is behind the recently elected Miss Nerja who hopes to become Miss Spain and participate in the Miss World competition. Residents are being invited to vote for her on a special Facebook page.

### Clean up

WORK continues in Torre del Mar to return the beach and fittings to a perfect state after the Weekend Beach Festival. In addition cleaning and repair work is underway in the town centre.

## ■ COSTA DEL SOL

### Pool death

A 64-YEAR-OLD woman has died in a swimming pool in Arriate, Ronda. The victim swam immediately after eating which led to a fatal heart attack, according to medical sources.

### On two wheels

A BRITISH motorist has been injured after his car overturned on Avenida Juan XXIII in Malaga. The victim was transferred to hospital with a fractured nose and several minor injuries after his airbag failed to work.

### Cleaners grounded

CLEANING company Limsa has taken 24 street cleaners off the roads after purchasing the wrong registration. The red licence plates used only authorise the licence holders to drive, which in this case would be the company itself.

### Beach access

TORREMOLINOS Council has installed a €16,100 stair lift to the Bajondillo beach in a bid to improve disabled access in the area. Non-disabled users have been asked to pay 50 cents each way to contribute to the upkeep.

### Bottle up

THE Mediterranean gin company Larios has launched a limited edition gin bottle to pay homage to Malaga, the city that gave birth to the gin more than 150 years ago.

## ■ COSTA BLANCA SOUTH

### Good food

CARTAGENA'S Ciudadanos (C's) group has asked the mayor, Ana Belén Castejón, to arrange a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the possibility of the city being the hosts to the 2018 Spanish Capital of Gastronomy.

### In the club

NATIONAL POLICE officers have arrested four prostitutes accused of illegally holding a client for more than 37 hours during which he spent €8,833 on his credit card. They allegedly plied him with alcohol.

### Health and fire

RESIDENTS in the southern zone of Alicante have insisted on having their own fire station and a hospital nearer to them. Seven associations are urging the authorities to reform the Miguel Hernandez district of the city.

### Power cut

A BREAKDOWN in an underground voltage line from Iberdrola affected 3,000 customers in Elche on Sunday afternoon. The temporary loss of the supply, which lasted 45 minutes, meant many businesses couldn't close the automatic shutters.

### Free meals

THOUSANDS of children in the province of Alicante who eat at least once a day for free thanks to the school canteens might lose this service when they attend different summer schools.

## ■ MALLORCA

### Paraglider crash

AN experience local paraglider died when his craft crashed into the Puig de Son Fe in Alcudia last Monday. He was flying from Andratx to Alcudia, a regular route that he had followed before.

### Violent attack

THREE women were injured in a tussle in a bar in Paguera when a man with a history of violence became involved in a dispute. After first pulling a knife, he left and returned with a shotgun.

### Private flights

THE use of private aircraft to visit Mallorca has increased by 15 per cent in the past six months, bringing in 21 per cent more wealthy passengers.

### Tourist hero

A GERMAN tourist has been hospitalised after being beaten up whilst trying to protect a young woman during a brawl in Playa de Palma. His assailant has been arrested for assault and will appear in court.

### Worker's death

WHEN the interior of a house in Santanyi collapsed whilst work was being undertaken, one person died and two colleagues were seriously injured. The property has now been made safe by the fire brigade.

## ■ COSTA BLANCA NORTH

### Comfort stop

POLICE fined a Muchamiel man slumped in a car parked in mid-street with the lights on and engine running. Although drunk he was not driving, merely resting with the air-conditioning on, he insisted.

### Swimming lane

ALTEA now has a swimming lane between the La Olla beach and the Illeta Island, marked out by 60 buoys with ecological anchors to avoid harming the seabed.

### Moorish fort

BUSOT is spending €86,000 on turning its 12th century fortress into a visitable tourist and cultural monument in a project that the town hall expects to be finished by October.

### Tidy up

MUCHAMIEL Town Hall has contacted the owners of more than 200 plots of unbuilt land, asking them to clear rubbish and vegetation to reduce fire risk and eliminate vermin.

### Yacht blaze

A BURNING boat was set adrift at Campello's Club Nautico to prevent flames from spreading and brought ashore once firefighters arrived. Only the interior was affected and no-one was hurt.



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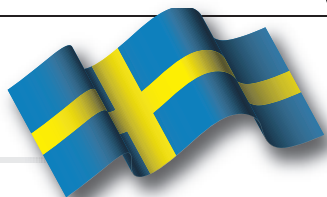
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**SWEDEN****PRINCESS VICTORIA:**  
Happy birthday.**Popular princess**

**CROWN** Princess Victoria has celebrated her 40th birthday. Two days of events were held across Sweden for Victoria who was the most popular member of the Royal Family according to a poll.

**Sales up**

M O R E

used cars were bought in the first half of the year, than in the whole of last year according to figures from the Swedish Association for Motor Retail Trades and Repairs (MRF).

**No aid**

SWEDEN will stop aid to any organisations that agree to abide by the anti-abortion rule which was reinstated by Donald Trump in the USA

and withhold abortion services.

**President accused**

SWEDEN has filed a complaint against the Turkish President accusing him of genocide and war crimes. It is the country's first complaint against a head of state and could see an arrest warrant issued.

**GERMANY****Coin arrests**

**ARRESTS** have been made in relation to the theft of the 'Big Maple Leaf' coin made of 100kg of pure 24-carat gold. The coin was stolen from the Bode museum in March and police have raided homes in Berlin.

€45,000 at auction after realising it was actually a German Enigma cipher machine from the Second World War.

ture and the rise with not enough teachers or classrooms.

**Villages resurface**

**TOURISTS** are flocking to see the ruins of abandoned villages under Hesse's Edersee lake. With water levels down, the ruins have resurfaced of three villages which were abandoned when a dam was built between 1908 and 1914.

**Not prepared**

A **STUDY** has predicted a significant rise in students due to an influx of migrant children and rising birth rates, but warns that Germany is markedly unprepared for the fu-

**Enigma sale**

A **PROFESSOR** bought a typewriter for €100 and has sold it for

**FRANCE****Still welcome**

**DESPITE** previous negative comments about France and Paris, most French people approve of US President Trump being invited to the annual July 14th parade on the Champs-Élysées in Paris according to a recent survey.

**Tax dodge**

**THE** government is appealing a court ruling that France could not claim tax on revenues generated by Google. A court said it not liable for €1.12 billion in taxes.

**Speeding up**

**PROCESSING** time for asylum requests will be reduced and housing will be boosted for refugees whilst deporting illegal economic migrants. Last year, France received 85,000 asylum requests.

**Working together**

**FRANCE** and Germany have held a joint press conference in which German Chancellor Angela Merkel has vowed a closer alliance and co-operation with France.

**BELGIUM****Ban upheld**

**BELGIUM'S** ban on full face veils has been upheld by the European Court of Human Rights following a case brought by two women who wanted to wear the niqab. Belgium banned wearing it in public in 2011.

**Cosmetic surgeries**

**AROUND** 200,000 cosmetic surgery procedures were carried out in Belgium last year, making an average of around 770 per working day. One in eight patients lived abroad, with eyelid surgery being the most popular operation.

**Local investments**

A **TOTAL** of €42.5 million will be invested in 13 municipalities of Brussels by 2020 as part of 70 projects approved under the 'city policy' plan.

**Paddle out**

**BELGIAN** surfers took part in global simultaneous paddle outs to mark the life of the legendary Jack O'Neill, often credited with inventing the wetsuit and founder of the O'Neill surfing brand. He passed away last month aged 94.

**NETHERLANDS****Summer holidays**

A **MARKETING** company is predicting an influx of German and Belgian tourists this summer to the Netherlands with 3.6 million foreign tourists this year, 3 per cent more than last year.

**Tunnel v bridge**

**THE** infrastructure minister has said she would prefer tunnels for bicycles and pedestrians to link Amsterdam with its northern flank, rather than bridges over the water as they would be too high and steep.

**Inherited wealth**

**FOUR** out of every 10 rich people in the Netherlands have inherited their wealth, according to a report. 'Rich' is defined as those with a minimum of €500,000 of disposable assets.

**Crash course**

**CONCERNS** have been raised over crash swimming courses with the Royal Dutch Swimming Federation saying the courses may not be enough to properly teach children.

**DENMARK****US no go**

**DENMARK** was noticeably absent from a meeting on the Nordic and Baltic parliaments in Washington DC with top US politicians.

**Formula 1**

**COPENHAGEN** wants to host the Danish Grand Prix and has proposed a 4.5 kilometre-long racing track. The hope is that Formula 1 cars would be seen racing through the streets in 2020.

**Train trolley**

**THE** refreshment trolley on trains was abolished by rail operator DSB in 2014, but it could be reinstated after a successful trial period although the new version will be stationary on the train, so passengers will have to leave their seat.

**Number 10**

**DENMARK** has been ranked 10th best country in the world for immigrants. Neighbouring Sweden came in at number one and Norway at number six.

**NORWAY****Peaceful coverage**

**NORWAY** is supporting media coverage of women, peace and security issues in Myanmar over a 19-month period to highlight the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and peace negotiations.

**Medicine wait**

**PATIENTS** with hepatitis C are waiting longer than they should for medical treatment as an American pharmaceutical company has the monopoly on the supply of the medicine.

**Murder charge**

**AN** Oslo woman arrested and charged with the murder of her husband, had been granted a restraining order against him after reporting violence in the relationship, but later withdrew it.

**Robot ship**

**A** NORWEGIAN tech firm has joined a project to build the world's first fully-automated robot supply ship. The aim is to create a self-drive vessel that can deliver supplies to the offshore energy and fish-farming industry.



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LV738 179,000€

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 Playa



Very desirable 2 bed, 2 bath townhouse of 82m<sup>2</sup> on a small complex near to the beach. Furnished & well maintained. Allocated parking, community pool & gardens.

LV736 128,000€

Mojácar Playa



3 bed, 2 bath, linked villa of 97m<sup>2</sup> + 145m<sup>2</sup> garden. Solarium, parking & community pool. Excellent location for the beach & amenities.

LV728 240,000€

Valle del Este



2 bed, 2 bath top floor apartment of 69m<sup>2</sup> in a modern golf urbanisation. Great views. Underground parking. Store-room. Community pool. Easy drive to towns & beaches.

A1301 99,950€

Los Gallardos



3 bed, 2 bath stylish penthouse of 80m<sup>2</sup> + solarium. A/C, F.C.H. & fly screens. Easy parking. Great community pool & gardens. Short drive to local shops, golf & beaches.

A1299 119,995€

Mojácar Playa



South facing 1 bed, 1 bath, top floor apartment of 55m<sup>2</sup> + terrace. Sea views. A/C. Community pool, terraces & parking. Quiet location.

A1297 84,000€

Mojácar Playa



2 bed, 2 bath, apartment of 62m<sup>2</sup> + terrace of 30m<sup>2</sup> & underground parking. Sea views. Community pool. In walking distance of the beach & all amenities.

A1294 139,000€

Mojácar Playa



2 bed, 2 bath, west facing apartment, on 2 levels, of 75m<sup>2</sup> + 2 terraces. Views to the community pool. Short distance to golf & beaches.

A1289 89,950€

Mojácar Playa



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

A1286 110,000€

Vera Playa



2 bed, 2 bath, 1st floor apartment of 66m<sup>2</sup> + terraces in a superb, secure, urbanisation. A/C & furnished. Parking. Indoor & outdoor community pools.

A1285 80,000€

Mojácar Playa



2 bed, 1 bath, ground floor golf apartment of 57m<sup>2</sup>, 22m<sup>2</sup> terrace & service patio. Community pool & gardens. Ideally situated for beaches & golf.

A1279 75,000€

Mojácar Playa



Charming 2 bed, 1 bath, detached villa of 78m<sup>2</sup> on a plot of 465m<sup>2</sup>. A/C, wood-burner & part furnished. Private garage. Excellent location.

DV1440 195,000€

Mojácar Playa



Modern 5 bed, 3 bath, detached villa of 241.27m<sup>2</sup> on a plot of 457m<sup>2</sup> on a small community but has a private pool & gardens. Sea views. Garage. Highly recommended.

DV1439 499,000€

Mojácar Playa



Newly refurbished 3 bed, 3 bath, detached villa of 110m<sup>2</sup> on a plot of 525m<sup>2</sup>. Great sea views. A/C & wood-burner. Solar water heating, carport & much more.

DV1437 449,000€

Cortijo Grande



3 bed, 3 bath, villa of 151m<sup>2</sup> on a plot of 1,451m<sup>2</sup> laid to terraces & gardens with a fully refurbished pool. Ample driveway & many extra features included. Furnished.

DV1377 249,000€

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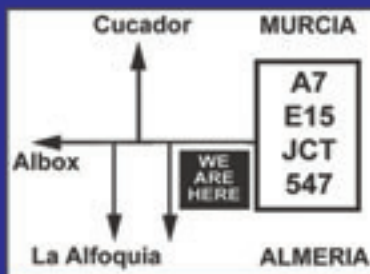
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# Shopper terror



**FIRE:** The RIO centre in north Moscow suffered a huge blaze.

EXOTIC animals from a basement zoo joined fish in plastic bags and thousands of fleeing shoppers as a huge fire broke out at the RIO shopping centre in north Moscow. The flames devoured 1,000 square metres. Four people are in serious condition in the local hospital.

## Grenade blast

A BOY was killed and two others seriously wounded when a Second World War-era hand grenade they were playing with exploded. The boys, aged 10-13, found the weapon in an abandoned house in Kaluga, south west of Moscow, owned by a 65-year-old man who left it in the shed.

## Assassin apology

A KAZAKHSTAN national serving time in a Russian prison for an assassination attempt on president Putin has asked for a pardon. Ilya Pyanzin said he was pressured by Islamic terrorists to help draw up plans to bomb the president's motorcade in Ukraine. He has pledged his total allegiance to Putin and Russia.

## Atomic artist

A FAMOUS Soviet-era artist was honoured after dying aged 87. Ilya Glazunov sketched enormous canvasses of international and historical figures. He was jailed for a piece depicting an atomic bomb exploding over Adolf Hitler, John F Kennedy, Al-

bert Einstein, Lenin, Chaplin, and many others, while Jesus Christ hovers above the entire scene.

## Money talks

AN arms deal valued at more than €3 billion was signed between Russia and Saudi Arabia. King Salman is set to visit Moscow later this year to finalise the deal. It makes Russia the second-biggest weapons dealer on the planet after the USA, with annual sales of more than €15 billion.

## Back slapping

SIBERIAN politicians are under fire after doubling their wages to 200,000 rubles per month (€2,900). Deputies in the Krasnoyarsk region met to discuss pay rises for doctors, nurses, libraries and other state workers. But instead the parliament's four parties unanimously voted to pat themselves on the back.



**DEMON DRIVER:** Patriarch Kirill believes exorcism can help patients.

## Demon driver

EXORCISM should be used to cure people of mental health problems according to the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Kirill. The spiritual leader said there remain many illnesses that are impossible to explain scientifically. Demonic power is real, he argued, and anyone may fall victim at any time.



## Red tape vampire sucks profits

RED tape costs Spanish companies a total of €500 million per year according to the president of the Spanish Confederation of Business Organisations (CEOE). Ana Plaza claims there are 92 pointless regulations which, if slashed, could save Spanish enterprise half a billion euros.

Under the tagline 'smaller is better,' she called for simple and effective legislation. Plaza cited a report released this year revealing there are 900,000 pages of regulation governing private businesses.

# Trump taxes Spanish olives

By Matthew Elliott

OLIVES produced in Spain will be stripped of the US import subsidies they enjoy as the Trump administration launches its first protectionist measures on international trade.

Extra tariffs on Spanish-grown olives may be imposed if an ongoing investigation finds trade practices which are 'disloyal' to the United States.

Domestic growers in California believe their Spanish rivals are sold lower than market value due to current international trade

agreements. Bell-Carter Foods and the Musco Family Olive have launched lawsuits through the US-based Fair Trade Coalition for Mature Olives.

They believe that artificial lowering of prices to accommodate the Spanish invasion, known as 'dumping' is hitting their profits directly, and undermining domestic production.

Wilbur Ross, head of the US Department of Commerce, has

pledged a "full and fair assessment" of the situation. Any unfair subsidies will be immediately removed, he said, while reiterating Washington's commitment to "free, fair and reciprocal trade with Spain."

Donald Trump campaigned on a pro-America and protectionist platform. The businessman turned president has made no bones of his intention to slap tough import duties on foreign products to protect domestic interests.

## Take it or leave it for shareholders

SHAREHOLDERS in now-defunct Banco Popular have been offered compensation by Santander, which bought its troubled former rival for €1 recently. The compensation plan will cost Santander €680 million but will come in the form of 'loyalty bonds.'

Shareholders who are entitled to compensation must waive any rights to sue Santander for any reason related to the sale. Many large corporations with hundreds of millions in Banco Popular shares will receive no compensation at all.

### Quote of the Week

"We need to see the removal of legal obstacles so that Spanish investment funds can compete on an equal footing with international funds," according to venture capitalist Juan Luis Ramirez.



**COMEBACK KID: Spain's cooked ham sales soar as fresh meat falls.**

## Spaniards grow healthier, yet lazier

THE stomach of the Spanish consumer is awash with contradictions as health concerns grapple with budgets to transform supermarket shopping trends.

Meat consumption has fallen considerably according to a report from the Nielsen consultancy, which collects data from supermarkets, butchers, delicatessens, and local minimarkets.

Purchases of fresh meat have dropped 1.2 per cent in 12 months, although rising prices mean that profits haven't taken a hit.

Consumer surveys show that developing attitudes spell trouble for fresh meat. On the one hand people are now growing more health conscious and embracing the emergent vegetarian scene, or at least cutting down on meat.

Meanwhile a different kind of consumer prefers the convenience of pre-cooked meals and packs of cooked chicken, pork and ham.

So while fresh meat sales have fallen, jamon (jam) is making a comeback, with sales rising 4 per cent last year.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

## Smart banking

A MOBILE banking survey found that BBVA has the best mobile phone app in the world. The app won plaudits for its different transaction options and ease of use. It beat competition from 53 banks across 18 countries.

## Motor demand

SPAIN and Italy are leading the way in new car sales as the growth in registrations slowed across the EU. Demand in Spain is far higher than in the UK, which saw sales dip in June.

## Digital spies

NEW technology from Roambee will transform the Spanish logistics sector. Digital devices will be placed on truck, train, boat and plane cargo to monitor temperature, routes and location to help minimise loss and breakage.

## Paltry rise for pensions in Spain

PUBLIC pensions in Spain are expected to rise by a paltry 0.25 per cent per annum until 2022. Given the average pension paid by social security stands at €920, the figure would result in an average annual pension increase of less than €3.

The estimate is provided by the Independent Fiscal

Responsibility Authority. Its analysis suggests that an increase higher than 0.25 per cent would throw the social security system into an unmanageable deficit until 2022, when some debts are expected to be cleared.

Inflation forecasts indicate most pensioners will lose purchasing power in the next five years.

