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ISSUE No. 1673 | 27 July - 2 August 2017 **COSTA DE ALMERÍA » YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE, YOUR OPINION** WWW.EUROWEEKLYNEWS.COM

## Blue flag bin anger

WHILE Mojácar, Cuevas del Almanzora and other coastal hotspots celebrated the arrival of their blue flags, the Cabo de Gata-Níjar Natural Park has been left red-faced as it was denied the international symbol of beach excellence.

Now the reason for the decision has become clear. The park's beaches were considered unfit for the prestigious award because they had no easily identifiable bins, or signs pointing towards them.

PSOE Socialist councillor Ines Plaza has reacted with fury to the revelation from the Foundation for Environmental Education, which doles out the flags.

The conservative Popular Party, which governs Almería, had suggested that Níjar's loss of its blue flags was due to a spillage from the waste treatment plant.

But an analysis of the water from Aqualia has confirmed that it is perfectly clean, and completely ruled out a leakage.

# Fire killers locked up Dead to rights

By Matthew Elliott

Four men convicted of a brutal murder which saw them set the victim's body on fire in Vicar, have been jailed. Each man received a four-year sentence for the killing in addition to 18 months for related crimes.

The ruling by an Almería court refers to the barbaric murder in Albacete. The four men and the victim crawled around the local bars before moving to an abandoned house.

Once there they grabbed the victim and tied him to a chair with a cable. They savagely beat him, inflicting a serious head injury which ultimately killed the man.

The defendants believed that he had stolen €35,000 from them a few days previously in Madrid, money that they had secured for a future drug deal.

After realising they had killed their target, the gang removed his body from the chair and tied it to stair railings connecting the basement with the living room. They then set the house on fire and



**ALBACETE:** The four men and the victim had crawled around the local bars.

fled the scene.

Hours later a fifth man appeared and removed the personal effects of the victim, including clothing.

He packed them into a car, which was later torched in the campo near Vicar in 2014. He was sentenced to two years in

prison for his role.

The court acquitted the four men of kidnapping charges and convicted them of a lesser murder charge with no element of premeditation.

Four women suspected of helping in a cover up of the crime were found innocent.

## Locker thief pinched

JUDGES released a well-known thief on bail after he was charged with committing a prodigious spate of robberies across Almería. The 30-year-old male from Barcelona is accused of 24 thefts from two Almería gyms committed in the space of a few days.

Gym users have reported 11 stolen mobile phones, alongside missing wallets, car keys and €850 in cash. Police were alerted to the first theft on July 8, then were shocked to discover another six locker robberies committed at the same gym just 48 hours later.

On July 11, 12 and 14 another dozen thefts took place, with the suspect splitting his energy between two gyms in the capital, eluding both police and additional gym security.

It took a total of 10 days for police to finally arrest the man, finding him with plyers used to crack open the gym lockers. He faces a lengthy jail sentence when he returns to the Almería court.

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**NEWS EXTRA****Dark motives**

THE police union of Almería claims political motivations are behind the sudden firing of the National Police chief in Almería, Adolfo Castaño, for no apparent reason while on holiday.

**Horror fall**

A WORKER in Pulpi suffered severe head trauma and was flown to hospital by helicopter after he plunged six metres from a building last Friday. The cause of the fall is unknown.

**Smell proof**

POLICE arrested a Huerca-Overa man, aged 45, who was growing marijuana in his home. Suspicious officers found 24 plants in a greenhouse with 50 bags of fertiliser and a ventilation system.

By Matt Ford

BEACHGOERS are advised to be on red alert over the coming weeks after experts revealed that jellyfish are present in above-average numbers across 5-10 per cent of Spain's Mediterranean coastline.

The news comes as the stinging blobs have been reported from Malaga Province for the first time since 2015, as an expert in Alicante confirmed that certain beaches seem to attract them more frequently and in higher densities.

A new EU-funded report compiled by the Spanish Institute of Marine Sciences analysed sting data from more than 70 per cent of the country's 1,200 lifeguard towers and highlighted a series of black spots.

Cesar Bordehore, a researcher at the University of Alicante's Ramon Margalef Institute of Environmental Studies confirmed "we now know that between 5-10 per cent of Spanish Mediterranean beaches show an over-population, and we are now studying these cas-

# Experts target jellyfish swarms

## Beware the blobs!

es in order to reduce their populations and the number of people being stung."

In Malaga, the Aula del Mar marine museum has teamed up with the University of Malaga

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**PURPLE MENACE:** The mauve stinger can occur in high densities.

and Oceanographic Centre to form a predictive model able to foresee how each summer might progress, and they expect this to be ready by August.

Biologist Jesus Bellido, who helped design the free mobile application Infomedusa for both

Apple and Android devices, said that those appearing in Mijas, Marbella, Estepona on the Costa del Sol and Torrox on the Costa Tropical have confused his team because the climatic conditions were not the same in the two locations.

### Awkward little stingers

THE most common species in the Spanish Mediterranean is Pelagia noctiluca, the purple or mauve stinger, most easily identified by its pink to purple colour.

It is an offshore species that is sometimes swept into shore, sometimes in massive numbers.

The sting from its tentacles is venomous but not especially dangerous, normally producing a whip-like scar.

Mr Bordehore said that if stung, the tentacle should be removed without rubbing using a plastic bank card or small pliers and cleaned with salt water.

"Never use fresh water," he added.

**800,000** The number of new businesses in Spain set up by female entrepreneurs, between 2008-2013.

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## Dog savers drowned

A HUSBAND has called for an investigation after his wife and friend both drowned while trying to rescue a dog from a Nijar reservoir. The man and woman, both Romanian nationals, tried to swim out on a raft when they saw the dog struggling to stay afloat in the Balsa Seca reservoir near San Isidro. Neither knew how to swim properly and plunged in when they slipped.

## Blackmail case

A PRIEST has accused a mother and her son of extorting him out of more than €50,000. The clergyman from the capital says he made regular payments to the pair to stop them spreading allegations that he sexually assaulted the teenager. He has received public backing from the Bishopric of Almeria and provided tape recordings and witness accounts to support his case to police after denting all charges.

## Ride the rails

A SMALL crowd gathered to welcome the first disabled accessible train to depart from Madrid to Almeria in years. Musicians joined representatives from the Almeria Federation of Associations of Person with Disabilities (FAAM) outside the train station to greet the convoy, which carried some of its members alongside state politicians. The adapted train has two spaces for full wheelchairs and 14 specially designed seats.

## Heavy load

POLICE arrested a local man accused of stealing two bronze sculptures, one of a dancer, the other of a sitting woman, weighing more than 100kg each from a Vicar farm.

## Truck terror

A MAN strolling through Almeria port was killed when a truck unloading fish reversed into him. A

## SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...22

Spain is the second-largest producer of cork in the world after Portugal, with 27 per cent of the world's 2.2 million hectares of cork forest, and the annual harvest is in full swing.

# Popping the cork!

TAKING place from June 15 to August 15 each year, the cork harvest is the ultimate example of an environmentally-friendly industry which still employs ancient methods.

It is considered sustainable because the trees are not cut down to obtain the product, rather the bark is stripped from the trunk by highly-skilled workers known as corcheros who wield specialised tools and must train for around eight years.

Normally working in teams of five, they each have a specific role, from using an axe to strip the cork to stacking the planks in piles or loading it onto mules once it is cut.

At the factory, the planks are boiled in a deep water vat, which renders it soft enough for flattening and processing.



**BARK:** Is stripped from the trunk.

## A fine vintage

THE trees cannot be harvested until they are 30 to 40 years old and have a minimum circumference of 60cm at the base.

After being cut they are left alone for nine-12 years to allow the cork to grow back, the harvest taking place in a different area each year following a cyclical pattern.

The first and second harvests produce low quality cork, but from the third onwards it is of sufficiently high grade to use for the production of corks for around 60 per cent of the world's wine.

Although cork oaks can live for more than 300 years, some even reaching 500, they are not usually exploited after they reach 200 years of age.



**Cork** is highly resistant to fire.

Italy, Tunisia, and France.

• Cork is highly resistant to fire and the thick bark, which can be up to 30 cm thick, is thought to have evolved as a natural defence in a region where wild fires are common.

• In Spain, cork oak forest is home to some of Europe's most endangered wildlife,



**Native** to the Mediterranean.

including the Iberian lynx, Spanish imperial eagle and black vulture.

• With an area of 170,025 hectares, Los Alcornocales Natural Park in Cadiz Province is the world's largest cork oak forest and the only subtropical forest in Europe.

## Pull the other one

• The cork oak, *Quercus suber*, is native to the Mediterranean countries of Portugal, Spain, Morocco, Algeria,



**Los Alcornocales Park.**

cleaner shouted for the driver to stop but it was too late.

## New arrivals

A EUROPEAN programme to dis-

patch refugees across the continent saw 12 Syrians and five Eritreans arrive in Almeria last week. Almeria has so far welcomed 66 refugees under the programme.

## Let off

A MOTHER and grandmother who left a little girl locked in a hot car under the Almeria sun will be spared jail after medical experts said the girl wasn't dehydrated.

## Ted tech

BRIGHT ideas on using technology to make Almeria better were expressed at a TED talk in Purchena. The Silicon-Valley inspired talks travel the world with local experts sharing creative insights into the future.

# Fake residents roam free

AFTER dismantling a criminal organisation that secured fake documents for illegal immigrants, police estimate that the number of migrants passing off as legal citizens thanks to the gang could number in the thousands.

Guardia Civil officers arrested 29 members of the gang two weeks ago. A city council employee has also been arrested, charged with taking bribes to smooth the process.

So far police have uncovered 700 false cases of Spanish residency in Roquetas de Mar alone from January to June. Since the gang has been operational

since 2010 police believe thousands more residency permits may have been issued during the racket.

The gangsters, mainly from Morocco allegedly bribed the official and paid dozens of Spanish women to pretend they were the wives or girlfriends of illegal immigrants. False work contracts and accommodation documents were provided to help them gain residency.

Once the immigrants had secured their permits they could even fly back to North Africa, collect their possessions and return to Spain legally. They paid between €3,000 and €4,000 to the gang.

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The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1672 of the Euro Weekly News Costa de Almería edition, including 69 local stories.



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## Top 5 stories

From 18 - 24 July

- 1 Urgent appeal for missing Albox couple - **4,370**
- 2 Brit holidaymaker outraged as couple have sex on Alicante plane - **4,030**
- 3 'Missing' Albox couple reported 'safe and embarrassed' - **3,736**
- 4 British couple found in Manilva died 'at least 15 days ago' - **2,604**
- 5 Huge hailstones fall in northern Spain - **2,000**

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## Poll of the week

**As controversy continues to surround the US President do you think Donald Trump will serve a full eight years as the world's most powerful leader?**

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**  
 With Marbella seeking to ban shirtless tourists, should beachwear be prohibited in town and city centres?

Yes = 84%  
 No = 16%

## Top Social Media comments

**Balearic Parliament approves bull runs 'without blood, without suffering'** Not enough! An outright ban is needed! *Laoiseach Ni Chleirigh*

**Man arrested for assaulting his father outside police station in Malaga** Poor father, he must have been 'at the end of his tether' to have taken his son there. Such a pity they could not get help earlier and avoided this horrible situation. My sympathy for the son as well he needs help, even if he doesn't recognise it yet. *Elizabeth Saunders*

**Two people die trying to rescue a dog from a reservoir in Almeria** Spain obviously doesn't give a toss about stray animals, abused animals, abandoned animals, killing animals, which leads to people trying to save them and thus tragedies like this. Ridiculously unnecessary. *Mona Mangham*  
**British couple found in Manilva died 'at least 15 days ago'** could easy happen. Too many people like to keep themselves to themselves, and then, this happens. Be nosy, be friendly, be around people, we need them when we are older, especially in a different country. *N Maurice Johnson*  
**Brit teen dies of 'drug overdose' during rave in Salou** Just finished his A levels too... This

is really sad! Being young means you do silly things, we all have, not necessarily taking drugs but we've all risked our lives in one way or another, I've never seen such nasty comments on a post before, I truly hope none of your brothers/sisters/cousins/sons/daughters and so on, never do anything like this and inconsiderate people post such wicked 'matter of fact' comments about them!! *Sarah Louise*

**Brit holidaymaker outraged as couple have sex on Alicante flight** Surely if you can take the trouble to post a complaint on the airlines FB page, why couldn't the staff's attention have been drawn to it. Also why not ask the parties concerned to cease their activities? *Ted Milsom*

**@Ted Milsom** I would think if you asked them to stop they would just laugh, that sort of mentality. No hit them in their pocket and make them forego their holiday. *Edith Farnimer*

**Lorry drops into the ocean from a Cadiz beach** So lucky and that it's not a high bridge... well done to driver and police. *Lydia Taylor*  
**Man arrested over rape of British tourist in Malaga** What part of NO don't they understand??? *Wilhelmina van der Horn*



The couple have since been found 'safe and embarrassed'

## TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The shortest war ever fought was between Britain and Zanzibar on August 27, 1896, with the latter surrendering after 38 minutes.

It is not possible to hum while holding your nose closed.



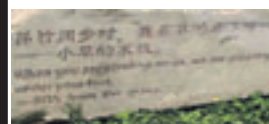
The 1960 movie 'Psycho' is thought to have been the first cinema film where a toilet is shown being flushed. The momentous flushing scene was just before Janet Leigh's character took a shower and was then stabbed to death.

★★★★★★

## Did you know?

X's at the end of a letter signify kisses because in the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed with an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfil obligations in the document, and consequently X and the kiss became synonymous.

## Lost in translation



When you are striding on us, we are groaning under your feet - SOS from the grass.

## CORRECTIONS

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

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Little bits on the side

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**OUR VIEW****The right to live or die**

THE sad story of Charlie Gard has been heartbreaking, not just for his parents but for tens of thousands of people who followed the case.

No parent ever wants to outlive their child and in this particular case, the agony of the parents who have tried everything to prolong his life is quite clear.

The Great Ormond Street Hospital has a fantastic record of improving the life of so many children but does appear to have been involved in a number of legal battles over the rights of parents to keep their children alive.

More than £100,000 (€110,000) was raised by donation to help support Charlie's parents but all of this money and the legal costs of the hospital have effectively been wasted whilst the various court cases were heard.

There is a terrible dilemma here as to who should have the right to decide the life or termination of a child.

The hospital has experts who believe that their recommendation to terminate Charlie's life was correct, yet past cases have shown that miracles can occur as in the case of Aysha King whose parents were arrested for taking him out of the UK.

This is not the first or the last case of this kind, but in the meantime, we certainly feel immense sorrow for Charlie's brave parents.

*Now we want to hear your views.*  
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# Wounded snake eagle saved

By Matthew Elliott

SEPRONA, the Guardia Civil's animal rescue division helped save the life of a short-toed snake eagle found in Vera. They were alerted by a resident of La Gorrica, who found the struggling bird.

The animal had an open wound in one of its wings, preventing it from being able to fly. An adult, it was of a large size and required special handling by the trained Seprona agents.

Unable to ensure the wound would heal by itself, the agents took the eagle to the specialist Centre for the Recovery of Endangered Species, where it is expected to make a full recovery. Once it does, the bird will



**RESCUED:** Short-toed snake eagle saved by Seprona.

be released back into the wild.

The medium-sized eagle is found across the Eurasian mainland and has even been spotted on

Britain's Isle of Scilly. Adults can reach a wingspan of 185cm and live more than 15 years. The eagles generally feed on reptiles.

**NEWS EXTRA****Lethal move**

A 60-YEAR-OLD man trying to fix an electric turret in central Almería died when it sparked, sending him falling from a great height onto the street. He was acting alone.

**Hand bags**

TWO brawling women seen kicking and punching one another in El Zapillo on Saturday morning were arrested after they turned their fury on police officers trying to intervene.

**Road smash**

FIVE people, including a child aged under 12, were injured when a car and van collided on the AL-3113 at Costacabana. All were transferred to the El Toyo medical centre for treatment.

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Photo credit Instagram

RED HOT: Lucy and Ryan.

## Mecking it official

RUMOURS of their romance have been bubbling under the surface for weeks.

And former *The Only Way Is Essex* star Lucy Mecklenburgh, 25, declared her feelings for *Coronation Street* actor Ryan Thomas, 33, after the pair were pictured together during a steamy trip to Ibiza.

The love birds were snapped at a nightclub before Lucy paraded on a hotel balcony in a bright red lace-up bikini which left little to the imagination.

# Picture purr-fect!

ATOMIC KITTEN singer and reality TV star Kerry Katona has been spotted in Marbella with two of her five kids, Heidi, 10 and Dylan-Jorge, two, where she is enjoying a sun-soaked summer break.

It comes as the former *I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!* winner faces a €270 fine in the UK after two of her daughters were whisked away to Barbados during the school term earlier in the year.

But the 36-year-old is clearly enjoying her time in the Costa del Sol's capital of glitz, as she stepped out in a blue dress with white crocheting details as her offspring sported identical outfits.

According to *The Sun* newspaper, she is staying at the home of disgraced businessman Mon Basra, who was handed a four-and-a-half-year jail sentence in 2013 after being found guilty of harassing two women.



Photo credit Instagram

BEST OF FRIENDS: Kerry (l) and Rosie.

Kerry is friends with his wife Rosie, and the pair cemented their love for one another in a social media photo captioned: "Friends for life!!!"

## Up the isle

THEY have been together for two years and their first child was born in December 2016.

Now TV presenter Zoe Hardman, 34, and rugby star Paul Doran Jones, 32, have tied the knot at a lavish ceremony in Ibiza accompanied by their celebrity pals.

Guests included former England rugby captain Mike Tindall, his wife and Queen's granddaughter Zara Phillips, TV personalities Caroline Flack, Matt Johnson and Sarah-Jane Mee, plus singer Heidi Range.

Speaking to *Hello!* magazine after the star-studded event, Zoe said: "Our friends are like family to us and we wanted everyone we love to be there. I wanted a relaxed, boho vibe, where family and friends could party until dawn. Marrying the man of my dreams on an island we both adore, was amazing."



Photo credit Instagram

BESOTTED: Paul and Zoe.

## Madeley in heaven

SHE is the youngest child of chat show legends Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. But Chloe Madeley, 30, proved she is all woman after posting a series of sizzling swimwear shots to Instagram. The stunning presenter and fitness expert has been holidaying in Ibiza with rugby-player squeeze James Haskell, 32, who she has been dating since 2014.



Photo credit Instagram

BIKINI BODY: Chloe Madeley.

## Bear necessities

HE has been dating *Geordie Shore* star Charlotte Crosby after the pair met on MTV show *Just Tattoo Of Us*. But Ex On The Beach hunk Stephen Bear, 27, appeared wild and carefree during a booze-soaked appearance at a Mallorca club as he poured neat vodka down his throat while partying with bikini-clad beauties, at one point even indulging in a spot of crowd-surfing.



Photo credit Instagram

WILD THING: Stephen Bear.

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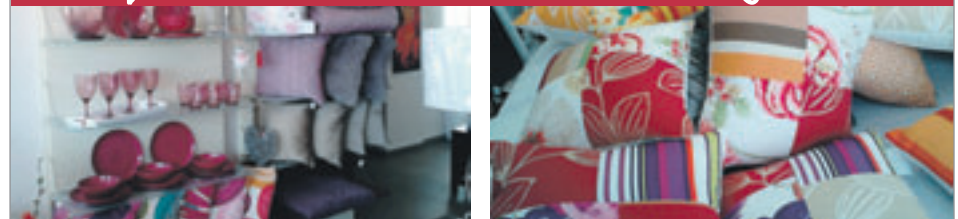
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## Director's cut in film city



**DE PALMA:** Mission: Impossible director filmed in Almeria recently.

By Matthew Elliott

TO capitalise on its growing reputation as a film hub, the city council has created the Almeria Film Office. The new entity will encourage global film production companies to shoot in Almeria and help snip any off-putting red tape.

Councillor in charge of promoting the city, Carolina Lafita, said Almeria was on the verge of "recovering the

cinematic splendour it had in the past." The new Film Office, she said, would "eliminate bureaucratic obstacles and offer tax incentives to directors who choose the city."

Filming itself in the province will be free. Corporation taxes will be slashed by 60 per cent if the production outfit hires locally and donates costumes. If the film is big enough to bring a worthwhile new star

to Almeria's Hollywood-style Walk of Fame, the discount is 80 per cent.

If a trailer of the film is also set in Almeria, then no taxes whatsoever will be paid. Non-profit groups making films will be entitled to an automatic 50 per cent cut.

Celebrating the film industry as bringing new jobs to the province and promoting it as a tourist destination. Recently the new Brian de Palma film Domino was shot in the city's bullring and further south in Adra.

**1** The number of bars for every 132 inhabitants in Spain - making it the country with the most bars in Europe.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Road links

PLANS for a new connection between the A-92 with the A-7 near Torrecardenas hospital have received bidding offers from seven companies. The project is expected to cost €150,000 and take 12 months.

### Sea deaths

THERE were five drowning deaths in the first half of 2017 in Almeria, the fourth highest in Andalusia, which registered more drowning incidents than any other community in Spain, with 45 fatalities.

### Irish rescue

A CREW member, aged 22, from an Irish warship sailing 35 nautical miles east of Cabo de Gata was evacuated to Torrecardenas hospital by helicopter after suffering a serious lung problem.

### Bad odds

JUST three police officers were forced to take custody of 96 African migrants who arrived by boat at Almeria port in one day. The police union has denounced the lack of staff.



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# Baywatch babes save the day

By Matthew Elliott

LIFEGUARDS on Mojacar's beaches are getting a boost from a gaggle of youngsters eager to learn the trade this summer. On Sundays until

the end of August, the 25 on-duty lifeguards will also train a cohort of local juniors taking part in summer educational programmes.

They will be given basic training protocols, including

first aid and resuscitation, using specialised equipment, swimming techniques while performing a rescue and the significance of different flags.

The vital importance of lifeguards was shown on the

very first day of training at Pueblo Indalo beach last Sunday when a real-life emergency took place.

Someone suffered a heart attack on the beach, forcing immediate intervention from the lifeguards, who performed first aid.

Fortunately the victim was stabilised and rushed to Huerca-Overa hospital for treatment.

Lifeguards on Mojacar's beaches will undergo constant rescue drills during summer to ensure they are well prepared for emergencies.



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Photo by Press Release

**YOUNG BLOOD:** Junior lifeguards have already seen action on the beaches.

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## NEWS EXTRA

### Desert redux

SKODA is planning to revitalise Tabernas with its Cowboys of the Desert programme, investing in local transport and filming adverts for its cars amid the sandy scenery.

### Legal aid

LAWYERS across Almeria were given almost €700,000 in legal aid in the first quarter of 2017 alone. Since 1997 Andalucia has given more than €400 million in aid to lawyers.

### Snap vote

IF snap provincial elections were held today the results in Almeria would mirror those in 2015. Polls show the conservative Popular Party would edge out the socialist PSOE by two percentage points.

### Bad alibi

POLICE arrested a thief in Huerca-Overa when they spotted him dripping with blood. He claimed to have been assaulted but had actually tripped while breaking into a home.

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# Open letter from HMA Simon Manley

GIVEN the success of the Spanish State Visit to the UK the week before last, which, among other things, highlighted the importance of people to people links between our two countries, I thought it timely to return to the subject of citizens' rights in the negotiations on our departure from and future partnership with the EU.

In the year since the EU referendum, I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you across the country, from the Balearics to the Canaries, along the Costas and in Madrid, and our consular teams have met many more.

I know from those conversations that there has been uncertainty for many of you. My teams and I have listened to your concerns about the future, including about your residency status in Spain, the level of your UK pensions, and your access to Spanish health and other social services, and have noted the questions you have about tax, inheritance, right to work and the implications of applying for

Spanish nationality.

At our meetings, on our social media and in interviews, I have also pledged to keep you up to date as negotiations on our exit from the European Union continue. So, let me update you on where matters stand now, in light of the latest negotiation round in Brussels last week.

The UK government has been clear that citizens are our top priority in the exit negotiations. We want an agreement that provides citizens with greater certainty about their future.

Last week, we held constructive and substantive discussions with the European Commission on the bulk of the issues underpinning our respective positions on citizens' rights. Together we have taken a big step forward.

There is a much clearer understanding on the detail of the positions on both sides and significant convergence on the key issues that really matter to citizens. You can read this technical note which compares the



Credit UK in Spain

**SIMON MANLEY:** Has pledged to keep you up to date.

UK and EU positions on these issues here. It is clear both sides want to move towards an agreement.

As you know, on June 26, the Prime Minister outlined to Parliament an offer to protect the rights of EU citizens in the UK. We are entering the negotiations with the European Commission and the other 27 EU Member States constructively and we therefore hope that the EU27 will offer reciprocal treatment for British nationals resident in the other Member States.

Many of you will have seen press reports of our June 26 offer, whether in the UK or Spanish media. I hope you will also have read the detailed proposals which are set out in 'Safeguarding the position of EU citizens in the UK and UK nationals in the EU' (<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/brexit>) and I would encourage you to

sign-up for email alerts (you can do so on the Home Office [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) page) to receive updates, to ensure that you are receiving information and guidance from official sources.

