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MALLORCA » YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE, YOUR OPINION

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## Law and order Nightclub boss had 'private army'

By Matthew Elliott

Clubland king Tolo Cursach wielded near total control of Palma's Local Police and even had a paramedic unit doing his bidding, a court has heard.

Cursach, the millionaire nightclub boss on trial for murder, extortion, drug trafficking and racketeering, allegedly ordered police minions to raid his competitors' clubs and even falsify crimes.

One witness told how he opened a restaurant near the Megapark, the jewel in Cursach's clubbing empire. Within days they were subject to multiple raids from Local Police.

During a staff dinner, 10 police vans blockaded the premises and a dozen heavily armed officers stormed in. They stripped the owner naked twice, turned the place upside down, and accused him of dealing drugs.

They found nothing illegal ex-



MEGAPARK: Owned by Tolo Cursach (inset).

cept the presence of a 17-year-old boy eating with his parents. The place was shut down for 'providing erotic entertainment to children.'

The court also heard that, whenever there was violence or serious injury at one of Cursach's clubs, a special ambulance would be dispatched to the scene. Subsequent medical reports would omit the club to protect its reputation.

Former Popular Party presi-

dent in Palma, Jose Maria Rodriguez, also had a bad week in court. The top politician was accused by yet another prostitute of

attending dozens of cocaine-fuelled orgies arranged by Cursach.

Cocaine, Champagne and Russian prostitutes were the common denominator at the parties, she claimed. She also accused Rodriguez of being cheap and having unusual sexual preferences.

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## Cheats unmasked

TAX men are investigating possible fraud in the payment of tourist tax in 1,200 holiday rental homes across Mallorca.

A total of 30 real estate agencies responsible for the properties have been identified by the Hacienda.

Balearic Tax Agency chief Maria Antonia Truyols says that, if found

guilty, the companies face €400 fines for improper payment. That alone would amount to almost half a million euros in penalties, on top of the recovery of unpaid taxes.

Each of the companies is accused of entertaining tourists at their properties without registering to pay the tourist tax.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Double trouble**

A NEW population record was struck on the Balearic Islands. With 2,018,176 people on the islands on July 29, there was almost double the number of permanent residents.

**Street deceit**

TWO Nigerian women are accused of forcing a 17-year-old girl, also Nigerian, to work as a street prostitute in s'Arenal. They lured her to Mallorca with promises of a cleaning job.

**Sick fiend**

PALMA'S main criminal court heard the case of a 36-year-old Menorcan man accused of raping a mentally disabled young woman in the back seat of his car after plying her with drink.

By Kat Ashton

SPANISH Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy insists he will impose direct rule on Cataluña in three days unless Carles Puigdemont withdraws his independence declaration.

While addressing the Spanish government on Wednesday, Rajoy asked the Catalan leader to clarify whether he announced a split from Spain during his earlier address to the Catalan Parliament.

It comes after Puigdemont fudged his speech when he put a halt on the announcement to leave room for "dialogue" with Spain.

He vowed to follow through with the wishes of his people to make Cataluña an independent state but then immediately turned back on himself, stating he wanted to resolve the conflict in "a calm and agreed manner."

It was reported that Donald Tusk, the president of the European Council, stepped in at the 13th hour to appeal for Cataluña to begin talks with the Spanish government.

Rajoy accused Puigdemont of having created "deliberate confusion" adding that if an

# Time to talk

## Spanish PM puts foot down



Photo by La Moncloa/Twitter

had already been ruled illegal by Spain's Constitutional Court and was boycotted by many pro-remain voters.

Several businesses have already announced the relocation of their headquarters to other parts of Spain following the referendum, including telecoms group Cellnex and property company Inmobiliaria Colonial.

Major Spanish banks Sabadell and Caixabank have also announced plans to move offices to protect the financial interests of their customers.

In the past week, French and German officials also stated that they will not support a split from Spain and the European Union has made it clear that the region would no longer be a part of the EU should it declare independence.

Keep up-to-date with the latest developments on [www.euroweeklynews.com](http://www.euroweeklynews.com).

## Monarch flights to end

THE Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) has said air fares should rise to fund the full repatriation of passengers in the event of an airline collapse.

It comes as the Monarch flight repatriation programme will end soon.

Monarch went into administration on October 2 when almost 2,000 employees lost their jobs.

The government announced that all 110,000 passengers with Monarch Airlines tickets up to October 15 would be returned to the UK free-of-charge in UK's biggest peacetime repatriation.

But customers abroad who are scheduled to fly back to the UK after Sunday, October 15 will need to make their own arrangements unless they are ATOL protected.