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# LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JULY 17

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,040.50	-76.50	-6.85	15,366.39
Associated British Foods	2,724.50	-130.50	-4.57	23,077.30
Admiral Group	1,967.50	-52.50	-2.60	5,838.04
Ashtead Group	1,580.00	-1.00	-0.06	7,922.71
Antofagasta	822.75	-35.75	-4.16	8,399.50
Aviva	531.00	1.50	0.28	21,553.23
AstraZeneca	4,956.00	-42.50	-0.85	63,453.31
BAE Systems	633.50	21.50	3.51	19,680.16
Babcock International Group	908.75	56.25	6.60	4,332.96
Barclays	207.00	-1.50	-0.72	35,992.34
British American Tobacco	5,285.00	8.00	0.15	98,630.18
Barratt Developments	593.00	7.50	1.28	6,052.44
British Land Co	605.00	-2.00	-0.33	6,204.89
BHP Billiton	1,296.50	-8.50	-0.65	27,245.73
Bunzl	2,357.50	95.50	4.22	7,617.51
BP	446.78	1.98	0.45	88,282.25
Burberry Group	1,662.50	17.50	1.06	7,267.38
BT Group	298.40	-2.25	-0.75	29,910.27
Coca-Cola HBC	2,317.50	81.50	3.64	8,171.90
Carnival	5,092.50	37.50	0.74	10,925.49
Centrica	205.50	-0.80	-0.39	11,553.14
Compass Group	1,590.50	3.50	0.22	25,207.74
Croda International	3,886.50	-9.50	-0.24	5,121.69
CRH	2,703.50	-52.50	-1.90	23,400.77
ConvaTec Group	299.10	0.00	0.00	5,825.15
DCC	6,950.00	-50.00	-0.71	6,301.89
Diageo	2,285.50	0.50	0.02	57,554.88
Direct Line Insurance Group	362.60	-2.40	-0.66	5,073.75
Experian	1,582.00	-6.00	-0.38	14,902.51
easyJet	1,394.50	-16.50	-1.17	5,596.66
Fresnillo	1,472.50	-8.50	-0.57	10,743.91
G4S	339.30	10.50	3.19	5,126.47
GKN	330.00	-0.60	-0.18	5,713.85
Glencore	311.00	-5.10	-1.61	45,278.66
GlaxoSmithKline	1,620.00	11.50	0.71	79,580.00
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,389.00	110.00	8.60	6,104.48
Hammerson	575.00	-9.50	-1.63	4,588.77
HSBC Holdings	739.50	5.60	0.76	149,887.00
International Consold Airlines	604.50	-22.00	-3.51	13,042.78
InterContinental Hotels Grp	4,295.00	22.00	0.51	8,169.58
3i Group	926.00	8.00	0.87	8,993.79
Imperial Brands	3,490.00	-9.50	-0.27	33,367.93
Informa	630.25	-33.25	-5.01	5,475.51
Intertek Group	4,376.50	122.50	2.88	6,920.43
ITV	176.90	1.90	1.09	7,137.05
Johnson Matthey	2,922.50	76.50	2.69	5,523.44
Kingfisher	301.00	7.20	2.45	6,586.59
Land Securities Group	1,014.50	-3.50	-0.34	8,026.15
Legal & General Group	259.50	0.10	0.04	15,457.68
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	67.00	0.06	0.09	48,410.88

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
London Stock Exchange Grp	3,680.00	-2.00	-0.05	12,853.98
Micro Focus International	2,050.50	-38.50	-1.84	4,706.20
Mediclinic International	812.00	61.50	8.19	5,462.98
Merlin Entertainments	489.70	20.30	4.32	4,865.73
Marks & Spencer Group	332.25	7.25	2.23	5,312.87
Mondi	2,032.50	19.50	0.97	9,910.15
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	245.00	-1.00	-0.41	5,743.53
National Grid	940.50	10.40	1.12	32,091.29
Next	3,675.00	20.00	0.55	5,432.27
Old Mutual Group	196.95	2.95	1.52	9,577.75
Provident Financial	2,283.00	28.00	1.24	3,409.05
Paddy Power Betfair	7,872.50	122.50	1.58	6,588.09
Prudential	1,740.00	-22.50	-1.28	46,260.92
Persimmon	2,337.50	-24.50	-1.04	7,403.90
Pearson	634.25	-1.25	-0.20	5,174.07
Reckitt Benckiser Group	7,745.00	1.00	0.01	54,335.35
Royal Bank of Scotland Grp	259.25	6.85	2.71	30,572.40
Royal Dutch Shell	2,047.50	-2.50	-0.12	93,076.60
RELX	2,085.00	23.00	1.12	77,700.12
Rio Tinto	3,444.50	-3.50	-0.10	47,123.86
Royal Mail	436.75	35.75	8.92	4,110.00
Rolls-Royce Group	910.00	-4.50	-0.49	17,043.75
Randgold Resources	6,875.00	5.00	0.07	6,373.68
RSA Insurance Group	660.50	19.00	2.96	6,631.90
Rentokil Initial	276.50	2.20	0.80	5,076.55
Sainsbury (J)	244.70	-1.00	-0.41	5,386.80
Schroders	3,229.50	-27.50	-0.84	7,402.23
Sage Group (The)	666.75	-16.25	-2.38	7,317.58
Segro	494.90	0.00	0.00	4,903.70
Shire	4,275.00	105.50	2.53	37,908.68
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,265.00	-57.00	-2.45	5,532.49
Sky	866.00	-104.00	-10.72	16,760.42
Standard Life	408.50	-6.00	-1.45	8,133.80
Smiths Group	1,625.00	0.00	0.00	6,434.37
Scottish Mortgage Investmnt	395.45	-5.25	-1.31	5,655.77
Smith & Nephew	1,315.50	-4.50	-0.34	11,568.17
SSE	1,473.00	-1.00	-0.07	14,847.46
Standard Chartered	785.00	-23.50	-2.91	26,851.58
St James's Place	1,151.50	-19.50	-1.67	6,216.48
Severn Trent	2,278.50	51.50	2.31	5,271.88
Tesco	170.00	-3.50	-2.02	14,141.39
TUI AG	1,164.00	16.00	1.39	6,862.48
Taylor Wimpey	189.15	8.65	4.79	5,994.27
Unilever	4,275.00	11.50	0.27	54,230.48
United Utilities Group	967.00	89.00	10.14	5,956.30
Vodafone Group	220.88	2.08	0.95	58,894.71
Wolseley	4,625.00	-43.00	-0.92	11,927.19
Worldpay Group	450.00	66.00	17.19	7,678.00
WPP Group	1,615.00	62.00	3.99	19,906.07
Whitbread	3,930.00	58.00	1.50	7,101.43

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COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	211,770	+0.22%	0.470	126.525
AMERICAN EXPRESS	85,2800	+0.54%	0.4600	76.239
APPLE	149,040	+2.26%	3.300	777.279
BOEING CO	208,510	+1.00%	2.070	125.840
CATERPILLAR	108,770	-0.17%	-0.190	64.094
CHEVRON	104,44	+0.53%	0.55	197.811
CISCO SYSTEMS	31,420	+0.83%	0.260	157.051
COCA-COLA	44,68	+0.38%	0.17	190.812
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	84,7500	-0.11%	-0.0900	73.472
EXXON MOBIL	81,28	+0.40%	0.32	344.320
GENERAL ELECTRIC	26,7800	+0.75%	0.2000	232.643
GOLDMAN SACHS	228,60	+0.53%	1.21	90.062
HOME DEPOT	152,8800	+0.19%	0.2900	182.788
IBM	154,24	+0.35%	0.54	144.926
INTEL CORP	34,6800	+1.26%	0.4300	163.261
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	92,2500	-0.28%	-0.2600	327.675
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	132,6000	+0.28%	0.3700	357.310
MC DONALD'S CORP	155,2800	-0.83%	-1.3000	126.564
MERCK AND CO. NEW	63,06	+0.45%	0.28	172.509
MICROSOFT	72,780	+2.29%	1.630	561.821
NIKE	58,00	-0.38%	-0.22	76.661
PFIZER	33,4300	+0.63%	0.2100	199.505
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	87,100	+0.16%	0.140	222.768
TRAVELERS CIES	125,72	+0.38%	0.47	35.130
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	123,41	-0.24%	-0.30	98.887
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	186,90	+0.11%	0.21	180.127
VERIZON COMMS	43,56	+0.79%	0.34	177.697
VISA	96,93	+0.78%	0.75	178.993
WAL-MART STORES	76,3400	+3.25%	2.4000	230.187
WALT DISNEY CO	105,0900	+0.68%	0.7100	164.437

# NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JULY 17

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
Eiger BioPharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 9.25	1.80 ▲ 24.16%
Fifth Street Finance Corp.	\$ 5.44	0.77 ▲ 16.49%
AcelRx Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 2.40	0.25 ▲ 11.63%
Highpower International Inc	\$ 3.85	0.40 ▲ 11.59%
Cara Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 15.36	1.41 ▲ 10.11%
Fifth Street Senior Floating Rate Corp.	\$ 8.76	0.78 ▲ 9.77%
Frequency Electronics, Inc.	\$ 8.85	0.75 ▲ 9.26%
Nutanix, Inc.	\$ 22.12	1.85 ▲ 9.13%
YY Inc.	\$ 63.79	5.32 ▲ 9.10%
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SPTIGOBSEN



# BARISTAS BEWARE BEAN-LOVER FIGHTBACK

## Spanish geniuses invent internet coffee

TWO Spanish companies have created the first espresso machine connected to the internet. The 'coffee machine of the future' isn't only designed to make a better brew, but to also monitor usage and prevent fraud by unscrupulous café owners.

The machine is the brainchild of Iberital and IoTsens. Iberital is a Catalan company which have been making coffee machines for 40 years and now sells them in more than 100 countries worldwide.

They were recently granted EU funds to create the 'coffee machine of the future' and decided that internet connectivity would be fundamental to such an invention. For this they enlisted Spanish tech specialists IoTsens.

IoT refers to the Internet of Things, a quickly growing field in the technology world responsible for all manner of futuristic contraptions, including fridges connected to the internet which can be controlled remotely by mobile phones, and 3D printers.

The new espresso machine sends real time information about its location and consumption to the distributors. In Spain distributors often lease out machines to hotels and bars, expecting to be the exclusive supplier of coffee beans in return.

But all too often clients will buy cheaper coffee elsewhere and neglect machine maintenance. The smart coffee machines will combat this problem by broadcasting detailed information on exactly what beans are being used, when the machines are being cleaned, switched on and off, and maintained.

It will make it almost impossible for baristas to cheat on



**SMART:** Coffee machine of the future monitors baristas.

suppliers and consumers by providing low-quality coffee beans with excess water, served from an unclean machine.

The new machines also cut energy expenditure by around 50 per cent and use healthier materials which greatly reduce the amount of heavy metals found in a mug of coffee.

## Royal Ferraris sold

A PAIR of Ferraris donated by former King Juan Carlos to the Hacienda were auctioned off for a total of €443,842. Tax officials have been trying to offload the luxury cars since 2015, when they aborted efforts to raise a combined €695,000.

The expensive wheels were donated to the King by the United Arab Emirates in 2011. Both are Ferrari FF F151s and were bought last week by two separate private bidders. Neither have more than 800 kilometres on the clock, making them as good as new.

The former king originally donated one of the cars to the Museum of the Royal Guard, but faced pressure to raise public funds from the gifts.

## RETAIL WORKERS ON BREADLINE AS SALARIES FALL

# Spain's 'third world' wages slammed

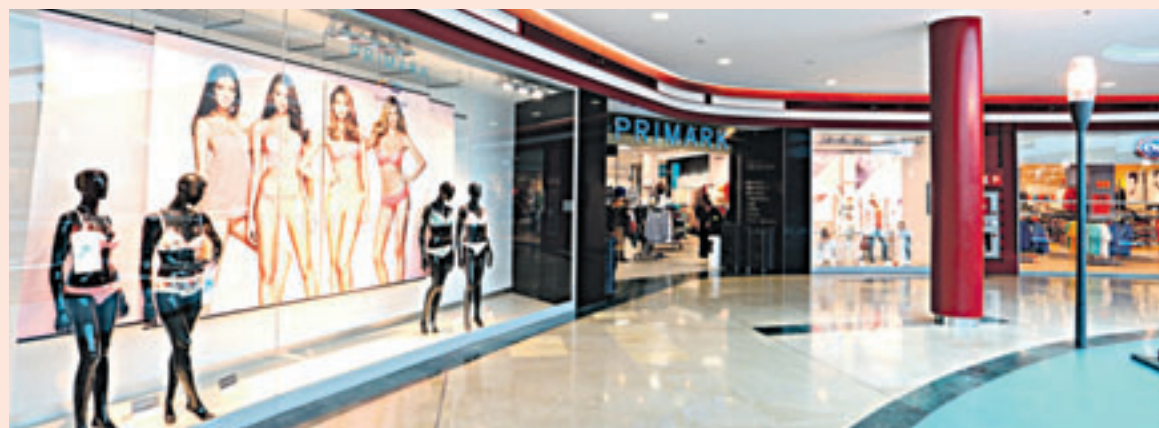
SPAIN'S employment minister has urged companies across the country to increase worker's salaries. Fatima Bañez warned that Spain risks having "third world" salaries for another five to 10 years unless pressure is piled on the business community.

Spain sits atop the European league table for stagnant wages. Labour costs in the first four months of 2017 rose by an average of 1.7 per cent across the EU's 28 member states.

In Germany they shot up by 2.5 per cent, in the UK 1.5 per cent. In crisis hit Portugal they rose by 2.6 per cent. Spain posted the lowest figure of the lot at just 0.1 per cent.

Though unemployment figures have gone down as the wider economy recovers, there are still 3.36 million jobless in Spain, meaning companies have little incentive to raise wages.

A report from Spanish employment observation group ANAC



**PRIMARK SPAIN:** Not one shop employee earns more than €20,000.

found that the salary of the average Spanish worker has actually declined this year, despite overall labour costs rising slightly.

There are now more Spaniards earning €15-20,000 per annum, while less are in the €20-25,000 wage bracket. After taxes and social security payment, the average worker in 2017 clears a little over €800 per month.

Juan Rosell, President of the Spanish Confederation of Business Organisations, has acknowledged that "it's very difficult to get to the end of the month with a salary of €800." He voiced his support for Bañez's call for higher wages.

In the retail industry workers earn an average of just €13,662 gross. Primark recently published a list of all its salaries, showing that not one of its shop workers in Spain earned above €20,000.

## Secret aspirin empire

SURGING sales in China have made a northern Spanish factory the world's biggest supplier of aspirin. The German-owned Bayer plant in Asturias celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2017 and is enjoying its most profitable year in history.

The factory was briefly under Spanish control after Germany's Second World War defeat, but has since been bought back. Today it produces 5,500 tons of the acetylsalicylic acid, the active ingredient in Aspirin Cardio.

The drug is rapidly gaining in popularity across Asia as traditional herbal heart disease and painkiller cures are replaced by western pharmaceuticals. More than 200 million aspirin tablets are consumed daily across the world.

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**SMILES:**  
Theresa May  
thrilled to see  
Spanish  
companies  
back  
investment.

## Spain commits to serious UK investment

SPANISH companies pledged to build trains and trams in Britain and commit millions of pounds to their UK interests during King Felipe's three-day state visit to the country.

Prime minister Theresa May was delighted with the flurry of announcements which came after high-level discussions on bilateral trade between the countries, which exceeded €30 billion last year.

"The sheer scale of Spanish investment in Britain demonstrates Spain's continued confidence in the strength of the UK economy, and shows that we can and will maintain the closest possible relationship," the Conservative leader said.

Investment highlights include Spanish manufacturer CAF ploughing €40 million into a Welsh train and tram building factory, and Spanish airport manager AENA pledging €100 million to expand Luton airport.

Despite all the royal pomp of the state visit, King Felipe was keen to get down to Brexit business, directly addressing the bewildered elephant in the room during a speech at Mansion House.

The referendum had "generated uncertainty and doubts for our companies, businesses and especially small and medium-sized enterprises," the King warned, calling for a resolution that minimises trade obstacles.

An estimated 140,000 jobs in the UK depend directly on Spanish investments. There are 261 Spanish companies with British bases across key sectors. The UK is Spain's third largest export market but the number one for foreign investment by Spanish companies.

Not all Spanish leaders are concerned about Brexit. Gerard Lopez, president of huge Spanish IT company Plexus, was optimistic that Britain could become a more attractive business destination.

"The economy, its geographic location and a currency that is respected could make the UK the hub that has the advantages of a certain independence with all the advantages of being an accepted trade partner to the EU and the US," he said, in comments echoed by the head of Telefonica, Jose Maria Alvarez-Pallete.

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## Pupils get money lessons

BANKERS are touring Spanish primary schools to give future generations a lesson on how to manage their finances. Experts from BBVA have been dispatched to educate the youngsters of the value of saving their pocket money and identifying which expenses are really necessary.

More than a million pupils have been

targeted by BBVA's financial literacy programme. The idea was spawned by concerns that huge chunks of the adult population had little idea of their legal obligations under standard banking contracts. The bank is adamant the project is their social responsibility and not an advertising gimmick.

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# I'm up to here with all of it!

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT  
OTHERS THINK IT**



QUITE frankly, I'm just about 'up to here' with all of it. I'm peed off, bored and utterly fed up with, Brexit, Islam, Blair, immigrants, political correctness, welfare whingers, gay rights, racism, all the politicians on the planet and Love Island!

In fact, I'm so sick of all the dissent and conflicting confusion engulfing the human race, that this week I'm not going to mention any of it. (Hurrah) Instead we are going to talk about Snot eels! (Please don't continue this piece if about to plunge your fork into.... well just about anything really!)

It appears that this fish, properly known as hag fish, has been around for some three million years and has developed a defence mechanism which allows it to produce up to five gallons of mucus through the nostrils when distressed. Also labelled the most disgusting fish in the ocean,



**SNOT EELS:** Left a slimy wake. **ROGER FEDERER:** Well done at Wimbledon.

it is never the less - surprise surprise, considered a delicacy in South Korea. This week a lorry in Oregon, carrying almost three and a half tons of these creatures, overturned, creating a wave of sticky goop that spread across the road engulfing five cars, the occupants and ultimately rescuers in its slimy wake. 'What to tell the dry cleaners?'

Oregon state police posted on Twitter, beneath a picture of one of their officers standing in a torrent of eel mucus. S'not our fault would be a start! You really couldn't make it up.

Moving on to even more utterly irrelevant information; this week the Pope hit back at the constant flow of whinging callers by hanging a sign on his front door which read, 'Com-

plaining is Forbidden.' 'To be at your best,' it went on, 'you need to focus on your potential and not your limits. So, stop complaining and set out to make yourself better.' Well done your Papal'ness, that's telling 'em.