The first key element of the new proposal is residence status and working rights. Until the UK's exit, EU citizens in the UK will continue to enjoy all the rights they currently have under EU law; they can continue to live and work in the UK just as they do now.

The same rights also apply to you, British residents in Spain. You can continue to live and work here in Spain as you always have done. After the UK's exit from the EU, we are proposing a reciprocal deal that would protect the right of UK nationals already in the EU to continue to live and work in the EU. We hope that the European Commission and the 27

other Member States will agree to this.

The second key element is healthcare, pensions, education and access to benefits. It is our intention to treat EU citizens with settled status in the UK in the same way as if they were UK citizens for the purposes of access to education, benefits and pensions.

For you, the government has announced that the UK will continue to export and uprate the UK State Pension and provide associated healthcare cover within the EU, issues which I know from my conversations over the last year were important to many of you.

At the moment, those of you who are UK pensioners and resident in Spain access healthcare through the S1 form. This means the UK reimburses Spain the cost of providing medical treatment.

After the UK leaves the EU, we want to continue your healthcare entitlements on the same basis. Healthcare in Spain was indeed one of the case

studies cited in the detailed proposals made by the British Government on June 26 (see link).

Subject to negotiations, we want to continue participating in the European Health Insurance Card scheme meaning EHIC holders continue to benefit from free, or reduced-cost, needs-arising healthcare while on a temporary stay in the EU - and vice versa for EU EHIC holders visiting the UK. We hope the European Commission will agree to this.

The British government has repeatedly said that, until exit negotiations are concluded, the UK remains a full member of the European Union and all the rights and obligations of EU membership remain in force. You can continue travelling throughout the EU on your UK passport, without any visa requirements.

You can continue to access Spanish healthcare and draw your UK pension. If you have any difficulties accessing those rights, do please let our Consulates know.

I will continue to engage with you and listen to you, as will my consular teams across Spain. In the meantime, please follow me on Twitter (@SimonManleyFCO) and access the Embassy's social media (@UKinSpain on Twitter; British Embassy Madrid and Brits in Spain on Facebook) to keep up-to-date with developments.

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A Place in the Sun





PLANS to build a Foreigner Internment Centre (CIE) in Almería have met with strong opposition from left-wing party Izquierda Unida (IU).

IU politicians cited reports from Amnesty International and SOS Racism that question the legality of CIE's and point to numerous human rights abuses at similar centres

across Spain and Europe.

A statement from IU said the facility would only further deprive foreign citizens "whose only crime is to feel

hunger and misery" of their rights.

CIEs have been criticised for failing to provide legal aid, family visits, asylum in-

formation, and health care. Conditions are akin to a prison, though no detainees face criminal charges.

Antonio Sanz, the Andalu-

cian government's delegate to Almería, visited the province last week to discuss the prospect of opening a CIE near the capital.

The province is facing a daily influx of migrants and refugees arriving in ramshackle boats from North Africa. Record numbers have swept ashore this year, pushing the coast guard, police and Red Cross to breaking point.

The detention centre is considered a potential remedy to overcrowding problems but other CIEs have a poor record in Spain.

Riots have forced the closure of one in Algeciras, while Málaga's shut down after a storm of human rights criticism. Both Barcelona and Madrid have refused to open CIEs on their turf in protest over their controversial legality.

An IU statement confirmed the party's intention to oppose a CIE at any cost. "We do not want CIEs anywhere in the world, nowhere in our country, nowhere in Andalucía and, of course, we do not want one in our city," it read.

# Asylum jail fears raised



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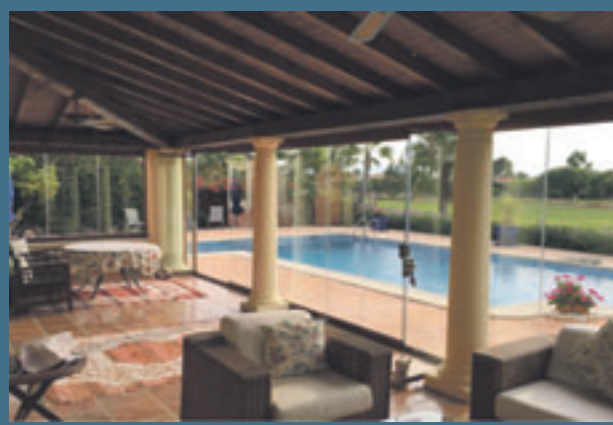


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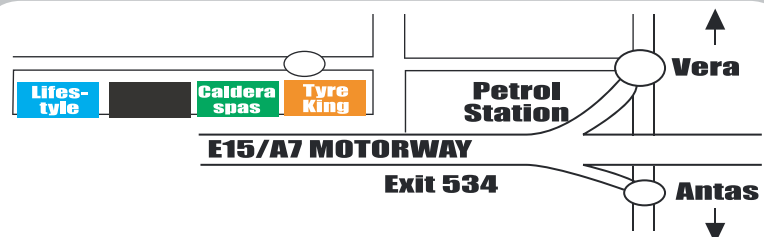
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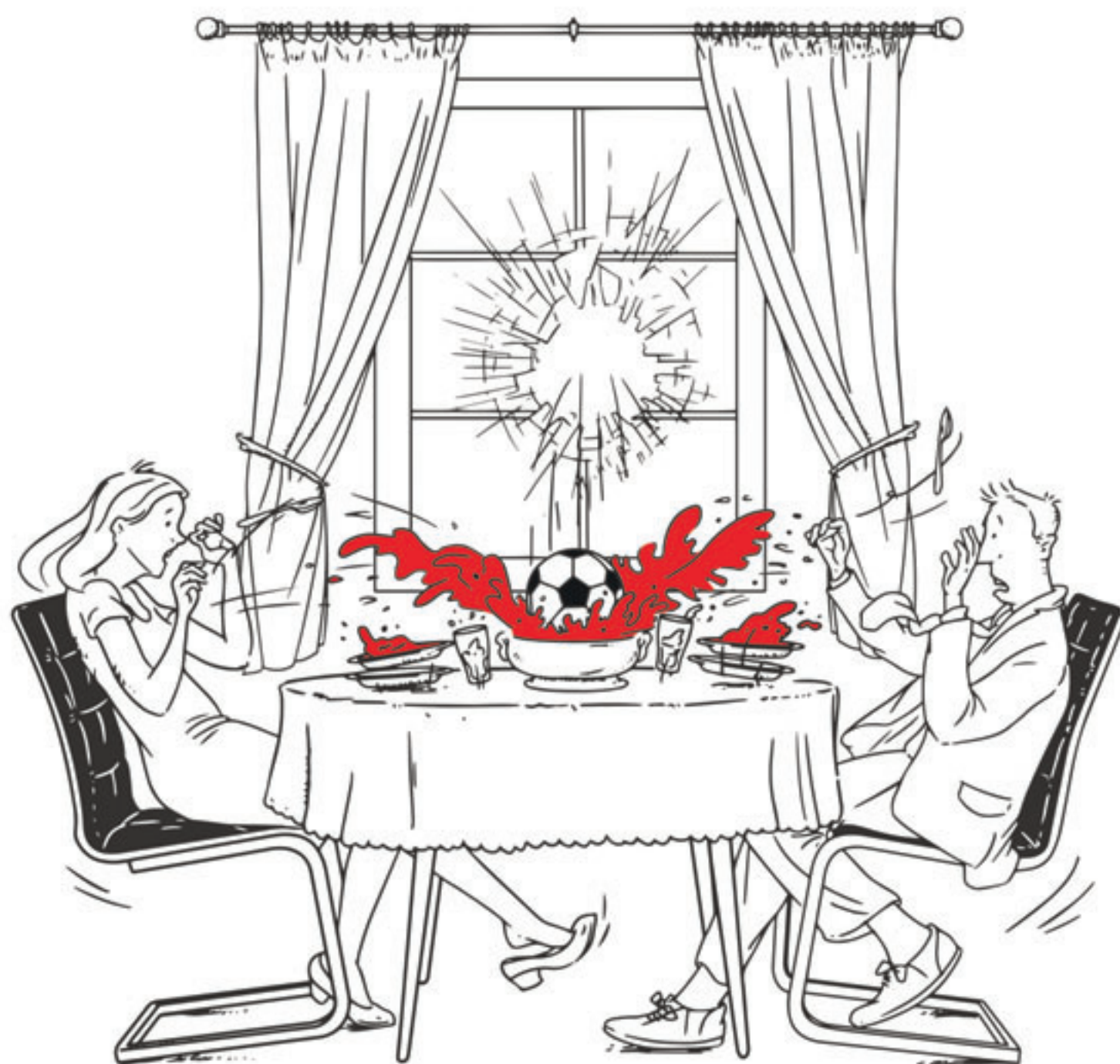
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# Race poised for triumphant return

ALMOST half a billion people from 190 countries will have their eyes on Almería when the Vuelta España races through the province next month. An estimated 20,000 people will travel to key sites around the cycle race route, with some 4,000 hotel rooms booked by avid racing fans.

Alongside the Tour de France and Giro d'Italia, the Vuelta España is one of the world's great three races. This year the 11th stage comes to Almería, split between 13 municipalities on Wednesday August 30.

That day riders will depart from Lorca, Murcia and race to the Calar Alto Astronomical Observatory, a steep climb, covering roughly 155 kilometres in Almería.

They will sweep through Pulpi, Cuevas del Almanzora, Vera, Turrillas, Garrucha, Mojácar, Turre, Los Gallardos, Sorbas, Tabernas, Velefique, Baeares and Gergal.

Along the way thousands of spectators will cheer at designated points, while an estimated 364 million people will watch the broadcast live from across the planet.

It is eight years since the Vuelta España last passed through Almería and the province's tourist chiefs are determined to make the most of it.

Costa de Almería promotional delegate Javier García said it posed "a unique tourist showcase helping us reach cycle fans from all over the world, especially those who are interested and



**VUELTA DE ESPAÑA:** Racers returning to Almería after long lay-off.

able to visit Almería."

The Costa de Almería brand will be present with advertising boards at every step of the race, even outside Almería, covering all the stages of the 23-day race which is now in its 72nd year. Even Almerian food will be dished out to spectators in Madrid and the Pyrenees to help bolster the province's commercial presence.

During the challenging Murcia-Almería stage two helicopters will provide aerial shots of key

Almería landmarks to the global audience, with messages in English and French explaining their historic significance.

With the race's arrival, Almería will also hope to strengthen its growing international appeal as a top cycling destination. The province has more than 1,200 kilometres of challenging roads, and ideal off-season temperatures. Professional cycle teams from across Europe frequently use Mojácar as a winter training camp.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Hands tied

THE police union of Almería warned that its hands are tied by a lack of alcohol and drug testing devices, making it hard to prosecute drivers they suspect of being under the influence.

### Rich punter

A **LUCKY** Garrucha resident won €524,034 in the Euromillions draw last Friday, one of the biggest scoops in Almería in recent years. Nobody won the top prize of €45 million.

### Plot thickens

*POLICE* have revealed that the man found floating lifeless near Mojácar's Paseo Marítimo last week was an African aged between 25 and 30 who had not been in the water long.



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**Apartment in Mojácar Pueblo**  
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Know your budget and don't be pushed into a purchase





Photo by Ayuntamiento de Almería

**UNWILD ONES:** Motorcyclists rebelling against drink driving.

# Rebels with a cause

A BIKER gang hit Almería in a national campaign that aims to promote booze-free beer. The bikers camped out near the Cable Ingles, handing out alcohol-free beers to any passers-by aged over 18.

The gang's name is about as far away from Hell's Angels as can be imagined. Motorcyclists on the Road Without Beer do, however, do exactly what they say. The group tours Spain warning of the perils of drink driving, and encouraging those who love a cold beer to enjoy the non-alcoholic variety before getting behind the wheel.

Spokesman Mateo Barrios said their mes-

sage was simply to never mix alcohol with the road. "Any alcohol rate is dangerous, no matter how small," he said, advising a teetotal approach.

The gang have toured Spain for four years now. In 2017 they are covering 1,000 kilometres across 13 different provinces. Their campaign is supported by the Brewer's Association of Spain and the EU.

With decades of driving experience behind them, the group say they are well aware of the dangers posed by alcohol consumption of the road and want to do their bit to help, especially during the busy summer season.

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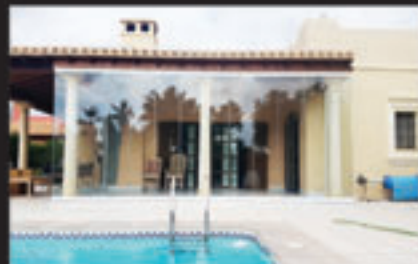
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## 8-year-old golf wonderkid prepares for international tour

BRITISH golfing ace Oliver Strang is getting ready for tournaments around the world.

Caceres-based Oliver began playing golf with his father, Christopher, when just three years old and quickly got the hang of the sport, and soon after joined the Michael Campbell Golf Academy near Puerto Banus, Marbella.

There his coach, Phillip Tanham, honed Oliver's skills and he began to win junior tournaments, including finishing top in his age group for the Wee Wonders competition, which has qualified him for the St Andrews Tournament in August, and the most recent Chinnydipper competition with -1 par.

Thanks to his sponsors, Chinnydipper, Sam Oliver, ClubFace-Golf, J Kellett Foods and Diamonds & Pearls Events Management, Oliver will be able to take part in the American Golf Junior Championship in England in August, as well as the Paul McGuinty Trophy in Portugal, the US Kids Golf tournament in Wales, Spain's Chinnydipper Pro Tour and the St Andrews Wee Wonders Grand Final in Scotland.

After a hectic August schedule, the aspiring pro golfer hopes to also to take part in the Venice Tour in Italy in September and, should he qualify, a tournament in America in the beginning of 2018. The youngster dreams of becoming world number one and playing in the



Oliver Strang - Road to the Masters/Facebook

**OLIVER STRANG: Young golfing ace.**

Masters Tournament.

Christopher Strang told the *Euro Weekly News*: "He is a busy boy, his coach is amazed with how good he is. He has the drive to be the best and loves the game."

Everyone here at the *EWN Media Group* wishes Oliver the best of luck!

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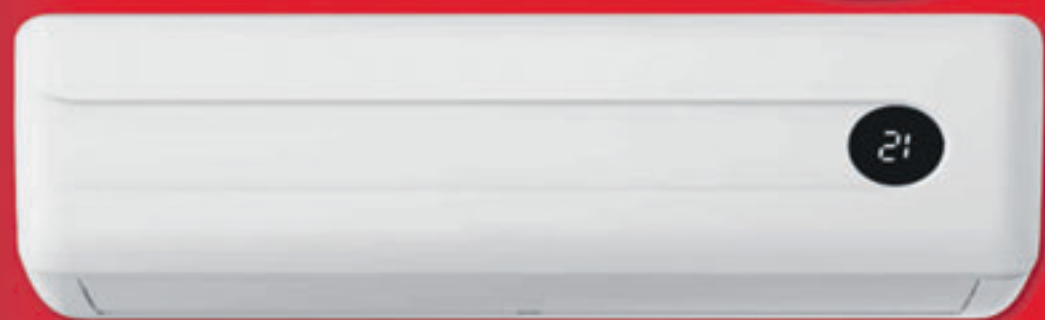
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# Hottest spring since 1968

SPRING 2017 was the hottest in Almería for half a century, perhaps much longer. New data from Spain's national meteorology agency reveals that both May and June recorded the highest average temperatures since at least 1968, when official thermometers were installed at the airport.

During May the average temperature was 21.8 de-

grees, with average highs of 26.7 degrees making it the warmest May in recorded history. In June the daily average shot up to 25.9 degrees.

A sweltering second half of June helped raise the average figures for spring, as warnings were issued to vulnerable populations more affected by major swings in the mercury levels. Those aged

over 65 and under four are acutely sensitive to high temperatures, especially earlier in the year when the change from balmy spring weather is more dramatic.

In June emergency services across Almería dealt with 34 heat-related incidents, including 14 heat strokes. In five cases the sufferer was rushed to hospital emergency wards.

On June 1 the Andalusian government activated its official Plan for the Prevention of the Effects of Excessive Temperatures. Already a total of 955 people identified as vulnerable to the heat have been placed under watch by nurses and care providers. Throughout August more than 1,000 elderly people, children and patients will be monitored.

## Charity at Los Llanos

AGE SUPPORT will have a stall at the Los Llanos market for the next couple of Saturdays.

They will be selling items from their charity shop in Arboleas, and a member of the welfare team will be there to offer information about how the charity can help you or a friend or neighbour.

The charity loans items such as wheelchairs and a hospital-style bed and they give advice and help accessing UK benefits such as attendance allowance. Volunteers can help with home visits, aiming to provide practical and emotional support to older people living in the area.

The welfare team is based in Avenida Lepanto, between Total Entertainment and Chapmans.

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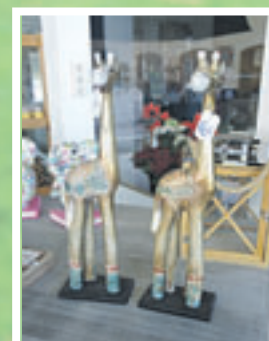
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## NEWS FROM OUR FIVE OTHER EDITIONS

# Mad Hatters raise money

## ■ COSTA BLANCA NORTH



■ **MAD HATTERS:** Put on a show at a local bar to raise funds for charity.

» *By Staff Reporter*

THE Mad Hatters have raised €352.12 for The Butterfly Children Charity, DEBRA.

The group of friends - which includes staff and customers of the Pint Depot in Blue Lagoon - put on a show at the local bar with the theme 'Songs from the Movies.'

It included songs and dances from Sister Act, Blues Brothers, Chicago, Mama Mia, Grease and Dukes of Hazzard.

Some songs were performed with a more light-hearted touch and the audience showed their appreciation with donations for The Butterfly Children Charity.

Their donation was presented to Mary Chambers, Manager of the Urb La Marina Charity shop.

Mary thanked everyone involved for giving their time, their generosity and for choosing to support the charity.

## ■ AXARQUÍA

### Shopping night

A NUMBER of companies in Almuñecar have signed up for a special Shopping Night to be held from 9pm to 2am on Saturday August 5. Those who visit participating premises will receive a discount on purchases.

### Recycling campaign

IN an effort to recycle as much glass as possible, the Motril Council has distributed special containers to more than 80 local businesses. All recovered glass will be recycled through Limdeco which is council owned.

### Food trucks

THERE was an unusual weekend event in Nerja when a number of different cooks turned up in a variety of food trucks to offer a range of foods. Each truck prepared its speciality at affordable prices.

### Consume less

WORKING with the Consume Less project, the Velez-Malaga Council is encouraging more responsible consumption of water and energy and better management of waste. It hopes that residents and visitors will do their part to save resources.

### Pool death

EMERGENCY SERVICES arrived too late when a 65-year-old woman with a history of heart problems suffered a cardiac arrest in a Lanjaron municipal pool. All efforts to resuscitate her failed and she died at the pool.

### Fire protection

SO worried is the Motril Council about forest fires this summer that it has set up a special board of experts to plan possible responses. It is also warning about the dangers of throwing cigarette butts from cars.

## ■ COSTA DEL SOL

### Green thumbs

TORREMOLINOS Council has started work on a 70 plot allotment which will allow users to grow their own fruit and vegetables. The orchard will occupy 12,000sqm of land in El Pinillo.

### Bankruptcy risk

THE town of La Linea de la Concepcion is one of the five in Spain considered to be most likely to be at risk of bankruptcy. This is the finding of independent research group Aoref.

### People first

FORMER Spanish prime minister, Felipe Gonzalez said at a meeting in San Roque that people must come first in Brexit negotiations. He also said that Spain should invest more in the Campo de Gibraltar.

### Road repairs

THE Coin Council has committed €20,000 to undertake improvements on certain sections of rural roads damaged during the December heavy rainfall. This is in addition to financial support received from national and regional governments.

### Pink walk

FOR those who enjoy a moonlight stroll, 22 new 'antique style' street lights have been installed in what is referred to as 'the beautiful pink walk' of Casares. The route starts at the Curva de las Cadenitas.

## ■ COSTA BLANCA SOUTH

### Secret messages

TORREVIEJA Council has announced that it will be spending €53,000 to encrypt the communication system used by the Local Police.

### Sad loss

LARGE crowds of relatives, friends and neighbours attended the funeral held in the Murcia town of Alguazas for the unnamed married couple who drowned on Guardamar beach. They leave behind two teenage children.

### Hash up

MEMBERS of both the Local and National Police forces in Alicante have recovered a bundle of hashish. It was spotted floating close to the beach in San Juan by a swimmer.

### Fair deal

TAXI drivers in Murcia are to get a financial boost for their day-to-day service following a decision to pay up €200 towards upgrades. The total spend is likely to be €150,000.

### Flip-flop alert

SPAIN'S Consumer and Nutrition Agency has warned people to be on the alert for men's flip-flops sold in Primark stores which have been recalled in the UK. It is not thought that any sold in Spain.

## ■ MALLORCA

### Major hangovers

A PARTY in Palma got out of hand and apart from fights, eight youngsters, aged between 12 and 14, had to be treated for excess intake of alcohol.

### Shark attack

ANOTHER shark is in the news after it was sighted at Estany's cove in Colonia Sant Jordi when it slightly injured a swimmer by swimming into them. Despite searches, it was not possible to find the blue shark.

### Civil War

FOLLOWING the discovery of bones at Sa Coma beach in Mallorca, it is believed the bodies of up to 500 Republicans may be buried there. The Balearic and Catalan governments are considering exhumation.

### Family holiday

THE Spanish Royal Family is due to arrive in Mallorca on Friday to start their annual summer stay at the Marivent Palace in Palma. Although the main purpose is holiday, the king will also undertake some official duties.

### More officers

IN order to try to speed up the long immigration queues at Palma airport, police and union representatives have agreed to increase the number of officers on duty.

## ■ COSTA BLANCA NORTH

### Instant info

LOCAL POLICE patrol cars in La Nucia are now equipped with tablets, providing officers with updated information available in real time without having to call the central station.

### Foreign aid

ALCOY Council has allocated €18,000 to the PROYDE project for the San Isidro Labrador School in Paraguay and €15,000 to the Kanimambo charity which works in Chowke, Mozambique.

### Forbidden act

A YOUNG boy was rescued by the Red Cross in Javea - he had broken his shoulder after jumping into the sea from the rocks at Cala Tango - an act that is forbidden.

### New member

BENIDORM'S councillor of Security recently confirmed that a sniffer dog will join the Local Police team in the city - if all goes well, a second dog will join the team later in the year.

### Be cautious

ALZHEIMER'S charity AFA Marina Baixa has warned citizens to be cautious of two women who are visiting shops and bars in Benidorm asking for money for the charity - they are thieves with no association with the charity.





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## DENMARK

# Pricey pint

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**CHEERS:** For every pint bought, you are buying the taxman a half.

## Large notes

THE left wing Red-Green Alliance party wants to abolish the 1,000-kroner note saying it is not used by citizens and primarily benefits criminals. The note is worth around €135 at current exchange rates.

## Coffee complaint

A DANISH café has been reported for racism after an Ivory Coast national complained about a sign depicting a black boy wearing a loincloth with a tray of coffee on his head.

## Simpsons star

DANISH 'Game of Thrones' actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau is set to voice a character in season 29 of The Simpsons, one of the longest running animated shows.

## GERMANY

# Cultural reminder

DUISBURG is calling for a change to the typical 'traffic light man' wanting a pedestrian light that reminds citizens of its culture and life. The typical walking figure could be replaced with a miner with hat and safety lamp.

ment warning people who are travelling to Turkey for business or pleasure, to exercise 'increased caution.'

## Cocaine haul

CUSTOMS has seized the largest ever cocaine haul in the country's history with the 3.8 tonnes of cocaine seized at Hamburg harbour, worth an estimated €800 million.

## Turkish tension

TENSIONS continue between Germany and Turkey with the govern-

## Royal visit

PRINCE William and Kate have been on a royal charm offensive spending a few days in Germany on a trip that saw them meet with Chancellor Angela Merkel, attend a garden party for the Queen and even take part in a boat race.

## FRANCE

# Singing star

A RISING French singing star has died on stage. Barbara Weldens was performing in the Lot region when she collapsed after apparently being electrocuted. Investigators are now looking at the electrical equipment on stage.

## Eiffel attack

AS part of continued clamp downs on illegal souvenir sellers in Paris, police were attacked with miniature versions of the Eiffel Tower by a seller in the latest confrontation between officers and merchants.

## I quit!

HEAD of the armed forces resigned days after a dispute with President Emmanuel Macron over proposed defence budget cuts with General Pierre de Villiers saying he could no longer do his job with the financial constraints imposed.

## Savings needed

LOCAL government spending is to be cut by €13 billion by 2022. President Emmanuel Macron said "intelligent" savings can be found.

## BELGIUM

# Brain work

THE Duffel Psychiatric Hospital currently has more than 3,000 brains of diseased psychiatric patients which researchers are working on in the hope of finding new treatments for diseases such as psychosis and depression.

## Speed controls

POLICE carried out around seven million speed controls in Brussels during the second quarter of the year. Around 14,000 were breaking speed limits, and 95 drivers had their licence removed immediately.