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**CLASHING HEADS: Mariano Rajoy is ready to impose state rule over Cataluña and Carles Puigdemont (inset).**  
 independence declaration is confirmed then the central government will suspend Cataluña's autonomy unless it is revoked.  
 According to Catalan officials, almost 90 per cent of the people who took part in the October 1 referendum voted for independence. The vote

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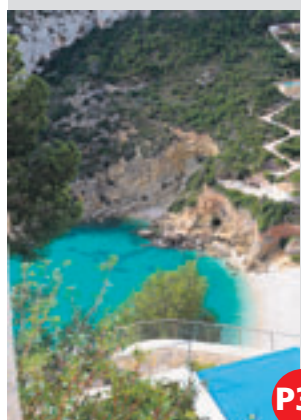
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LA GRANADELLA

P30

**YOUR OPINION**

Readers' views on eclectic topics in print and online.



**TIME OUT**

WEEKLY LEISURE INCLUDING PUZZLES, STARS AND MADDOCK'S VIEW ON LIFE



P32

**THE BEST IN SPORT**  
SPAIN, UK, EUROPE AND GLOBAL SPORTS SCENE



P54

DE GEA

# Lorry horror

AN elderly woman who was struck by a Palma bin lorry has died from her injuries. Juana Cano Medrano, aged 71, spent more than a week in Son Espases hospital before succumbing to her injuries. She was dragged along 15 metres under the wheels of the lorry.

## Insect plague

HEAVY rains have sparked a mosquito plague across the island, especially in Palma. Itchy bites can be expected until November when temperatures fall. Tiger and marsh mosquitoes, which can travel up to seven kilometres, are the greatest threats. Eighty per cent breed in private properties.

## Double whammy

TENNIS icon and hometown hero Carles Moya won the 2017 Legends Cup for a second year. The former world number one defeated Alex Corretja 6-3, 6-3 at the Palma Sport and Tennis Club on Sunday. Former British favourite Tim Henman also competed over the four-day tournament.

## Middle man

BALEARIC vice-president Biel Barcelo urged the EU to help mediate the conflict between Cataluña and Spain in a passionate plea to the international community. He said Mallorca's special linguistic, economic and cultural ties with Cataluña made resolving the crisis in the urgent interests of the islands.

## Paw power

A GOLDEN retriever was rescued from a Palma swimming pool by Local Police officers. The 13-year-old dog slipped into the water while alone in a town house. Luckily neighbours saw him struggling through the window and called police. He was in good

**SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE... 32**

The harvest has officially started with October a busy time of year for those in Spain's olive industry, *Kat Ashton reports.*




**OILY TOIL:** Spain consumes over 40 per cent of the olives they grow and ship the rest.

# More to olives than oil!

SPAIN grows almost 300 varieties of olives and each tree produces between 15-20 kilos in its lifetime. The most common national olive is the Manzanilla, favoured by farmers as it's one of the easiest to pluck from the tree, and often sold stuffed with garlic or pimiento paste.

Other popular types include the Gordal, a large, robust olive ideal for stuffing, the Hojiblanca, with a thicker skin producing a sharper bite, and the Cacereña; a fruity, milder variety ideal for anyone trying olives for the first time.

Green and black olives actually grow on the same tree - they naturally turn darker as they ripen - although some farmers cure their olives in brine to turn them black faster.

Andalucia is the world's largest olive-growing region and produces more than 900,000 tonnes annually. It is also one of the few places where the fruit is still picked by hand so the olives can be sold to be eaten whole.

This labour is time-consuming and an expensive dilemma but farmers have yet to come up with a faster method that doesn't damage their crop.

Most other regions grow olives only for oil production so don't mind if they come off the tree a bit bruised. Farm workers either rake bruised olives, and those they have shaken from trees with a stick, into baskets.

Olive trees can live for more than a 1,000 years and at

times Americans and Arabs have been reported to have paid up to €40,000 to have one of them shipped and replanted in their own gardens.

**Stuff of dreams**



THE Spanish love their olives stuffed, and have more than 50 variations packed with various ingredients, with garlic, jalapeños, capers and anchovies among the most popular.

**FILLING IN:** Stuffed olives.

Before olives are ready to be stuffed, for three months they remain stewing in brine to remove any bitterness. They are then rubbed with herbs and spices before being destoned and stuffed.

## PLUS THE REGULARS

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condition but knackered.

## Paw power

A DUTCHMAN died when his small

plane crashed in the Tramuntana mountains at Puig de Massenella on Sunday. The crash sparked a forest fire, destroying one hectare of land. The 48-year-old was an experienced pilot visiting Mallorca on holiday.