And as a final non-important column gem, Nevada, who recently le-



galized marihuana, ran out of distribution stocks after just two weeks. Al Fasano (who else!) a co-founder of ReLeaf, a dispensary in Las Vegas said. 'We didn't know the demand would be this intense. All of a sudden you have like a thousand people at your door.' Tick Segerblom (Hi ya Tick) a senator who led the legislation lobby said: 'On behalf of Nevada, I want to tell the world: Watch out. This is the New Amsterdam.' Oh yeah? Bet you ain't got no Tulips!

And as a final final, many congrats to Roger Federer winning this year's Wimbledon. A true gentleman and example to some of the rest of 'em, who think that screaming obscenities across the court can actually help win matches. He did it all without a single grunt as well! Try and make next year's final between yourself and Nadal. We'll all be watching that one.

*Keep the faith, Love Leapy.  
Leapylee2002@gmail.com*

Advertising feature

## Duplex/townhouse for sale in Palomares

**Property of the week**

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**TOWNHOUSE:**  
Has stunning views of the sea and countryside.



THIS is a fantastic townhouse located in the lovely coastal village of Palomares with stunning views of the sea and the surrounding area, including the countryside and the village itself. Palomares has a number of bars and restaurants and it is within a few minutes from several other villages and towns.

The property is accessed through a wonderful front garden area, that

leads up onto the front terrace, perfect for outside dining with a good view of the coast. Once in the property you'll find yourself in the large lounge/diner, which is very light and airy thanks to the large glass area. Leading off of this space is the downstairs toilet room as well as the good sized kitchen, which comes fully equipped and has plenty of storage space top and bottom.

From this space, you also have a staircase leading up to the bedrooms and remaining bathroom, plus a staircase leading downwards into the garage which has been converted into an extra living space with storage.

The three bedrooms of this property are all a very good size, with there being more than enough space with double beds (or two singles if you prefer). They come with fitted wardrobes, and the master bedroom also has a good sized terrace leading off it giving you those previously

mentioned wonderful views. The one family bathroom on this floor is a very good size and comes fully equipped.

Continuing up the staircase sends you up to the massive roof terrace that, except the space the staircase takes up itself, covers the entire roof of the property and it's from here that you can fully appreciate the panoramic views.

The property comes equipped with air-conditioning.

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# Chilcot accuses Blair of not being 'straight with the nation' over Iraq

Nora Johnson

Breaking Views

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

WARNING: the following contains strong language right from the start! What the \*\*\*\* ... Well, I'd better tone it down a bit as it's a family newspaper!

I thought at first it was a belated April Fool's joke but no. The BBC interview I just watched is only too true, and my blood pressure's rising rapidly. And not in a good way.

After weeks of depressing news about Brexit, Putin, Corbyn, Trump's latest shenanigans, who unexpectedly emerges in the headlines? Yes. You guessed: Tony Blair.

Tony Blair relied on emotional beliefs rather than facts in his decision to take Britain to war in Iraq, Sir John Chilcot, chairman of the seven-year inquiry into



**TONY BLAIR: Relied on emotional beliefs rather than facts.**

the legality of the conflict admitted in the interview.

Right, so next time I'm caught out blatantly lying, I can claim I was "from my perspective and standpoint, emotionally truthful." Thanks, Sir John, for clarifying that.

Well, apart from the odd timing of Sir John's admission (the inquiry was published a year ago), what's also striking about the interview are the oddly evasive answers. Makes you wonder why he agreed to it at all.

And as for Blair's decision-making process, what stands out most starkly is the fact that instead of providing a reasoned argument, he'd simply say: "I'm doing this because it's the right thing to do," 'right' having the smug tone of a vicar's inner convictions. Is Sir John correct in describing that as 'emotion'?

Blair meddled in things he didn't bother to analyse deeply and regularly mistook his own personal convictions for facts that they certainly weren't. As-

tonishingly, he still spins this into big bucks. Some people can, apparently, fool others (almost) all of the time.

So, we've now entered the post-truth era where emotions, not facts, inform human behaviour and there is no doubt that Tony Blair acted with total 'emotional' integrity. Lawyers will be doubtless be pondering the extent to which this constitutes a plausible defence against other forms of criminality apart from war crimes. Crimes such as: I just killed my husband/wife/child/friend in an 'emotional' reaction to his/their behaviour? Heck!

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

## THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Graham Braben, Almería

# I just wanted flour

IT looked so simple and I was convinced I could do it. I'd been watching one of the many cookery shows on television, they make it look so easy. Not once did I see this woman searching for kitchen stuff that you know you don't have, or balance one-legged, mountaineer-like, on a stool to retrieve something from the back of an inaccessible, long forgotten, cupboard.

I was baking a cake so flour was essential. I looked at our stocks - zero, so it's off to the supermarket to hunt and gather. Big mistake!

I'm not a natural shopper, so a trip to one of these large malls was daunting, but as far as I was concerned, I was going straight to the supermarket and then home again. Unfortunately not!

The mall was the size of a small town and heaving; there were people meandering aimlessly everywhere, electrically powered taxis flying around with little or no regard to pedestrians and parents pushing buggies overloaded with screaming children in a manner that would make Evel Knievel, or Richard Hammond, blanch.

It wasn't until I'd groped my way through the indoor amusement park, skirted an ice rink and mistakenly joined the queue for a trip down the indoor canal on a gondola, that I finally stumbled upon the supermarket. By this time, my cake making frenzy had lost its impetus. I wanted flour but there were so many different kinds, plain, self-raising, rice... I just wanted flour!!!!

I spotted a person wearing a polo shirt and on the back were the words, "Can I help you?" I was sorry I asked; did I want a stable flour or should the flour be dense? He said more but I'd tuned out. I mumbled thank you and sloped off to buy a cake from the nearest bakery, my appreciation of Mr. Kipling having grown, exceedingly!

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

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For Almería airport, there are pick up and drop off points in Alfaix, Los Gallardos, Turre, Mojácar, Garrucha and Vera Playa to and from the airport for just €18 per person each way with discounts for groups and children. The Mojácar Almería service has been operating for the last three years and from April 1 this year Exclusive Airport Shuttles started a new route serving the Almanzora Valley including pick up points in Albox, Arboleas, Los Carasoles, Zurgena and the Ho-



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tel Overa by the motorway exit, with tickets priced at €23 each way. The Alicante route costs just €30 and includes the pick up points on both Almería routes.

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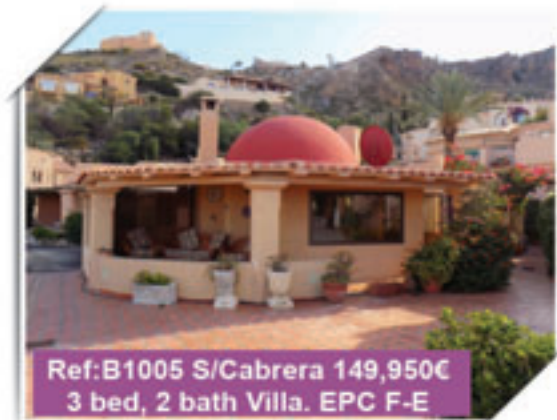
Ref:A833 ZURGENA 199,995€

### 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

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Travel

# Roman baths in Casares

IF you have a nose for history then a visit to the Baños de la Hedionda (Casares) might be a good idea.

That is if you also have a nose that can ignore the smell of sulphur in the baths which date back to Roman times and are said to be where the devil breathed out after being expelled from heaven.

These sulphurous springs are difficult to reach but are still accessible to the public if somewhat tatty as they have been partly vandalised over the past few years.

History records that Roman legionaries on the side of Julius Caesar visited the area in 61AD prior to one



**SULPHUROUS SPRINGS:** A chamber in the baths.

of the major battles with the troops of Pompey and those suffering from the skin complaint Scabies were said to have recovered after bathing in the waters.

Although it is not confirmed that Caesar himself

was a visitor, work was undertaken in the baths over the centuries by the Romans, Moors and Spanish, and the area next to the Rio Manilva has been declared an area of local cultural interest.

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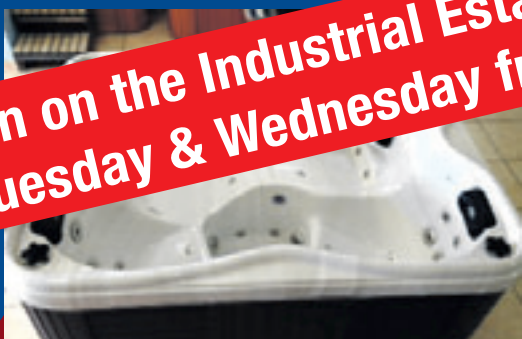
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GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1
20 JULY	6:15pm Pointless	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	8:30pm Eat, Shop, Save	4:00pm The Question Jury	6:30pm Neighbours	7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:00pm Eggheads	9:00pm Emmerdale	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	7:00pm Home and Away	7:30am The Open Championship Live
	7:30pm BBC London News	7:30pm Letterbox	9:30pm James Martin's French Adventure	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	9:00pm Live Super League Warrington Wolves v Widnes Vikings
	8:00pm Celebrity Mastermind	8:00pm Yorkshire Wolds Way	10:00pm Killer Women with Piers Morgan	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	8:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	8:30pm EastEnders	8:30pm The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:00pm The Simpsons	9:00pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	12:00am Through the Night
	9:00pm The Sheriffs are Coming	9:00pm Golf	11:30pm ITV News London	7:30pm Hollyoaks	10:00pm Circus Kids: Our Secret World	1:00am The Open Highlights
	10:00pm Who Do You Think You Are?	11:00pm The Mash Report	11:40pm Fearless	8:00pm Channel 4 News	11:00pm Big Brother	3:00am Through the Night
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:30pm Newsnight	12:45pm Devon and Cornwall Cops	8:30pm World Para Athletics Championships London 2017	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	
	11:30pm BBC London News	12:15pm 1066: A Year to Conquer England		11:00pm Naked Attraction		
	11:45pm I Shot My Parents			12:05am Real, Fake or Unknown		
12:45pm This Week						
FRIDAY 21 JULY	7:30pm BBC London News	5:15pm Natural World	7:00pm ITV News London	4:00pm The Question Jury	6:00pm 5 News at 5	7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm Celebrity Mastermind	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm ITV Evening News	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	6:30pm Neighbours	7:30am The Open Championship Live
	8:30pm Thief Trackers	7:00pm Eggheads	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away	9:00pm Live Super League
	9:00pm EastEnders	7:30pm Letterbox	8:30pm Coronation Street	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	9:30pm Still Open All Hours	8:00pm Yorkshire Wolds Way	9:00pm The Secret World of Posh Pets	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm Blind Date	Round up of all the day's sports news
	10:00pm Peter Kay's Comedy Shuffle	8:30pm The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	9:30pm Coronation Street	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:55pm Legally Blonde	Through the Night
	10:30pm Mrs. Brown's Boys	9:00pm Golf	10:00pm Benidorm	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:55pm 5 News	1:05am Football
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm QI	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:30pm World Para Athletics Championships London 2017	10:00pm Legally Blonde	3:30am Through the Night
	11:25pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight	11:30pm ITV News London	11:00pm The Last Leg	11:00pm Big Brother: Live Eviction	
	11:35pm Not Going Out	12:05am Top of the Lake	11:40pm Joanna Lumley's India	12:05am Naked Attraction	12:30am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	
12:05am You Again		12:40am Tipping Point				
SATURDAY 22 JULY	7:15pm BBC News	5:20pm University Challenge	3:55pm Tipping Point	4:30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	5:15pm The Nightmare Neighbour	9:00am The Open Championship Live
	7:25pm Regional News	5:50pm Gardeners' World	5:00pm The Chase	5:30pm Big House, Little House	6:15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	11:30am Live Premier League Asia Trophy
	7:30pm Weather	6:50pm The Sweet Makers: A Tudor Treat	6:00pm Little Big Shots USA	6:30pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it	8:00pm 5 News	4:30pm The Open Championship Live
	7:35pm Pointless	7:50pm BBC Proms Extra	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Channel 4 News	8:05pm Funniest Cutest Kittens Ever	9:00pm Live GAA Football Qualifier
	8:25pm Pitch Battle	8:30pm Dad's Army	7:10pm ITV News and Weather	8:00pm World Para Athletics Championships London 2017	9:00pm Blind Date	10:00pm Live World Matchplay Darts
	10:00pm Casualty	9:00pm Golf	7:20pm You've Been Framed!	11:00pm Fast and Furious 6	10:00pm Big Brother	12:00am Through the Night
	10:50pm BBC News	11:00pm Performance Live: Why It's Kicking Off Everywhere	8:20pm Catchphrase	1:30pm Ramsay	11:00pm Named and Shamed	
	11:05pm Weather	12:00am QI XL	9:00pm The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	2:20am 60 Days in Jail	12:00am That's So... 1981	
	11:10pm Would I Lie to You?	12:45am Cosmopolis	12:15am ITV News and Weather			
	11:40pm Eagle Eye		12:35am The Chase			
1:40am Weather for the Week						
SUNDAY 23 JULY	7:50pm Regional News	2:00pm Swimming	2:55pm Tipping Point	10:30am Sunday Brunch	4:50pm Little Nicky	8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	7:55pm Weather	3:30pm Wanted Down Under	3:55pm Bear Gryll's Survival School	1:30pm Eat the Week with Iceland	6:25pm Legally Blonde	8:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm Wild Alaska Live	4:30pm Natural World	4:25pm Octopussy	2:30pm Eragon	8:10pm Magic Makes You Laugh Out Loud	9:00am The Open Championship Live
	9:00pm Countryfile	5:15pm Flog It!	7:00pm Local News and Weather	4:30pm The Restoration Man	9:00pm That's So... 1989	8:00pm The Open Verdict - Live
	10:00pm Poldark	6:00pm Swimming	7:10pm ITV News and Weather	5:30pm Homes by the Sea	9:55pm 5 News	8:30pm Live World Matchplay Darts
	11:00pm BBC News	8:00pm Inside the Factory	7:30pm The Chase Celebrity	6:30pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Big Brother	12:00am Through the Night
	11:20pm Regional News	9:00pm Golf	8:30pm Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire	7:00pm World Para Athletics Championships London 2017	11:05pm Whitney Houston: Her Greatest Hits	12:45am Football
	11:25pm Weather	11:00pm Maps to the Stars	11:20pm ITV News and Weather	8:30pm UEFA Women's Euro 2017	1:10am Omg: My Midlife Plastic Crisis	
	11:30pm Miranda Hart - My What I Call Live Show	12:45am The Skin I Live In	11:40pm Judge Rinder's Crime Stories	11:00pm The Handmaid's Tale		
	12:30am Gambit	3:30am Holby City	12:40am Take Me Out	12:10am Kingdom of Heaven		
MONDAY 24 JULY	8:00pm The Farmers' Jodi's Lovely Letters	5:30pm Swimming	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:00pm 5 News	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:30pm EastEnders	7:00pm Eggheads	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	6:30pm Neighbours	10:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	9:30pm Panorama	7:30pm Letterbox	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	11:00am Live Tennis: Hamburg News HQ
	10:00pm DIY SOS The Big Build	8:00pm Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	9:00pm Call the Cleaners	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News	8:00pm Live World Matchplay Darts
	11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm University Challenge	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Car Crash TV	12:00am Through the Night
	11:30pm Regional News	9:30pm Nadiya's British Food Adventure	10:00pm Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera	9:00pm Bear About the House: Living with My Supersized Pet	9:00pm All New Traffic Cops	2:00am Live WWE Late Night Raw
	11:40pm Weather	10:00pm Ripper Street	11:00pm ITV News	10:00pm 999: What's Your Emergency?	10:00pm Eamonn and Ruth: The Millionaires Rulebook	5:15am WWE From the Vault
	11:45pm Peter Kay's Comedy Shuffle	11:00pm Normal for Norfolk	11:40pm Killer Women with Piers Morgan	11:00pm Britain's Benefit Tenants	11:00pm Big Brother	
	12:15am Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You	11:30pm Newsnight	12:40am The Kyle Files	12:00am 60 Days in Jail	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	
		12:10am Weather			1:05am Countdown to Murder	
TUESDAY 25 JULY	7:30pm Regional News	5:30pm Swimming	3:00pm Judge Rinder	4:00pm The Question Jury	4:15pm A Daughter's Nightmare	9:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm The Farmers' Countryside Showdown	7:00pm Eggheads	4:00pm Tenable	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	6:00pm 5 News	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:30pm EastEnders	7:30pm Letterbox	5:00pm Tipping Point	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours	10:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	9:00pm Holby City	8:00pm Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm The Chase	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm Home and Away	11:00am Live Tennis: Hamburg Live T20 Blast
	10:00pm In The Dark	9:00pm Inside the Factory	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm 5 News	10:45pm Live World Matchplay Darts
	11:00pm BBC News	10:00pm Addicted Parents: Last Chance to Kemy Children	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Britain's Greatest Bridges	1:00am Through the Night
	11:30pm Regional News	11:00pm Detectorists	8:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies	
	11:40pm Weather	11:00pm Newsnight	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	9:00pm Craft It Yourself	10:00pm The Hotel Inspector	
	11:45pm New Tricks	11:30pm Newsnight	11:00pm ITV News	10:00pm Excluded at Seven	11:00pm Big Brother	
	12:45am Jodi's Lovely Letters	12:10am Weather	11:40pm Davina: Life at the Extreme	11:00pm First Dates	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	
		12:40am Play to the Whistle	12:05am Young and Promising			
WEDNESDAY 26 JULY	7:30pm Regional News	4:30pm Super Senses: The Secret Power of Animals	5:00pm Tipping Point	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	2:45pm Neighbours	9:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm The Farmers' Countryside Showdown	5:30pm Swimming	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Four in a Bed	3:15pm NCIS	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:30pm Fugitives	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	4:15pm Will to Kill	10:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	9:00pm Wild Alaska Live	7:30pm Letterbox	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:00pm 5 News	11:00am Live Tennis: Hamburg Live T20 Blast
	10:00pm Panorama	8:00pm Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours	10:45pm Live World Matchplay Darts
	11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm The Sweet Makers: A Georgian Treat	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away	1:00am Through the Night
	11:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Against the Law	9:00pm Love Your Garden	9:00pm Tried and Tasted: The Ultimate Shopping List	7:30pm 5 News	
	11:40pm Weather	10:00pm Newsnight	10:00pm Long Lost Family	10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E	8:00pm All New Traffic Cops	
	11:45pm Room 101	11:30pm Newsnight	11:00pm ITV News	11:00pm The Windsors	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	
	12:25am Supermarket Shopping Secrets	12:10am Weather	11:40pm Mafia Women with Trevor Macdonald	11:00pm Fargo	10:00pm Extraordinary People	
	12:15am Cleverman	12:40am River Monsters	12:30am 999: What's Your Emergency	12:05am Big Brother's Bit on the Side		

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.



# Everyone became an entrepreneur

## 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.*

WITHIN five years of my arrival the village of Mojacar changed dramatically. The local folk were observant.

Those foreign new arrivals spent money without seeming to care concerning drink. The wildly dressed new conquerors stumbled daily through a routine of going from bar to bar. It was a sign from God bestowing upon them - money for nothing. Soon houses, storage areas, tiny garages, anything with four walls and a door along any walkway was converted into a bar.