## Better security

NEW safety checks have been installed at Brussels-Midi, Liège-Guillemins and Antwerp-Central stations as part of increased security measures in the fight against terrorism.

## Design comp

BRUSSELS is launching an architectural competition to replace the eight fixed food kiosks, known as fritkots, in the city with brand new establishments with typical characteristics relating to the identity of Brussels.

## NETHERLANDS

# Shorter sentence

A DUTCHMAN jailed for 12 years in China for killing a neighbour has had his sentence reduced to four-and-a-half years after appeal and the charge was reduced from manslaughter to negligence.

## Social housing

AMSTERDAM has ruled that 40 per cent of new homes built in the city must be for social housing meaning that rent can be no more than €710 a month to help those on lower incomes.

## WhatsApp

OVER 12 million phones in the Netherlands have WhatsApp instant messaging service installed on them as figures show the app is used daily by some 9.6 million people.

## Polluted land

RESIDENTS near the Chemours chemical factory have been told not to eat their home grown fruit and vegetables as the ground may be polluted as toxicologists continue to carry out tests.

## SWEDEN

# McTrainface

A PUBLIC vote to name new trains in Sweden has resulted in one of the four being called 'Trainy McTrainface' receiving 49 per cent of the votes ahead of the other options of Hakan, Miriam and Poseidon.

## Murder case

A MURDER investigation launched after a woman and three children died in a house fire in Gothenburg. Police say their bodies showed injuries unrelated to the fire and they may have been killed before.

## Earthquake victim

A SWEDISH man has been named as one of the victims in an earthquake that hit the Greek island of Kos and Turkey. Hundreds were injured as the 6.7 magnitude earthquake struck the holiday resorts.

## Poor sales

FOLLOWING poorer than expected sales and profits, Swedish telecoms giant Ericsson has announced it will have to implement further cost-cutting measures after its fourth quarterly loss.

## NORWAY

# Civil ceremony

THE number of civil weddings are nearly equal to the number of church ceremonies. According to new figures there were 331 more civil ceremonies in 2016 than in 2015, as the number of church weddings dropped by 379.

## Pike release

POLICE are investigating the illegal release of pike fish into numerous waters around Norway with officials saying releasing fish out of their natural habitats is illegal.

## Maritime radio

AN offshore broadband wireless network is being formed to be used by ships and planes in the event of an oil spill at sea to help speed up the oil spill recovery operations. The Maritime Broadband Radio (MBR) system will be on all oil recovery vessels.

## Safety first

THE traffic safety agency says that six out of 10 cyclists do not wear their helmets enough, with many choosing not to bother on shorter journeys.



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Mojácar Playa



Deceptively spacious 3 bed, 2 bath, linked villa of 63m2 on a plot of 116m2. Only a 2 minute walk from the beach. Large covered terrace. Well maintained.

LV738 179,000€

Mojácar Playa



2 bed, 1 bath, linked villa in a small community very close to the beach. Community pool & parking. Sea views from the terrace.

LV739 145,000€

Turre



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

LV735 140,000€

Mojácar Playa



2 bed, 2 bath, luxury ground floor apartment of 83m2 + huge terrace. A/C. Underground parking, store-room + lift access. Community pools & gardens. 2nd line urbanisation.

A1262 174,950€

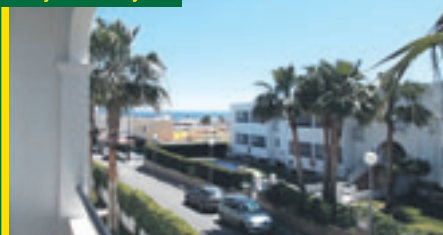
Vera Playa



2 bed, 2 bath top floor apartment of 60m2 in a very desirable urbanisation. A/C & furnished. Community pool. In easy walking distance of all amenities.

A1272 84,500€

Mojácar Playa



2 bed, 1 bath, furnished 1st floor apartment of 81m2. South facing + A/C. Underground parking. Well maintained community pool & gardens.

A1273 119,000€

Carboneras



Modern 3 bed, 2 bath, penthouse of 104m2 with sea views. Huge terrace & A/C. Lift access. Storeroom & underground parking.

A1295 171,000€

Villaricos



Top quality 3 bed, 2 bath, top floor apartment of 100m2 with sea views. Super urbanisation with community pool & gardens. Walking distance to the sea.

A1311 160,000€

Valle del Este



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

A1300 119,000€

Mojácar Playa



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

A1258 82,000€

Vera



2 bed, 2 bath, furnished apartment of 63m2 in a gated, complex. Indoor & outdoor community pools. Allocated parking. Short distance to beaches & amenities.

A1214 82,000€

Cortijo Grande



3 bed, 3 bath, villa of 151m2 on a plot of 1,451m2 laid to terraces & gardens with a fully refurbished pool. Ample driveway & many extra features included. Furnished.

DV1377 249,000€

Mojácar Playa



6 bed, 5 bath, impressive detached villa of 341m2 on a plot of 1,000m2. Private pool, terrace & carport. Solarium. Sea views. 400m to beach.

DV1208 565,000€

Mojácar



3 bed, 2 bath detached villa of 106m2 on a plot of 1,000m2. Fabulous sea views. Sun lounge. Furnished & A/C. Adapted for disabled use.

DV1418 259,000€

Mojácar Playa



Charming 2 bed, 1 bath, detached villa of 78m2 on a plot of 465m2. A/C, wood-burner & part furnished. Private garage. Excellent location.

DV1440 195,000€

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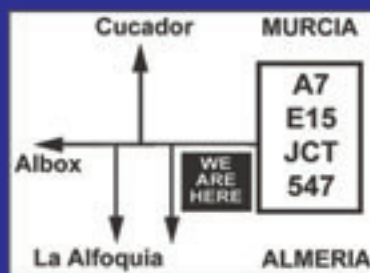
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# Dutch invasion



**ARCTIC SUNRISE:** Greenpeace vessel was seized by Russian navy.

■ AN international court ordered Russia to pay the Netherlands €5.4 million for seizing a Greenpeace ship flying the Dutch flag. Russia was found guilty of violating the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea when it boarded and confiscated the Arctic Sunrise, also detaining its crew.

## Purge denial

■ IN an interview with an American sports channel Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov said reports that gay men are being persecuted in Chechnya were “nonsense” because “we don’t have any gays.” He added “if there are any, take them to Canada” in order to “purify our blood.”

## Free internet

■ PROTESTORS calling for a free internet marched through Moscow. Led by the People’s Freedom Party around 10,000 people voiced their anger against online censorship. Dozens of people are currently in jail for liking or sharing politically controversial posts online after a government crackdown.

## Tiny satellite

■ A TEAM of young Russian scientists have launched a satellite using entirely crowdsourced funds. They managed to raise roughly two million rubles (€30,000) online to build Mayak, a tiny but bright satellite that will reflect the sun’s rays back to earth for study.

## Cult behaviour

■ JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES will remain an extremist organisation in Russia after the Supreme Court rejected an appeal from the religious group to lift a ban against it. Four former witnesses testified before judges that the group monitored members and exercised ‘total control’ over their lives.

## Judge’s jolly

■ A JUDGE in the southern region of Krasnodar has been criticised for spending €2 million on her daughter’s wedding. Lawyers who work at Yelena Khakhaleva’s court earn less than 20,000 rubles (€300) per month and were outraged to see the photos on Instagram.



**THREATENED:** Soviet military cemetery in Warsaw one of many Russian tributes.

## Soviet symbols

■ THE Kremlin has threatened Poland with serious consequences if it continues tearing down Soviet-era monuments. The Polish president recently described the war monuments as symbols of totalitarianism. Russia considers them vital tributes to the tens of millions of Russians who perished fighting Nazism.



## Production pick-up Spain

AS part of an agreed €80 million plan, the Nissan plant in Barcelona will start to produce the new Mercedes X-Class pick-up truck.

By the fourth quarter of 2017, the Catalan factory will be producing three different vehicles for the Daimler, Nissan, Renault alliance and expects to have produced a total of 90,000 vehicles during the year.

# Spain's cost of living

IF you have ever complained about the cost of living in Spain, think again as it has some of the cheapest prices in Europe for some products.

Whilst it comes in the middle of all 28 countries in the European Union according to a report from Eurostat, the EU statistics agency, it is one of the cheapest for alcohol, cigarettes and clothing.

Conversely, it is considered one of the most expensive for mobile phones, internet connection and furniture.

Perhaps unsurprisingly the cheapest places to live are the former commu-

*By John Smith*

nist states whilst Denmark and Ireland are the most expensive.

The figures have been compiled taking costs from 2005 to 2016 into account and comparing a basket of different products and utilities against each country.

Although Spain has a number of major fashion houses, shoe designers and stores such as Zara it actually comes out as the cheapest in the EU for unbranded clothes and shoes.

In addition, the country is fifth

cheapest in the Eurozone for the purchase of cars, vans and motorbikes with the knock on affect that public transport is also lower than many other countries.

Having seen the housing bubble burst and despite a general return of confidence, renting and buying properties are much below the European norm.

Food and entertainment whilst cheap are more expensive in comparison to utility costs, although they have been growing considerably over the past two years.

## Popular deposits dropped

OVER a two month period prior to its enforced takeover, Banco Popular saw deposits of €9.3 billion withdrawn from accounts.

Much of this movement was caused by commercial funds and Spanish municipalities pulling out which helped in turn to see the rapid drop in the bank's credit rating.

No details of June withdrawals have been released by the Spanish Banking Association as yet, but it is assumed that the June figures would have been worse.

### Quote of the Week

*This is intended to prevent any discriminatory attitude," said Minister of Equality Dolores Montserrat after announcing a pilot scheme to remove photographs plus details of age, sex and name from CVs.*



Ministerio del Interior 2017

**MINISTER of Employment Fatima Báñez.**

## More support for young unemployed

THE Spanish government has committed a further €837 million to youth training taking the total to €3.2 billion until 2023.

This was revealed by Minister of Employment Fatima Báñez who also confirmed that a proportion of this ing would come from European funding.

With more than 500,000 poorly educated and unemployed young people not contributing to the economy, the government is anxious to improve their options by encouraging employers to take on

trainees who will be learn skills as they work for a period of 18 months.

During this period of training, the government will pay €430 per month towards their salaries and if then transferred to long term contract, the government will also pay their employers up to €4,800 a year for three years.

According to the minister, Spain is leading the way in the creation of youth employment in Europe although it recognises that it still has a long way to go.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

## Poverty trap

FORTY PER CENT of workers in Spain earn less than €15,566 per annum whilst 12.6 per cent earned the minimum wage of €7,783 per year. These surprising figures have just been released by the National Statistics Institute (INE).

## Court fees

THE prize money received by Garbiñe Muguruza for winning the Women's Championship at Wimbledon was €2.45 million. For many years men were paid more than women but this has now been equalised to ensure parity between the sexes.

## Hotel offer

BAD BANK Sareb is offering 209 commercial properties for sale including 37 hotels and apartment hotels. With tourism continuing to grow, these established, relatively inexpensive and ready to operate hotel properties are expected to be popular with investors.

## Spanish economy still growing

THE International Monetary fund (IMF) had some good and bad news for Spain in its latest forecasts.

Thanks to consumer spending and better than expected tourist numbers, the IMF has increased its growth forecast for Spain from 2.6 per cent to 3.1 per cent for 2017 and has indicated that even this figure

could be exceeded by the end of the year thanks to government reforms..

With this good news, comes warning that despite a reduction in unemployment, the Spanish figure of 18.7 per cent is only better than Greece within the eurozone and worse than the average of 9 per cent.

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LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JULY 24

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,099.50	8.00	0.73	15,457.69
Associated British Foods	2,865.00	-78.00	-2.65	23,425.64
Admiral Group	2,025.00	-28.00	-1.36	5,855.13
Ashtead Group	1,694.00	6.00	0.36	8,536.76
Antofagasta	863.25	-23.25	-2.62	8,705.12
Aviva	531.50	1.50	0.28	21,535.71
AstraZeneca	5,170.00	18.00	0.35	64,845.66
BAE Systems	632.00	25.50	4.20	19,552.78
Babcock International Group	910.75	53.75	6.27	4,348.13
Bardays	205.50	0.45	0.22	35,464.29
British American Tobacco	5,437.50	-47.50	-0.87	101,147.21
Barratt Developments	540.00	-72.50	-11.84	6,153.23
British Land Co	619.50	-2.00	-0.32	6,441.76
BHP Billiton	1,280.00	-25.50	-1.95	27,773.74
Bunzl	2,368.50	90.50	3.97	7,630.94
BP	450.50	4.20	0.94	88,953.98
Burberry Group	1,732.00	89.00	5.42	7,206.42
BT Group	311.50	3.15	1.02	30,822.65
Coca-Cola HBC	2,274.50	24.50	1.09	8,262.70
Carnival	4,740.00	-430.00	-8.32	11,053.52
Centrica	205.00	-0.50	-0.24	11,592.28
Compass Group	1,642.00	32.00	1.99	25,729.61
Croda International	3,882.50	2.50	0.06	5,137.46
CRH	2,684.00	-33.00	-1.21	23,032.78
ConvaTec Group	313.20	0.00	0.00	6,012.49
DCC	6,920.00	-20.00	-0.29	6,306.34
Diageo	2,253.50	-32.00	-1.40	58,146.54
Direct Line Insurance Group	375.70	0.00	0.00	5,138.38
Experian	1,526.00	9.00	0.59	14,385.51
easyJet	1,314.00	2.00	0.15	5,298.76
Fresnillo	1,469.00	-50.00	-3.29	11,281.84
G4S	339.90	9.90	3.00	5,287.83
GKN	339.75	13.65	4.19	5,703.55
Glencore	312.50	-1.05	-0.33	45,876.04
GlaxoSmithKline	1,622.50	7.50	0.46	79,924.29
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,426.00	73.00	5.40	6,379.59
Hammerson	573.00	-22.50	-3.78	4,715.69
HSBC Holdings	737.50	2.40	0.33	149,181.89
International Consolidated Airs	604.50	14.50	2.46	12,423.61
InterContinental Hotels Group	4,283.00	-34.00	-0.79	8,220.88
3i Group	919.50	-15.00	-1.61	9,022.97
Imperial Brands	3,489.50	-7.50	-0.21	33,665.13
Informa	635.00	-40.00	-5.93	5,582.63
Intertek Group	4,409.00	89.00	2.06	7,012.42
ITV	181.10	3.90	2.20	7,201.46
Johnson Matthey	2,988.00	108.00	3.75	5,589.25
Kingfisher	312.50	10.70	3.55	6,685.51
Land Securities Group	1,017.00	-6.00	-0.59	8,160.57
Legal & General Group	263.50	-0.20	-0.08	15,660.21
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	68.00	-0.11	-0.16	49,337.44

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
London Stock Exchange Gr	3,786.00	0.00	0.00	13,077.23
Micro Focus International	2,195.00	0.00	0.00	5,172.45
Mediclinic International	804.25	72.25	9.87	5,455.60
Merlin Entertainments	502.45	30.55	6.47	4,821.03
Marks & Spencer Group	332.50	4.00	1.22	5,385.99
Mondi	1,934.00	-119.00	-5.80	9,934.43
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	249.30	0.00	0.00	5,827.61
National Grid	965.00	11.00	1.15	32,784.37
Next	4,075.00	248.00	6.48	5,563.15
Old Mutual Group	201.60	1.90	0.95	9,908.19
Provident Financial	2,449.00	83.00	3.51	3,542.44
Paddy Power Betfair	7,767.50	227.50	3.02	6,499.52
Prudential	1,755.75	-44.25	-2.46	46,222.13
Persimmon	2,390.00	-71.00	-2.89	7,598.34
Pearson	655.00	11.50	1.79	5,281.01
Reckitt Benckiser Group	7,850.00	-31.00	-0.39	55,946.28
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	250.55	3.95	1.60	29,667.61
Royal Dutch Shell	2,100.00	21.00	1.01	94,429.78
Royal Dutch Shell	2,112.50	26.00	1.25	79,104.68
RELX	1,555.00	-89.00	-5.41	17,683.46
Rio Tinto	3,378.50	25.50	0.76	46,648.49
Royal Mail	403.00	8.50	2.15	3,981.00
Rolls-Royce Group	895.00	-27.00	-2.93	16,868.90
Randgold Resources	6,955.00	0.00	0.00	6,566.39
RSA Insurance Group	661.50	18.00	2.80	6,621.67
Rentokil Initial	276.50	-1.30	-0.47	5,128.00
Sainsbury (J)	242.50	-4.50	-1.82	5,443.74
Schroders	3,322.50	-21.50	-0.64	7,580.79
Sage Group (The)	678.25	-13.25	-1.92	7,479.71
Segro	511.75	1.25	0.24	5,092.42
Shire	4,250.00	93.50	2.25	37,050.63
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,215.00	-100.00	-4.32	5,579.86
Sky	866.00	-104.50	-10.77	16,691.66
Standard Life	376.00	-47.80	-11.28	8,478.24
Smiths Group	1,600.00	32.00	2.04	6,359.23
Scottish Mortgage Investment	406.50	-1.50	-0.37	5,724.09
Smith & Nephew	1,357.50	32.50	2.45	11,673.17
SSE	1,476.50	3.50	0.24	14,817.36
Standard Chartered	795.00	-18.70	-2.30	27,154.39
St James's Place	1,175.50	-43.50	-3.57	6,507.22
Severn Trent	2,245.00	0.00	0.00	5,349.79
Tesco	172.50	-2.70	-1.54	14,362.48
TUI AG	1,240.00	46.00	3.85	7,120.77
Taylor Wimpey	191.45	6.55	3.54	6,082.62
Unilever	4,405.00	27.00	0.62	55,676.63
United Utilities Group	900.00	8.50	0.95	6,123.36
Vodafone Group	224.50	-1.50	-0.66	59,974.73
Wolseley	4,550.00	50.00	1.11	11,605.58
Worldpay Group	367.00	-12.50	-3.29	7,560.00
WPP Group	1,610.00	10.00	0.63	20,262.44
Whitbread	3,849.50	-69.50	-1.77	7,200.47

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3M	211,160	-0,61	-1,290	718.507
AMERICAN EXPRESS	85,590	+0,28	0,240	1.304.232
APPLE	150,270	-0,05	-0,070	8.985.160
BOEING	212,140	+0,88	1,860	531.367
CATERPILLAR	106,590	-0,68	-0,730	1.034.669
CHEVRON TEXACO	103,250	-1,32	-1,380	2.430.856
COCA-COLA	45,030	+0,47	0,210	3.579.930
CISCO SYSTEMS	31,840	-0,06	-0,020	5.291.974
DU PONT	84,540	-0,34	-0,290	841.254
EXXON MOBIL	80,120	-0,92	-0,740	5.195.145
GENERAL ELECTRIC	25,910	-2,92	-0,780	19.290.550
GOLDMAN SACH	220,180	-0,95	-2,120	840.718
HOME DEPOT	146,650	-0,26	-0,380	1.874.424
IBM	147,080	-0,39	-0,580	1.595.024
INTEL	34,730	-0,06	-0,020	7.610.299
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	135,310	-0,92	-1,260	2.296.547
JP MORGAN CHASE	90,890	-0,34	-0,310	4.050.069
MCDONALDS	153,920	-0,19	-0,290	964.489
MERCK	62,630	-0,49	-0,310	2.772.353
MICROSOFT	73,790	-0,58	-0,430	14.657.194
NIKE	59,950	+1,44	0,850	2.840.378
PFIZER	33,480	-0,18	-0,060	4.339.734
PROCTER & GAMBLE	88,610	+0,01	0,010	2.286.613
ST. PAUL TRV	125,150	+0,47	0,580	432.628
UNITED TECHNOLOGIES	123,490	+0,85	1,040	712.305
UNITEDHEALTH	191,780	+0,15	0,280	1.919.412
VERIZON	44,230	+0,02	0,010	3.308.379
VISA CLASS A	99,600	+1,52	1,490	3.536.708
WAL-MART	76,150	+0,17	0,130	2.553.405
WALT DISNEY	107,090	-0,25	-0,270	1.907.570

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JULY 24

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 4.13	0.57 ▲ 16.01%
Cintas Corporation	\$ 138.43	11.65 ▲ 9.19%
Akcea Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 13.53	1.125 ▲ 9.07%
athenahealth, Inc.	\$ 155.93	12.13 ▲ 8.44%
Baozun Inc.	\$ 32.38	2.49 ▲ 8.33%
Independent Bank Corp.	\$ 71.35	5 ▲ 7.54%
Monro Muffler Brake, Inc.	\$ 48.35	3.25 ▲ 7.21%
Triumph Bancorp, Inc.	\$ 29.05	1.95 ▲ 7.20%
NeuroDerm Ltd.	\$ 33.20	2.20 ▲ 7.10%
The Dixie Group, Inc.	\$ 4.60	0.30 ▲ 6.98%
Presbia PLC	\$ 2.20	0.14 ▲ 6.80%
Most Declined		
Pernix Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.	\$ 3.43	1.06 ▼ 23.61%
Omega Flex, Inc.	\$ 58.11	10.44 ▼ 15.23%
American Superconductor Corporation	\$ 3.60	0.61 ▼ 14.49%
Haynes International, Inc.	\$ 30.47	4.72 ▼ 13.41%
NIC Inc.	\$ 16.35	1.70 ▼ 9.42%
Manhattan Associates, Inc.	\$ 43.15	4.28 ▼ 9.02%
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 2.3909	0.2291 ▼ 8.74%
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 8.83	0.77 ▼ 8.02%
Francesca's Holdings Corporation	\$ 9.32	0.80 ▼ 7.91%
ViewRay, Inc.	\$ 5.17	0.43 ▼ 7.68%
Gentex Corporation	\$ 17.28	1.38 ▼ 7.40%

Distributing Funds

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Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

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€0.9457 ..... €0.0029

Accumulating Funds

GBP Currency B

EUR Currency B

Multi Asset Conservative B GBP

Multi Asset Conservative B EUR

Multi Asset Balanced B GBP

Multi Asset Balanced B EUR

Multi Asset Growth B GBP

Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

£0.9826.....-£0.0001

£0.9590.....-£0.0002

£1.1485.....£0.0016

£1.0735.....£0.0007

£1.2995.....£0.0024

£1.2032.....£0.0012

£1.4379.....£0.0029

£1.3389.....£0.0016

Remaining Elite Fund prices available on request

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\*Fees and exchange rate data for banks taken from the International Money Transfer Index™ (IMTI™).

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### Paul and Michelle

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[currenciesdirect.com/Paul](https://currenciesdirect.com/Paul)





# UNABLE TO FACE THE THOUGHT OF JAIL

## Disgraced banker has committed suicide

FORMER chairman of Spanish savings bank Caja Madrid, Miguel Blesa, was found dead at a country estate in Cordoba after shooting himself.

Blesa, who was released from prison pending an appeal against a six-year prison sentence after being found guilty in the 'tarjetas black' banking scandal, was discovered with a bullet wound in his chest from a hunting rifle and an autopsy confirmed the belief that death was caused by suicide.

He was on a hunting trip with friends and reportedly said he was going to move his car, when a gunshot was heard.

According to reports from Europa Press, Blesa's inner circle said he was not depressed or feeling defeated in the days leading up to his death.

The former Caja Madrid boss was one of 64 people accused of misusing €12 million of Caja Madrid and Bankia money between 2003 and 2012.

They were accused of using company credit cards for personal expenses such as luxury holidays and parties without ever justifying them or declaring them to tax authorities.

Miguel Blesa had allegedly established the 'corrupt system' while head of the bank before handing the reins over to Rodrigo Rato - also one of the 64 accused - in 2010.

Caja Madrid was once one of Spain's largest lenders, with an estimated seven million customers and annual earnings of over €2 billion during the real estate boom.

In 2011, it merged with other banks to form Bankia, but just one year later needed billions of euros from the state to stay afloat, and eventually asked the EU for a bailout where it received €41 billion.

This was not the first time that he had flirted with scandal as he had



**MIGUEL BLESA**  
poster in Bankia  
demonstration.

spent 15 days in jail in 2013 with regards to overpayment for the purchase of a Florida bank and was only released when his lawyers had the judge thrown off the case which then collapsed.

A former friend of many politicians who sinecures with his bank, Blesa had fallen so far from grace - especially after boasting about his extravagant life style - that he grew a beard and wore dark glasses in public.

Possibly the final straw may have been that his assets including pension payments had been partly frozen and his properties were used as guarantees to the courts.

# SWEET SUCCESS FOR CANDY

## Wonkandy cracks Middle East market

TWO Spanish entrepreneurs were looking for a way to establish a successful business after the collapse of the Spanish economy and came up with a brainwave.

Although neither Andrés Pérez nor Fátima Pereyra who met in Sevilla knew anything about the sweet market, they decided that there would always be an outlet for good quality sweets that were produced from the best ingredients and were packaged attractively.

Thus in 2010, Wonkandy - world of natural candy - was born with production outsourced to a range of manufacturers leaving the pair to concentrate on marketing and sales.

The home market was still weak despite their launch of an outlet in Sevilla but they discovered that the business could be nurtured through foreign sales and the signing of franchise arrangements.