**179**

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1632 of the Euro Weekly News Mallorca edition, including 61 local stories.

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## Top 5 stories

From October 2 - 9

- 1 UK-Spain flight delays and cancellations likely due to French national strike - **13,968**
- 2 Ryanair announce massive flight cancellations on routes to Spain due to French air traffic control strike - **11,824**
- 3 Having a Splashing time on the Costa Blanca - **10,311**
- 4 UK airlines warn French air traffic control strike will impact on Spain flights - **7,740**
- 5 Record high October temperatures in Spain... But 'significant' rain to follow - **7,178**



TAKE-OFF: EasyJet flight leaves Malaga's Costa del Sol airport

## Poll of the week

Should Spain introduce payments for the return of plastic bottles in the war against environmental pollution?

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**  
 Given the ongoing drought and changing climate, should southern Spain introduce mandatory water restrictions from April to October?  
 Yes = 67%  
 No = 33%

## Top Social Media comments

**Man gored in neck dies at bull run in Spain** - It should have been banned years ago! Barbaric sport! *Julie Jones Peel*

**Depression lead British chemist to commit suicide in Tenerife** - How terribly sad for all, poor girl she must have been feeling so low. *Wendy Nerding*

It's awful that a professional person like this did not try and seek some expert assistance with her depression. A cruel and overwhelming illness. RIP. *Tomas Kirken*

**Tourist tax fury on Costa Blanca** - Mallorca already had this tax, and it will double next year! With the concerns about terrorism, people are coming back to Spain with record no. of bookings. With this in mind it appears to be a licence to print money. *Geoff Kerr*  
 A stupid idea, similar to hoteliers increasing their rates after a decent season. Consolidate what you have not rip off the tourist. *Richard Taylor*

**Ryanair announce massive flight cancellations on routes to Spain due to French air traffic control strike** - Why can't the EU show some backbone and put pressure on the

French powers that be, to finally DO something about this recurring farce??? *Philip Binney*

Couldn't agree more, Phil. It's always them. I had a holiday virtually ruined by one of their strikes some years back. Eight hours in the departure lounge with three very young children. It spoilt all that had gone before. *Derek White*  
**Huge anti-Catalan independence rally under way in Barcelona** - Well let them vote then. *Felicia Ang*  
 Let them vote Felicia Ang?

Does true democracy allow the ravings and demands of splinter group have and hold elections called for and led by an unelected leader at the drop of a hat?  
 Spain is a great democracy. Long may it remain so. *Will Murphy*

**UK - Spain flight delays and cancellations likely due to French national strike** - Holidaymakers are certainly being tested to the limit this year, would not be surprised if many will decide on staycations in the future, less expense with less hassle. *Doreen Nichols*

## TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

During World War II, all the snakes and dangerous insects were killed in the London Zoo by the zoo keepers in case they managed to escape after a bombing.

Vatican City has the highest crime rate per capita in the world, with an average 600 crimes committed per year despite only having 800 residents.



The Dutch village of Giethoorn has no roads. Its buildings are connected entirely by canals and footbridges.

★★★★★★

## Did you know?

On Venus, a day lasts longer than a year. It takes the planet 243 Earth days to rotate once on its axis and 225 Earth days to complete a full orbit around the Sun.

Little bits on the side

FOR COMMENTS FROM EWN ONLINE TURN TO LETTERS PAGE

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## Lost in translation



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## 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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## Black Friday Xmas boost

LAST year's squabbling over when Palma's Christmas lights are switched on has been nipped in the bud. The date has been set for Thursday November 23, with the council refusing to get dragged down into a debate with local retailers.

They wanted the grand switching on ceremony to coincide with Black Friday, November 24, which is the world's biggest sales event, with prices slashed online and in city centres.

Last winter the council postponed the lights to the week after Black Friday, ostensibly for security reasons. Police reckoned there might be too many people in the city centre if both events ran simultaneously.

In a compromise for this winter, the lights will already be on by the time Black Friday rolls around. Shoppers rushing around for huge deals will do so in a festive atmosphere, which benefits retailers.

# Holiday from hell

## Brit tourist in villa scam shock

By Matthew Elliott

A BRITISH tourist has revealed how she and her family were subjected to a Mallorca holiday scam. Jayne Morris, a hairdresser from Oxford, claims to have lost more than €2,500 to scammers after using the HomeAway website to book a villa on the island.