Every important family in the village owned one if not two or three. They sat back and waited for the money and swaggering clientele to stroll in.

Nothing. They sat empty and unused. Studies were made, and long conversations ensued between them and their neighbours, how were they to capture the trade of these rare beasts with such a driving force to drink?

Their quest didn't go far until by chance they started to break down themselves and ask questions of their



**MOJACAR:** By 1975 the village contained some 100+ bars.

proposed prey. Electricity was the main issue and a toilet. Whew! Unimaginable changes. Many of the village houses didn't afford such luxury for everyday living. More consultations and chatter amongst the town folk. OK, it was divined, no toilets or sanitation requirements but electricity to keep beer cold was a must.

Then when the word ice was mentioned half the town got dizzy and shut their prospective places of business down. Spending money to make money seemed unusually risky. Yet, those that went ahead with the frivolous project - prospered. The envy was unbearable in public and behind the scenes at family reunions.

An entire new civil war broke out without the majority of foreigners' awareness. Colossal changes were happening quicker than anyone could have ever imagined. But, the lure of gold drove the maniacal changes. Everyone became an entrepreneur.

Late night conversations were no longer about distant family but rather

future dreams. Strange ideas entered the evening conversations, distant trips to far off Madrid, further home improvements, different clothes from their drab black year round wear. Five hundred years of static living was being changed within months. Yesterday was gone and almost forgotten.

By 1975 Mojacar village contained some 100+ bars and watering holes. It was a jungle of adventure and mystery. Making the vuelta, one just never knew what would happen. The once banned gypsies from Turre snuck back in and revellers from distant Garrucha showed up as did the handful of foreigners living on the beach.

It was a Wild West affair with a kaleidoscope of party animals meeting head on in nightly reveries without purpose or programme. By midnight the town was jumping and in full swing.

But the strangest phenomena of all was it all became a friendly happening, like attending someone's birthday party. No ill ever spoken to offending groups but rather cordial salutations.

So started the 'Magic of Mojacar.' And, as the lone survivor in the book of Job remarks: 'and only I have escaped to tell you this.' Well, maybe Lenox too.

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## PC brigade give it a rest!

**Mike Senker**

*In my opinion*

*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*



A COUPLE of things in the news this week have had me almost stuck for words... only almost. Firstly, Donny Trump. What is it with this man? Forget for one minute that he happens to be the POTUS, the man shouldn't be allowed out on his own never mind be the leader of the USA.

He has landed in France and is met by President Macron and his wife and what does the moron say? Not, 'Hello, nice to meet you?' This berk says to Mrs Macron, 'You are in such great shape.' This is just so wrong in so many ways. It's not something any man should say to another man's wife unless maybe you are at a wife swapping party. What if she was a little more 'cuddly?' Does he say, 'Hey Macy boy, see the wife's a bit of a salad dodger.'

I'm sorry but surely this is just totally unacceptable. Even one French commentator said, 'It's difficult to know exactly what Donald Trump was thinking and wished to express.' Does his mouth have no connection to his brain? And still his loyal lackeys defend him. I watch Fox News and I'm sure they're not watching the same Donny Trump I'm seeing.

Time for him to go. He is a total embarrassment to his country.

The other thing in the news this week was that the London Underground is to stop making announcements to 'Ladies and Gentlemen' because it is upsetting gender neutral people. Really? Really? What is this politically correct brigade about? Are people really offended? And if they are, just deal with it. How can 'Ladies and Gentlemen' be gender unfriendly?

Gay, straight or whatever, matters to me not a jot and if you don't know what you are good luck to you on that too. I hope all works out well for you. If you want to get married and have children go for it, but what's next? How about every speech made at weddings or when someone comes out on stage? Please, please don't tell me that saying 'Good evening ladies and gentlemen' is going to now have to be 'Hello everyone.' LGBT campaigners please don't get offended if someone uses the term sir or madam or ladies and gentlemen if you are a lady with a deep voice or a man with a high voice or that at first view it's hard to tell if you are a man or woman. Nothing you do or say offends me. I want you all to be well and live happy lives. Please PC brigade give it a rest. By the way a recent survey said women who put on weight live considerably longer than men that mention it!

*Email me: mikesenker@gmail.com.*

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## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### Smoking ban welcomed

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



**DRIVERS:** Would welcome a ban.

SMOKING in cars is not currently banned in Spain, unlike in England, but it would appear that more than half of the population would welcome such a ban.

The figures came following a survey conducted by the Spanish Society of Family and Community Medicine, which was made public during this year's World No Tobacco Day campaign, which is a global event promoted by the World Health Organisation.

The survey showed that 51.6 per cent of Spaniards would be in favour of a ban, at least in the presence of minors, following in the footsteps of England, France, Australia and South Africa. A further 38 per cent believe that the ban on tobacco should be advanced even further.

Whilst there are obvious health risks associated to smoking in a vehicle, smoking whilst driving is also a dangerous distraction. It is estimated that lighting a cigarette means you

take your eyes off the road for four seconds. Whilst driving on a motorway at 120km per hour, this would mean you were distracted from the road for at least 132m.

Lighting up can also cause the driver to drop a spark which could potentially fall on the driver or seats causing alarm and a reaction that could turn your attention away from driving and subsequently lead to a more serious accident.

In addition, it is estimated that 3 per cent of forest fires, some 21,000, in the last 10 years were started as a result of cigarette butts being dumped or thrown from a vehicle's window whilst driving. Despite increased campaigns on the dangers of forest fires, particularly at this time of year, discarded cigarettes still remain one of the biggest concerns to forests, fields and wildlife. Those found guilty of throwing objects from cars in motion, including cigarette butts, face fines of €200 and could lose four points on their driving licence.

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

## Is the painting too expensive?

**Q.** I live in a small community, consisting of 30 houses and 12 apartments. Our President wants all the properties painted next year as they are 10 years old. However, he says it will cost approximately €35,000 and all property owners will pay the same amount. The owners liv-

ing in the apartments think there should be two prices, one for the houses and another for the apartments. Can our President force us all to pay the same amount next year? Some of us do not have the finances to do this.

*J.B. (Costa Calida)*

**A.** The President does not force you to pay. An expense of this nature, and the manner in which it is apportioned, must be voted at the AGM. However, it appears that the house owners have

**David Searl**  
You and the Law  
in Spain



more votes than the apartments. The painting needs to be done, but perhaps the

expense could be spread out over several years. Finally, if some owners feel unfairly treated by a decision of the majority, they can get a lawyer and go to court to have the decision annulled.

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

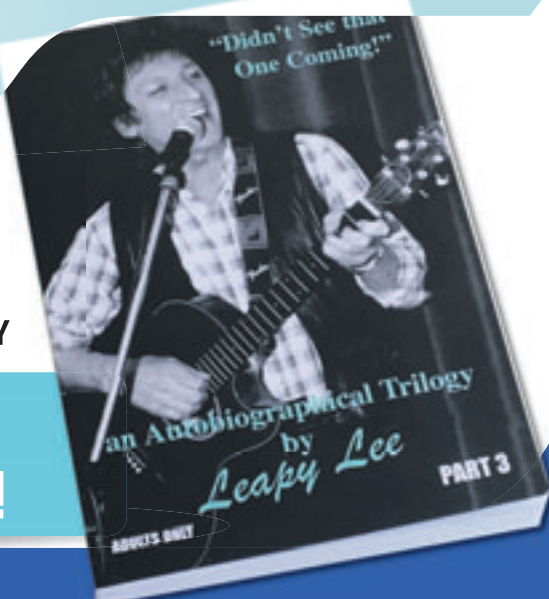
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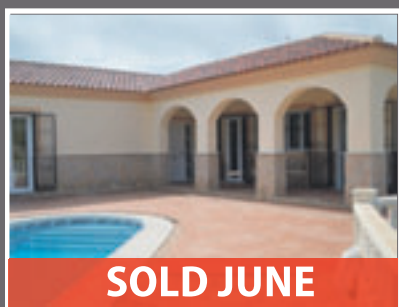
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# Right man for the job

**Cassandra Nash**

*A weekly look*

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

SPAIN'S Attorney General Jose Manuel Maza shilly-shallied over choosing a successor to Anti-corruption Public Prosecutor, Manuel Moix.

Moix was obliged to resign after he was linked to some dodgy decisions and found with a share in a Panama-registered company.

The post has now gone to Alejandro Luzon, an anti-corruption fiscal since the department was created in 1995, and originally tipped to get the job that went to Moix last February.

Luzon was not Maza's first choice, insiders said. For reasons best known to himself he preferred Maria Angeles Montes, a fiscal who had not headed a team since 2011 and lacked experience in finance and



Congreso de los Diputados

**ATTORNEY GENERAL Jose Manuel Maza (centre).**

corruption cases.

Hard to dismiss the suspicion that Maza only chose the best person for the job because all eyes were on him this time.

## Definite and indefinite articles

CATALUÑA'S pro-independence politicians continue to push the region headlong into secession with legislation that smacks of dictatorship.

A margin of one vote will be enough for victory, however low the turnout, declared

regional president Carles Puigdemont.

There is discussion as to how the central government can put the brakes on the helter-skelter hurtle towards independence on October 2 should the 'yes' vote win the October 1 referendum.

The Constitution has mechanisms to counteract Puigdemont: Article 155 empowers the central government to suspend an autonomy. Or there's Article 116 that covers sedition but would involve force. Rajoy is said to prefer the Public Safety Law.

A solution that has never been seriously contemplated is a national referendum, something the secessionists would never agree to. They know they would be on a hiding to nowhere.

## Simple algebra

IGNACIO ERREJON is the closest Podemos has to a voice of reason and doubtless that's why he is no longer its Number Two or spokesman.

Not long ago he advised party supremo Pablo Iglesias to overcome his obsession

# Eye of the beholder

IMAGE should have no bearing on what a female politician does or says.

So it should make no difference that Neus Munte, the Catalan regional government's spokeswoman, crowns the face of a weary bureaucrat with the long blonde hair of an adolescent.

Nor should her extraordinarily amorphous knees colour our view of her and her ambitions for Catalan succession, although she really should avoid short skirts.

Totally unfair, of course: no-one judges Mariano Rajoy, Pedro Sanchez, Albert Rivera and Pablo Iglesias on their looks. Nevertheless it must be admitted that PSOE secretary general Pedro Sanchez, so drop-dead pleasing to the eye, does not live up to his visual promise.

That's another aspect of stereotyping, because a tall, dark and handsome male politician is expected to be a winner too.

It doesn't help that Adolfo Suarez, the Transition's first democratically-elected president, fitted the bill in all respects. Or that so far our Pedro is a winner of primaries but nothing else.

with the PSOE socialists.

Someone could try saying the same thing to the PSOE secretary general Pedro Sanchez who is equally obsessed with Podemos.

Both want to oust the Partido Popular from the government and the institutions but this is unlikely because Pode-

mos and PSOE want to be the only party representing the Left.

Until they heed Errejon's advice they will continue to cancel each other out like two elements in algebra and Mariano Rajoy will sit as pretty as anyone can while presiding a minority government.

## Travel



**IDEAL LOCATION:** For thrill seekers.

# Adventure in the peaks of Europe

THE 'Picos de Europa' are defined by soaring mountains, diverse wildlife and miles of forest making them the ideal location for thrill seekers looking for an adventure off the beaten track.

Thinking of tourist attractions in Spain often conjures up images of beaches layered with sun cream lathered bathers or towns with a contrasting mix of Moorish and Christian architecture. Very few think of the mountain peaks in the North West with walking trails and scenery to challenge hiking holiday locations

like the Black Forest or the Alps.

The name was given by the early colonialists on their way home from America, as this was the first landmark they could identify. This is not surprising as the mountains are so huge they stretch through parts of Asturias, Cantabria and Castile and Leon.

The animals which roam throughout the area, most of which is protected national park land, is one of the biggest draws of the Picos. In the most remote parts there are significant populations of wild wolves and

brown bears which are known for avoiding humans and being quite timid.

Buzzards, eagles and vultures can be spotted as well if you keep your eye to the sky.

As physically challenging as it may be to hike around the Picos de Europa it is a rewarding experience which will provide breathtaking views of Lakes of Covadonga and vast expanses of forest relatively untouched by waves or tourists.

If hiking up great hills doesn't sound enjoyable, the Fuente De ca-

ble car will take you up 800 metres to a great peak from which you can hike down.

There is also a great network of natural caves beneath the mountains believed to be the deepest in the world which are still being explored.

**PICOS DE EUROPA:** Breathtaking views of Lakes of Covadonga.





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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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Views expressed and opinions given are not necessarily those of the EWN publishers. No responsibility is accepted for accuracy of information, errors, omissions or statements.

## Sharp lesson from family nanny

SIR,  
Nicole King's recent article Marbella always at your service (*Issue 1669 Costa del Sol*) was interesting.

She highlighted how important good service is, and the fact that many people fail not to realise this... though sadly to me many local businesses like to charge five-star prices but offer only three-star service!

That said, Nicole identified that waiters and waitresses, civil servants, receptionists and secretaries on the first rung of their career ladder are frequently in a position of power and a sound policy is to identify and accept this.

How very true.

Last summer a lawyer friend and her accountant husband when on holiday discovered that their children's nanny in reality sat in the 'power throne,' when on the first day away the 22-year-old made it clear that she viewed the week away as her own holiday.

The wife (a tough nut in many courts I believe) caved in realising

### Time to cash in

I WAS amazed to note in your Spanish Facts of Life (*Issue 1670*) that Barcelona and Madrid airports, each voted among the world's Top 10 Airports, are not among those in Spain that make a profit.

“ **Hopefully Madrid and Barcelona airports can join the money makers.**

While it is encouraging to see that Palma, Malaga, Gran Canaria, Alicante-Elche, Tenerife, Gerona, Bilbao and Murcia operate in the black, hopefully now



**IN THE RED:** El Prat Airport, Barcelona.

by providing services that put them among the world's best, Madrid and Barcelona can soon join the money makers.

I use both fairly regularly and though not my global favourites (Singapore and Dubai take my

vote), on European standards they hold their own, though perhaps not in the same way that Schiphol does in Amsterdam.

M Mitchel  
Elche

that if she did not, the girl would just leave.

This she could not afford to risk for on returning home she or her husband would then have to stay away from all-important careers to mind the children!

Modern times...

C Walker  
Estepona

### Be aware

WE felt it might be appreciated by dog owners to know the recent experience we have recently gone through.

It has been confirmed by our vet who examined our dog which died three weeks ago, that he had died as a result of being poisoned.

We believe he ingested the lethal poison whilst on a walk from Tubilitus towards Aldea Beach on Gran Canaria.

All other dog owners locally should be aware of this potential danger.

A Dear  
Canary Islands

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

## The King's Speech - Talks on Gibraltar's future

SPAIN wants Gibraltar to be Spanish.

Remind me... where in Spain are Melilla and Ceuta located?

In Morocco?! Are you sure? Oh yes, I remember now. Spain forcibly seized those parts of Morocco a few hundred years ago, didn't they? That was a bit before the time when Spain GIFTED the Rock to Britain, wasn't it?

I know, it is so easy to forget how these things happened in the past.

William Daysh MBE

### » Caught wearing only a smile! (Nora Johnson)

I LOVE Google Street View for the way it lets me visit corners of the world I will never see in person. Meantime, there's nothing like sitting at work and being able to 'drop in' and explore some random narrow street in Rome, Paris ... or Sevilla.

Vicky

### » Brit couple ordered to pay over fake holiday claims

THESE type of claims are causing price rises for other customers. I hope more holiday companies take note of Thomas Cook and start taking similar actions.

Michael Smith

### Comments from EWN online

WELL done Thomas Cook. It's about time claiming scum got sorted out. More power to your arm. The fine should have been the equivalent of twice their claim and costs to boot.

Davis Allisan

### » EU's response to UK's proposal on citizens' rights

WE are British citizens, (and I for one have worked in the UK for over 40 years, paying tax/nic), understanding that we would continue to be treated in a fair and equitable way if we used our democratic right to move/work/live/retire in a different EU country. Why should we have to do ANYTHING to maintain those inalienable rights?

P Green

### » Spain sizzles as alerts issued for 28 provinces

I THINK I need to move to one of the yellow bits. Costa del Sol is gonna be Costa del Hell.

Anne Sewell

### » Fines and regulations for Spain's beaches

BLOODY ridiculous, since when has building a sandcastle or playing ball ever been an issue. They need to remember that this country needs its beaches and holiday makers. As for peeing in the sea, why create a rule which is totally unenforceable? Are they going to start having entertainment police in case we all enjoy ourselves too much?

Naimah Yianni

### » Pope rules on Communion bread and wine

SO the bread can't be gluten free but it can be GMO??? What planet is he on? Saturn I expect.

Naimah Yianni

### » Police shut down gang who targeted tourists

I DON'T think they would like it if I stalked their mam and dad and stole their stuff on a visit. They need to send them back to their country of origin because of breaking the law, forgot where in the EU.

Jason

## Up in smoke!

I HAVE an apartment in El Higureon, Fuengirola (15 years). We have access to lovely beaches. My wife and I are both smokers, tut, tut. We always take some form of receptacle to the beach to put out our stubs, and put them in the bin at the end of the day.

Why can't the appropriate authorities put a sign at the entrance to beaches informing the public that the sand is not an ashtray or rubbish tip? I have to say that in my experience it is the locals who tend to be the main culprits, especially at weekends.

Bill Willis  
Fuengirola

## Numbers up

MAKE your Sudoku puzzle BIGGER, I am in my mid-70's and I find it difficult to see, even with decent specs.

The Fossil Eagles Nest  
San Miguel de Salinas

**Editor's note: Following this and other readers' concerns, the grid has been increased in the relevant editions. Thank you for your input.**



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## Women's wit

‘The trouble with some women is they get all excited about nothing - and then they marry him.’



By Cher, Singer/Actress

## Famous quote

‘Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.’

By Mahatma Gandhi, Indian Civil Rights Leader

## World of English

‘The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.’

## MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'I CAN SEE A MARBELLA POOL - SO COOL IT HAS AN ICEBERG IN THE DEEP END'

# YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

### AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)

A meeting involving business with a senior person brings great benefits. You are wrong to be afraid of asking for what you want because it is necessary. Do not bottle things up. Consider that you have little to lose. When dealing with legal matters, you are well advised to read the small print and look at the timescales involved.

### PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

A recent journey has revealed possibilities. It is in this week that you will realise their potential. Nowhere is this truer than your romantic life, which is on the up. Someone who would not normally attract you comes into your sphere or may have done so last week.

### ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

A strong romantic flow to your week could be interrupted. This is because there are some business matters that really do need your attention. Although it is not a particularly good time to make firm financial commitments, there are areas to work on. These are mainly associated with saving money and reorganising.

### TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

This really is a week to get to grips with any healthy eating or exercise regimes. Owing to the influence of Mars, you are in a vigorous and determined mood. You find that your added confidence and healthy glow are attractive to the opposite sex.

### GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

This is a spiritual week and you will be likely to want comfort. Give yourself time alone to look at the world around you and enjoy what it has to offer. As the weekend approaches, you will be able to get more into the mainstream and enjoy the company of others.

### CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

All may not be what it seems this week and you need to be a little more realistic. This is particularly true when it comes to romance and close ties. Having the wool pulled over your eyes is not desirable and could even see you trip up. A different kind of trip, possibly over a long

distance, may bring you face to face with an old friend or relative

### LEO (July 24 - August 23)

Being at odds with someone close has given you pause for thought. This would be a good time to change the situation for the better. Offering the olive branch is your best approach, but be sure that you are sincere. Sometimes, you are a book easily read.

### VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)

Such a time of expansion comes rarely, but now you are being handed opportunities. Be sure to make the most of them by being organised enough to take full advantage.

With your energy high, you are in a position to steam ahead with plans. Should others feel left out you can find a place for them.

### LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)

Having had such a busy time recently you may be craving a quiet period. I am afraid this will have to wait at the moment. Small snatches at tranquillity are possible but the pressure is still on.

### SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

Have you been too busy to spend time on yourself? Get your looks and health back on track by using this week to good effect. Revamp your diet and exercise as required. Spend time with people who are supportive and share the same interests.

### SAGITARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

Some difficulty in your love life will need to be handled carefully. Unforeseen developments could take you by surprise (especially if you haven't read this in time). Your need is to avoid telling white lies to get out of a situation. Given time, most situations in this category will ease.

### CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

Meetings and travel dominate this week. Being with those who stimulate and inform will be even more worthwhile than usual. A trip that you are not looking forward to can bring added bonuses. Looking to further education at this time, could see you starting a course.

# Phone apps for learning Spanish

**TOP 5**

WITH temperatures soaring, it's getting harder to keep cool right now. Perhaps it's time to be brave, strip off those clothes and head to one of these nudist beaches - no clothes required, but don't forget your sunblock!

### 1. Rosetta Stone

A great tool, especially if you are brand new to Spanish and want to develop a strong base of vocabulary and grammar. Well-structured and moving at a reasonably slow pace, use every day for a few months and you will learn to speak, read, write and understand basic words and phrases.

### 2. Babbel

While some language learning apps are set up like a game, Babbel is set up more like instruction. Babbel started out as a social network site dedicated to language and this is still an active component. You can contact other users and with a wide and diverse user base, the chances of finding someone who will act as a mentor (in return for some help with their English) is high.



LANGUAGE APP: Build your vocabulary.

### 3. Memrise

This app uses a repetitive training method to build vocabulary in a new language in fun, easy ways. It uses audio and video of native language speakers to help users learn basic vocabulary. The Pro version may be useful for users who have moved past the basic levels and are seriously committed to learning Spanish.

### 4. Busuu

Busuu uses flashcards, listening and interpreting sessions and quizzes, similar to those you might find in a real classroom. There is also a social aspect to the app and when you write Spanish phrases, they are sent to native speakers for feedback.

### 5. Duolingo

This app is not a stand-alone language course but it is a great addition to the toolbox when you're learning Spanish. The exercises cover reading, writing, listening, and speaking. You can turn off the speaking exercises if you're in a place where you can't talk out loud. There is no live interaction with other students or teachers in Duolingo.

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY	IRISH LOTTO	EURO MILLIONS		LA PRIMITIVA	EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
					
Saturday July 15	Saturday July 15	Tuesday July 11	Friday July 14	Saturday July 15	Sunday July 16
(7) (8) (14) (47) (56) (58)	(5) (10) (18) (23) (36) (46)	(14) (22) (26) (42) (50)	(11) (14) (20) (21) (47)	(11) (23) (32) (42) (46) (47)	(24) (38) (45) (47) (51)
<b>BONUS BALL</b> (23)	<b>BONUS BALL</b> (40)	<b>LUCKY STARS</b> (8) (10)	<b>LUCKY STARS</b> (7) (10)	<b>REINTEGRO</b> (8) (1)	<b>REINTEGRO</b> (3)

**LOTTERY**



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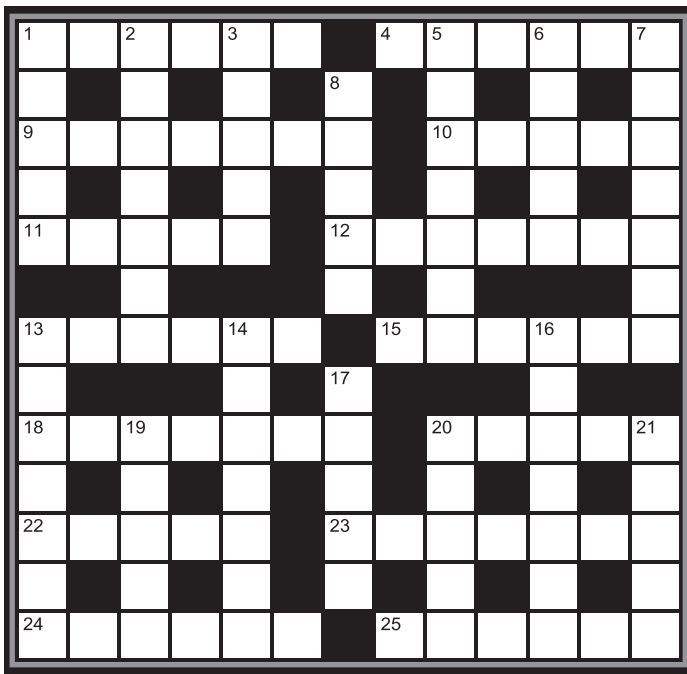
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**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Volkswagen car, one in drive, perhaps (6)
- 4 Stones, a stage of development (6)
- 9 Make plans for a railhead on the mountains (7)
- 10 Zulu seen by river formerly an African river (5)
- 11 Old birds found in 'El Dorado' doss house (5)
- 12 Soldier is in fishy place in the ocean (7)
- 13 Fight doctor in hide (6)
- 15 Sort of tea found in weather balloons (6)
- 18 Store damaged car at Queen's home (7)
- 20 Shoot second killjoy (5)
- 22 King George and a thousand pounds (5)
- 23 An opening of rice I made (7)
- 24 Untidy diners should be washed with water (6)
- 25 Are odd characters revered? (6)



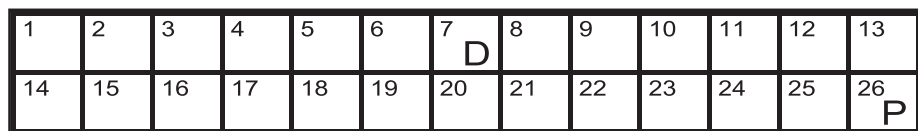
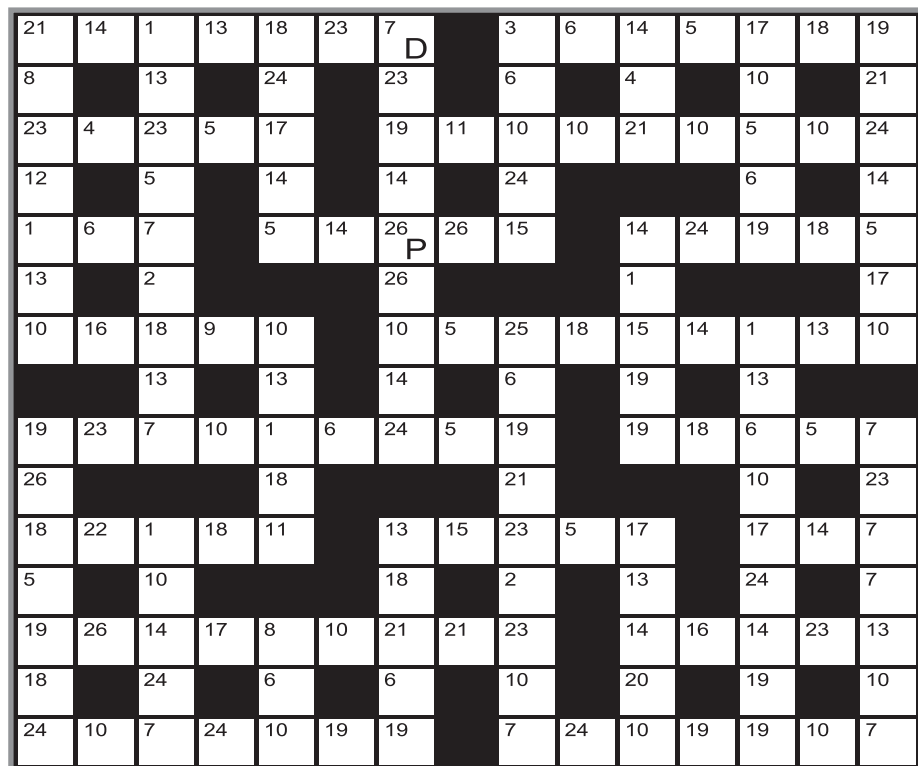
**Down**

- 1 Brave artist is back in bed (5)
- 2 This would make me a lord (7)
- 3 Labour leader ends loans (5)
- 5 An antelope must laze around with a poorly leg (7)
- 6 A bad night is the whole object (5)
- 7 Clients redesigned designing

- 8 Part time worker has nothing like the rhythm (5)
- 13 One who makes you pay for a warhorse (7)
- 14 Song with odd end for Greek deity (7)
- 16 Check pub that is between a road and a river (7)
- 17 Look in marsh for criminal (5)
- 19 A necklace that is 66 feet in length (5)
- 20 Caught sight of one rushed outside (5)
- 21 Hunger for a bit of meagre Edam (5)

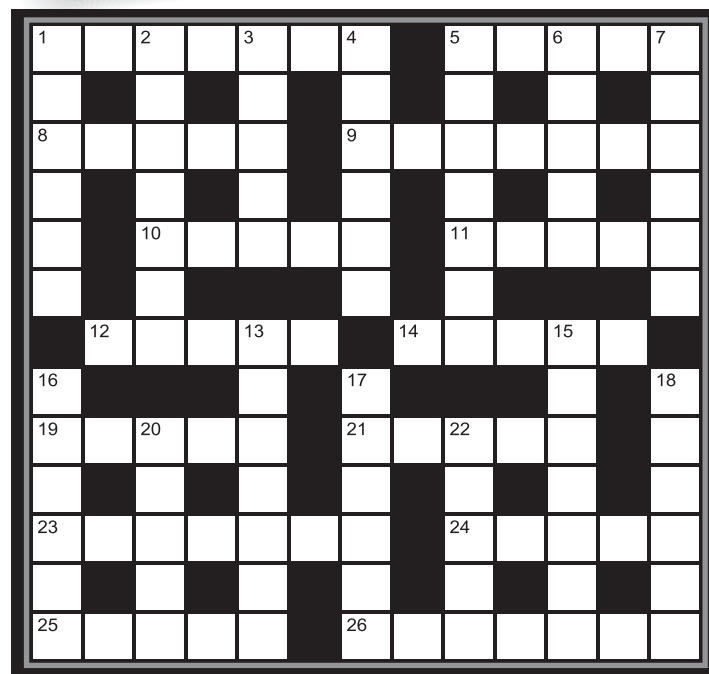
**Code Breaker**

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 7 represents D and 26 represents P, so fill in D every time the figure 7 appears and P every time the figure 26 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**

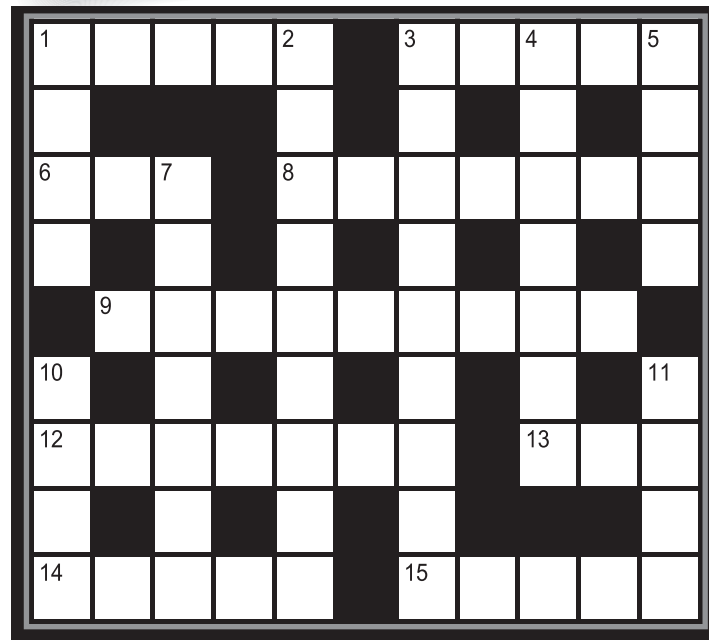
- 1 Envious (7)
- 5 Desist (5)
- 8 Illumination (5)
- 9 Intimidate (7)
- 10 Long seat for more than one person (5)
- 11 Stretched tight (5)
- 12 Blunder (5)
- 14 Pursue (5)
- 19 Happen or occur again (5)
- 21 Alloy of copper and zinc (5)
- 23 Of or relating to the heart (7)
- 24 Develop (children's) behaviour by instruction and practice (5)
- 25 Hoard (5)
- 26 Odd (7)

**Down**

- 1 Rebuffed by a lover without warning (6)
- 2 Branch of mathematics (7)
- 3 Many times at short intervals (5)
- 4 Calm gently (6)
- 5 Long-legged spotted cat (7)
- 6 Once more (5)
- 7 Number of players in a cricket team (6)
- 13 Pardon (7)
- 15 Lengthen or extend in duration or space (7)
- 16 Bulbous plant (6)
- 17 Adding device (6)
- 18 Outside boundary or surface of something (6)
- 20 Goods carried by a large vehicle (5)
- 22 Change (5)

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1 Sábana (de cama) (5)
- 3 Pears (5)
- 6 Bird (large) (3)
- 8 Briefcase (7)
- 9 Handball (game) (9)
- 12 Campesino (7)

- 13 Preguntar (3)
- 14 Sheep (5)
- 15 Siete (5)

**Down**

- 1 Estrella (4)
- 2 Season (for specific activity) (9)

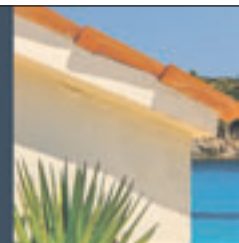
- 3 Popcorn (9)
- 4 Roundabout (7)
- 5 Cantar (4)
- 7 Emanar (7)
- 10 Celery (4)
- 11 Piel (4)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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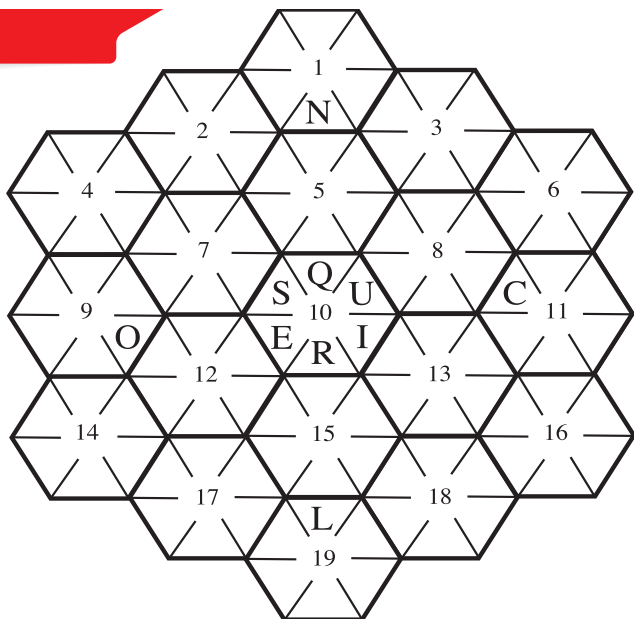
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## Hexagram

- ACCUSE
- CELERY
- CYCLIC
- DECADE
- DELETE
- FILLED
- ICICLE
- LAUREL
- LOITER
- MOSAIC
- POSEUR
- SCRIPT
- SQUINT
- SQUIRE (10)
- TAMALE
- TITLED
- TRACER
- TUSSLE
- URGENT



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

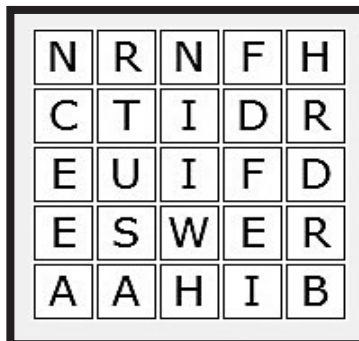
### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

- 1 Omelet 2 Coerce 3 Beyond 4 Covert  
5 Mythic 6 Member 7 Heroic 8 Mutate  
9 Stereo 10 Chaste 11 Accrue 12 Heater  
13 Stride 14 Career 15 Beaten 16 Italic  
17 Terror 18 Legend 19 Beater.

## Boggled

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

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



**TARGET:**

- Average: 19
- Good: 26
- Very good: 38
- Excellent: 49

**SCORING:**

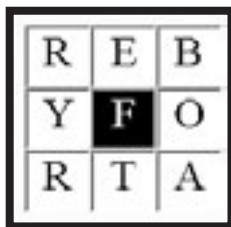
- 4 letters: 1 point    7 letters: 5 points  
5 letters: 2 points    8 or more letters:  
6 letters: 3 points    11 points

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

erst errs erns emmer fern ferns  
femme arts amen answer anthem  
anther ante anted ahem atone hart  
harts hare harem harm hammer  
hammers hand handy hate hated  
heme hemmer here dart darts dare  
darn darns dame damn damns date  
dyne deny jars jammer jammers jade  
jehad etna ether

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



**TARGET:**

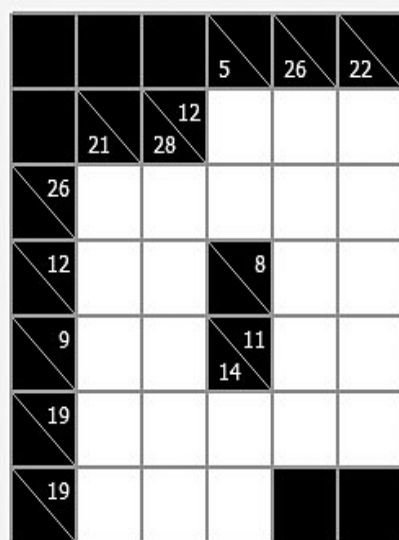
- Average: 6
- Good: 8
- Very good: 12
- Excellent: 15

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

atop pain pair pant part pint pion pita pont porn  
port rapt tarp tipi topi trap trip aprot apron atrip  
inapt orpin paint panto patio piano pinto piton  
pitta point print prion tapir patron tarpon tinpot  
patriot PARTITION

## 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.



### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

### ENGLISH-SPANISH

**Across:**

- 1 Acta, 3 Cabeza, 8 Trapeze,  
9 Sed, 10 Cauliflower, 11 Rat,  
12 Ladders, 14 Obrero, 15 Beer.