What really helped the business take off was when their product was picked up by Harrods in Lon-



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don and with a bit of tweaking to the ingredients, they found that they had a range of sweets which would appeal to the Halal market in the Middle East.

Candies like jelly beans are generally non Halal because they contain gelatine which is often made in part from pork bones, so they adapted their recipes and obtained a certificate from the Spanish Halal Institute which allowed them to develop business in many Muslim countries.

Now they export to 20 countries around the world and have a number of franchised outlets throughout Spain with some 60 per cent of their income being derived from exports.

With steady growth the company is continuing to expand and is filling a niche role which they hope will see their brand becoming one of the largest exporters of Halal sweets as well as appealing to those who are gluten and lactose intolerant.

# BBVA

## Bank

### best app

A SIMPLE app from Spanish bank BBVA has been voted the best mobile banking app in the world, leaving 53 leading international banks standing.

The research which was undertaken by Forrester, an international research and advisory company, studied 54 different criteria ranging from ease of registration, security, speed and ease of login to availability of advice and sale of products.

The average score out of 100 for these mobile apps was 63 and the success of the BBVA app at 87 simply left much larger and wealthier banks in the shadows.

At the end of the day, customers want to be able to undertake their transactions and manage their accounts with the minimum of difficulty and it would appear from this study that BBVA meets the criteria.

# Spanish

## public

### debt up

THE Spanish public debt almost tripled to €1.087 trillion since the start of the economic crisis in 2008.

It is still more than 100 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (difference between income and expenditure) of the country but as income has increased, the negative effect is slightly less than this time last year.

This debt compares with the 2008 figure of €390.6 billion in 2008 but is still considerably less than the USA, Japan and the UK.



# GROWTH OF THE WORLDWIDE COURIER Deliveries quicker and easier

THE world of the courier is relatively new but now accounts for a significant amount of business and sees turnover of hundreds of billions of euros worldwide.

For centuries, goods were delivered by sea and then by horse and carriage to stores and individuals, with efficiency and speed of delivery increasing with the introduction of trains, vehicles and aircraft.

The introduction of the Universal Penny Post in 1840 was the start of a whole worldwide revolution which allowed for cheap and speedy delivery of post and then parcels nationally and internationally.

Now, couriers, who were first set up to transfer important documents across the world in a quick and efficient manner are growing in size, value and importance helped in the main part by the introduction of online shopping.

According to a recent Mintel



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## COURIER SERVICES have really taken off.

report Britain alone is expected to spend more than €12 billion with couriers during 2017 and there is now almost no country in the world that the couriers - many of whom own their own aircraft - don't reach.

Live in Spain, want something

from the UK, don't worry, there will be a courier company ready to deliver it in a matter of days and suppliers are able to strike such good financial deals with them that often delivery is free and certainly more efficient than local postal services.

## Britain needs transition deal

THE co-Chief Executive of major US financial operation Goldman Sachs International wants to see the British government agree a Brexit transitional deal.

He argues that unless this happens quickly and is of a significant period then his company and many others will simply have no option other than to reduce their work force in the UK and increase recruitment across the European Union.

Richard Gnodde, the most senior employee of the company outside of the USA told the BBC that he was wasting money making contingency plans when he doesn't actually know what the British government intends.

With 6,500 UK based employees the company is just one of many that is pressing for information from Brexit Secretary David Davis who has recently left Brussels without any agreements of any significance being made.

# Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

**by Stone King**

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at [international@stoneking.co.uk](mailto:international@stoneking.co.uk)



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

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

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



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

### What is an LPA?

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

### Why should you get an LPA?

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

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

### Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

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

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





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# Do what is best for Charlie

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT  
OTHERS THINK IT



HAVING raised six offspring, all of whom I love most dearly, I have the utmost sympathy for the parents of little Charlie Gard.

Unfortunately, as deeply as this young couple obviously love and cherish their little mite, it is now, in my opinion, time to let him go.

I am of course writing this before the court's decision on the matter, but I personally feel that even if this new American neurosurgeon can do anything to prolong his life, all the experts agree, the chances of him enjoying an existence even remotely approaching normality appear to be just about nil.

To me the adoration of his parents has now become somewhat misguided. Blinded by emotion they are, I feel, in danger of evoking a desire to prove themselves morally right, both in the eyes of the law and their numerous sympathisers than do what is right for their little boy.



Photo credit Daniele Sebastianelli/Twitter

**EMOTIONAL TURMOIL:** Charlie's parents face crucial decision based on emotions or morals.

Please, if you truly love him, as I'm sure you do, let him pass. Invest the money raised by the caring public into research, or a new hospital wing. Some kind of memorial to celebrate his short time among us.

But for mercy's sake let him go.

Give your own torment some closure. Begin again, bring a new little miracle into the world. Look to a bright new future knowing you did all you could for little Charlie.

I get a little peeved by the attitude of a number of the Grenfell survivors.

I don't have to reiterate how sympathetic I feel for the traumatised victims of this disaster and can understand their anger that it was able to happen in the first place. But I truly believe the authorities are doing all they can to sort out this most com-

plex of complicated scenarios.

I also know how difficult it is to please everyone; but to hear that out of 300 offers of accommodation, only 14 have been accepted, does make me think that perhaps the co-operation with people trying to help is somewhat lacking on the part of the residents.

I was particularly put out by the attitude of a number of attendees at the initial meeting of the investigation committee. 'You're not one of us Mon,' screamed one dissenter at enquiry conductor Sir Martin Moore-Bick. Just what is that supposed to mean? That Moore-Bick is not an ethnic, multi-cultural immigrant of non-British decent? If Moore-Bick himself had uttered the same statement, he would have been labelled a racist and could possibly have faced prosecution. It would be more respectful to the memory of those who perished to bury all racial and social grievances and just allow those selected to complete this enquiry in the quickest and fairest way possible.

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

Advertising feature

## Detached villa for sale in Zurgena

THIS lovely detached villa is accessed via its own private driveway that leads down to the double 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 has a lovely full-sized family swimming pool which features a Roman side plus built-in seating and there is also a shaded covered patio where you can relax away from the warm Spanish mid-day sunshine. Along with all of these benefits there is another garden area on the opposite side of the property which has a vegetable plot, a garden storage shed and stairs that lead up to a roof terrace.

The main entrance doorway to the villa leads directly into the open plan kitchen, lounge and separate dining room with the kitchen having ample cupboard units along with granite work surfaces and all of the necessary built-in white goods which are included in the



selling price.

Off from the main lounge there is a central hallway that leads through and gives access to the master bedroom which has a large en-suite bathroom with shower cubicle and the second double bedroom also benefits from an additional en-suite, then furthermore there is the third double bedroom and finally you will find the spacious family bathroom with full size bath tub with fitted screen.

A lovely villa with a large plot size for its location which is within easy walking distance of several lo-



**LOVELY VILLA: With private roof terrace and family swimming pool.**

cal Spanish taverns so you can immerse yourself in the true traditional Spanish lifestyle and if this is what you are looking for then this is the

property for you, so book your viewing now because these style of villas are not hanging around. A must see.

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## Clipping the wings, thrills & spills of no frills airlines

**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.euroweeklynnews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson](http://www.euroweeklynnews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson)

**BUDGET:** But affordable air travel.



RYANAIR, Monarch and easyJet are among the worst airlines in the world! This verdict is the result of the latest rankings by AirHelp which graded 87 global airlines on quality, service, on-time performance and claims processing.

Hang on! Budget airlines operate on very tight margins and, as such, are able to provide affordable air-travel to the masses. And generally you get excellent punctuality, flexible fares and an acceptable level of service that's delivered by invariably pleasant staff.

Of course, they're not fault-

less, but what airline is? BA made it into the top 10, but the data was analysed prior to its worldwide IT failure that recently grounded all BA passengers for 48 hours. Plus, last year, it was sued by an American couple who claimed a mix-up ruined their holiday, sending them to Grenada (in the Caribbean) instead of Granada (Spain).

Not quite as bad, though, as the poor soul who boarded a flight (not BA this time) he thought to Oakland, California and woke up over the Pacific Ocean - en route to Auckland, New Zealand. Or the person who wanted to fly to Anchorage, Alaska, but ended up in Ankara, Turkey.

Not to mention the one who wanted San Diego but got Santiago instead. Or, minutes from landing on a flight from Chicago to Vancouver, the passenger who suddenly awoke from a deep sleep and asked, "Is this Seattle?"

Or the Italian couple who booked a holiday through a travel agent to Sydney, Australia and ended up in Syd-

ney, Nova Scotia, Canada.

A friend used to work at the tourist information desk in the airport in Rodez, a town in southern France. Apparently, a fairly major part of her job was dealing with British tourists who thought they'd bought tickets to Rhodes, Greece.

Now I admit I don't like flying. Ever since a bad experience as a young child in a turbo prop to hurricane-bound Malta when the pilot announced: "We'll soon be landing at Luqa airport. Or quite near it." Actually, 'quite near' turned out to be 200 miles away in another continent - Tunis, North Africa. Help!

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

### THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Angus Silvie, Axarquia

## Impressive six-pack

IN Spain as in all countries around the world, a small and sadly unrepresented sample of people suffers from what I call Hideous Face Syndrome. I am myself a victim of this circumstance. For men this means their appearance has denied them the chance to know what it feels like to have girls either flirt with them, come up of their own volition and say hello when on a night out, or give out green light signals instead of the big red stop signs they are used to. The only exception to this rule applies to handsomely challenged men of great wealth and exceptional self-confidence, who can act like magnets for young attractive ladies. Damn them! I repel instead of attract.

But do good-looking and normal-looking people ever pause to consider what life must be like for those who don't possess their good fortune? It must be difficult for someone who is able to go out and hook up with a member of the opposite sex at will to have any understanding of what it is like for those of us who know that all attempts to get lucky will result in rejection. We have the same urges, the same feelings, yet we are destined to be forever watching the same fortunate people snaring and discarding partners while we smile weakly and churn up inside.

In warm climes like the Costa del Sol, a grotesquely-faced man parading hopefully in his speedos whilst sporting an overhanging belly is starting with an extra disadvantage when it comes to enticing a partner. Not that my impressive six-pack helps me much, as when I open my fridge and reveal my six cans of beer, ladies are not as delighted as I had hoped. But at least the beer can help to drown your sorrows, until it results in you gaining an unwanted beer belly. Oh well. Cheers!

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@euroweeklynnews.com](mailto:editorial@euroweeklynnews.com).

### Advertising feature

## It's holiday time again. Have you got that Liberty feeling?

ONCE again, summer is here with a vengeance. Temperatures soar and with the influx of tourists, you have to keep your wits about you at all times when driving.

Holidaymakers who rent a car, may also be driving on the opposite side of the road to their home country, like the British, so you need to be extra vigilant and try to anticipate their possible mistakes. One very common incident happens on roundabouts where drivers take the wrong lane. For example, if you want to carry straight on then it's best to take the outside lane, and if you intend to turn left, take the inside lane.

What many people do, is take the outside lane with the intention of turning left but the driver on the inside lane who is going straight on, has to be very careful to avoid a collision with the vehicle going all the way round.

Aside from the inevitable increase in traffic accidents with the huge influx of tourists from around the world, you need to make sure your car is up to scratch too.

For example, always make sure that your tyre pressures are correct by checking them at least once a month especially as road surfaces become very hot indeed and will affect the pressures. Needless to say, check the tyres too and make sure they are in good condition with enough tread. Also check the car's radiator water level; the last thing you want is to overheat if



**HOLIDAY TIME:** Keep your wits about you when driving at all times.

you're stuck in a queue and worse still have to wait for a breakdown truck. It's also illegal to run out of screen-wash so keep this topped up.

Driving with flip-flops or shoes without backs is not permitted either. Obviously seat belts must be worn all round and children need safety harnesses. And stating the obvious too, mobile phones must not be used for speaking (unless using a built-in hands-free device) and definitely no texting!

If you do have an accident, remember

the following:

Stay calm and use the reflective vest.

Use your vehicle's emergency flashers and use two warning triangles at appropriate distances from the vehicle. Stay away from oncoming traffic.

Call 112 if necessary.

Take photos of the incident when safe to do so. Get statements and contact information from any witnesses.

Complete the accident report forms.



If your car insurance is with Liberty Seguros, the **Expats' No.1 Choice** in Spain, you can call their 24-hour help free phone number on 900 101 369, where you will be assisted in English for your convenience.

Liberty Seguros Car Insurance is tailor-made with you in mind and is perfect for expats in Spain. It offers total coverage to both the driver and passengers in case of an accident, as well as roadside assistance from kilometre zero. It also includes a courtesy car in case of accident, theft and even for breakdown, as standard cover.

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**Happy holidays!**



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*Sharon pulling in the crowds*

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Travel

# Volcanoes, lakes and skiing

THOUGH renowned for its glorious beaches and cosmopolitan cities, Spain actually boasts some of the very best natural parks in the world. These vast, awe-inspiring spaces scattered around the country offer you the chance to easily escape the hustle and bustle of coastal life for a day or two.

In Andalucía the Sierra Nevada is known for its excellent skiing but it offers far more than meets the eye. Hiking here is a terrific experience with more than 20 gorgeous peaks and an abundance of rolling, easy trails. The park itself spreads out over 850 square kilometres and is very easy to get to by flying or driving to Granada.

Towards Spain's rugged north you will find the spectacular natural water park that is the Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici. This Pyrenean phe-

nomenon has countless lakes, waterfalls, valleys and forests all rolling over one another under jagged skies watched by rare birds of prey. Hiking, camping or staying the lovely hotels and pensions dotted around the park are excellent options, especially in spring or autumn when it's not too hot.

A completely different experience can be found on the volcanic, alien landscape of Lanzarote's Timanfaya park. While Lanzarote itself is a firm favourite on the tourist trail, not many people swerve off the beaten track to explore this rare geological majesty of flowing lava and spraying geysers.

And, if you do make it all the way to Lanzarote, be sure to

visit the recently opened Museo Atlántico. Though not quite a natural park, it would be a travesty to miss Europe's first underwater sculpture museum. Hundreds of eerie statues linger 14 metres below sea level offering a genuine once-in-a-lifetime travel experience for even the most seasoned adventurers.

**AIGÜESTORTES: Natural water park.**

**TIMANFAYA: Volcanic, alien landscape.**





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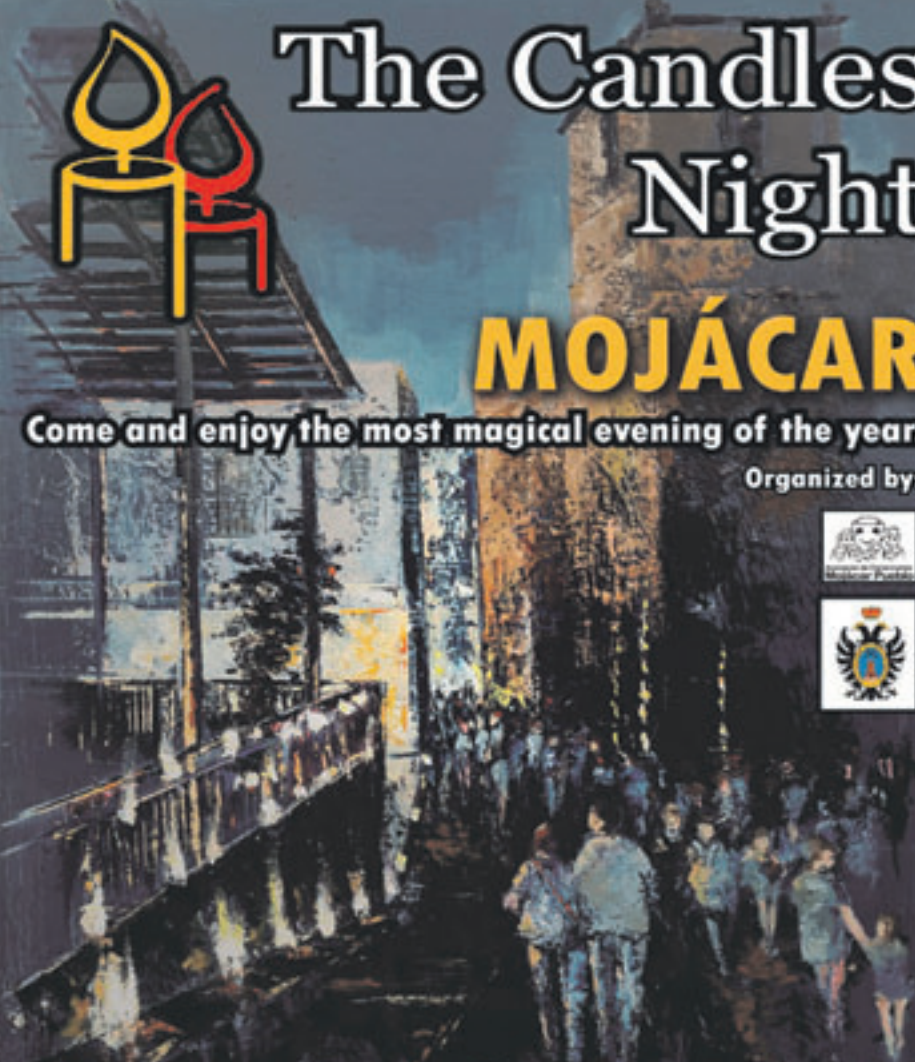
# The Candles Night

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## The night of AUGUST 8



Advertising feature

# We can help with NIE and residencia

**SHOULD you apply for NIE or residency?**

New arrivals in Spain are surprised at how often they will be asked for their NIE number. Whether they are opening a bank account, buying a mobile phone or changing utility bills into their name, they will be asked for this number. Everyone who lives in Spain, whether full-time or part-time will have to get their NIE but the confusion often arises when the term 'residencia' is put into the mix. Many people are unsure which one to apply for.



**“If you are staying for more than three months, then you need ‘residencia.’”**

## What is an NIE?

NIE or 'Número de Identificación de Extranjero,' is a foreigner's identification number. You will be asked for your NIE when signing contracts, petitions, you will need it to work in Spain and for your SIP health card.

By law, the decree (Real Decreto 338-1990) says everyone, regardless of their nationality or being a resident or non-resident, who has any 'official business' in Spain, must have a fiscal number - So anyone who has professional, economic or so-

cial interests in the country will need a NIE.

## What is the difference between an NIE and 'residencia'?

Whether you need an NIE or 'residencia' will depend on how long you intend to stay in Spain. If you stay for less than 90 days at a time, you need an NIE number. You will need to make an appointment at your local Oficina de Extranjero or police station, where you will be asked to fill out a modelo 790-12 form and asked to produce your passport and copies.

If you are staying for more than three months then you need 'residencia', which means filling in the EX18 application form. In both cases, you will get your NIE number but 'residencia' means you are issued with a 'Certificado de Registro de Ciudadano de La Unión' - certificate of registration in the EU Foreigners Register in Spain - which does not have an expiry

date. Your NIE number is for life but the expiry date is put in to encourage people to take up residency.

Getting residency is more complicated than an NIE because you need to prove you are self-sufficient. Each office has different procedures and you could be asked for bank statements proving you are getting a pension paid in or proof that you have funds to support yourself; evidence of private health care; work contract; passport plus copies; completed EX18 form and the receipt to show you have paid the modelo 790-12.

Even if you have 'residencia' it does not mean you are a Spanish tax resident. That is a different matter, although if you live most of the year in Spain then you should be a tax resident in this country.

Please get in touch if you would like help to get your NIE, 'residencia' or to discuss becoming a tax resident in Spain.

**HAYLEE: Please get in touch if you would like our help.**

You can call in to the Javea or Almeria office, phone 966 493 082 or contact us via our website [goldenleavesinternational.com](http://goldenleavesinternational.com) or email [info@goldenleavesinternational.com](mailto:info@goldenleavesinternational.com)



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# Mr Bean makes his TV return in airline safety video alongside Rob Brydon

**Richard Shanley**  
*Dishing the Dirt*  
OF EUROPA DIGITAL



THE airline bagged an impressive A-list cast to 'audition' for a part in its new pre-take off clip in front of comedian Asim Chaudhry in aid of Comic Relief.

As such, the celebrities who turned up for filming included Westworld's Thandie Newton, Ian McKellen, Warwick Davis, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Gillian Anderson, Game of Thrones star Jim Broadbent, Rob Brydon, Gordon Ramsay and even Mr Bean.

Unfortunately, the final video won't be available to view until September, so you'll have to wait until then to see it in the skies. The airline says that the new film has been designed to 'help customers absorb important safety messages, while boosting fundraising for Flying Start, the global charity partnership between British Airways and Comic Relief' (via Business Traveller).

Indeed, at the end of the clip, Mr Bean searches the seats for his spare change... Other highlights include Gordon Ramsay getting fed lines that were clearly meant for Joanna Lumley, Rob Brydon telling passengers to blow on their life vest's whistle if 'they like attention' and Gillian Anderson getting stranded between a British and American accent. Ah well. Customers will be viewing this video overseas, so how very apt.

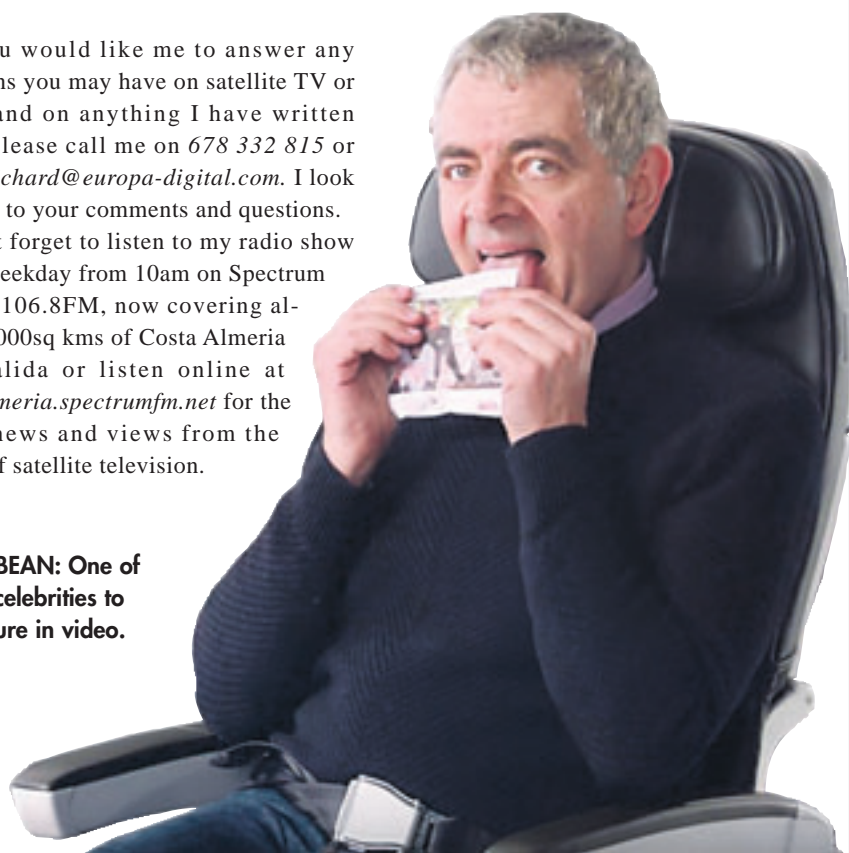
BBC Three's critically-acclaimed mockumentary This Country is being picked up for a second series. Yep, it's officially time to head back to the Cotswolds, as the cameras get set to explore the lives of cousins Kerry and Lee 'Kurtan' Mucklowe once again, much to our delight. Launched online back in February on BBC Three, and with a slot on BBC One, This Country is written by siblings Daisy May Cooper and Charlie Cooper.

Its classic comedy is hugely popular with fans and critics alike, so it's no surprise six brand new episodes of This Country will be heading to our screens next year.

If you would like me to answer any questions you may have on satellite TV or to expand on anything I have written about please call me on 678 332 815 or email [richard@europa-digital.com](mailto:richard@europa-digital.com). I look forward to your comments and questions.

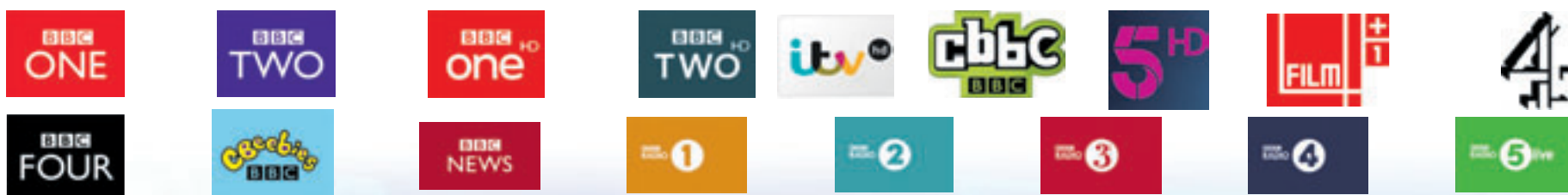
Don't forget to listen to my radio show every weekday from 10am on Spectrum 96.1 & 106.8FM, now covering almost 3,000sq kms of Costa Almería and Calida or listen online at [costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net](http://costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net) for the latest news and views from the world of satellite television.