Almost her entire family, including her husband, son, daughter-in-law, two grandchildren, and her 78-year-old father, travelled to Mallorca expecting their dream holiday.

Morris, aged 50, told British newspaper, *The Sun*, that when they arrived at the plush villa in late August, the owners claimed not to have received any payment.

The Brit, however, had already forked out €2,584 to a bank account months prior. The scammers had apparently hacked into the villa owner's account and began corresponding with Mrs Morris.

They offered her a 15 per cent discount for early payment. They even kept up the charade by discussing bedding options with her. Upon arrival in Mallorca, the villa owners were still expecting more than €3,000.



Jayne Morris/Twitter

**DEVASTATED:** Jayne Morris with one of her grandsons.

As Mrs Morris made the payment using international facility Transferwise, she is not entitled to any recourse from her British bank. She and her family spent two nights at the villa before paying more than €4,000 to rent a new one when they were asked to leave.

"It was the worst holiday I've ever been on", she told *The Sun*.

A HomeAway spokesperson said "Fraud is a very rare occurrence on our websites," describing it as "a very rare case of phishing where a criminal took over an owner's account and communicated with the holidaymaker."

## NEWS EXTRA

### Black spot claims life

A YOUNG motorcyclist was killed on Sunday after crashing into a car on the Alcudia-Arta road at the Rancho Grande turn-off. The blackspot has seen six deaths in one year.

### Green street

THREE million euros will be invested in improving streets and pathways in Santa Ponsa, Palmanova and Torrenova. More green spaces and wider pavements are central to the plans.

### Hate crime

COURTS have investigated a total of 37 hate crime cases this year. The majority involve racism and Islamophobia. Other targets are the gay community, disabled people, and police.



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## Ballroom bombshell

SHE'S swapped the Dales for the dance floor on Strictly Come Dancing.

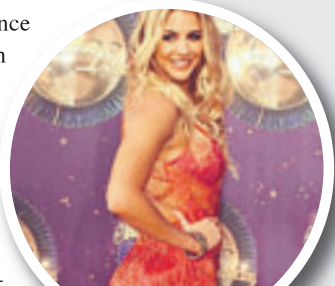
But ex-Emmerdale and Hollyoaks beauty Gemma Atkinson, 32, has set tongues wagging over rumours of a romance with Spanish dancer Gorka Marquez.

The pair were pictured sharing a lingering hug after an intimate dinner together, but former glamour model Gemma is refusing to confirm she is dating the 27-year-old Basque.

He is partnering singer Alexandra Burke, 29, on the show but appears to have waltzed off with her rival to leave the 2008 X Factor champion outraged.

A Strictly insider told UK media outlets: "Gorka and Gemma are together. It's the talk of the make-up room."

"Not surprisingly, Alexandra is furious about how it might impact her chances of winning. She's very ambitious and is nervous about it all."



**SPARKING RUMOURS:** Gemma Atkinson.

Gemma Atkinson/Instagram

**RACY:** Nicole Scherzinger.



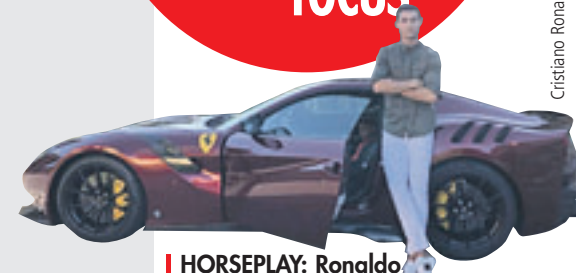
Scherzinger/Instagram

## Puss in boots!

SHE rose to fame as lead singer of girl supergroup the Pussycat Dolls.

And Nicole Scherzinger, 39, showed she's lost none of her star appeal as she flaunted her sensational figure while filming in Ibiza.

The X Factor judge put on an eye-popping display after slipping into a raunchy leather ensemble including a pair of thigh-scraping stiletto boots and a dog collar.



**HORSEPLAY:** Ronaldo with his Ferrari F12.

Cristiano Ronaldo/Instagram

## Va va vroom

IT was recently revealed that he earns €347,000 every time he shares a photo on Instagram. And Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo has clearly been splashing the cash after sharing photos of his car collection on the website. Alongside a €270,000 Ferrari F12, he has also taken delivery of a 460 km/h Bugatti Chiron worth €2.4m.

## Shak break-up rumours mount

THEY have been an item for six years and have two sons together.

But Barcelona and Spain footballer Gerard Pique, 30, and Colombian pop siren Shakira, 40, may be about to go their separate ways.

The pair are no longer living together, with the superstar singer said to be behind the split, according to Spanish celebrity gossip website Cotilleo.