**Down:**

- 1 Ant, 2 Traductor, 4 Apellido,  
5 Elsewhere, 6 Arder, 7 Legislar,  
10 Carro, 13 Sur.

### CODE BREAKER

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

### CRYPTIC

**Across:**

- 1 Rampage, 4 Climb, 7 Slang, 9 Epigram,  
10 Detract, 11 Keeps, 12 Decide, 14 Robins,  
18 Snoop, 20 Prevail, 22 Dagoon,  
23 Adapt, 24 Evens, 25 Excited.

**Down:**

- 1 Resided, 2 Meant, 3 Events, 4 Chick,  
5 Israeli, 6 Bumps, 8 Gland, 13 Chorale,  
15 Omega, 16 Saluted, 17 Sponge,  
18 Sedge, 19 Pious, 21 Ahaft.

### QUICK

**Across:**

- 1 Cares, 4 Sirocco, 8 Admiral, 9 Grant,  
10 Scary, 11 Rollmop, 12 Seesaw,  
14 Crisis, 17 Replace, 19 Perks, 21 Again,  
22 Longing, 23 Scatter, 24 Cheat.

**Down:**

- 1 Chats, 2 Rummage, 3 Sorry, 4 Salary,  
5 Regular, 6 Claim, 7 Octopus, 12 Surpass,  
13 Against, 15 Surmise, 16 Cellar,  
18 Plaza, 19 Panic, 20 Sight.

## App of the week



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**BOOKS**



**Fierce Kingdom**

By *Gin Phillips*

THE zoo is almost empty as Joan and her four-year-old son soak up the last few moments of playtime.

They are happy after an almost perfect day.

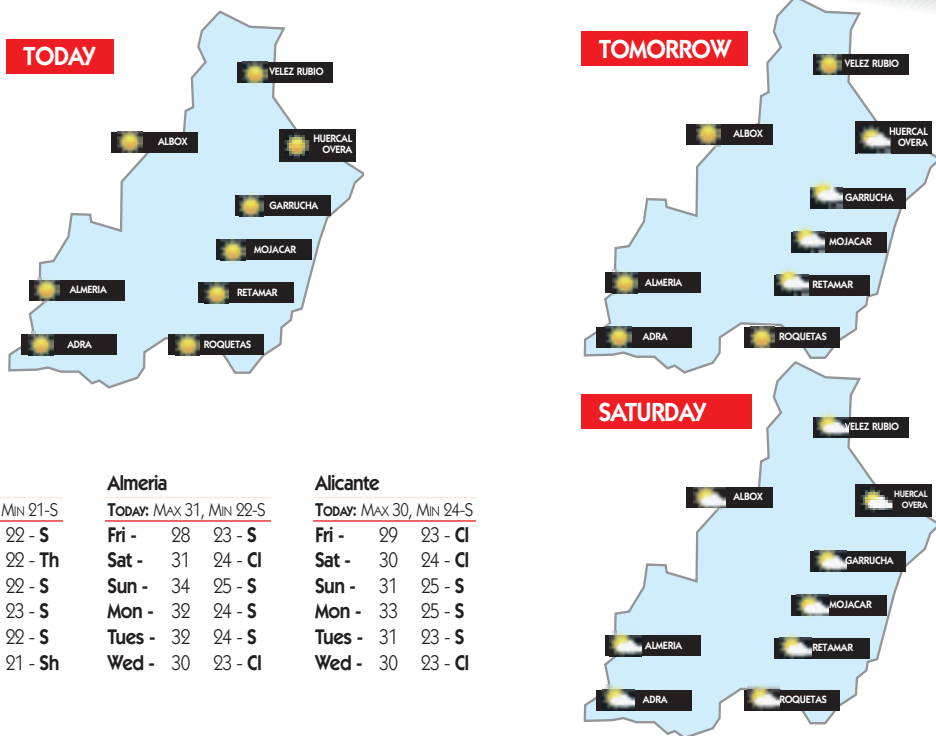
Then, what Joan sees as she hustles her son toward the exit gate, minutes before closing time, sends her sprinting back into the zoo with her child in her arms. For the next three hours, she keeps on running.

Joan's intimate knowledge of her son and of the zoo itself - from the hidden pathways and under-renovation exhibits to the best spots on the carousel and overstocked snack machines - is all that keeps them a step ahead of danger. This is an electrifying novel about the primal bond between a mother and her son and the lengths she'll go to protect him.

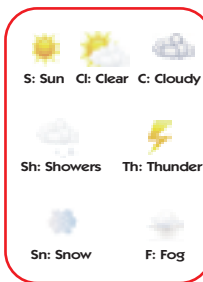
books@euroweeklynews.com

**Costa de Almería**

**weather**



Location	Today	Max	Min	Forecast
<b>Málaga</b>	TODAY: MAX 32, MIN 21-S	32	21	S
Fri	28	22	-	S
Sat	27	22	-	Th
Sun	31	22	-	S
Mon	34	23	-	S
Tues	33	22	-	S
Wed	30	21	-	Sh
<b>Almería</b>	TODAY: MAX 31, MIN 22-S	31	22	S
Fri	28	23	-	S
Sat	31	24	-	CI
Sun	34	25	-	S
Mon	32	24	-	S
Tues	32	24	-	S
Wed	30	23	-	CI
<b>Alicante</b>	TODAY: MAX 30, MIN 24-S	30	24	S
Fri	29	23	-	CI
Sat	30	24	-	CI
Sun	31	25	-	S
Mon	33	25	-	S
Tues	31	23	-	S
Wed	30	23	-	CI
<b>Barcelona</b>	TODAY: MAX 28, MIN 22-S	28	22	S
Fri	28	22	-	S
Sat	29	22	-	S
Sun	30	23	-	CI
Mon	30	23	-	S
Tues	29	22	-	CI
Wed	28	21	-	CI
<b>Benidorm</b>	TODAY: MAX 32, MIN 24-S	32	24	S
Fri	29	23	-	CI
Sat	30	23	-	S
Sun	32	25	-	CI
Mon	32	25	-	S
Tues	30	24	-	S
Wed	29	23	-	Sh
<b>Bilbao</b>	TODAY: MAX 21, MIN 15-SH	21	15	SH
Fri	22	14	-	C
Sat	26	16	-	CI
Sun	27	18	-	Th
Mon	24	17	-	CI
Tues	24	16	-	CI
Wed	24	17	-	CI
<b>Madrid</b>	TODAY: MAX 32, MIN 18-S	32	18	S
Fri	33	19	-	S
Sat	35	20	-	S
Sun	36	22	-	S
Mon	37	19	-	S
Tues	34	18	-	S
Wed	33	18	-	S
<b>Mallorca</b>	TODAY: MAX 33, MIN 22-CI	33	22	CI
Fri	31	21	-	S
Sat	31	22	-	S
Sun	34	23	-	S
Mon	33	23	-	S
Tues	31	21	-	S
Wed	30	21	-	CI



Euro Weekly News strives for accuracy, but cannot be held responsible for any errors in published forecasts

**BIRTHDAYS**

• **Josh Holloway (48) July 20 TV Actor**  
This model turned actor, played the role of sarcastic James 'Sawyer' Ford on the hit TV show, Lost. In 2013, he landed the lead role in the CBS drama, Intelligence. He also appeared in Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol.



Josh Holloway

performed songs like The First Cut is the Deepest and Wild World. In 1978, he gave up his music career, changed his name to Yusuf Islam, and donated all of his guitars in order to dedicate his life to Islam.

• **Willem Dafoe (62) July 22 Movie Actor**  
This actor has become known for playing bizarre roles in The Boondock Saints, Wild at Heart, and The Hunter. He earned an MTV Movie Award nomination

for Best Villain for his role as Norman Osborn/Green Goblin in the 2002 film, Spider-Man.

• **Daniel Radcliffe (28) July 23 Movie Actor**  
This actor is best-known for playing schoolboy wizard, Harry Potter, in the Harry Potter film franchise. He has also played leading roles in films The Woman in Black, Kill Your Darlings and Horns.

• **Jennifer Lopez (48) July 24 Pop Singer**  
Known as J-Lo, she has sold over 20

million records worldwide. She released her debut album in 1999 and followed it up with the certified quadruple platinum album, J.Lo, in 2001. Her best-known songs include Waiting for Tonight, Love Don't Cost a Thing and Jenny from the Block.

• **Matt LeBlanc (50) July 25 TV Actor**  
Probably best-known for his portrayal of dimwit actor, Joey Tribbiani, on Friends. He won the 2012 Golden Globe for Best Actor in a TV Series Comedy for his performance in Episodes.

**DVD**

**Kong: Skull Island**  
Directed by: Jordan Vogt-Roberts.  
Starring: Tom Hiddleston, Samuel L Jackson, John C Reilly and John Goodman.



The producers of Godzilla reimagine the origins of one of the most powerful monster myths of all time. This original adventure tells the story of a diverse team of scientists, soldiers and adventurers uniting to explore a mythical, uncharted island in the Pacific, as beautiful as it is treacherous.

Cut off from everything they know, the team ventures into the domain of the mighty Kong, sparking the ultimate battle between man and nature. As their mission of discovery becomes one of survival, they must fight to escape a primal Eden from which they don't belong.

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

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

**Word Ladder**

<b>GOLF</b>
<b>LEAP</b>

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

- LEAP
- LEAD
- LOAD
- GOAD
- GOLD
- GOLF
- Solution

**Trivia PS**  
The Amazon rain forest supplies one-fifth of the world's oxygen.

This week in history

**1304** - Wars of Scottish Independence: Fall of Stirling Castle - King Edward I of England takes the last rebel stronghold of the war.  
**1731** - Spain signs Treaty of Vienna. The treaty pitted France and Spain on one side against Great Britain and Austria on the other.  
**1773** - Scottish settlers arrive at Pictou, Nova Scotia (Canada).  
**1814** - English engineer George Stephenson introduces the first steam locomotive.  
**1840** - Union Act passed by British Parliament, uniting Upper and Lower Canada.  
**1904** - Having taken 13 years, the 4,607 mile, Trans-Siberian railway is completed.  
**1911** - American explorer, Hiram Bingham, discovers Machu Picchu - the Lost City of the Incas.  
**1943** - Benito Mussolini dismissed as Italian Premier and arrested on the authority of King Victor Emmanuel III.  
**1944** - Second World War: Operation Spring - one of Canada's bloodiest days, 18,444 casualties and 5,021 killed.  
**1969** - Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin from Apollo 11 land on the moon. Broadcast live globally and watched by 530 million.  
**1978** - Louise Brown, the world's first test tube baby, is born at Oldham General Hospital in England.



# Live fast, die young... the curse of The 27 Club

## Trudy Stewart

May contain traces of nuts.



THIS Sunday, it will be six years since Amy Winehouse died, aged just 27 years old.

The English soul singer, best-known (ironically) for her song Rehab, died from alcohol poisoning, having been found to have a blood alcohol level over five times the legal drink-driving limit.

Three years before her death, Amy had expressed a fear of dying at that age like so many other influential musicians had before her.

Between 1969 and 1971, Brian Jones (Rolling Stones), Jimi Hendrix (Jimi Hendrix Experience), Jim Morrison (Doors) and Janis Joplin, died aged 27. Although their causes of death were different, they were all known to be users of alcohol and drugs.

It wasn't until Kurt Cobain, lead singer and guitarist of Nirvana, died over two decades later, that the idea of the '27 Club' was

born.

Thanks to the internet, there are various theories why so many celebrities die at this particular age. There are some strange coincidences but no real evidence; for instance, Kurt Cobain, Jim Morrison, Janis Joplin and Jimi Hendrix were all found to have white lighters in their possession when they died.

One, more outlandish, theory is the reason for their untimely demise is due to a contract with the devil for fame and fortune which, expires at this age.

There's a legend that blues musician, Robert Johnson, had no talent for the guitar but longed for fame. A voice told him to go to a crossroads by a plantation at midnight, where he was met by the devil in a disguise.

The devil tuned his guitar and offered it to him in return for his soul. He agreed and became a blues sensation overnight but in 1938, aged (you've guessed it!) 27, he was poisoned with strychnine and died.

In 2011, the British Medical Journal (BMJ) published a study into why it's such a deadly age for celebrities.

Their conclusion was that 'The 27 Club is unlikely to be a real phenomenon. Fame may increase the risk of death among musicians, but this risk is not limited to age 27.'

There is an increased risk among musicians in their 20's and 30's, but this seems to be due more to the associated lifestyle of excessive drug-taking and alcohol abuse.

The good news is, that lifestyle is dying out and today's musicians are treating the music industry more like a business than an escape from a troubled life.

While I can't definitively rule out the devil's part in it, the 27 Club will hopefully become just another oddity, unexplained and not claiming any new members.

On an unrelated note, how old is Justin Bieber? I'm ahem, asking for a friend...

**AMY WINEHOUSE:**  
It has been six years since she died at the age of 27.



**111,000**

Number of digital tracks of Amy Winehouse's music sold in the week following her death.

## Manic Street mystery

ANOTHER victim of the rock 'n' roll lifestyle and perhaps the 27 Club, is Richey Edwards from The Manic Street Preachers.

On February 1, 1995 he was due to fly to the US for a promotional tour with band frontman, James Dean Bradfield. Instead it seems, he drove to his Cardiff flat (leaving behind his passport and credit card) then on to a service station near the Severn Bridge, before vanishing.

It is believed he jumped from the bridge but he has never been found. There have since been reported sightings in Goa, India and the Canary Islands but these have never been confirmed. In November 2008, he became officially 'presumed dead.'

# Expatriate author changes direction

ALAN CUTHBERTSON was born and brought up in Leeds, England. He was married at 19, and in partnership with his wife, Heather, started the family stationery business.

During this time Alan served four years as an Officer in The Royal Air Force Reserves and became an accomplished aerobatics pilot. Eighteen years on and frustrated with the commitment the family business demanded he decided, along with his wife and two daughters, to move to Spain where they now live in a small Andalusian village.

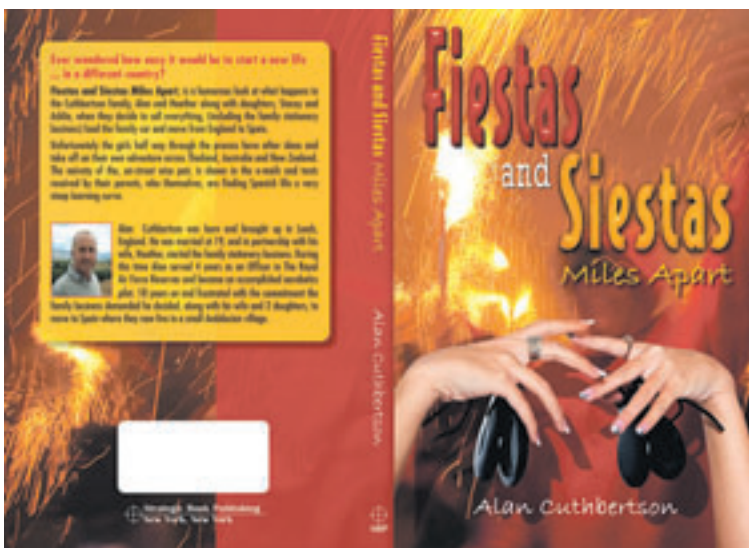
It was here that he began writing articles for magazines and newspapers. Before long Alan had finished his first book, 'Fiestas and Siestas Miles Apart.' Following its success Alan decided to write another, but wanted to try something different this time. Last year 'Clover House' was published, a romantic tale that will tug the heart strings of any reader.

For more information on Alan Cuthbertson and his books please visit [alancuthbertson.com](http://alancuthbertson.com).

Both books are available from Amazon in eBook, paperback and audio book formats.

### Fiestas and Siestas Miles Apart

Ever wondered how easy it would be to start new life in a different



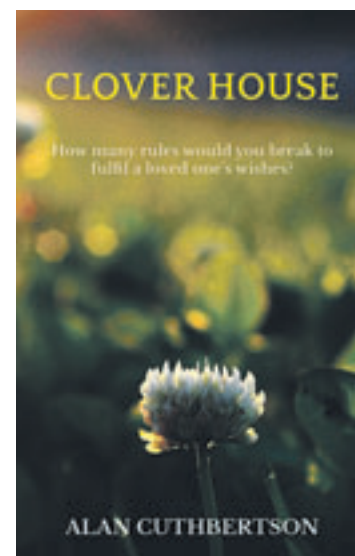
**TWO BOOKS:** One covering life in a new country, the other a romantic tale that will tug your heart strings.

country?

Fiestas and Siestas Miles Apart, is a humorous look at what happens to the Cuthbertson family, Alan and Heather along with daughters, Stacey and Ashlie, when they decide to sell everything, (including the family stationery business) load the family car and move from England to Spain.

Unfortunately the girls half way through the process have other ideas

“Following the success of his first book, Alan wanted to try something different.



and take off on their own adventure across Thailand, Australia and New Zealand. The naivety of the, unstreet wise pair, is shown in the e-mails and texts received by their parents, who themselves, are finding Spanish life a very steep learning curve.

### Clover House

Clover House is a home run by the local council. Its residents are there because their parents, family or the



**Alan Cuthbertson.**

community can no longer deal with their behaviour.

Leo French has lived at Clover House for nearly eight years. For Leo life was dull and mundane, that was until Julie Sykes arrived.

After uncovering Julie's secret, Leo uses his limited time and resources to make her wishes come true. At the time he had no idea where it would lead them...

This tear jerker has so many twists and turns, but I guarantee, you didn't see the last one coming.



# Building an appetite for sports nutrition

NEW research has revealed that more people than ever are using sports nutrition products.

Once used only by athletes, research by Mintel, the world's leading market intelligence agency, showed that almost three in 10 Brits (27 per cent) use sports nutrition products such as protein bars, protein powders for a drink, energy bars and supplement capsules, tablets and sachets. The number rose to 39 per cent amongst those who regularly exercised more than once a week.

It is the UK's young men who show the strongest use of sports nutrition products, with three in five men (61 per cent) aged 16-34 saying they use such products. Over one in three men (35 per cent) aged 16-34 said they exercised four times a week or more, compared to 26 per cent of women of the same age.

Usage amongst women was increasing

**NUTRITION PRODUCTS: Being used regularly.**



with two in five (40 per cent) aged 16-34 reported using sports nutrition products with a dramatic increase in their use. While only 7 per cent of women aged 16-24 used protein powders for drinks in 2015, this has more than doubled in 2017 to 18 per cent.

Currently, the top three sports nutrition products are protein bars (11 per cent), followed by protein powders for a drink (10 per cent) and energy bars (9 per cent).

The Mintel report states that while usage remains strong, as many as 63 per cent of users admitted they were unable to really tell if they were benefiting from the product and 72 per cent would like to see an industry-wide certification that ensures quality of ingredients showing that consumers' current scrutiny of food and drink extends to sports nutrition.

Despite the popularity of these products, around half (48 per cent) of all Brits believe there is no need for extra protein in a balanced diet and a quarter of all those questioned admitted they never exercised.