**MR BEAN:** One of the celebrities to feature in video.



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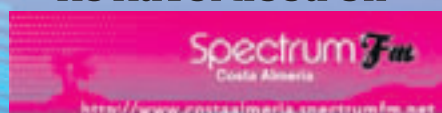
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**VH1166 €129,950 CEE E206 8**

**NEW LISTING**



- 3 / 4 bed Large Village House
- Immaculate condition.
- Walk to shops etc
- Zurgena village

**VH1160 €319,950 CEE E57 66**

**NEW LISTING**



- 4 bed, 3 bath Luxury Villa
- 5,000m2 of flat, fenced land
- Walk to La Estacion village
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**VH1152 €109,950 CEE TBC**

**NEW LISTING**



- 2 bed, 1 bath Villa
- 400m2 plot
- Popular El Saltador area
- 4 mins drive to Huercal-Overa



GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309  linea directa

THURSDAY		BBC one		BBC TWO		itv		CHANNEL 4		CHANNEL 5		sky sports main event	
27 JULY	7:30pm	BBC London News	4:30pm	Hive Alive	8:30pm	Eat, Shop, Save	3:10pm	Countdown	6:00pm	5 News at 5	9:00am	Good Morning Sports	
	8:00pm	The Farmers' Country Showdown	5:30pm	Natural World	9:00pm	Emmerdale	4:00pm	The Question Jury	6:30pm	Neighbours		Fans	
	8:30pm	EastEnders	6:15pm	Antiques Roadshow	9:30pm	James Martin's French Adventure	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	7:00pm	Home and Away	9:30am	Good Morning Sports	
	9:00pm	Watchdog Live	7:00pm	Eggheads			6:00pm	Four in a Bed	7:30pm	5 News Tonight		Fans	
	10:00pm	Who Do You Think You Are?	7:30pm	Letterbox	10:00pm	Inside the London Fire Brigade	6:30pm	Come Dine with Me	8:00pm	Cricket on 5	10:00am	Good Morning	
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:00pm	The Simpsons	9:00pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	11:00am	Sports Fans	
	11:30pm	BBC London News	9:00pm	10 Puppies and Us	11:30pm	ITV News London	7:30pm	Hollyoaks			11:00am	Cricket	
28 JULY	11:45pm	One Deadly Weekend in America	10:00pm	Top of the Lake	11:40pm	Tonight at the London Palladium	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	10:00pm	Joanna Dennehy: Killing for Kicks	8:00pm	Live World Matchplay	
			11:00pm	The Mash Report			8:30pm	UEFA Women's Euro 2017	11:30pm	Big Brother	12:00am	Through the Night	
			11:30pm	Newsnight			11:00pm	Gogglebox	12:30am	Big Brother's Bit on the Side	1:00am	Through the Night	
	1:10am	Weather for the Week Ahead	12:15am	Cleverman	12:40am	Devon and Cornwall Cops	12:05am	Real, Fake or Unknown					
FRIDAY	8:00pm	The Farmers' Country Showdown	4:30pm	Hive Alive	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	4:00pm	The Question Jury	3:15pm	NcIS: Murder in the Family	9:00am	Good Morning Sports	
	8:30pm	Thief Trackers	5:30pm	Swimming	8:00pm	Emmerdale	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	4:15pm	A Father's Secret		Fans	
	9:00pm	EastEnders	7:00pm	Eggheads	8:30pm	Coronation Street	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	6:00pm	5 News at 5	9:30am	Paddock Uncut: Hungary	
	9:30pm	Still Open All Hours	7:30pm	Letterbox	9:00pm	The Secret World of Posh Pets	6:30pm	Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	9:45am	Live Hungarian GP:	
	10:00pm	Peter Kay's Comedy Shuffle	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away		Practice	
	10:30pm	Mrs. Brown's Boys	9:00pm	Mastermind	10:00pm	Benidorm	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	11:30am	Cricket	
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	9:30pm	Only Connect	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	Cricket on 5	7:30pm	Cricket	
29 JULY	11:25pm	BBC London News	10:00pm	Gardeners' World	11:30pm	ITV News London	9:00pm	Gogglesprogs	9:00pm	Draining the Bermuda Triangle	8:00pm	Live World	
	11:35pm	Not Going Out	11:00pm	QI	11:40pm	Inside the London Fire Brigade	10:00pm	The Last Leg	10:00pm	Big Brother		Matchplay Darts	
	12:05am	The Sentinel	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:45am	Call the Cleaners	11:00pm	Naked Attraction	11:45pm	Big Brother's Bit on the Side	12:00am	Through the Night	
			12:05am	Cleverman			12:05am	Rude Tube	12:50am	Lip Sync Battle	1:00am	Through the Night	
SATURDAY	7:50pm	Regional News	6:00pm	Swimming	1:25pm	Tipping Point	1:25pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	12:30pm	The F1 Show	
	7:55pm	Weather	7:00pm	Cycling	2:30pm	ITV Racing: Live From Ascot	1:55pm	Four in a Bed			1:00pm	Live Hungarian GP:	
	8:00pm	Pointless	7:50pm	BBC Proms Extra	5:00pm	The Chase	4:30pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	8:00pm	Cricket on 5		Qualifying	
	8:50pm	Would I Lie to You?	8:30pm	Grand Tours of Scotland	6:00pm	Little Big Shots USA	5:30pm	Big House, Little House	8:55pm	5 News	3:30pm	Cricket	
	9:20pm	Who Dares Wins	9:00pm	Dad's Army	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	6:30pm	Channel 4 News	9:00pm	Live Boxing: Frampton v Gutierrez	6:00pm	Live GAA Football	
	10:00pm	Casualty	9:30pm	All Families Have Secrets - Patrick Gale's Art of Fiction	7:05pm	ITV News and Weather	7:00pm	Formula 1	9:30pm	FIA Formula E Live: Montreal	8:00pm	Live GAA Football	
	10:50pm	BBC News	10:00pm	Queer as Art	7:15pm	You've Been Framed!	8:30pm	UEFA Women's Euro 2017	11:10pm	Live Boxing-Frampton v Gutierrez	10:00pm	Live GAA Football	
30 JULY	11:08pm	Weather	11:00pm	QI XL	8:15pm	Catchphrase	11:00pm	47 Ronin	1:00am	Super Casino	10:45pm	Sky Sports Tonight	
	11:10pm	Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull	11:45pm	Imagine...	9:00pm	The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug	1:10am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA				Football	
			1:40am	Sletight	12:00am	ITV News and Weather					1:00am	Through the Night	
	1:05am	When in Rome											
SUNDAY	7:50pm	Regional News	10:05am	Countryfile	3:55pm	Bear Gryll's Survival School	1:30pm	Eat the Week with Iceland	11:55am	Police Interceptors	1:30pm	Live Hungarian GP: Race	
	7:55pm	Weather	11:00am	Saturday Kitchen Best Bites	4:25pm	A View to Kill	2:30pm	The Simpsons	12:55pm	Police Interceptors	4:30pm	Live Hungarian GP:	
	8:00pm	Wild Alaska Live	12:30pm	Nigel Slater: Eating Together	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	2:55pm	The Simpsons	1:50pm	Ace Ventura: Pet Detective		Paddock	
	9:00pm	Countryfile	1:00pm	Food and Drink	7:10pm	ITV News and Weather	3:25pm	The Simpsons	3:30pm	Zookeeper	5:15pm	Paddock Uncut: Hungary	
	10:00pm	Poldark	1:30pm	Miss Potter	7:30pm	Diana, Our Mother: Her Life and Legacy	3:55pm	A Place in the Sun	5:25pm	Cheaper by the Dozen 2	5:30pm	Live Senior Open	
	11:00pm	BBC News	3:00pm	Rugby League Challenge Cup Semi Final	9:00pm	Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix	4:40pm	Homes by the Sea	7:05pm	Now That's Funny!		Championship	
	11:20pm	Regional News	5:30pm	Swimming	11:30pm	ITV News and Weather	5:45pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	Cricket on 5	8:00pm	Live World	
MONDAY	11:25pm	Weather	8:00pm	Passchendaele 2017	11:50pm	Judge Rinder's Crime Stories	6:15pm	Formula 1	8:55pm	5 News		Matchplay Darts	
	11:30pm	The Heroes of Super Saturday: Jess, Mo and Greg	11:00pm	Pride	12:50am	Take Me Out	8:30pm	UEFA Women's Euro 2017	9:00pm	Dirty Dancing	10:00pm	Live PGA Tour Golf	
			12:50am	Lilting			11:00pm	The Handmaid's Tale	11:00pm	The Dirty Dancing Story	12:00am	Through the Night	
	12:30am	The Peacemaker					12:10am	Naked Attraction	12:35am	Rugby Sevens	1:00am	Through the Night	
31 JULY	7:30pm	Regional News	6:15pm	Antiques Roadshow	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	3:10pm	Countdown	3:15pm	NCIS	10:00am	Good Morning Sports	
	8:00pm	Fake Britain	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	4:00pm	The Question Jury	4:15pm	The Ultimate Legacy		Fans	
	8:30pm	When the Boat Comes in	7:30pm	Letterbox	8:00pm	Emmerdale	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	6:00pm	5 News	11:00am	Sky Sports Now	
	9:00pm	EastEnders	8:00pm	Passchendaele 2017	8:30pm	Coronation Street	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	11:30am	Cricket	
	9:30pm	I Am Bolt	9:00pm	University Challenge	9:00pm	Countrywise	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	6:30pm	Cricket	
	11:00pm	BBC News	9:30pm	Nadiya's British Food	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News	7:00pm	Sky Sports News	
	11:30pm	Regional News		Adventure	10:00pm	Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	Cricket on 5	8:00pm	Transfer Centre	
1 AUGUST	11:40pm	Weather	10:00pm	Man in an Orange Shirt	11:00pm	ITV News	9:00pm	Location, Location, Location	9:00pm	All New Traffic Cops	8:30pm	Sky Sports Tonight	
	11:45pm	Peter Kay's Comedy Shuffle	11:00pm	Normal for Norfolk	11:40pm	Britain's Busiest Motorway	10:00pm	999: What's Your Emergency?	10:00pm	The Accused	9:00pm	Sky Sports Tonight	
	12:15am	Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:10am	Sugar Free Farm	11:00pm	Public Enemies	11:30pm	Inside Broadmoor	10:00pm	Live Tennis: Washington	
			12:10am	Weather			12:05am	60 Days in Jail	1:30am	Criminals Caught on Camera	5:00am	Through the Night	
TUESDAY	7:00pm	BBC News	5:15pm	The Life of Mammals	5:00pm	Tipping Point	4:00pm	The Question Jury	4:15pm	A Trace of Danger	12:00pm	Transfer Centre	
	7:30pm	Regional News	6:15pm	Antiques Roadshow	6:00pm	Cash Trapped	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	6:00pm	5 News	12:30pm	Sportswomen	
	8:00pm	Fugitives	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	1:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	8:30pm	EastEnders	7:30pm	Letterbox	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	2:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	9:00pm	Holby City	8:00pm	Sir Gareth Edwards at 70	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News	3:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	10:00pm	In The Dark	9:00pm	Inside the Factory	9:00pm	Midsomer Murders	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	FIA World Rally Championship Highlights	4:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	11:00pm	BBC News	10:00pm	Is it Safe to be Gay in the UK?	11:00pm	ITV News	9:00pm	Craft It Yourself	9:00pm	The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies	5:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
2 AUGUST	11:30pm	Regional News	11:00pm	Detectorists	11:40pm	Martin Clunes Islands of Australia	10:00pm	Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds	9:00pm	Big Brother's Bit on the Side	6:00pm	News HQ	
	11:40pm	Weather	11:30pm	Newsnight	12:40am	Play to the Whistle	11:00pm	First Dates	10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother	7:00pm	Live T20 Blast	
	11:45pm	New Tricks	12:10am	Weather	1:25am	Jackpot247	12:05am	24 Hours in A and E	12:00am	Big Brother's Bit on the Side	10:45pm	Live Tennis: Washington	
	12:45am	When the Boat Comes in	12:10am								5:00am	Through the Night	
WEDNESDAY	5:15pm	Flog It!	4:45pm	This Wild Life	5:00pm	Tipping Point	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	3:15pm	NCIS	12:00pm	Transfer Centre	
	6:15pm	Pointless	5:15pm	The Life of Mammals	6:00pm	Cash Trapped	7:00pm	The Simpsons	4:15pm	Escape From Polygamy	12:30pm	Sky Sports Now	
	7:00pm	BBC News	6:15pm	Antiques Roadshow	7:00pm	Local News and Weather	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	6:00pm	5 News	1:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	7:30pm	Regional News	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	6:30pm	Neighbours	2:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	8:00pm	Holding Back the Years	7:30pm	Letterbox	8:00pm	Emmerdale	9:00pm	Tried and Tasted: The Ultimate Shopping List	7:00pm	Home and Away	3:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	9:00pm	Watchdog Live	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	8:30pm	Coronation Street	9:30pm	Food Unwrapped	7:30pm	5 News	4:00pm	Sky Sports Today	
	10:00pm	DIY SOS The Big Build	9:00pm	The Sweet Makers: A Victorian Treat	9:00pm	Love Your Garden	10:00pm	Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds	8:00pm	FIA Formula E: Montreal Highlights	5:00pm	Live on the Range:	
2 AUGUST	11:00pm	BBC News	10:00pm	Man Up	10:00pm	Long Lost Family	10:00pm	The Windsors	9:00pm	GPs: Behind Closed Doors	6:00pm	Women's Open	
	11:30pm	Regional News	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:00pm	ITV News	11:00pm	Fargo	10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother	7:00pm	News HQ	
	11:40pm	Weather	12:10am	Weather	11:40pm	Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera	11:30pm	999: What's Your Emergency?	11:00pm	Celebrity Botched Up Bodies	10:45pm	Live T20 Blast	
	11:45pm	Growing Up Gay	12:15am	Birds of Paradise	12:40am	River Monsters	12:35am		12:00am	Big Brother's Bit on the Side	10:45pm	Live Tennis: Washington	
	12:45am	I'm Coming Out									3:00am	Football	
												</	

|| 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.



# Mojacar was the place for free homes and land! Want some?

## 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.*

ONCE upon a time it happened. But like all true fairy tales it occurred some 50+ years ago. Where were you then? If you had known and showed up, you could have been rewarded with a free home or site to build on.

Hard to imagine now when you look about at the pristine village but once it was all but derelict and abandoned. Less than 200 souls resided within its walls, a forgotten lost hill top village. But it wasn't unknown, Spanish journalist Rafael de la Fuente had been there. He had been keeping

a low profile while living in Torremolinos. Following the civil war both sides wanted his head.

He wrote and spoke too freely about everything. Rafael often shared thoughts and drinks with a new friend, Columbian concert pianist Enrique Arias. Both were disillusioned concerning what was happening to their quiet living haunts. The un-going and uncontrolled development saddened them. They yearned for a new place. Rafael convinced Arias to come with him on an adventure to a distant area not on most maps, lacking paved roads and no bridges to cross the deep ravines.

Off they motored to find somewhere quiet and authentic to settle. A unique village that would keep its ancient Spanish customs. Once in Mojacar they encoun-

tered the sagacious Mayor Don Jacinto, a man still revered for his simple cleverness. They met in a local tavern, most likely the Hotel Indalo right in the main plaza and plotted a new Utopia in variance with uncontrolled development.

No statue nor plague commemorates this motive occasion. The basics of the agreement were Mojacar was to retain its cultural heritage, no high rises and hopefully expand in an artistic bent.

A place where musicians, artists, painters and writers could languish without being plagued by the masses of modern tourism. Every mayor since has claimed responsibility for the turnout of Mojacar, but it was all negotiated back in the day when the whole concept seemed an impossible dream. The pact was basically



**Mojacar's famous original mayor, appointed by Franco.**

free houses or sites would be given away to 'takers' and title deeds issued once the houses were renovated and done.

For Enrique's part he would

run adverts in famous news papers, *Le Monde*, *NY Times*, *Der Spiegel*, etc offering the miraculous bargain - for free.

The people that came weren't necessarily artists but were politicians of high standing, ambassadors, the good and knighted. Enrique took the highest house in the village, then called el Castillo and fixed it up and gave his first music concert back in September of 1962. People drove from miles around to attend. What an event!

As if bringing water to the desert it brought back living souls to a ghost town with a vibrant historical past.

Enrique's son still lives here and plays an important role in the constant civic betterment of the community. Yet, never a thanks ever whispered by anyone.

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## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### Driver's performance

**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.



A MOBILE app which assesses and records a person's driving performance has revealed that drivers in Spain don't quite perform as they believe.

DriveSmart is the mobile app that measures the driving style of the user and compares it with the assessment of other drivers. The survey revealed that drivers in Spain believed themselves to be generally 'good drivers' however, after the analysis of the results it revealed that they are actually even better than they thought.

To run the application it needs to be activated at the beginning of the trip and then it automatically collects the data on a person's driving performance using the phone's internal sensors such as accelerometer, compass and GPS for example, without the driver having to use or manipulate the phone during the journey.

Drivers are asked to create a profile before and after the trip, depending on the characteristics and conditions of the road, DriveSmart evaluates the journey and shows results on how the driver performed behind the wheel and how they could improve.

In the self-assessment only one in three Spaniards considered themselves to be a 'good driver,' while 12 per cent thought they were 'excellent.' Only 1 per cent said they were a 'bad driver.'

However despite these modest results, the app gave these drivers an average rating of 95.99 out of 100, an improvement on the ratings of 94.6 from last year. Across the regions, drivers in Cantabria scored the best with an average rating of 97.7, followed by the Canaries and Balears with 97.55 and 97.44 respectively.

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

### Is chimney flue legal?

**Q.** My neighbour in the Community has fitted an outside chimney flue to some type of internal fire. My house is a three-storey terraced house. The neighbour had a canopy above his ground floor window, over the short original flue. This area is now very black. Now he has extended the flue to above the first floor. The bed-

rooms of my house and the other neighbours are exposed to smoke or fumes from this flue. By the black deposit already left on his wall, this could be very toxic. In England this would not pass building or public health regulations. What I would like to know is, to which authorities do I report this?

K.A. (Costa Blanca)

**A.** In a Community of Property Owners, you should first discuss this flue with your President or Administrator. Your neighbour should have obtained permission from the Commu-

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



nity in order to place anything on the outside of his wall.

You and other affected neighbours can also bring up the matter at the AGM, by asking the President to put it on the official Agenda. If none of this gives results, you have final recourse to your town hall.

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





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

CATALUÑA is governed by Junts pel Si (Together for Yes), a coalition of pro-independence parties headed by Carles Puigdemont of PDeCat and Oriol Junqueras from the left-wing nationalists ERC.

Junqueras is organising the referendum and making sure that all waverers are left by the wayside. Not that all the replaced Consellers including those who headed the Interior, Presidency and Education, were having second thoughts about independence.

Doubts that the October 1 referendum vetoed by Madrid would take place were enough to send them packing.

Others were reluctant to share with Junqueras any legal or political



| Oriol Junqueras.

Photo by Esquerra Republicana

# Cataluña pogrom

tical fallout from the referendum. This involved putting their assets on the line if necessary, which prompted the government spokeswoman Neus Munte to make an eloquent but rapid exit.

All were replaced with hardliners, like Pere Soler, the new head of the Mossos d'Esquadra police who hopes that Cataluña leaves soon, "as the Spanish are pitiful."

Getting rid of opponents is the tried and trusted way of authoritarian governments and whether or not the Spanish are pitiful, they did not expect a return to the 1930s now they are well into the 21st century.

## Minor setback

THE Valencian Community's regional president Ximo Puig was recently re-elected regional PSOE secretary general.

Puig has never been a fan of the party's national leader Pedro Sanchez and he backed Susana Diaz in the primaries that reinstated the latter as secretary general last May.

Puig comfortably put paid to his pro-Sanchez rival and might as well enjoy it while he can. With regional

elections coming up in 2019 Sanchez can spend the next two years plotting revenge.

## Out you go!

ONCE secession mutterings became strident shouts, Brussels made it clear at every available opportunity that Cataluña automatically leaves the EU if it leaves Spain.

The Catalan government has conscientiously ignored repeated warnings that it will have to go to the back of the queue for readmittance.

Secessionists as well as undecided Catalans should spare a thought for the UK and Brexit. Not just for the toll it is taking on the popula-

tion and economy, but for the price that politicians are paying. June spelled the beginning of the end for May and an October victory could still bring a winter of discontent for Puigdemont.

## Anyone for tennis?

KING emeritus Juan Carlos likes to attend international sporting occasions that involve Spanish teams and sportspeople.

So it would seem does minister of Agriculture Isabel Garcia Tejerina who was at his side during Nadal's Roland Garros triumph in Paris last June. More recently they were together at Wimbledon when Garbiñe Muguruza gave Serena Williams a whopping.

Tejerina is known to be a great tennis fan although whether she is also a Juan Carlos fan has not been made clear.

# Get out of that one

MARIANO RAJOY applauded the Opposition victory in an unofficial referendum recently held in Venezuela, calling for an end to the present regime. This prompted a self-righteous response from Venezuela's semi-dictator

Nicolas Maduro who virtuously maintained that he allowed the ballot - which he will ignore - in the interests of democracy.

Yet Rajoy refuses to countenance the unauthorised referendum planned

by Cataluña's regional government, Maduro said.

Where's the difference, Maduro asked, calling on Rajoy to be consistent. Odious Maduro has a point and this is a devilishly difficult one to answer.

**Advertising feature**

# "It won't happen to me...!" Will you be worry-free, or risk a travel trauma?

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As we approach peak holiday season, we see plenty of examples of Globelink customers needing assistance while away, so don't leave yourself out on a limb for your next trip.

Last year UK Insurers paid out a whopping £365 million for overseas medical treatment, cancelled trips, stolen baggage and other travel troubles. But it's not just about financial protection. Did you know that most Travel Insurance Policies have a 24/7 Emergency Assistance Service to help with emergencies while abroad?

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teams to handle any situation our intrepid customers throw at them, with specialist Doctors to monitor and advise on all medical cases and medical repatriations.

Whether it's holiday tummy, or a serious, life threatening illness or injury, they are there 24 hours a day to arrange emergency treatment, cover costs and find flights if you need to rush back for an emergency at home. This requires a mind boggling array of skills including empathy, ingenuity, efficiency, tact and diplomacy in equal measure. Calls are often from very distressed customers with loved ones ill or injured and the team must show compassion, whilst also obtaining the information necessary to validate insurance cover and arrange the right support.

Here are two recent genuine examples of Globelink customers who called for help:

#1) Whilst in Nashville, Mr D called the Assistance team because his wife had a fever. A hospital visit was arranged and Mrs D seen by a doctor. The assistance doctor and treating doctor agreed that Mrs

D was not fit to travel home to France as planned the following day. Medical costs of £3,750 were covered and the assistance team stayed in touch until Mrs D was well enough to travel. Flights and transfers home were then duly arranged and paid for. Mr D later wrote *"sincere thank you to everyone who helped get my wife home safely after her illness. The quality of service, speed of response, friendliness and dedication have been truly impressive."* Great feedback from Mr D.

#2) James, aged 21, was injured in a boating accident in New Zealand and suffered a fractured shoulder and broken leg. He was admitted to hospital and throughout his stay the Assistance team kept in touch and supported James in completing all necessary accident forms and formalities. Medical costs were covered too.

The team also kept James' parents in Spain updated of progress, which was invaluable due to time difference. Once James was fit enough to travel, all repatriation arrangements were made, including an

attendant to accompany James on the journey home to provide assistance every step of the way. Flights, transfers and medical costs of £13,750 were covered by his Globelink policy. James' father subsequently wrote *thanking the Assistance team "for their support and professionalism which was second to none."* Can't get better than that!

So do yourself a favour and don't skimp on getting decent travel insurance to protect you and your loved ones. Take as many trips as you like in a year with a Globelink Annual Multi Trip policy, starting at under £60 at [www.globelink.co.uk](http://www.globelink.co.uk).

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**Share your best Travel Tips with [globelink@globelink.co.uk](mailto:globelink@globelink.co.uk). And thanks for the great tips you have emailed already! Next month we will publish our favourites.**



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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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## Put brake on rising tolls

SIR,  
Your story AP7 takes its toll (*Issue 1969*) highlighted that it is illegal for the motorway operators to increase charges when business improves... and yet this has been going on for years to my knowledge.

I have always felt sorry for touring foreign holidaymakers who, wishing to perhaps reach their final destination as fast as possible, find themselves (unwittingly) paying more than twice as much as if they used the same road out of the main summer months.

Local residents at least know and therefore have the option to steer clear of such profiteering, unlike tourists.

It is time to put the squeeze on the toll road operators so they stop cheating summer users.

N Muralla  
Alhaurin El Grande

### Give new builds parking spaces

WITH the recession appearing to now be well behind us, there is an obvious resurgence in local construction.

While many might question the need for more new apartments - with seemingly the majority often left empty for much of each year by foreign owners - I doubt Spain will ever ban construction while extra focus is given on selling the remaining unsolds.

If new builds are therefore set to continue, why does the Spanish government not make it law that every new property MUST have allocated either a private parking space, or a garage.

As the nation becomes ever more



**NEW BUILDS:** Should have allocated parking spaces.

popular - as indicated with the increasing number of tourists — availability of general parking in cities, towns and villages is becoming ever more precious.

Just a thought, but surely a sensible, and practical one for a better future.

N Stretton,  
Torrevieja

### True dilemma

WITH regard to the letter Sharp lesson from family nanny (*Issue 1672*)

My vies to the writer C Walker are:

What a dilemma your lawyer and accountant friends must have had to realise that the children's 'Nanny' sat in, as you put it, in the 'power throne' when the family went on holiday!

Maybe a better solution might have been leaving the nanny at home, then the 'tough nut' lawyer, (your words) and her accountant husband could have spent the holiday giving the children their undivided quality time without worrying if the nanny would leave, or hold them to some kind of emotional ransom.

Modern times you said, seems more reminiscent of olden times to me.

A dilemma indeed...

Philip,  
San Fulgencio

### Shut up shop

RE the letter on Summer Sunday opening (*EWN Issue 1671*), this has been allowed now for many years, and is allowed for July, August, September, also at Christmas and Easter times. I would not want the shops to start opening every Sunday, as they are open from 10 am-10 pm Monday to Saturday, which I would think is enough time for anyone to do their shopping, so I hope Spain does not follow other European countries.

Valerie Imossi  
Mijas Costa

### Clear the air

APART from the obvious effect on local traffic movement, bad enough in itself, there is another, more insidious penalty being imposed on residents and visitors alike.

Pollution, now known to cause countless premature deaths and impaired lives but, probably because we have become used to it over the years as an inescapable consequence of 'progress,' largely ignored.

Where I live, in Altea, particularly at this time of year, the fumes around the N332 from the traffic queues are eye watering. More than incongruous considering the much vaunted 'exceptionally clean air' for which this area is famed, just a few metres away on the promenade!

Philip Waterhouse  
Altea

### 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)

## Fines and tough regulations hit Spain's beaches

WELL, we have police cycle along the boardwalk here, and they never seem to see the infringements we see. Guess funds are not low enough just yet?

Best not to smile when in the sea.

Mike

AS a resident I tend to avoid the beaches this time of year however maybe the local authorities should give due consideration to where the bulk of their income is derived... it's not olives and oranges!!!

As far as pee'ing in the sea!!!! Only the judiciary of Marbella could come up with such a rediculously unenforceable rule.

Gavin

### » Sewage scandal in Axarquia

THE thing they don't mention, and never mention is the village of Maro 4km away from Nerja, and under the municipality of Nerja, dumps its sewage in the sea RIGHT AT THE COAST, in between La Caleta and Playa de Maro, which has been declared the best beach of Spain.

There is a sewage waterfall right next to the real waterfall where tourists go to swim.

Mareno

### Comments from EWN online

### » EU warns Spain over Plastic Bags Directive

MASS unemployment throughout the euro-zone, mass criminal illegal invasions from Africa and Asia Minor and Brussels/Strasbourg is concerned about plastic bags looking to issue fines to pay for their 'jollies'; go figure.

Drew Edgar

### » Murcia nudism ban to go ahead despite opposition

THE research evidence is very clear but still politicians persist in pandering to prejudice. Does San Pedro del Pinatar want the body-attitude related outcomes of countries such as Denmark or those of the USA?

If it wants appalling outcomes then it is going the right way about it. Naturism is good for you and prudery results in nothing

but harm. Body-attitudes matter.

Malcolm Boura

WELL, let the Spanish Federation of Naturism (FEN) do something then. FEN's president, Ismael Rodrigo, should bring San Pedro del Pinatar to court.

Hugo Goosens

### » Another speed camera introduced in Mijas

WIDENING the road, reducing the speed limit and then introducing a speed camera, sounds like the normal police cash cow to me.

Mr Hurford

### » Airports warn of European flight suspensions post-Brexit

IF this happened the EU and UK industries would grind to a halt as no trade would be done as the representatives of businesses in all these areas would not be able to travel. Also the care sector would suffer as a lot of live-in care workers travel between Europe and the UK, myself being one of them.

Sally Keable



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## Women's wit

‘The reason women don’t play football is because 11 of them would never wear the same outfit in public.’



By Phyllis Diller,  
Actress/Stand up comedian

## Famous quote

‘A man who views the world the same at 50 as he did at 20 has wasted 30 years of his life.’

By Muhammad Ali,  
Professional Boxer and Activist

## World of English

‘They were too close to the door to close it.’

THE origin of tapas may be linked to when King Alfonso X El Sabio (the Wise) was ill and needed to have small snacks in between meals in order to recover.

There’s a multitude of savoury, sweet and spicy tapas to taste here in Spain. These dishes may be small in size but they are packed full of flavour and a great way to explore dishes without feeling too stuffed!

### 1. Tortilla Española

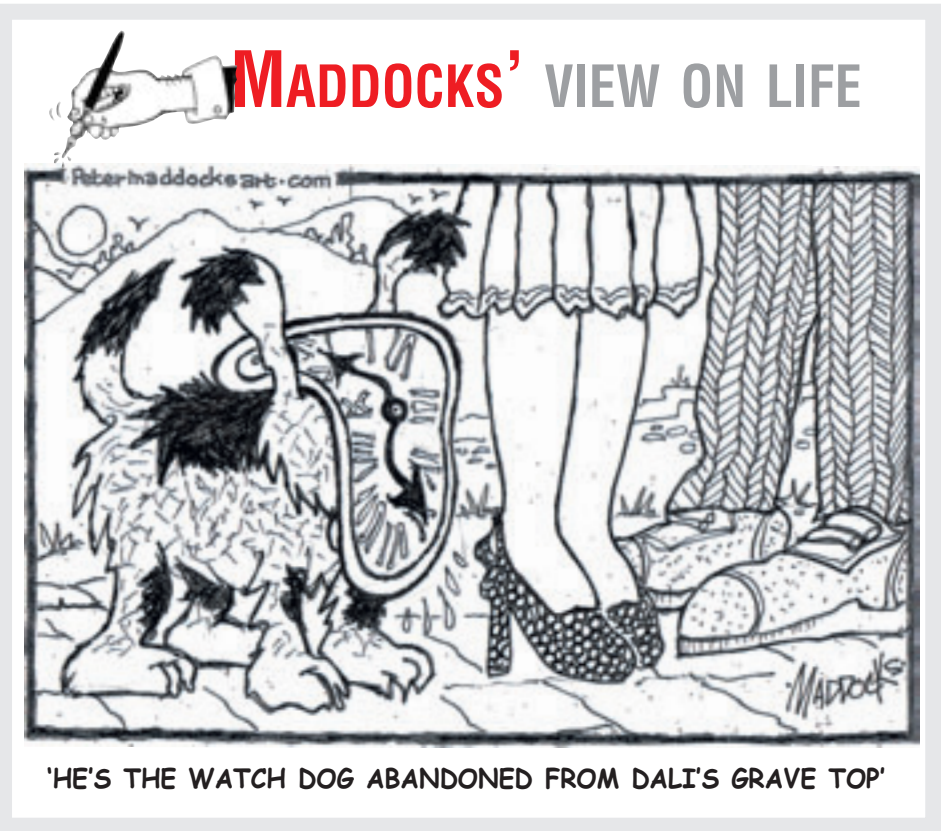
Usually described as an omelette, anyone who has tried this will tell you it’s so much more! Made with potatoes and usually flavoured with onions, as tapas they are commonly served in wedges.

### 2. Croquetas

These fried balls of yumminess are served across bars and restaurants in Spain. They can come with a variety of meat, fish, and vegetable fillings. Some of the most popular include ham and cod.

### 3. Gambas pil pil

If you’re after a flavourful mouthful that packs a punch, this is the dish for you. Fried prawns are cooked in



# Tapas dishes

TOP 5

sizzling olive oil with garlic and chilli peppers. Don’t forget to dip your bread - don’t waste a drop!

### 4. Gazpacho

A cold soup, perfect in this summer heat. Garlic, onions, peppers and cucumbers are chopped and mixed with olive oil and vinegar to create this refreshing dish.

### 5. Patatas Bravas

These are served across Spain, though how they are served can depend on the region. The pota-

toes are cut and fried in oil before being served with either a spicy tomato-based sauce or alongside aioli.



TORTILLA: So much more than an omelette.

## LOTTERY

### UK NATIONAL LOTTERY



Saturday July 22

(5) (13)  
(21) (35)  
(41) (47)

BONUS BALL

(23)

### IRISH LOTTO



Saturday July 22

(8) (14)  
(20) (21)  
(41) (44)

BONUS BALL

(9)

### EURO MILLIONS



Tuesday July 18

(1) (25)  
(27) (41)  
(45)

LUCKY STARS

(5) (7)

Friday July 21

(1) (8)  
(9) (26)  
(49)

LUCKY STARS

(5) (9)

### LA PRIMITIVA



Saturday July 22

(18) (21)  
(27) (37)  
(38) (40)

REINTEGRO

(20) (1)

### EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA



Sunday July 23

(7) (12)  
(34) (51)  
(52)

REINTEGRO

(8)

# YOUR STARS

## FOR NEXT 7 DAYS



**AQUARIUS**  
(January 21 - February 19)

Primarily, you are wanting to see some appreciation. That is understandable given the efforts that you have made. Do not be annoyed, however, if it is a while coming yet. Others are not always as well tuned in as you. If necessary, use a go-between discreetly to make sure of progress.



**PISCES**  
(February 20 - March 20)

Increased activity in your love life means less time to really concentrate on business. Make sure that priority financial matters are dealt with. Not doing so will see you kicking yourself later on. A close relationship is going well. There's no reason to wonder why, the charm offensive is obviously working.



**ARIES**  
(March 21 - April 20)

Keeping an eye on your health is particularly important at the moment. Because you have been active, it could be that you need to give yourself a bit of time. Pampering and just plain relaxing are all going to stand you in good stead during the coming week.



**TAURUS**  
(April 21 - May 21)

Opening your mind to a new idea has convinced you that it is time for a change in direction. This is such a time, but not all changes will be permanent. Give yourself a way out of any situation this week. Using your tact and charm, it will require only a little application to please everyone.



**GEMINI**  
(May 22 - June 21)

Improvising within a new business situation may not give you the perfect answer to a problem. What it will do, however, is give you an insight into the way others live. Until now, your approach to life may have been a little one-sided.



**CANCER**  
(June 22 - July 23)

A recent holiday has set your mind racing. This being a romantic time means that you can get a little over-excited. Your romance may not be set to last but you should fully enjoy it



**LEO**  
(July 24 - August 23)

Opposing opinions on a matter close to your heart see you hesitating. There is nothing wrong with asking for advice. The chances are that you know someone who has already been through your situation. Don't let pride make you miss out on a solution.



**VIRGO**  
(August 24 - September 23)

Not everything in the garden is rosy but you are made of strong stuff. Your conviction that something is right helps you in discussions. Support given to a loved one may be misguided, especially if it is a huge financial gamble.



**LIBRA**  
(September 24 - October 23)

This is a time to enjoy the present and look forward to the future. Don't forget, along the way, to congratulate yourself for all that you have achieved in the last year. Sometimes you do not blow your own trumpet and people appreciate you in a quiet way.



**SCORPIO**  
(October 24 - November 22)

An appetite for something new means that you tread unknown ground. It's an exciting time when you may find it easier to do things alone. This does not mean you have to feel alone as others can be told of your progress.



**SAGITARIUS**  
(November 23 - December 21)

Part of being 'you' is your independent mind. Some may try to change that this week. Why would someone want to make you more dependent on them? Could it be that they feel insecure? Giving reassurance may be all that is needed. We all feel the need for appreciation.



**CAPRICORN**  
(December 22 - January 20)

Trying to be everything to all people is tiring. No one knows this more than you. Give yourself a little time and space this week because it will make a great difference to your spirits.



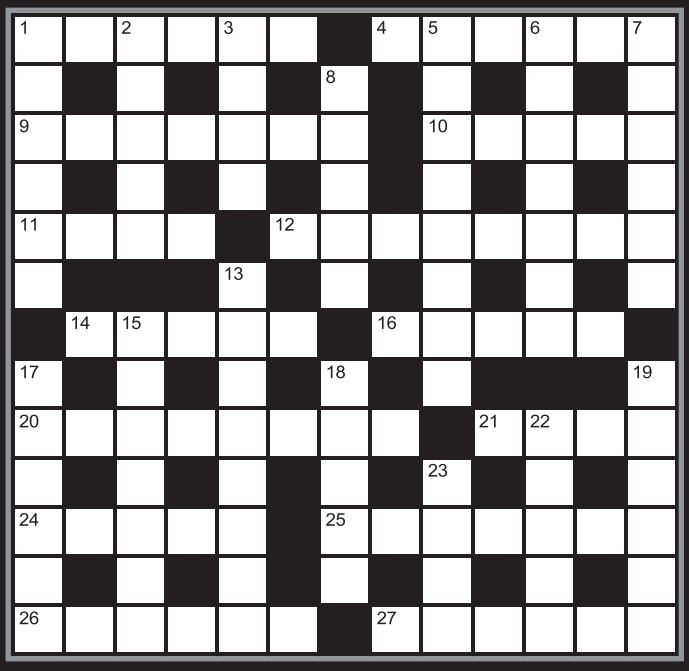
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Cryptic

- Across**
- 1 Actors playing Cuban leader (6)
  - 4 In church, allowed to consecrate (6)
  - 9 Gives in and falsely enters Luxembourg (7)
  - 10 Cares about farmer's fields (5)
  - 11 Case confusing experts (4)
  - 12 If returning, stay somewhere to keep warm (8)
  - 14 Went out with old hat (5)
  - 16 Begin to arrange a spree (5)
  - 20 States journey begins on the landing site (8)
  - 21 Nude featured in 'Cabaret' (4)
  - 24 Steam-cooked foodstuffs (5)
  - 25 Eastern European characters from Belarus love New York (7)
  - 26 Round, round, round the troop leader (6)
  - 27 Metal church bench for this first queen (6)



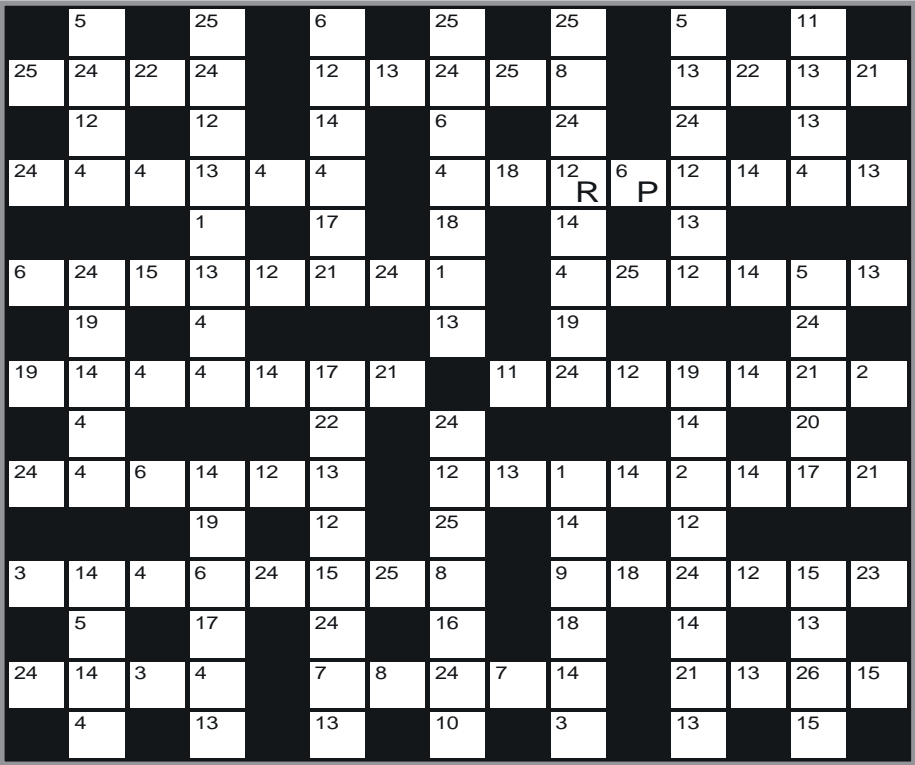
- Down**
- 1 Breakfast dish in parts, say (6)
  - 2 Dorsal vertebra contains soothing ointment (5)
  - 3 Socialist admits new split (4)
  - 5 Educationally straightforward (8)

- 6 British poet associated with gravity is having a merry time (7)
- 7 Laundress, perhaps, used to be female (6)
- 8 Snake I caught is jellied (5)
- 13 To get rid of an aeroplane is not correct (8)
- 15 In a row about bar seat (7)

- 17 Tool for one who's over the top on stage (6)
- 18 Hints before you start to get a little drunk (5)
- 19 Never point haphazardly at a thin coating (6)
- 22 Turn away from a green (5)
- 23 Fillet a key one (4)

Code Breaker

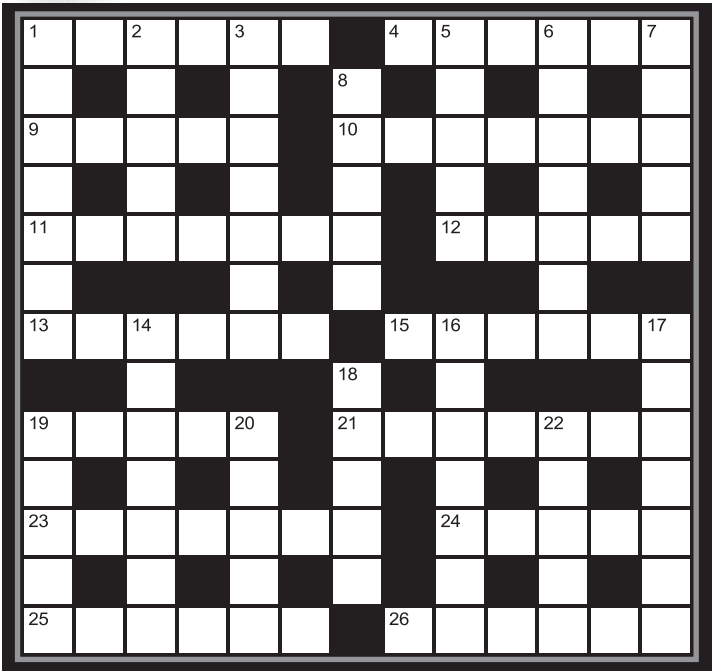
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 6 represents P and 12 represents R, so fill in P every time the figure 6 appears and R every time the figure 12 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

Quick

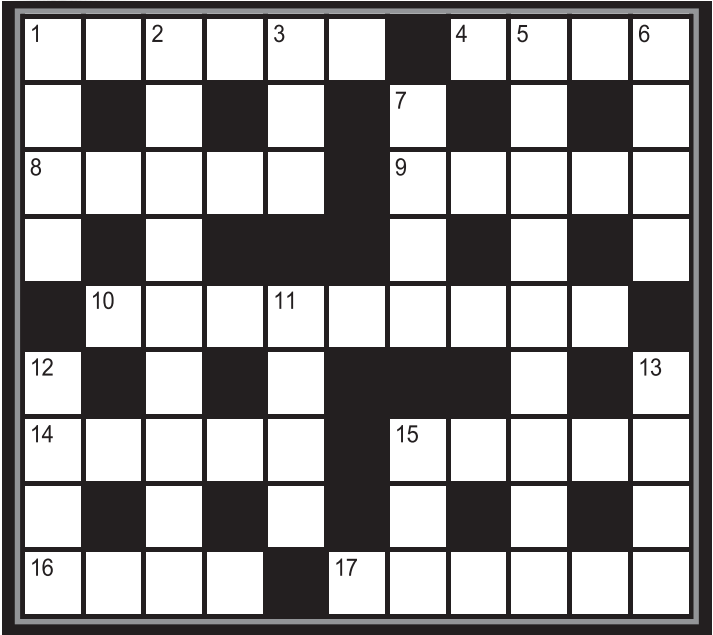


- Across**
- 1 Be emphatic or resolute and refuse to budge (6)
  - 4 Hurt, injury, loss (6)
  - 9 Gallery where works of art can be displayed (5)
  - 10 Cautionary (7)
  - 11 Open up and explore a new area (7)
  - 12 Come or go into (5)
  - 13 Convert food into absorbable substances (6)
  - 15 Of or relating to or containing iron (6)
  - 19 Hold firmly and tightly (5)
  - 21 Forsake, leave behind (7)
  - 23 Rich and superior in quality (7)
  - 24 Taut or rigid (5)
  - 25 Explained or answered (6)
  - 26 Common vipers (6)

- Down**
- 1 Lacking taste, flavour or tang (7)
  - 2 Rapid simultaneous discharge of firearms (5)
  - 3 Vocalists (7)
  - 5 Be in accord (5)
  - 6 Someone who operates an aircraft (7)
  - 7 Keen (5)
  - 8 Give officially as a payment or prize (5)
  - 14 Proceeding in small stages (7)
  - 16 Of high moral or intellectual value (7)
  - 17 Own up to or admit (7)
  - 18 Excessively quick (5)
  - 19 Annoyed and irritable (5)
  - 20 Separate part of a whole (5)
  - 22 Thick, closely-spaced, compact (5)

English - Spanish

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



- Across**
- 1 Cardenal (medical) (6)
  - 4 Pera (4)
  - 8 Sweat (5)
  - 9 Otra vez (5)
  - 10 Computer (9)
  - 14 Talones (de pies, calcetines, zapatos) (5)

- 15 Toll (on road, bridge) (5)
- 16 For (4)
- 17 Street light (6)

- Down**
- 1 Kiss (4)
  - 2 Ropa interior (9)
  - 3 To be (3)

- 5 Lover (9)
- 6 Alquiler (de inmueble) (4)
- 7 Bed (furniture) (4)
- 11 Fácil (sencillo) (4)
- 12 Tienda (4)
- 13 Candle (4)
- 15 Guisante (3)

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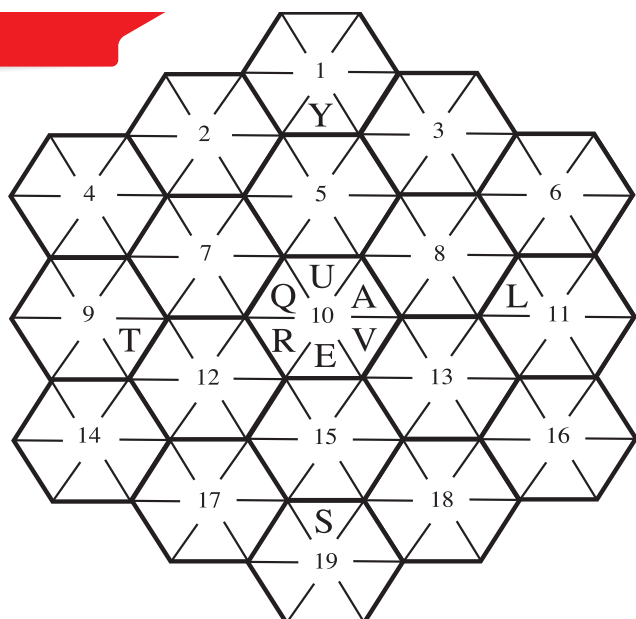
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## Hexagram

ALLELE  
BEYOND  
FALLOW  
ITSELF  
JOCOSE  
MOROSE  
NETTLE  
OMELET  
PRETTY  
QUAVER (10)  
REVEAL  
SEQUEL  
SLEEVE  
SLURRY  
STRAND  
STREET  
TORQUE  
TREBLE  
TURRET



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 (**QUAVER**) and one letter in four other cells are given as clues.

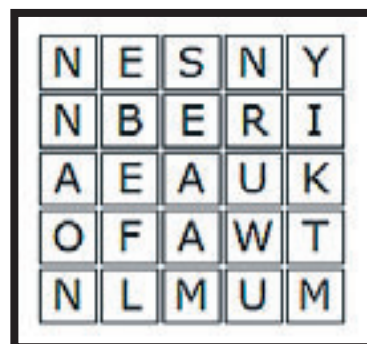
### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

1 Urgent 2 Titled 3 Delete 4 Celery  
5 Squint 6 Tamale 7 Tussle 8 Accuse  
9 Loiter 10 Squire 11 Mosaic 12 Poseur  
13 Icicle 14 Script 15 Laurel 16 Decade  
17 Tracer 18 Filled 19 Cyclic.

## Boggled

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

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



**TARGET:**

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

**SCORING:**

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

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

find fife fifer cute cutes cutis  
cutie cues cushion indite indites  
indie dirt dirtied dirtier dint dish  
dished dishier died fish fished  
fisher fishier fried dews drew drib  
ease easier asea ashier aahed  
awed hews herd herb heir haws  
hawse hawed hied hire hired befit  
bred brew brews brief bier bird

## Nonagram

How many English words of four letters or more can you make from the nine letters in our Nonagram puzzle? Each letter may be used only once (unless the letter appears twice). Each word **MUST CONTAIN THE CENTRE LETTER (in this case D)** and there must be **AT LEAST ONE NINE LETTER WORD**. Plurals, vulgarities or proper nouns are not allowed.