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**RETIREMENT:** Rather than being a fun and frivolous time, can actually be just as stressful as working.

# Toxic cocktail awaits retirement

WE are all living longer, but the quality of that life is not as good, as unhealthy lifestyles now mean today's youth can expect to spend their retirement in poor health.

Obesity, lack of exercise and smoking are cited as the main problems leading to what experts are calling a 'toxic cocktail' of back pain, diabetes and dementia.

With women expected to live to an average age of 83 and men until 79, people can expect to spend those last two decades suffering from poor health.

Public Health England said a report found only 57 per cent of English adults carry out the recommended 150 minutes of weekly exercise and 29 per cent do less than half an hour. Two in every three adults are now also overweight or obese.

A report has also shown that retirement, rather than being a fun and frivolous time, can actually be just as stressful as working, particularly for those leaving lower-paid positions as they struggle with the pressure of making ends meet on their pension.



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# Will you suffer hearing problems this summer?

OVER 70 per cent of Spaniards will suffer from barotrauma this summer.

Barotrauma is a common complaint of the ear and is caused by increased air or water pressure, such as during flights and scuba diving. This pressure change causes discomfort and leads to perforations of the eardrum which can often heal on its own, but this can take weeks and hearing may be affected during this time.

In Spain, around 40 per cent will suffer when travelling by plane or train, while 31 per cent will be as a result of bathing in the pool or sea, with the number of cases increasing during the summer when more time is spent travelling, swimming and being at the beach.

Summer is also the season in which 36 per cent more Spaniards suffer from earaches, according to data from a recent

study by Oi2 Hearing Centres.

They also looked at the awareness of hearing protection and found that 79 per cent of Spaniards said they did protect their ears in summer with different measures.

Among them, 20 per

cent avoided being exposed to loud noises; 18 per cent tried to keep their ears dry during swimming; 17 per cent avoided contact of water through the

use of earplugs; 14 per cent said they avoided unhealthy waters and do not bathe in unhealthy waters; while the remaining 10 per cent claimed they didn't use cotton buds in their ears.

In contrast, 21 per cent of respondents said they did not take any action to protect their ears during the summer.

The Oi2 said that although awareness of the risks is increasing, there is still a long way to go in terms of awareness of the damage hearing can suffer in the summer.



**EARACHE: Take action to protect your ears.**

Ask The  
Doctor

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## Swimming in the sea



**SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.**

**Are there any benefits to swimming in the sea?**

In general, bathing and swimming in the sea does have health benefits. Playing sports, when it is safe to do so, in the water is also highly beneficial. Salt water aids blood circulation and is also good for a person's skin.

**Are there groups of people who are at risk when swimming in the sea?**

There are certain people for which swimming in the sea could pose risks. The very elderly with severe mobility issues or people with breathing and heart problems could encounter problems when swimming in the sea. However, if the activity is light and controlled by a professional it can still be beneficial.

**Can it help with medical problems?**

Any activity carried out

in the sea can be beneficial, and also help a person recuperate from joint diseases, a traffic accident or pulmonary and cardiovascular diseases. This is due to the exercises carried out using a wide variety of muscles which can help build fitness and strength.

**Can swimming in the sea worsen symptoms of diseases/medical problems?**

While carrying out activities in the sea can be beneficial, many people who suffer from heart disease could see their symptoms worse, especially if the physical activity is intense and can lead to thoracic pains or a drowning feeling. This can also happen to people who suffer with severe respiratory diseases, who can see their condition worsen by carrying out activities in the sea.

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



**Mónica Algañaraz**  
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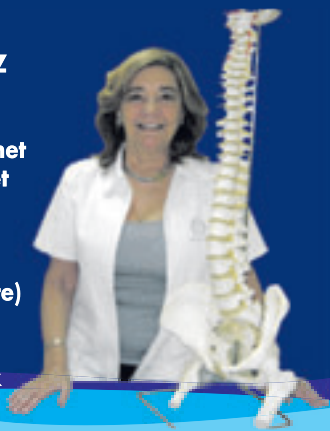
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TO READ MORE



**JAZZ:** Catch live and classic music across Almería during summer festival.

## Dancing in the street

UNTIL the end of September every municipality across Almería will be revelling in more than 400 music, dance, theatre and art events. The epic summer programme is part of the province's Culture in the Street 2017 initiative.

Designed explicitly to boost culture in smaller council areas, the programme is aimed primarily at families and has seen

100 cinemas set up across the province. There will be 168 theatre performances, 81 live concerts, 22 cultural days, and nine dance events.

Major highlights include classic music live in Nijar until the end of the month, jazz in Mojacar's Plaza del Mirador tomorrow night from 10pm, and experimental theatre in Tabernas on Saturday night.

## Festival season kicks off

TIME is running out for festival-goers hoping to snare tickets for two of Almería's biggest music events. Each of the huge music festivals caters to a very different taste.

On Wednesday August 2 the Juergas Rock Festival gets underway at noon. Camping tickets for the four-day festival in Adra start from just €50, making it easily one of the best value for money music extravaganzas in Spain.

The emerging rock festival is expected to attract at least 20,000 people this year. The audi-

ence typically travels from all across Spain and is aged from 16-40, the perfect punk, rock

and metal demographic.

Headline acts include Rosendo, Skindred, and Riot Propaganda.

Just a week later the five-

day Dreambeach Villaricos electronic music festival kicks off in Cuevas del Almanzora on August 10.

Daily passes for the superb festival begin at €65, steep but worth the price tag considering the world class line-up making Dreambeach one of the world's top dance music events.

Some of the planet's top electronic acts are confirmed, including David Guetta, Chase & Status and Wilkinson.

**GUETTA:** Superstar DJ headlining Almería festival.



## Beating drums for charity

SINGER Louis Wonder is once again holding a series of special fundraising concerts and workshops across Mojacar. The big-hearted maestro set up the Universal Wonderful Street Academy in 2012. The NGO helps street children and orphans in Accra, Ghana, find a better life.

For more than five years the organisation has been holding fundraising events for the charity. Mojacar resi-

dents have played an indispensable role in providing countless disadvantaged children with food, medical treatment and schooling.

This summer the foundation is holding two events in Mojacar. The first is on Wednesday July 26 at Plaza Nueva, where the singer himself will be performing and holding an educative workshop about the children helped everyday by the charity.

The second takes place at Camping Sopalmo and involves African-style drums and dancing for a relaxed weekend atmosphere on Saturday July 29.

Information on times and tickets can be found online at [www.universalwonderfulstreetacademy.com](http://www.universalwonderfulstreetacademy.com) where reservations can also be made.

It is a terrific opportunity to learn a new style of drumming and contribute to a tremendous cause at the same time.

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**MAGIC:** Explore Alcazaba's exciting past of piracy, crusade and cinema.

# 1001 magical Arabian nights

A SUMMER full of magical Almerian and Arabian-themed events is scheduled for the city's most famous building, the Alcazaba. The medieval Islamic fortress has a special cinema and theatre stage installed to bring hundreds of wildly different events, exhibitions and activities to the public.

Upcoming events include guided tours with exciting themes related to Almeria's swashbuckling past.

An expanded opening schedule sees visits available from 9am until 3pm from Tuesday to Sunday and, in the cooler evenings, from 7pm until 10pm from Tuesday to Saturday.

The weekly theatrical tours capture numerous aspects of the province's history.

Those interested can choose tours conducted by the pirates of the Alboran Sea, Christian crusaders, or Islamic kings and poets.

Most tours begin at 8pm sharp. The next two are tomorrow evening and the following Friday July 28. The final two are scheduled for August 4 and 11.

The other overarching summer theme is cinema, with the Alcazaba celebrating Almeria's star place in the history of both European and American film-making.

The 'Heritage of Cinema' exhibition shows excited film buffs the exact locations where famous flicks and TV shows were shot in the Alcazaba and its surrounds. Conan the Barbarian and Game of Thrones are just some of the most popular

to have used the fortress as a powerful setting.

Heritage of Cinema exhibitions are also weekly and take place at 8.30pm and run tonight, next Thursday evening, and on August 24 and 31. Prior reservation is required and can be made by calling 600 142 982.

Those looking for a more relaxed and independent exploration of the Alcazaba can attend informal tours on Saturdays and Sundays until September 17, offering a traditional historical guide and plenty opportunities for wandering around.

More information is available online or by following the Twitter hashtag #Noches deAlcazaba.

## Evening with the classics

TICKETS are now available for a wonderful night of classical music to be held at Mojacar's Multiple Uses Centre. German philharmonic orchestra Kammer Philharmonie Koln have come all the way from Cologne to perform across Spain, with Mojacar a central stop on their tour.

The highly-regarded ensemble has a huge pool of talent at its disposal, drawing classical musicians from all walks of life from universities, orchestras and bands in Cologne and across Germany. The ever-shifting melody of musicians perform 300 days per year, travelling the globe in their very own, Mercedes-sponsored, tour bus.

On Saturday August 5 at 9.30pm they will be playing the Mojacar centre. Musi-



**ORCHESTRAL:** Beautiful melodies coming to Mojacar.

cians confirmed for the summer-themed performance include Anton Golle on violin, Ana Palacios on flute, and Dmitrij Gornowskij on violincello.

Classical music lovers can rest assured the orchestra won't be wasting time with anything new. They will be go-

ing straight to the jugular with a programme including pieces from Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Bach and Vivaldi.

Further information and tickets can be found at the tourist office in Mojacar Pueblo and the kiosk at Parque Comercial on Mojacar Playa.

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# Operating costs now account for over 50 per cent of turnover

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**R**UNNING a restaurant business can be a precarious thing to do as many readers can probably testify. Overheads, as with all businesses, can be a killer and the age old adage has never been truer; 'it's not what you take, it's how much it costs you to take it.'

Here in Spain, not unlike several European countries, the biggest overheads are staff and more importantly social security, currently running at 42 per cent of salary.

The report carried out by ALMR Christie & Co Benchmarking Report says "that while there is confidence in the UK market, overheads have now risen to over 50 per cent." Now I am not sure where they are getting their figures, but in my many years experience the average restaurant works on the following percentages. Thirty three per cent food and

beverage costs and if you are very lucky your wage bill will come in at around 25-30 per cent. With average other expenses, rent, light, sundries, repairs and renewals, legal etc accounting for a further 10 - 15 per cent that would show total overheads running at 75-80 per cent.

This, in principal, shows a gross operating profit of 20 - 25 per cent which is quite acceptable.

So I am intrigued as to where the report finds overheads of 50 per cent which means a gross operating profit of - 50 per cent? Maybe it's me!

**“** I wasn't born to follow and I'm not sure I was born to lead, but of what I am certain, is that I was born to fight my way through life - and win.  
*Anon*

## 2nd is the 1st loser



**Jess Folley beat the rest to become the Best - Voice Kids ITV.**

AT a time when schools in the UK are changing the face of sports days by taking away the competitive spirit by declaring there are no winners or losers, just participants. What a lot of tosh! I thought schools were meant to prepare children for the real world. A world where they will face competition on a daily basis no matter what they do. I was always led to believe that second was the first loser!

Competition is good and anyone watching the Voice Kids over the weekend saw it at its best. Twelve talented children whittled down to six with only one winner. Camaraderie and benevolence at its best. Adults could learn about being gracious in defeat as those 11 - 13-year-old children were.

# You rang M' Lud?

**WHEN** the first mobile phones came out I admit to being one of the people that wanted to play with this new toy! My first one was actually a car phone.

The set was built into the armrest area with the mechanics in the boot of the car. It had no dialling facility you just lifted the receiver and your call was directed to a Telecom operator who placed your call for you. There was so few of us in my home town at that time the operators knew our positions most of the day and we would leave messages with them to pass on. What fun! Then my first mobile phone over here was in the 90's working for the BBC on Eldorado. A few of us were given the old 'bricks' as a means of keeping in touch.

But who at that time thought the mobile phone would become the most important piece of equipment that we would possess. You can pay bills with it, control your house from it, see people at your door when you're not there, send e-mails, messages, photos, listen to music, watch TV the list goes on. Now you can open doors with it! Well hotel doors anyway. Hilton has begun a roll-out of digital keys across its UK estate, allowing guests to open room doors using their phone.

So far nine Hilton hotels in the UK are employing the beacon technology, which is retrofitted to room locks and allows a guest to open their door when their phone is within range. Some 100 hotels are expected to feature the digital key by the end of the year, with the entire Hilton estate offering the service by mid-2018.

Those currently using digital keys include Hilton London Tower Bridge, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel London ExCel and the recently opened Hampton by



**Open Sesame - Tec Magic.**

**Hilton Exeter Airport.**

Guests activate the service before arrival through the Hilton Honors app. When their phone comes into range they press the button in the app and the green light on the door appears and the lock clicks open.

Through the Hilton Honors app members can now choose their room (Hilton has created floor plans of every floor in every hotel), check in remotely, open their bedroom door and check out.

In the future Hilton plans to introduce a preference setting where its 60 million members can set their preferred temperature, lighting and television - both in terms of preferred channels and apps - in advance.

Amazing? Absolutely! And there's another thing one can do with a smart phone - make phone calls!

*Some content courtesy of the Caterer and Hotelkeeper.*

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

*\*Garry Waite is a foodie and restaurateur and Hospitality Management Consultant. If contemplating setting up an operation, or having problems with an existing project contact him on garryphwaite@gmail.com.*

## Common sense prevails?

IN the news last weekend I was pleased to hear that the government is thinking of removing the 'sell by' dates from packaging and replacing it with the less idiotic 'best before' date. Regular readers may remember that I wrote an article on this exact subject in edition June 9, 2017.

"Packaging should only carry 'use by' or 'best before' dates, according to new government guidance, while 'sell by' and 'display until' labels currently used by supermarkets will be removed to deter shoppers from throwing away good food.

'Use by' labels should only be used if food could be unsafe to eat after that date, while 'best before' dates should show the product is no longer at its best but is still safe to consume, the advice states.

Foods likely to require a 'use by' date include soft cheese, smoked fish and ready meals, while biscuits, jams, pickles, crisps and tinned foods will only need a 'best before' label."

SORRY, that was an article taken from the *Guardian* on the September 15, 2011 so if they manage to change it, it would only have taken six years!

**£12** billion. The amount of food thrown away each year  
Of which  
**5.3m** tonnes is still edible - costing UK families  
**£50** a month





**SUSPICIOUS:** Ex-mayors's hiring practices under investigation.

## Nepotism virus spreads

AN investigation has been launched into the suspicious hiring of 23 people by the Albánchez de la Magina Council during the tenure of former mayor Francisco Martinez. Prosecutors believe the hirings, made between 2011 and 2015, may have violated important regulations.

Suspicious arose after a

routine audit which found that almost two dozen council employees had no proper administrative file. Subsequent inquiries found that most had been given their positions through mayoral decree, rather than through typical channels.

The former mayor is the central target of prosecutors, who believe he know-

ingly broke the law over the course of four years. In a court document he is accused of breaking the legally required hiring principles of 'equality, merit, capacity and publicity.'

A similar scandal has erupted in Albox over the hiring of 11 people by a former administration, all with close ties to the mayor.



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## Money back guarantee

BRITISH nationals who lost thousands of euros due to the illegality of homes bought in Zurgena between 2003 and 2007 will be compensated for their losses, ruled the provincial court of Almería.

Former mayor Candido Trabalon was recently jailed for six years for dishing out 1,500 illegal licences. Among them were permits which led to the illegal construction and sale of 94 homes in Cabreras.

Victims of the scandal launched an appeal, running concurrently with the criminal case, demanding that he, and his co-accused, a town planner, be ordered to pay compensation for the economic damage they inflicted.

Individual payments range from €60,000-€120,000 and are accruing interest. Trabalon is believed to have racked up a small fortune in cash and property from his illegal activities.



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## Hometown heroes hit homerun

TWO Albox-born talents hit the pinnacle of their respective careers last week. Footballer Diego Capel has won the Belgian championship with Anderlecht, while Dr Luis Martinez has been named the new director of Torrecardenas hospital.

Left-winger Capel was born in Albox in 1988 and soon scouted out by Barcelona as a talented 12-year-old. However he didn't adapt well, returning home after just one season.

Back in Almeria he blossomed and was soon snatched up by Sevilla as a young pro-

fessional. In 2004 he became the club's second youngest player with his 87th minute debut against Atletico Madrid.

He won the European Championships with the Spanish under-17 team and impressed Manchester United scouts before moving to Sporting Lisbon for €3.5 million.

Doctor Martinez has had a less glamorous but equally impressive career. Born in Albox in 1957, he entered Torrecardenas hospital as an emergency doctor in 1987. He has managed Baza hospital in Granada.

## Sounds of summer

MUSIC is in the ears of Albox residents during the first ever Sones de Verano (Sounds of Summer) event organised by the town hall's culture department.

The festival is split into three dates. It began last Thursday, with the second event tonight, and the grand finale next Thursday.

Tonight Sones de Verano is held in Plaza Santa Cruz at 8pm and next week the cycle ends at Plaza Locaiba.

The free performances include a variety of music aimed at pleasing the whole family, from children to older generations. Sones de Verano spearheads a new initiative aimed at bringing music to all the different spaces of Albox's historical centre.

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Advertising feature

# Gorgeous villa near Zurgena

**Property of the week**

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**€169,000**

AN extremely well presented three bed, two bath villa with extra sitting room, 27m<sup>2</sup> double garage, carport, separate fly free area, 10m x 4m swimming pool and lovely country views in an established garden of 1,000m<sup>2</sup> with a variety of plants and trees. Walking distance to a popular cafe / restaurant. Four min-

utes drive to La Alfoquia town, 12 minutes drive to Huerca-Overa and 25 to 30 minutes drive to the coast. The furniture is also for sale.

Villa Joven is a very nicely designed, light and airy villa and consists of a front covered porch, entrance hall, good sized kitchen large enough to have a small table, extra living room

looking out to the pool and garden, open plan living room / dining room with fireplace. There are three large double bedrooms, two have fitted wardrobes and the master bedroom has a shower room and walk-in dressing room which is currently used as an office. There is also a family shower room.

The villa benefits from double glazed windows with fly nets and grills and H&C air con. Mains electricity, water, satellite TV, telephone and internet are connected.

Outside the villa has very well kept, low maintenance garden which is mostly laid to gravel with a variety of Mediterranean plants and fruit trees. From the garden and pool area (with shower cubicle and changing room) you have lovely country views.

The garage has been designed to have a poolside bar if required. There is a driveway for four cars plus a carport and double garage and the property has tarmac road access and street lighting. The surrounding properties

are very well presented.

As well as walking to a popular restaurant / cafe / bar, within five to 10 minutes drive you can get to La Alfoquia, Zurgena, Arboleas villages with their variety of shops and restaurants etc or be on the A7 motorway or in the busy market town of Huerca-Overa town. The coast is approx 30 minutes drive at Garrucha, Vera or Mojacar.

For more information or to arrange a viewing of VH957 Villa Joven please contact Voss Homes on 0034 950 616 827 or 0034 678 002 006 or email us at [info@vosshomesspain.com](mailto:info@vosshomesspain.com) or visit our office in Huerca-Overa just 1km off of junction 553 of the A7 motorway 100m from Lidl.