**TARGET:**

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

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

fare faro fate fear feat feta fora fore fort frat  
fray fret raft reft tref afore after faery ferry  
fetor foray forte forty foyer fryer rafter rarefy  
forayer forbear FERRYBOAT

## 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 Sheet, 3 Peras, 6 Ave,  
8 Maletin, 9 Balonmano,  
12 Peasant, 13 Ask, 14 Oveja,  
15 Seven.

**Down:**

1 Star, 2 Temporada,  
3 Palomitas, 4 Rotonda, 5 Sing,  
7 Emanate, 10 Apio, 11 Skin.

### CODE BREAKER

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

### CRYPTIC

**Across:**

1 Beetle, 4 Agates, 9 Arrange, 10 Zaire,  
11 Dodos, 12 Pelagic, 13 Combat,  
15 Herbal, 18 Archive, 20 Sprig, 22 Grand,  
23 Orifice, 24 Rinsed, 25 Adored.

**Down:**

1 Beard, 2 Earldom, 3 Lends, 5 Gazelle,  
6 Thing, 7 Stencil, 8 Tempo, 13 Charger,  
14 Ariadne, 16 Barrier, 17 Felon,  
19 Chain, 20 Spied, 21 Greed.

### QUICK

**Across:**

1 Jealous, 5 Cease, 8 Light, 9 Overawe,  
10 Bench, 11 Tense, 12 Gaffe, 14 Chase,  
19 Recur, 21 Brass, 23 Cardiac, 24 Train,  
25 Store, 26 Strange.

**Down:**

1 Jilted, 2 Algebra, 3 Often, 4 Soothe,  
5 Cheetah, 6 Again, 7 Eleven, 13 Forge,  
15 Sustain, 16 Crocus, 17 Abacus,  
18 Fringe, 20 Cargo, 22 Alter.

## App of the week



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# Fast food fame

WE are living in hectic times.

In the brave new world of the 21st century, the majority of technological advances are geared towards saving us time and labour.

Microwave ovens cook our food in a matter of minutes. There are robots to clean our dirty floors.

Dial-up connections weren't quick enough so we replaced them; first with broadband then with a network of fibre optic cables stretching endless miles across the globe.

There is 'fast food' for when you can't spare half an hour waiting for something to be cooked from scratch. The meal can be taken away in a bag (or delivered to your door) and gulped down to provide fuel, but not necessarily sustenance.

Is it any wonder then that the younger generation are impatient?

When all you have known is that things you want are quickly available only to be out of date within a year, who will make time to learn an instrument, have singing lessons or hone their craft in acting?

And so, we find ourselves in a situation where almost anyone can get famous overnight just by 'going viral' on YouTube.

**Trudy Stewart**

*May contain traces of nuts.*



**22%**

*of children answered, "I just want to be rich" - when asked what they wanted to be when they grow up - for a poll in 2014.*

Since the advent of reality TV shows like Big Brother and the X Factor, it's just as easy to achieve a level of fame based on your personality, no real talent required.

It doesn't necessarily follow that the newly found fame will last but that's not really the point.

In these times of austerity (a grandiose word for state-imposed

poverty), where we are constantly bombarded with justifications for slashing funding to those workers in society who need it most, why wouldn't young people take advantage of making a quick buck?

Sure it might only last for 15 minutes but, when you can earn

## A script for living

IN TV and entertainment, scripted reality (sometimes known as structured reality) is a sub-genre of reality television.

The difference with this type of show is that major parts (sometimes all) of the contents are scripted.

This involves the production company pre-arranging parts of it, never leaving the story or plot's outcome to chance.

In these shows, real people (not ac-

tors) are placed into structured scenarios likely to steer towards certain conversations or reactions.

The idea is that the dialogue is not scripted so it will appear more natural but the situations are engineered and highly managed.

This quite often means that the scenes in which they have conversations feel anything but natural and are often further modified for dramatic effect.



**IMPATIENT CULTURE: Fast food and Joey Essex are part of the same phenomenon.**

more in that time than the average paramedic does during their career, you'd be crazy not to, right?

Recently, I was looking through a list of celebrity birthdays and was sad to see that the biggest (living) famous person - on that particular day - was Joey Essex from scripted reality show The Only Way Is Essex.

Don't get me wrong, I have nothing against him, but as someone who doesn't watch that type of programme, all I know about him is that people enjoy ridiculing his supposed lack of intelligence.

And that's the problem with this fickle fame. Like fast food we like the look of it, consume till we've had our fill, discard when we've had enough and are hungry for more in a couple of hours...



SIX out of every 10 British holidaying abroad and seeking car hire choose the cheapest vehicle available.

Additionally many look for early deals and generally go for the cheaper locations, including Spain and Portugal.

This is spelled out in findings from research company Mintel which has offices worldwide, including London.

A Mintel report on car hire just published advises hire firms to change their marketing strategies to appeal to tourists looking for a leaner holiday package where every penny counts.

Transparent pricing and special deals would go far in appealing to this new demographic, the report says.

Also, overall British holiday-makers are losing some of their appetite for car hire when travelling abroad with steep prices and bad experiences taking their toll, making a car on holiday now viewed by many as an unnecessary expense.

The Mintel findings reveal that the number of British tourists hiring a car abroad has dropped 6 per cent in 12 months to 33 per cent in 2017.

Young tourists have led the change in habits for while more than 40 per cent aged 18-24 rented a car when travelling

# Driving a bargain

## Price steers tourists to car hire choice



**CAR HIRE: Many people look for early deals and seek the cheapest vehicle.**

abroad in 2016, this year the figure is under 30 per cent.

Bad experiences and the perception of being ripped off is

partly blamed with four in 10 saying they were charged more than expected, and almost as many claiming a negative experience.

The research indicates that the car hire industry is now exposed to the same market forces

that have transformed flights and accommodation. Low-cost airlines and a thriving tourist home rental industry have

knocked major airlines and hotels from their previous perch.

Though appetite for car hire may be waning, cars themselves haven't lost their magic. Researchers found that the majority of British like the idea of a road trip abroad with friends and family.

Almost nine in 10 of those with incomes above €56,000 have considered the idea, with this group also more likely to crank their car choice up a gear, with 65 per cent saying they would consider hiring a sports car to give their holiday an edge.

Car hire firms should capitalise on this by better advertising their product, the report concludes. Emphasising cars as a means of transforming a standard holiday into an independent adventure free from the limits of distance and bus schedules, would encourage people to spend more on the car they really want.

If hire companies can manage this they will tap into a huge market. The research found that 63 per cent of Brits have holidayed abroad in the last three years.

More than a quarter of the estimated 46 million overseas trips made by Brits in 2017 will be to Spain.



# Sing your way to happiness

HOBBIES have always been known to boost your mood; partaking in some time out of work and responsibilities to do something you enjoy, and joining a choir now seems to be the latest mood booster.

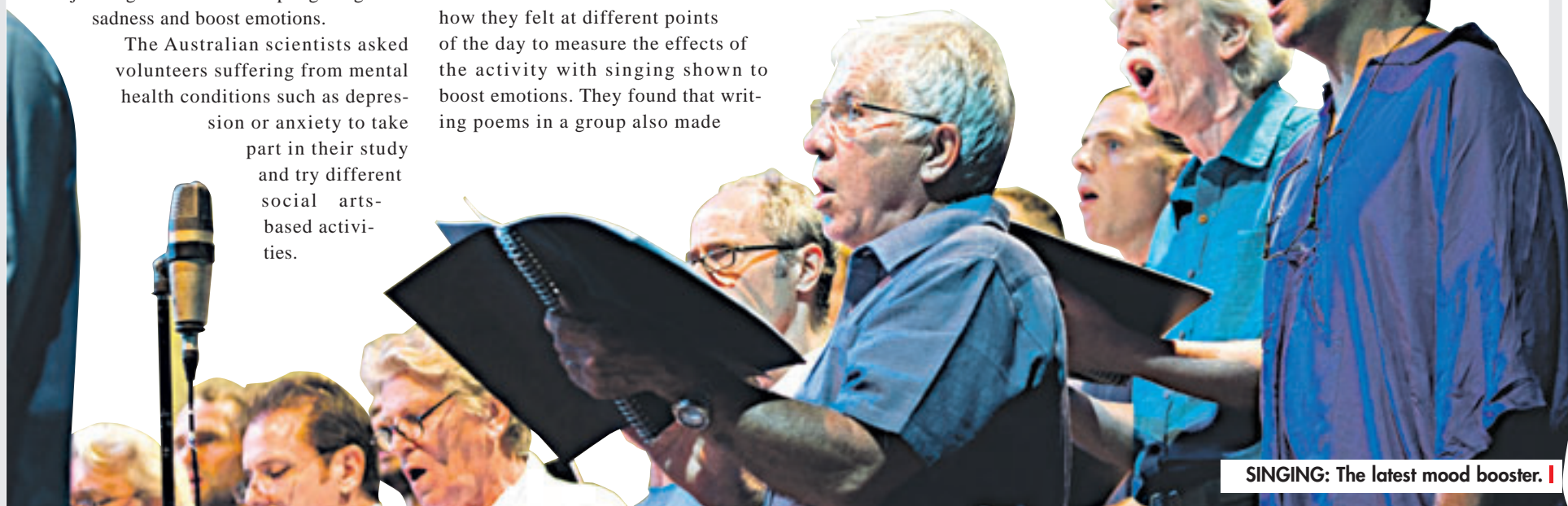
A new study in Australia has found that joining a choir can help fight against sadness and boost emotions.

The Australian scientists asked volunteers suffering from mental health conditions such as depression or anxiety to take part in their study and try different social arts-based activities.

Singing was found to boost the immune system with just one hour of singing increasing levels of the immune proteins that help the body to battle illness significantly.

Each activity was undertaken once a week over nearly three months and volunteers were asked to describe how they felt at different points of the day to measure the effects of the activity with singing shown to boost emotions. They found that writing poems in a group also made

people happier and the scientists believe their findings could pave the way for more participation in arts-based groups to beat the blues.



**SINGING:** The latest mood booster. |

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# Are you one of them?



**BACK PAIN:**  
Try and correct  
your posture.

## Phone reminders

AN initiative has launched in Zaragoza to help remind patients to take their medication.

A group of nurses has developed the programme aimed at particularly helping diabetic patients and those who suffer from depression. They plan to carry out telephone support interventions as a means of helping patients to better comply with their medical treatment

and remind them to take their medication.

The scheme will initially run for 18 months as a trial to see how effective it is with patients following their treatment plan. They will receive regular calls to check their progress and remind them of their treatment.

The plan has been developed at the University of Zaragoza.

MANY adults are turning away from gyms due to back pain.

Around two-fifths of adults in the UK said they avoided exercise because of pain in the lower back according to a survey of more than 2,000 adults which was commissioned by the British Chiropractic Association.

However they said that the spine is naturally strong and moderate exercise, when done correctly, can help to build and maintain its strength and posture and actually protect you from further pain in the long run.

Meanwhile the Association reminds people that changes in lifestyle are also affecting back health, with fashion maybe more a concern than hitting the gym.

Current fashions are changing the way women walk and this is having a detrimental impact on their health. Skinny jeans for example, restrict the movement of the knees and hips which

puts extra pressure on the back. High heels are also often criticised for the pressure they put on feet and back when walking.

Mobile phone use has also recently been highlighted as a cause of back pain with people hunched over looking at their phone screens.

Back pain is one of the most common ailments with four in five people expected to suffer at some point in their lifetime. So what can you do to help prevent aches and pains in your back but still want to work out?

Be safe. If you exercise at the gym make use of the professional staff they have. When signing up for the first time, everyone should be shown how to use the equipment efficiently and safely by a qualified instructor.

Don't overdo it. Your body can do a lot and whilst you need to push it at times, remember you are not an Olympic athlete and listen to your body. Take things slow-

ly, particularly when starting out and ask an instructor to advise on a safe way of training to push yourself without going beyond your body's limitations.

Warm up and cool down. Most injuries are caused not from the actual exercise itself but from the body's muscles not being correctly warmed up and cooled down before and after.

Try yoga. Yoga is now being widely recommended by experts to strengthen the back and medical professionals are even 'prescribing' it to ease pain rather than handing out painkillers and medication.

Good posture. Even if not at the gym, you can practise stronger back health. Try and correct your posture, stand up straight, don't slump over your desk at work and use a chair that provides firm support for your lower back with knees ideally a little higher than your hips when you sit.

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**ATENZIA:** Has launched a campaign which includes advice and recommendations to help stay cool in the heat.

## Beating loneliness this summer

SOME 1.9 million people aged over 65 live alone in Spain, a figure which has increased. That's according to the latest Continuous Household Survey of the National Statistics Institute (INE).

Atenzia, Spain's 24-hour

tele-assistance service, has launched a campaign to help combat loneliness during the summer. They said the summer can be particularly lonely for the elderly as the heat can weaken their physical state and increase their vulnerability.

They are also affected by the loss of their social network as friends, relatives and caregivers go on holiday.

As a result, Atenzia has launched its summer campaign which includes advice and recommendations to help stay cool in the heat, avoid fraud and increase security and have organised workshops and activities to promote socialisation.

Just last week Alicante hosted a security at home workshop in collaboration with the National Police with advice given to identify situations of risk and to know how to deal with them.

This week in Zaragoza, a

workshop includes guidelines to enhance memory and mathematical skills including games such as bingo which helps keep the brain alert, improves reaction time and visual memory.

**“The summer can be particularly lonely for the elderly.**

The tele-care service also provides security and confidence to seniors who spend the summer alone and specialised monitoring will be done to help detect loneliness.

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## Heat rash



**SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.**

**WHAT is heat rash?**

Heat rash is an eruption of red skin that can sometimes be itchy but generally doesn't have any symptoms. It usually appears in areas where skin rubs on a surface, and from high body temperatures in areas such as the armpits, inner thighs, elbows, knees and also in the torso where more sweat accumulates.

**What are its symptoms?**

Usually heat rash appears as patches of bumpy, red skin in areas where the body sweats the most. In general it does not tend to hurt, however the areas can become itchy and irritating when they are still wet from sweat or from wearing tight-fitting clothes. It very rarely gets infected.

**How can you treat it?**

Heat rash tends to dis-

sipate without any treatment, however in some cases ointments with antibiotics and anti-inflammatories help reduce the swelling. In extreme cases corticoids or antihistamines may need to be used to combat swelling and itching.

**Who are the most likely to get heat rash?**

Anyone can get heat rash however those who are most at risk tend to be people with very light skin, children and the elderly.

**Can it be prevented?**

You can prevent, or reduce the frequency of heat rash. Firstly it is essential to keep your skin clean and completely dry. Fresh cotton clothing avoids irritation caused by rubbing. Always keeping your skin hydrated also helps, as well as avoiding overexposure to heat and staying in cool areas.

*If you have any questions for Dr Perez Belmonte, please send them to:*

[jefemedico@helicopterosanitarios.com](mailto:jefemedico@helicopterosanitarios.com)



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# Ruff tactics at shepherd school

ANIMAL lovers will have a golden opportunity to watch one of the Almanzora Valley's greatest summer attractions.

Next month in Oria, the Yeleen Dog School will showcase how shepherd dogs herd different types of cattle under different circumstances.

The leaders of the dog school are well-regarded for their respect to animals and the excitement of their performances. They have 25 years of experience between them and are working with the council's culture department to bring their herding magic to a wider audience.

The show takes place on

Friday August 18 at Oria's Rambla Tobaita at 7.30pm. Running for a few hours it will be a live demonstration of how the shepherd dogs work individually, in teams, and with their handlers to herd the cattle.

It adds an entertaining spin to one of the Valley's most traditional jobs and even allows spectators to participate. A family-friendly affair, it offers people a wonderful chance to see first-hand how shepherd dogs are trained and what distinguishes them from other hounds.

The dogs are

treated respectfully at all times and are the real stars of the show, exhibiting their well-honed herding skills and enjoying plenty of attention.



**EASY WORK:**  
Dogs love to herd cattle.

## Two very different festivals

TICKETS are still up for grabs for two very different festivals and music workshops taking place in Mojácar this weekend.

From tomorrow until Sunday the much-awaited Muxacra Oriental Fest finally comes to town. The opening gala and performances begin tomorrow at 9pm in the Multiple Uses Centre, with tickets available for €8.

On Saturday and Sunday special workshops on belly dancing and other exotic oriental art forms will be held by guest star Nesma. They take place throughout the day at the Multiple Uses Centre be-

fore guests are invited to a eastern meal with live music.

Tickets for this once-in-a-lifetime experience can be ordered online at [www.muxacraorientalfest.wordpress.com](http://www.muxacraorientalfest.wordpress.com) and through the festival's Facebook page.

On Saturday at Camping Sopalmo the one and only Louis Wonder will be holding a day-long workshop on African percussion music. The now-annual workshop does a tremendous deal to help orphans and street children in Ghana.

More details can be found online at [www.universalsalwonderfulstreetacademy.org](http://www.universalsalwonderfulstreetacademy.org).

## Swing in the square

NOW in its 10th year, Taberno is celebrating its Ventolera music festival next week with a spectacular range of genres and styles, alongside food, flowing drink and workshops.

Though traditionally a free rock festival, Ventolera has transformed into a far bigger affair embracing punk, flamenco, swing,

**Ventolera has transformed into a far bigger affair now.**

reggae, and soul. Music from far flung countries including Brazil, the Congo, Bulgaria and France will be sparking creative

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Tel: 950 091 538

Email: [thecrocodileclub@almanzora.com](mailto:thecrocodileclub@almanzora.com)





**GRANADA:** Andalusian city is picture perfect inspiration.

## Art master debuts

THE magic of Granada is on display in Mojacar courtesy of a must-see watercolour painting exhibition at La Fuente art centre.

Running until the end of the month, the exhibit is entitled 'Granada y Mas' (Granada and more) and features a total of 30 pieces from Granada native professor Mariano Urbano Martin.

Put onto canvas over a period of two years, the pieces capture a wealth

of Granada's stunning scenery and unique beauty. From landscape paintings of the Lecrin Valley to detailed urban sketches, Mariano's work is an exhilarating depiction of one of Spain's most beautiful cities.

It is the first time he has displayed his work in public. The exhibition is open free of charge from Tuesday to Saturday from 9am until 1pm and on Sunday from 10am to 1pm.

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# It makes you sick!

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



**F**OOD poisoning is one of the most dreaded illnesses and is a nightmare for hoteliers and restaurateurs. But, despite the UK having the highest food handling standards, caterers are still making hazardous mistakes in the kitchen according to the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH).

Here in Spain we also have very high standards for handling and storage. But despite continuous training and impressing on staff how important food hygiene and handling is, basic mistakes are still made. Most of those mistakes could be avoided if common sense (that wonderful oxymoron) was implemented.

Washing your hands when going to the loo might be the obvious, but more germs are picked up from the door handles than anything so best to keep an antibacterial wash - like hospitals use - outside of the toilet area.

The invention of hand driers was meant to cut the bacteria down but it was soon discovered that if not used properly the heat on the moist hands actually increased germ spread. They are now much more efficient - and hotter - which tends to kill most bacteria.

On that subject staff who contract sickness and diarrhoea, in an effort to prove what good workers they are, come back to work too early. Severe attacks take longer than 48 hours to clear the system and de-



**Party time for germs! Bleach those boards.**

spite feeling better, bacteria can still be transmitted through body pores and finger tips.

Personal hygiene - or lack of it - is one of the many causes of illness but the handling of food can be far more dangerous. Bacteria thrives at temperatures of between 5°C and 63°C so buffet restaurants which leave their dishes out for more than an hour or two is one practice putting people's health in danger. Never did like buffets or carverys!!

Kitchens that leave food out too long without preparing it or returning it to the fridge is another. Cross contamination when preparing different foods. Preparing raw chicken then picking up another product without washing hands thoroughly.

Chopping boards that are used for the same products. Restaurants have different colour boards for different preparations. Fridges are checked regularly but staff have to be aware that the food inside should be probed as well.

There is an ad on TV at the moment for

Dettol (I think) where a woman is seen to be wiping down a surface with a piece of raw chicken, claiming that that is as dangerous as using a dirty dishcloth! How many of us wash our dishes and surfaces and then leave the cloth to dry overnight? Thus spreading pathogens when re-used the next day.

I remember when I employed a young chef, who had been working in a UK hospital, many years ago he said he was disillusioned with hospital kitchens as the standards of hygiene were not up to what he had been taught at college. The final straw, he said, was when the chef told him to unwrap the frozen chickens, put them on trays and put them straight into the oven. Well they do say in the UK if you want to get ill, go into a hospital.

*(Next week I will write about Oysters and their relationship to food poisoning)*



## Imperial, it certainly is

WHEN I first came to this part of the world we had little choice at the time but to drink Rioja. That or we were sufficiently uneducated as to the other wines available, although most restaurants and supermarkets relied heavily on the wines from this area. One of the wines that was among our favourites - and I can't remember the last time I drank a bottle - was CVNE. Which is also the name of the bodega (Compania Vinicole del Norte de Espana). While CVNE itself was a good drinking wine the bodega produces some of the finest Riojas available, quality price into consideration. The best known being Imperial and Viña Real.

I suppose the reason we liked these wines, having been more accustomed to drinking French wines, was that

Imperial had a very Bordeaux style and the Viña Real, Burgundy. Years 2009/2010 are two of the best vintages in the Rioja; and the Gran Reservas of both these wines have made their mark on the wine buffs; With Robert Parker and James Suckling both rating them in the high nineties. While buying a very quaffable CUNE robe or crianza will only set you back seven or eight euro, the Gran Reservas will be a special treat at around 50€ a bottle. Saludos.

**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.*

“

A person might be an expert in any field of knowledge but without cleanliness their life is a waste.  
Anon

## This sucks!



**CHUCK IT: Plastic or biodegradable? SUCK IT.**

IN a bid to further reduce the amount of plastic that litters our world, some pub chains in the UK have replaced their plastic drinking straws with biodegradable paper straws. The Liberation Group claims that it is the largest pub group to make such a move, phasing plastic straws out from all of its 100-strong pub estate across the Channel Islands and the West Country.

Explaining their decision, Liberation pointed out that plastic straws are made from polypropylene - a petroleum product designed to last forever. The straws are particularly harmful to marine life, with more than one million sea birds and a hundred thousand marine mammals killed by plastic waste each year.

As discussed on this page over recent months, there are more than five trillion pieces of plastic floating in the world's oceans, according to a 2014 study published in a Public Library of Science journal.

Marine experts fear there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean by 2050, measured by weight, according to a fact-sheet from the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, a UK-based charity working to end waste in the economy. As part of Plastic Free July, the Liberation Group is supporting the local 'Straws Suck!' campaign. The campaign involves stopping the use of plastic straws and switching to biodegradable alternatives. Liberation pubs will be encouraging their customers to join the campaign and cut plastic waste through social media and on its pub blackboards with the #refusethestraw hashtag.

Jayson Perfect, - great name - managing director - Pubs and Inns said: "Our pubs use millions of straws each year, so we see the switch really benefiting the environment. Plastic straws are a blight on our coastlines, marine life and our oceans. This is a problem which is entirely avoidable. As an Island company who supports many charitable organisations, I feel we also have a moral obligation to support helping marine mammal life where possible."

Liberation Group's move follows a similar one by Oakman Inns and Restaurants, which banned plastic straws in April this year. It also offers eco-friendly alternatives.

*(some content thanks to the Caterer and Hotelkeeper)*

**850,000** The number of people affected by food poisoning last year in the UK

**500** the number of people who died with a food poisoning related illness

**500** the number of people affected by the norovirus at The Fat Duck

**£200,000** the amount that Heston Blumenthal (not the clients) received in compensation





**SAVED:** Judge rules to halt demolition of Brit-bought homes.

## Homes spared the hammer

THE 98 family homes built in Albox between 2004 and 2006 then declared illegal, much to the fury of dozens of British buyers, will not be demolished.

Almeria's criminal court rejected the prosecution's de-

mands for complete demolition of the properties. Judges noted that they had been legally acquired by third parties intending to legalise them.

A lawyer for citizen right's group AUAN, which has

helped countless British victims of Spain's illegal property licence's scandal, said he was "very happy" for his clients. "It seems that at long last they can glimpse the light at the end of the tunnel," said Gerardo Vazquez.



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## Road revamp

WORK on the AL-8101 has been complete after serious renovations costing upwards of €150,000. Portions of the road, which connected Oria from the A-399 to San Roque in Albox, had been criticised for being dangerous and unstable.

The road has now been widened and strengthened, with new asphalt and piping to improve drainage. An extra 1,000 metres of gutter covered with concrete was installed and the road lines have been properly repainted.

The works are part of a larger road safety improvement effort across the Almanzora Valley. Almost 50 roads have benefited from a total investment of €6 million in the past year.

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DEADLY: Albox men had no licence to kill.

## Gun trio nabbed

THREE Albox residents have been charged with illegal weapons possession and threats after a Guardia Civil raid uncovered a shotgun, pistol and substantial quantity of ammunition.

Two of the suspects, both aged 59, are accused of harbouring the illicit weapons. A third man, aged 26, is suspected of issuing threats to another Albox resident.

Police were called when one local claimed to have heard shots fired from a nearby home. When he looked out the window to

“After some enquiries the shooter was tracked down in Cantoria.

see what had happened, one man brandished a shotgun and told him to look away.

Undeterred the man followed up and found two empty shotgun shells near the property, which he presented to police as evidence. The shots were fired on July 6 and for several weeks police kept an eye on the house.

Satisfied that they had a case they raided the premises and secured the shotgun, a pistol, and ammunition. They arrested the two older suspects, but neither matched the description the witness had made.

After some enquiries they eventually tracked the shooter to Cantoria where he was hiding.

## Lady of the Valley

AN eight-metre tall sculpture is on the verge of completion in Olula del Rio. The work, by renowned Almerian sculptor and painter Antonio Lopez, is entitled La Mujer Del Almanzora (the woman of the Almanzora Valley).

It is being installed near the Casa Ibanez museum and the recently completed Perez Siquier museum. The enormous piece is a realistic head piece of a woman, made with marble from Macael, one of the Almanzora Valley's iconic materials. It is designed to express an image of the Valley's culture to the world.



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Travel

# City break, spa weekend or family fun

PARIS is always a good choice and is the perfect city break to wander around the streets and soak up the world famous Parisian culture, gastronomy and fashion.

The Montmartre, or Artists District, is like its own separate little village with the Sacre-Coeur white basilica sitting on the hilltop overlooking the action. It has been the home and workplace of some of the world's most famous artists such as Picasso and Van Gogh and is now still a mecca for artists, although many can no longer afford to live there.

Back down the hill and on the right bank of the Seine is the historic Louvre. Established in 1793, it is now the world's largest museum containing more than 380,000 objects and 35,000

pieces of art work. It is now as much a popular attraction with movie fans as it is with art lovers, being featured prominently in the 2003 film The Da Vinci Code based on the Dan Brown book. Visitor tours following in the footsteps of the film are also on offer from the Louvre.

But of course no trip to Paris would be complete without a visit to the city's, and perhaps the

country's, most renowned and emblematic icon: the Eiffel Tower. Named after engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built it, the tower is 324m high and was the tallest man-made structure in the world until the Chrysler Building was completed in New York. The Eiffel Tower has three levels for visitors accessed by a lift or by stairs for those wanting to burn off some calories climbing the 300 steps to the first level.

Whilst many fly into Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport, Ryanair offers regular flights to Paris

Beauvais airport from Spain which is north of the city. By being this bit further out you can make your Paris break something totally different.

The Euro Weekly News flew into Beauvais and head-

ed to the French countryside and the Dolce Chantilly hotel and golf resort. Around 45 minutes from the airport it is a relaxed oasis within the Natural Park area of Oise-Pays. You could be forgiven for not going too far from the resort being able to spend the weekend resting and relaxing in the pool, sauna or steam room and walking in the countryside, while for the more active

## TOP TIPS

- Ryanair flies direct to Paris BVA from Alicante, Malaga, Mallorca and Valencia.
- Visit [www.dolcechantilly.com](http://www.dolcechantilly.com) for more details and prices on the Dolce Chantilly resort.
- When visiting Paris city try a bus tour to see the highlights and to hop on and off in a day such as [www.theparisspass.es](http://www.theparisspass.es).



**CITY VIEW:** Spend the day wandering around the sights.

you can enjoy golf, or head off on a bike trail.

From here this also offers a great opportunity to have the best of both worlds as less than an hour's drive away are all the city delights of Paris making a day trip perfectly viable before heading back to peace and tranquillity. Or, drive an hour in the

opposite direction and you are at Disneyland Paris, where dreams come true for the young and the young at heart. Book a longer break than you would normally in the heart of Paris city and you can really make the most of what the area has to offer with something for everyone.



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Built on one level the villa internally comprises a large L-shape entrance hall off which to the left there are double doors leading to the open plan lounge-diner with designated areas for each. The lounge area benefits an open fire-place and doors leading to a large covered terrace and the dining area also has access to the terrace and another door back to the entrance hall. Also accessed from the hall is the fully fitted kitchen with gas hob, electric oven, extensive storage and marble worktops with matching breakfast bar.

The air conditioned master bedroom with



**DETACHED:** With a large south facing terrace.



fitted wardrobes also has an en suite bathroom with bath and shower over, toilet and basin. Two further double bedrooms with built in wardrobes and a family bathroom with shower, toilet, bidet and basin complete the internal living rooms.

Externally there is a large south facing covered terrace that runs the width of the property and is ideal for outside dining. From the terrace there is access to the gar-

dens and 8x4m swimming pool.

Moving around the side of the property there is an external laundry room; storage shed for the gas cylinders that power the hot water and central heating; terraces and the remainder of the plot to

the rear of the property that is planted with fruit and olive trees.

The property has mains connection for water and also has 30 minutes water rights per month to access agricultural water for the maintenance of the trees and gardens.

The property benefits uPVC tilt and open windows, mosquito screens, rejas, air conditioning in two bedrooms, cavity walls and with being on a flat plot is disabled friendly.

- ✓ 3 Bedrooms
- ✓ 2 Bathrooms
- ✓ Plot Size : 3,600 m2
- ✓ Build Size : 173.42 m2

Contact: 950 617 518  
paul@nextstopalmeria.com



**ON THE MARKET:** Sam Allardyce's luxurious Costa Blanca pad.

NEWS that Michael Douglas has slashed the asking price for his Mallorcan estate by a third puts him in elite company among celebrities desperately trying to shift their Spanish property.

The Hollywood star reduced his demand for s'Estaca, an 11 bedroom, 10 bathroom affair furnished with "indescribable luxury" according to the sales pitch, from €50 million to €40 million. This summer it went

## Celebs selling in Spain

down again, to €36.5 million.

Douglas invested heavily in the historical property and appears determined to make at least some profit. But he's not the only star perhaps holding out for more than the market can muster.

On the mainland disgraced former England manager Sam Allardyce is still trying to sell his Costa Blanca villa. Big Sam's Moraira property has five bedrooms, a wine cellar, elevator and terrific views.

He went there for time to "reflect" after

his sacking just months into the England job and ended up deciding to sell the place. It has been on the market for €4 million since spring, with no serious interest recorded.

Back in Mallorca, another sporting star is desperately trying to raise funds. Former tennis champ Boris Becker has been declared bankrupt, making his island villa a key asset likely to be seized and sold.



## Herbal life

MANY people have miniature jungles on their balconies and roof terraces but if you're not particularly green-fingered and want to have a crack at 'growing your own,' mini herb gardens are a great way to start.

Balconies can be perfect as usually, they get plenty of light and sunshine to help out even the most novice gardeners.

Although many supermarkets sell herbs, they have probably been sitting under fluorescent lights for a while so try to buy from a garden centre instead.

If space is limited, try to buy the same amount of potting mix as you need for your pot. Leftover bags of soil just take up space.

Herbs can be planted in any sort of container - window boxes, troughs or even a bucket - as long as they have holes in them for drainage. Small buckets are great, as they can be taken straight into the kitchen for cooking.

It is easier to plant one herb per pot. If you do mix them in a pot, don't put rosemary and mint together as they have a tendency to take over.

Picking the leaves of your herbs will encourage further growth and you will be rewarded with well-established plants.

Herbs like a lot of water, at least once a week, but more during the peak summer heat.

As it can be easy to confuse certain herbs, keep the information card you get with them for easy reference.

# Lovely Lantana - a colourful shrub

**GRAEME TYRRELL**

IF you are looking for an attractive, colourful shrub or trailing ground cover with a long flowering season that is hardy, requires minimal soil improvement, is low moisture tolerant and attracts butterflies then you should be considering Lantana.

There are two forms, Lantana camera, the shrub and Lantana montevidensis, the trailing species. Lantana is also known as Wild Sage, Yellow Sage, and Shrub Verbena as it is a member of the Verbena family of plants.

The strikingly bright coloured flowers that form in groups come in many different shades including orange, red, yellow, white, pink and lavender. The colours may vary depending on climate, location, maturity of plant and once pollinated, the colour of the tiny individual flowers change (typically from yellow to orangish, pinkish, or reddish) giving the effect of multi-coloured flowers.

Lantana tolerate a wide range of climatic conditions, including drought, different soil types, heat, humidity and salt, making it a very suitable addition to a



**LANTANA feeding a butterfly.**

Mediterranean garden. Its downside is that it produces abundant seeds and may escape the domestic garden and colonise open areas where it can become invasive. It is best to prune off as many berries as possible before they mature to reduce the distribution of seed.

Many consider it poisonous due to animals consuming large quantities developing fatal liver conditions. Generally the toxicity is very low if accidentally consumed in small quantities, which is not recommended of course, but there are few reports of major incidents from people accidentally ingesting the plant, suggesting it is considered only mildly irritating to most people. Still take care not to allow children and adults to consume any parts of the plant.

It grows well in a container

with a well drained potting mix placed in a position with plenty of sunlight. The container should not get too hot though as this will damage the root system. In the garden the shrub looks good alone or in groups and the trailing species makes a great ground cover and overhanging plant on terraced retaining walls or slopes with their white and mauve flowers.

Water them regularly while getting them established but don't saturate the soil. It prefers some moisture but dislikes water logging. Once established they will need to have moisture in the soil to do well but do not need excessive watering.

Keep the plant compact by pruning back a third of the growth in late autumn when the flowering is finished. Regularly deadhead the berries.

## Bathroom blitz

WITH the average person spending 92 days (over their lifetime) in the bathroom, it's a room that gets a lot of use in our homes.

If your loo could use a freshen-up, here are three easy and low-cost ideas to rejuvenate your throne room.

### 1. Paint the tiles

Before you start, clean them thoroughly with a solvent. Once dry, apply a coat of sealant. When ready for painting, ensure you use enamel or special paint for tiles which is quick drying, mould-resistant, washable and completely waterproof.

### 2. Lay vinyl flooring

Vinyl floor coverings can be a better option for some. Calculate your floor space in square metres and allow an additional 10 per cent.

### 3. Wallpaper it

If your bathroom is small, you can choose to make one wall a feature instead of doing the whole space. Make sure the paper has a vinyl layer for easy cleaning and waterproofing.

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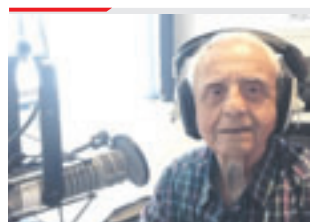
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# Your dog and a new baby



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GRADULLY introduce changes in your dog's routine as soon as you know baby is on the way - if he does not connect them with the baby's arrival he has less reason to be jealous.

(a) Your dog should not be the centre of attention at all times, and should not sit on your lap (if at all) only when invited by you.

(b) Get him used to being away from you sometimes in another room, or indoor kennel ('crate'), and ban him from the nursery.

(c) Take a refresher course at a training school, and think about practice walks with the pram - it can be trickier than it sounds!

(d) Check with your vet about canine hygiene and worming.

When your baby is born your dog may be left for hours while you are in hospital, or upset by the excitement if you are at home.

Arrange for someone he knows to look after/walk him. It is an old wives' tale (letting your dog drink breast milk or play with dirty nappies) this will not help your dog and baby to become friends, but sending home a blanket that the baby has slept on may help your dog to get used to the scent.

When you come home let someone else hold your baby while you greet your dog; introduce them later when he is calm.

Do not try to keep your dog and baby completely apart - you won't be able to keep it up! Teach them both to interact calmly and gently, no licking by



the dog or grabbing by the child.

NEVER EVER leave dogs alone with babies or young children; shut your dog out of the room or pop the baby in a secure play-pen. This applies every time you use the bathroom, answer the door/phone or get a meal. It is NOT a matter of 'trust.' Toddlers can accidentally injure or alarm dogs (eg by falling on them) and startled dogs may react impulsively, lashing out or biting.

Your dog may have to wait in the queue for love but he still needs you.

Always having the baby nearby when giving him attention encourages your dog to accept having her around.

The most tolerant dog needs peace and quiet sometimes; allow him a place (eg his bed) he can escape to without being followed. Allow the child to go there at other times to prevent it becoming an exclusive area which he feels entitled to defend.

When your baby starts to crawl and walk teach your dog to step back out of her way in doorways and on stairs.

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*This is the thing you have to remember. Alfa build a car to be as good as a car can be...briefly."*

Some might say...



# Jaguar cub's spectacular launch

by Matthew Elliott

JAGUAR'S new baby SUV set pulses racing during a London launch show when stunt man Terry Grant entered the Guinness Book of Records with the world's longest ever barrel roll in a production car.

The brand's latest addition, the E-Pace SUV, fired a very loud warning shot to future rivals the BMW X1 and Audi Q3, with the daredevil James Bond stunt at the Excel arena.

Grant took the car for a 270 degree roll over 15 metres, using a 160 metre run up and landing on all four wheels after the stunt in front of hundreds of astonished fans.

Set to replicate the success of the now iconic F-Pace, Jaguar's second SUV is much more compact and affordable. Available later this year prices



**BARREL ROLL: Do not try this Jaguar E-Pace stunt at home.**

begin at around €35,000.

Buyers can choose between 150hp, 180hp, and 240hp diesels, and 250hp or 300hp

petrol-run engines, the latter of which can hit 100kph in 6.4 seconds and a top speed of 243kph.

There are five seats, with each having its own USB plug. There is 4G capability, four sockets, and a roomy

boot offering 577 litres of space, while the glove box has 10 litres. Wheels are 19 or 20-inch, though attention-grabbing 21-inch spokes are available.

A top infotainment system is complemented by 3D satellite mapping. What Jaguar calls its safest car ever has an autonomous emergency braking system and pedestrian detection.

Drivers can choose between a nine-speed automatic or a six-speed manual. A 150hp manual will cost around €35,000, while a 300hp petrol automatic will set buyers back roughly €60,000.

Dubbed the 'cub' while in production, the final version has Jaguar cub designs, including on the windscreen and even the lighting when drivers unlock their car.

**Motoring shorts**

## Black box is boss

INSURANCE companies have developed a new black box which not only tracks the speed of drivers, but employs context to decide whether the speed is safe. A driver travelling down a winding country road at 70kph may be penalised even if the speed limit is 100kph, if the box determines that most people take the road slowly at 50kph.

New drivers, especially in the UK, are most likely to be affected by the new technology. In order to reduce skyrocketing insurance premiums, many allow a black box to be installed in their car, which monitors their driving habits.

The contextual speed technology is aimed at drivers who may feel compelled to reach the speed limit, even when more experienced motorists know it is unsafe.

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**ROAD TEST** by Nick Fletcher

# Volkswagen Golf Alltrack Estate

THE big-selling Volkswagen Golf has been the benchmark family hatchback for many years, admired and respected for its style and durability, but for those who require more space and versatility, the Golf Estate is the answer.

Recently revised and given a cooler, more classy look, the Golf Estate now has upgraded equipment and new engine options, with prices starting at €21,938 (£19,470) for the S version.

However, many VW buyers are prepared to splash out on higher-spec models laden with extra technology, convenience and luxury features which send prices of the flagship versions soaring.

This was the case with my Alltrack all-wheel-drive version, which in 2.0 litre diesel form and 7-speed auto gearbox costs €35,000 (£31,060). For that you get a

raft of extra features including adaptive cruise control, climate control, sat-nav with 8-inch touchscreen, more connectivity features than I have the space to list, driver personalisation profile - in essence you can set all the main controls for four different drivers - 17 inch alloys, roof rails, front and rear parking sensors and reversing camera, a wealth of safety features including predictive pedestrian protection.

The more distinctive new look adds elegance to this estate model, and its driving feel quickly underlines the good impression this car creates. Smooth, quiet, refined, responsive, it ticks every box. The auto gearshift is seamless and has an eager kick-down for immediate power when required. The steering is precise, the suspension

(raised on the Alltrack for more ground clearance) is still well balanced for cornering grip yet subtle ride quality.

The 2.0 litre 182 hp engine gives sports-car acceleration - 0-100 kph takes just 7.8 seconds - with top speed 219 kph (136 mph). Fuel economy is 19.2 kpl (54.3 mpg).

The cabin is straightforward rather than eye-catching, but everything is easy to find and use. Space for four occupants is very good and while there is room for a fifth, it is a tad cramped. At 605 litres, boot space is among the largest in the class, and boosts to 1,620 with the rear seats folded.

As a stylish practical family estate, there is little to fault on the Golf Alltrack Estate. While the centre rear seat lacks legroom and the rear seats don't fold fully flat, such matters pale when you con-

**STYLISH ESTATE:** The VW Alltrack.



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

## Scandal strikes Mercedes



**DIESEL RECALL:** Three million cars affected.

MERCEDES is reeling from its own emissions scandal after owner Daimler was forced to recall almost three million diesel cars across Europe. Owners of every diesel-run Mercedes sold in the UK since 2011 have been urged to take their car to a local garage to get a software update.

The update will reduce the amount of toxic pollutants released by the cars after a police investigation uncovered potential manipulation of emissions results. Daimler garages and offices across Germany have been raided.

Charges of fraud and false advertising are being drawn up against company employees. The German giant has pledged to fully cooperate with the police investigation. It faces a €220 million bill to reduce emissions on the three

million affected cars on the continent.

A precise breakdown of the number of cars or vans to be recalled in each country has not been provided. In Spain it is likely to be in the hundreds of thousands.

Daimler customers can expect an invitation to take their car into an official dealership to receive the software update. The process will take roughly one hour.

It is the second major scandal to drag diesel's name through the mud. In 2015 Volkswagen was forced to confess that it had equipped cars with specialist software to ensure they passed strict emissions controls imposed by EU law.

Daimler said the two situations are not comparable, denying that any top-down conspiracy to manipulate results has taken place.

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# Congratulations to Froome, Spieth and England's women cricketers

## 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, I'm confident in saying there will be enough sport over the next seven days to suit everyone, including cricket, football, motor racing, swimming and boxing.

### EVENTS ROUND UP

- The third England-South Africa cricket Test starts today at The Oval, where the hosts could have a new opening partnership.

- Cricket's T20 bash competition continues around the UK.

- England ladies are going well in the Euro 2017 football championship after 6-0 and 2-0 wins over Scotland and Spain respectively. The final is on August 6.

- The World Aquatic Swimming and Diving Championships end on Sunday in Hungary and already GB's Adam Peary (in the 100m breast-stroke,

in a record time of 57.47 seconds) and Ben Proud (in the 50m butterfly) have won gold medals. Some 182 nations are participating.

- GB's Brownlee brothers, Alistair and Jonny, are competing in the ITU triathlon World Series in Canada - confident that their Mojacar training sessions will stand them in good stead.

- On Sunday, we have the Hungarian Formula One Grand Prix from Budapest where Lewis Hamilton could overtake Sebastian Vettel in the drivers' championship.

- And on Saturday, in Belfast, Carl Frampton fights Andres Gutierrez in a WBC world featherweight eliminator.

### CONGRATULATIONS

After recent events, I congratulate the following on some wonderful achievements in their respective sports:

- To GB cyclist Chris Froome for winning his fourth Tour de France by 54 seconds, blocking out loud and uncalled for boos, from horrible, partisan French spectators... disgusting. Only four other riders - one of them Spain's Miguel Indurain - have won the race four

times.

- To American, Jordan Spieth, on winning the 146th Open Championship at Royal Birkdale, which attracted a four-day record crowd of 235,000. Matt Kuchar was second, with China's Li Haotong third.

- To South African Branden Grace for his terrific third round 62 - the lowest-ever score in Open golf history: 1860-2017.

- To GB's parasport athletes, including the seemingly unbeatable wheelchair specialist Hannah Cockcroft, sprinter Kadeena Cox, Sophie Hahn, Olivia Breen, record holder Georgie Hermitage, Hollie Arnold, Sophie Kamlish, Sammi Kinghorn and Stef Reid, plus Aled Davies, Jonnie Peacock and Richard Whitehead, for gaining 39 medals (18 gold) at the World Para-Athletics Championships at the London Stadium.

- To England's female cricketers who beat India by nine runs to win the Women's World Cup for a fourth time.

A near capacity crowd at Lords

(many MCC members boycotted the game) saw star bowler, Anya Shrubsole, destroy the Indians with a record 6-46.

- To Liverpool who defeated Leicester 2-1 in Asia's PL Cup final in Hong Kong; Crystal Palace came third.

- To the Indian competitors who gained a best-ever total of 29 medals (12 gold) at the Asian Athletics Championships.

- To India's opener Mithali Raj - the first woman cricketer to score 6,000 runs in ODI's.

- And to Castleford Tigers, with 20 regular victories this season, are this year's Rugby Super League Shield winners.

### FOOTBALL DIGEST

- So far this summer, Manchester City have spent £222.5m (€250m) on five players - Real Madrid's Danilo Luiz £26.5m, Kyle Walker from Spurs for £53m, Portugal's Bernardo Silva for £43m, Brazilian goalkeeper Ederson Moraes for £35m and Monaco defender Benjamin Mendy for £55m. In contrast, Aleksandar Kolarov, Gael Clichy, Bacary Sagna and Pablo Zabaleta have all left the

Etihad Stadium.

- West Ham have signed Stoke's Marko Arnautovic for £24m and England's goalkeeper, Joe Hart, on loan. The Hammers have also signed Bayer Leverkusen's striker Javier Hernandez for £16m.

- Stoke themselves, have acquired Kurt Zouma, on loan from Chelsea, whose manager, Antonio Conte has paid £60m for Real Madrid's striker, Alvaro Morata.

- WBA have signed Egyptian defender, Ahmed Hegazy on loan from Al Ahly.

- Liverpool have paid £10m for Hull's left-back Andy Robertson, and there's talk that Philippe Coutinho could move from Anfield to Barcelona for £80m if Brazil's Neymar leaves the Nou Camp for PSG for £199m (€222m).

- Everton may have a new

60,000 capacity stadium by 2020.

- And in last weekend's friendlies, Manchester United beat Real Madrid 2-1 on penalties (seven were missed) after a 1-1 draw in California; Spurs defeated PSG 4-2 in Florida and Chelsea whipped Arsenal 3-0 in Beijing.

- The PL season starts on Friday, August 10 when Arsenal play Leicester and I have a football quiz at The Emerald Isle pub in Mojacar before kick-off.

### LOOKING AHEAD

- London's Queen Elizabeth Park will stage the World Athletics Championships from August 4-13. Taking part will be the retiring Usain Bolt, Mo Farah and Scotland's Laura Muir who will be going for the 1500m and 5000m double.

- Following that event on August 20 will be the IAAF Diamond League meeting at Birmingham's Alexander Stadium.

- And some of the world's top cyclists will pedal through Lorca, Aguilas, Villaricos, Vera, Garrucha and Mojacar, on August 30, in the annual Vuelta a España.

**ENGLAND'S FEMALE CRICKETERS:** Won the Women's World Cup.

**CHRIS FROOME:** Won his fourth Tour de France.





AMERICAN Jordan Spieth won the 146th Open Championship at Royal Birkdale which attracted a four-day record crowd of 235,000.

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

**TO READ MORE**

# Mojaquera Osaia Reding World Champion of Junior Kitesurf

OSAIA REDING has achieved the world title of Kitesurf Junior, placing highest in that category, aged 13.

Osaia has a record that speaks of talent and winning genius.

She knows the value of the Gold medal, as she is also champion of Spain and has been fifth in the European Championship - always being among the five best - in all international competitions.

The first World Gold (with many more sure to follow), came in the Emporda municipality of Saint Pere Pescador. Her first place was confirmed with 23 points while second place had 12 points in total.

An emotional "I do not believe it!", sums up her experience in the World Championship.

Behind the modesty that characterises the best, there are many days of dedication, impeccable training and of course, an aptitude and skill that makes the difference.

She is satisfied with a job well done, recognising the great talent of her opponents and from her experience, recommends that all young people never give up and never say that something is impossible.

There is no doubt that maturity is also another of her qualities.

After the summer, she will move to Brazil. A specialised course for elite junior riders, with two of the best kite surfers in



**CHAMP:** Osaia will be having a well-deserved rest.

the world, will be the next challenge, among many others.

Until then, her eternal smile and youthful vitality will be seen along the beach of Pueblo Indalo, in Mojacar, where she lives and spends the summer in her parents' sailing school.

On the waters here, she will continue her training and also have a well-deserved rest.

Osaia's sponsors are also very pleased with her progress. These include, the town of Mojacar, the Councillors for Sports, Ana Garcia and from Tourism, Emmanuel Aguero, who all wish to congratulate her and encourage Osaia to continue her brilliant sports career.

## Indalo Bowling Club 2 Wood Pairs



**WINNERS:** The Club were playing on new carpet.

DAVID HORTON, President of the Indalo Bowling Club, and his playing partner, John Henworth, were this year's winners of the 2 Wood Pairs competition.

This event was interesting as it was the first competition to be played on the Club's new carpet, which was fitted a week before.

The lines and weight for the bowls was totally different from the carpet the members had been used to, with the additional pressure of only having two bowls each.

This proved quite tricky for some players but, after some very good matches, the final was contested between David and John against Trevor Bettell and Keith Jackson.

It was a good match but David and John's experience told in the end and they won 18 to 11 with some excellent bowling.

Anyone interested in trying a game should visit their website at [www.indalobowling.org](http://www.indalobowling.org).

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