**VILLA JOVEN: Is very nicely designed and is light and airy.**

# Homes making a splash

SPAIN'S property market throws up a huge variety of business possibilities for savvy entrepreneurs. One of the latest revolves around the country's estimated flotilla of one million private swimming pools.

Most of them were built fairly recently, within the past few decades. But quick construction, cost-cutting and general wear and tear mean that the average swimming pool has a functional life expectancy of around 18 years.

“

**New pools built today with modern technology can cost upwards of €30,000.**

Yet only a quarter have experienced some form of renovation according to a 2016 study from the Spanish Association of Swimming Sector Professionals (Asofap), which could only exist in Spain.

That is paving the way for a new breed of pool builders. Renovations and new pools in 2017 are slimmer, sleeker and shallower, a place to entertain guests around, rather than to perform laps.



**NEW POOLS: Are slimmer, sleeker and shallower, a place to entertain guests around, rather than to perform laps.**

New materials arriving from America can make pools longer-lasting and more cost-effective. Stairs in the pool, underwater benches to sit on, and depth of only 1.4 metres, make changing the water vastly cheaper.

A focus on comfort and aesthetics also

make people more likely to use their pools. Hundreds of thousands lie largely empty across the county as owners guiltily never find time to swim, while forking out hundreds of euros per month to keep them clean.

New pools built today with modern tech-

nology can cost upwards of €30,000 but are guaranteed to last longer and be used more frequently. Highlights include stainless steel or quartz panelling, sandy areas and palm trees, and saline electrolysis to avoid chemical treatments.



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GRAEME TYRRELL

IF you like a perfumed garden in summer then you need to know about *Mirabilis jalapa*. It was a very popular garden plant in Victorian times but has lost much of its popularity as it is a herbaceous perennial, meaning it loses its foliage in autumn, withdrawing to just a tuber over winter before emerging again in spring.

In warmer climates such as the Mediterranean it can also become a little invasive, sprouting from seeds wherever they have fallen. Usually the long dry summer will eliminate escaped plants but care should be taken to not dispose of seed heads carelessly. Despite these drawbacks, it makes a wonderful addition to the garden and is very hardy in a container.

The trumpet like flowers

## The marvel of Peru - an overlooked but useful plant

appear in profusion in July and the flowering can last until October. It has a heavenly scent that permeates the zone around the plant. In northern climates it is called the 4 O'Clock or Tea Time plant as the scent is released around this time in the afternoon when the temperature changes with evening approaching.

I have found that the scent is released in the morning in my Mediterranean garden when the coolness of the morning releases the scent filling the house with its perfume through the open windows. The evenings here don't get cool enough to al-

low the scent to be released.

I have only the pinky mauve colour from some seeds a friend from London gave me, but they have spread around the garden in an enclosed courtyard wonderfully with only the need to remove ones in inappropriate places.

The colour range of this plant is amazing though. Some flower with red, yellow, crimson or orange colours and combinations of these colours in individual flowers or even different

**MARVEL OF PERU -**  
Has beautiful  
orange flowers.



coloured flowers on the same plant. I had some like these growing while living in New Zealand.

The plant itself is attractive with succulent like stems and tropical like foliage that beams with lushness. The stems are delicate and can break off easily but they are quickly renewed with new stems as it is very fast growing up to a metre

high and wide. The plant itself though is extremely hardy due to its tuber root system retaining moisture and nutrients allowing it to survive dry periods very well and renew growth once it receives moisture again.

Over winter I just leave the tubers in the ground where they are but they can be dug up and rearranged or re-potted when dormant.

It just needs a reasonably good soil with some added compost or a good potting mixture to grow in and occasional watering and it will return abundant flowers, sweet orange blossom like perfume lush foliage and ease of maintenance.

It was a medicinal plant for the Aztecs in the Peru region of the Andes where it naturally occurs. It has naturalised in many warmer countries around the world and is often called the Beauty of the Night in some languages as it appears to flower and disperse its scent at night in these regions.

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Far from being difficult to grow, many people end up killing their orchids by overwatering and exposing to too much sunlight. They rid the air of xylene - a pollutant found in many glues and paint - so make great housewarming gifts for people moving into new or renovated spaces. They give off oxygen at night so are great for the bedroom.

*Palms*

Extremely popular as they're easy to grow, these are also natural air purifiers. They remove formaldehyde, benzene and carbon monoxide so are excellent if there are smokers in the household.

*Peace Lilies*

Another favourite, these thrive out of direct sunlight in a well-lit area. As well as removing toxins such as ammonia, acetone, benzene, formaldehyde and xylene, these can successfully remove mould spores making them ideal for laundry rooms.

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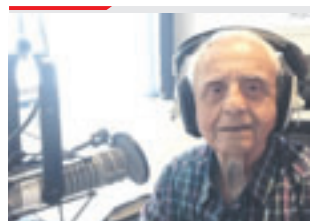


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AT one time fish was thought to be a major cause of skin disease in cats. Now we have all come to realise that the flea is the main culprit when it comes to skin irritation in cats and dogs.

However not many pet owners are aware our pets

suffer food allergies which can cause dermatological discomfort. In fact according to Nigel Taylor the Express vet, 1 per cent of all skin problems in cats and dogs are caused by dietary allergies.

Allergen reactions may be triggered in minutes, hours or days. Once an allergy to a protein is established, sensitivity is often lifelong.

Dogs are mostly sensitive to beef and milk, while cats often do not get on with beef, milk or fish. Some dogs can digest the lactose in cow's milk.

Give a pet dog or cat milk and the undigested lactose provokes an upset stomach in no time. This is not a true allergy but demonstrates how sensitive to certain food

pets can be. Stop the milk and your pet's life will look up immediately.

Most pets will react in some way by incorrect feeding and apart from allergic reactions one can expect flatulence and inconsistent stool quality and large smelly motions. Incorrect feeding can cause failure to put on weight and if the balance of the food is not correct, a display of hyperactivity or indeed low activity can result.

Most animals can be assessed by their coat and skin vitality. There is always a possibility that the protein is being utilised for energy with a subsequent loss of health and vitality.

Many owners give far too many vitamins and one should remember that a well-

balanced diet should not have to be supplemented.

Ritualistic scratching and licking could well indicate that there is an allergic reaction to the food and the eating of grass, twigs and roots sometimes is an indication that the food is not being digested properly. Tissue stealing and fibre-based destruction could be another indication there is a craving for fibre to help the digestive process.

It is a good idea to speak to your vet about feeding pets and to make things easy for you there are many good commercial dried pet foods with selected proteins like lamb and chicken that are unlikely to cause allergy already in them.

Many pet shops and vets

**MILK: Can provoke an upset stomach in no time.**



are now selling 'Chewies.' I would steer clear of anything which has a colour since this must have an additive. Chews have been known to cause hyperactivity and low activity.

If your dog needs something to chew then take a look at a Kong Ball or Cube, these can be stuffed with goodies (put some in the freezer) and will occupy your pet for hours.

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### Clarkson Quote of the Week

“On the McLaren MP4-12C: “The first thing I’d like to know is why they’ve named it after a fax machine.”

Some might say...



### Motoring shorts

## Senior speedster

A DREAM came true for 79-year-old Brit Rosemary Smith who sped around a French circuit in a Renault Sport F1 car with 800hp.

She is reckoned to be the oldest person to ever commandeer the Renault F1 and certainly among the most senior drivers in history behind the wheel of such a powerful car.

Mrs Smith was the first winner of an ongoing competition celebrating Renault’s 40th anniversary. Anyone test-driving a Renault at a dealership is automatically entered into a draw, with 10 winning the chance to drive an F1 car.

Helping prepare her for the spin around the Le Castellet track was official Renault driver Jolyon Palmer. But, oddly enough, Rosemary Smith didn’t need much preparation.

She is a former rally driver and driving instructor, who won the Tulip Rally in 1965.

# Moving up the ladder

NO longer content with dominating the motoring mass market, Volkswagen has set its eyes on classier rivals, who sell less cars but have cornered luxury buyers.

The brand’s latest coupe, the Arteon, is set to hit European showrooms in autumn 2017 with prices beginning at a hefty €45-50,000.

That puts the Arteon on a direct collision course with BMW, Audi and Mercedes, who have traditionally had little to fear from the scandal-hit German giant.

It is a marked change in direction for the ‘people’s car’ as Volkswagen translates to. News last week that the

VW Golf supplanted the Ford Fiesta as the UK’s best-selling car seemed to confirm that Volkswagen had secured its enormously profitable position among

the motoring gods.

The challenge for Volkswagen is convincing the public to accept the Arteon as a truly premium car, comparable to

the Mercedes C-Class coupe and other established vehicles. Many might be inclined to consider the Arteon merely a fancy upgrade on a budget-friendly model.

Buyers being asked to fork out more than €50,000 may play it

safe with other German cars.

Sensing this, the Arteon comes complete with a range of new and different features to distinguish it from the competition. It has full safety marks, limited self-driving technology, and a crash system which anticipates impact and secures seats and seatbelts in the safest positions accordingly.

There is constant monitoring of steering and braking, with the system able to safely take over driving, flick on the indicators and

take the car to the side of the road if it detects the driver is unresponsive.



PREMIUM: The VW Arteon hopes to crack the elusive luxury market.

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**SLEEK:** The concept Valyrie making waves at the Geneva Motor Show.

# Ride of the Valkyries

FOR years a creature of legend, the Valkyrie took one step closer to reality last week when Aston Martin revealed an almost production ready glimpse of its latest hypercar.

Designed by Formula One engineer Adrian Newey, the Valkyrie is expected to go into production late next year, with just 150 models in the pipeline.

Tipped as the fastest, most powerful non-F1 car in history, Aston Martin chief Andy Palmer says it will "lap Silverstone as fast as any F1 car."

It has been described as "95 per cent" done by design director Miles Nurnberger. Projected price is at least €2.5 million for one of the limited edition beasts.

Tweaks will be made until it is perfect in the eyes of Red Bull man Newey. The headline news is that the extraordinary engine will provide 1,000hp, while the car itself will weigh just 1,000kg. That's an astonishing 1-1 horsepower to weight ratio that will be coupled with some of the finest aerodynamic technology the world has ever seen.

Offering slightly more space than the deceptively compact Valkyrie seems to from a distance, it can cram two normal, even tall, humans into the front seats. They have their feet up just like an F1 car. In the same spirit all the controls are stuck on the steering wheel to maximise space.



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### ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

# Citroen C3 Flair

THE latest Citroen C3 is much more of a threat to established supermini big-sellers such as the Ford Fiesta, Vauxhall/Opel Corsa and VW Polo, for the French company has significantly upped its game.

With a bold and more trendy new look and a lot of emphasis on comfort, the C3 comes over with much more cachet than main competitors and priced from just €12,587 (£11,135) suggests you get a lot of car for your cash.

Entry level Touch versions get DAB radio, Aux and USB sockets, Bluetooth, front and curtain airbags, lane departure warning, speed limiter/speed warning, cruise control and even a coffee-break alert among standard features.

Mid-range Feel models add more kit, so too do the top-range Flair version and this latter

was the model I tested in 100 hp 1.6 litre diesel form with standard five-speed manual gearbox. Top speed is 185 kph (115 mph), the 0-100 kph time 10.6 seconds and the fuel economy excellent at 27 kpl (76.3 mpg).

This version costs €19,788 (£17,505) and has wheelarch extensions, alloy wheels, 7-inch colour touchscreen, with Apple Carplay, automatic air-con, auto lights and wipers, tinted glass, protective Airbump cladding, rear parking sensors and reversing camera.

The cabin design underlines that this C3 is certainly different not only to its predecessor but to rivals in the sector. Its quirky, curvy appearance gives it important youthful attraction, appealing to those who want to ensure they stand out from the crowd. They can also personalise the car

- there are 36 different colour

combinations.

Another appealing feature on the Flair version is Connected-CAM which constantly records what's ahead of you and in the event of an accident will save the preceding 30 seconds and following 60 seconds of footage for use in any criminal proceedings or insurance claim. And you can also use it for recreational activities, such as just taking pictures of anything you see as you drive along; the photos you take are then saved to your smartphone for social media sharing!

Seating is very comfortable, so too the ride quality thanks to revised suspension. The steering gives good road feel, the five-speed gearbox has a slick action and overall, the C3 is a very pleasant drive.

Four adults will be comfortable in the C3 and the the 300-litre boot is one of the largest in the sector, and can be boosted by split-fold rear seats. My only quibble is that the tailgate is narrow and the boot has a deep lip.



**CITROEN C3 FLAIR:**  
With a bold and more trendy new look.

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

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# Glory days for the 'Fed', Garbiñe, Lewis, Hannah and the Springboks!

## 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



ONCE again we've had some terrific sporting action over the last week or so - and if you check my events calendar, there is plenty more to come - enough to suit everybody, young and old, male and female... and just to let you know the domestic football season starts in several countries in just over three weeks time.

### FORMULA 1

Last Sunday at Silverstone, Lewis Hamilton, starting from pole, won the British Grand Prix for the fourth successive year and in doing so closed the gap between himself and Sebastian Vettel at the top of the driver's championship to

one point.

Driving superbly from start to finish, Hamilton's Mercedes purred around the circuit to take the chequered flag ahead of team-mate Valtteri Bottas and Kimi Raikkonen. Vettel finished in seventh place after a tyre failure on the final lap... and the home fans in the 145,000 crowd loved it!

Budapest, Hungary stages the next race on Sunday, July 30 before everyone gets four weeks off!

### TENNIS

Switzerland's majestic superstar Roger

Federer created history last Sunday afternoon when he won his eighth Wimbledon men's singles title and the 19th Grand Slam triumph of his career, with a comfortable straight sets victory over Croatia's Marin Cilic.

Spain's Garbiñe Muguruza comfortably beat Venus Williams in the women's final, to become only the second Spaniard to win the title, following her current coach Conchita Martinez's victory in 1994.

Marcelo Melo (Brazil) and Lukasz Kubot (Poland) won the men's doubles, the Russian pair of Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina claimed the women's prize; GB's Jamie Murray and Martina Hingis clinched the mixed doubles title, beating Heather Watson and Henri Kontinen in the final, and

the

British duo of Alfie Hewitt and Gordon Reid once again won the men's wheelchair doubles.

British number ones Andy Murray and Johanna Konta were knocked out of their singles events at the quarter and semi-final stages respectively.

Almost 500,000 spectators attended the tournament which saw 2,145 games played and 222 sets completed. There were 1,100 aces served with American Sam Querrey booming down 139 of them, the fastest topping 137.2 mph.

### CRICKET

England were well and truly thumped, walloped, annihilated, out-bowled, out-batted, out-fielded, out-caught and even out-reviewed by a revitalised South African team in the second Test at Trent Bridge. The Springboks (335 and 343-9 declared) won by a massive 340 runs, after dismissing Joe Root's side for 205 and a meagre

133, to gain their

biggest win in England

land for 23 years.

"Far too many England players simply gave their wickets away"... Nasser Hussein's words not mine. The third and penultimate Test starts at The Oval in seven days time and let's be truthful, England need to find a new opener and a top-order batter from somewhere as they've now lost eight of their last 13 Tests.

### FOOTBALL

Congratulations to England's teenagers who beat Portugal 2-1 in the final of the Euro U19 championship in Georgia... Manchester City goalkeeper Joe Hart is set to join West Ham

on loan... José Mourinho says "It's mission impossible" in respect of Cristiano Ronaldo rejoining Manchester United... Manchester City have paid Spurs a world record fee for a defender of £53m for Kyle Walker... John Terry has left Chelsea for Aston Villa... and Everton could have a new 60,000 all-seater stadium come 2019.

### ROUND UP

Last weekend, Spanish golfer Rafa Cabrera-Bella won the Scottish Open and Korean Park Sung Yun triumphed in the US

women's Open... GB athletes Hannah Cockcroft (100 metres and 800m wheelchair races), Jonnie Peacock (100 metres sprint), Olivia Green (long jump) and Sophie Kamlisch (women's 100m) have all won gold medals at the World Paralympic Games in London... Sir Mo Farah won the 5,000 metres in the Diamond League in Morocco... and GB's Chi-Jindu Ujah was victorious in the 100 metres at the same venue.

**HANNAH COCKCROFT:**  
100 and 800m wheelchair races gold medal winner.



## EVENTS CALENDAR

THERE are several sporting events underway and/or coming up... the Tour de France cycle race ends on Sunday... football's Gold Cup in the USA goes on until July 26... the women's football World Cup started on July 16... the Disability Sports/World Para-athletic championships continue until July 23... the 2017 Open Golf Championship at Royal Birkdale started yesterday... there's Test Match cricket featuring Joe Root's England against South Africa at the Oval, from next Thursday... and the women's cricket World Cup final takes place on Saturday at Lords with hopefully England taking on either India or Australia.

There's enough here to suit everyone - surely!

**LEWIS HAMILTON:**  
Won the British GP for fourth successive year.







ROGER FEDERER created history last Sunday when he won his eighth Wimbledon men's singles title and his 19th Grand Slam triumph.

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

## Zurgena Fiesta bowls tournament



**FINALISTS:** (l to r) Adrienne Lavelle, Lola Antas, Alan Drummond, Candido Trabalon, Keith Porter and John Young.

ON Wednesday July 12, the Bowling Club de Zurgena opened its gates to the local community for a taster tournament. The event was linked with the local fiesta and was designed to introduce the game of bowls to the local Spanish people.

Teams of three consisted of two club players and one guest. After a short tuition (in their best Spanglish) and a couple of trial ends, the tournament started. The format was a two wood triples yardstick with the new bowlers playing in second

position and taking guidance from the lead.

As each end was played, the new players improved and at times, bowled some very good woods.

After nine ends, the top two teams were pitted against each other for the final. This turned out to be a close-run match with the scores being level at the end. A further end had to be played to determine the outright winners.

The winning team was that of Keith Porter, Candido Trabalon and

John Young who were presented with trophies, kindly supplied by the Zurgena Town Hall. The runners-up were Alan Drummond, Lola Antas and Adrienne Lavelle, who each received a bottle of wine.

A number of Spanish spectators, who did not wish to take part in the actual tournament, also tried a few ends later in the evening to get the flavour of the game of bowls.

The event was enjoyed by all and was a great Spanish / English integration evening.

## Valle Del Este Golf Society

BACK to Stableford action following last week's Monthly Medal.

Considering the really hot conditions, they had a great turnout and proving the fortitude of their members, everyone finished.

The scoring was exceptionally close with the top three being separated by a back nine countback after they all finished on 37 points. The eventual winner was Derek Pearce winning his third event in a row with Andrew Tatlow second and Jim Firth continuing his good run of form to come third and a long overdue cut in his handicap.

1st Derek Pearce	37 points
2nd Andrew Tatlow	37 points
3rd Jim Firth	37 points

Nearest the pin 6th hole	Steve Bailey
Nearest the pin 14th hole	Andrew Tatlow

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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