It comes after the couple were last pictured together at Pique's Barcelona team mate Lionel



Shakira/Instagram

**ON THE ROCKS?** Gerard and Shakira.

Messi's wedding in June.

But the defender on Tuesday posted a photo of him watching his long term squeeze in rehearsals after helping to ensure Spain's qualification for World Cup 2018.

He was booed throughout a 1-0 home win over Albania after coming under fire for his vocal support of the Catalan independence referendum, leading coach Julen Lopetegui to release him from the squad ahead of Monday's dead rubber win against Israel.

## To dye for!

SHE is known for her aggressive lyrics and outrageous fashion choices. And American rapper Nicki Minaj hid her famous curves in a full-length patent leather outfit combined with extra-long platinum hair extensions as she filmed a car advert in Madrid.



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**NEWS EXTRA****Tape sparks media storm**

PALMA mayor Antoni Noguera was caught on tape contemptuously referring to the Spanish government over the Catalan crisis. The person who recorded the tape allegedly tried to blackmail Noguera with it.

**Dane shafted**

A DANISH tourist drunkenly fell into a lift shaft in his Palmanova hotel. The 26-year-old slept there overnight before being rescued by firefighters.

**Paper trail**

TISSUES and wet wipes being flushed down the toilet are to blame for Palma's blocked drainpipes, say Emaya, which now removes over 1,000 tons of paper waste from the sewage system each year.

# Almond apocalypse

## Million plus trees infected with deadly disease

AT least one million almond trees have been infected with a deadly tree disease.

A devastating report from scientist Eduardo Moralejo estimates that 150,000 Mallorcan almond trees have died in the past decade alone from the *Xylella fastidiosa* bacterium.

His 'conservative projection' is that between 800,000 and 950,000 trees are currently infected with the pathogen. Moralejo was a voice in the wilderness when he first sounded the alarm over *Xylella fastidiosa* back in 2010.

Today the threat posed by the disease to Mallorca's agricultural sector is common knowledge.

But while olive farmers rejoiced at the EU's decision not to cull countless olive trees to stop the spread of the disease, the situation for almond growers is far more precarious.

In his latest report, Moralejo once again turns the tables on conventional wisdom. He claims the disease has been present on Mallorca for two decades and was not brought over from



**INFECTED:** More than a million almond trees are diseased.

Italy in 2010, as is often thought.

He presented evidence to the Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Studies (IMEDIA), based on Mallorca, that this strain actually came directly from California.

At present the disease has only been officially identified in 126 almond trees, 50 per cent of the samples taken. Moralejo believes that at least 70 per

cent of trees are infected, which translates to a figure above one million.

Perhaps most alarmingly, he warns that the virus could experience a genetic mutation which enables it to transmit easily between almond and olive, vine and fig trees. This would be a "qualitative leap in the spread of the epidemic across the Balearic Islands", he said.

## Slag scandal has legs

FIVE months after Mallorca Blue urged an investigation into the melted plastics and slag found at Palma port, the green group has found success. The Balearic ministry of the environment has given the Port Authority and construction company Tirme 15 days to prove their innocence.

Both entities are accused of using illegal materials during the ongoing expansion of Palma Port. Plastic particles and slag from the Son Reus incinerator have been found in nearby bathing waters.

Tirme and the Port Authority both claim to have followed regulations to the letter. Expansion of the port has been postponed while Mallorca Blue's allegations are investigated.

If found guilty the two bodies face a monstrous fine. Mallorca Blue have described the use of slag near bathing water as perhaps the island's greatest ever environmental scandal.



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Photo credit: Cs Palma de Mallorca / Twitter

**STRUGGLE:** Cataluña's crisis spreads across Spain with at least one injured.

# Protest is marred by bloodshed

VIOLENCE marred a pro-Spanish unity demonstration that drew an estimated 6,000 people to the streets of Palma. A woman was struck in the face with a rock as tensions in Cataluña drifted across the Mediterranean to Mallorca.

On Saturday thousands of protestors gathered in Placa d'Espanya with Spanish flags. They voiced support for the Guardia Civil and the inclusion of independence-leaning Cataluña in Spain.

The march coincided with other pro-unity rallies in Spain's largest cities, including Barcelona.

Though largely peaceful, Palma's rally was marred by several violent incidents.

One woman who shouted 'fascists' at the demonstrators had a rock flung at her face.

The self-described anarchist talking to television cameras while covered in blood quickly became the defining image of the march on social media.

In another case a stand promoting Catalan independence was destroyed by protestors shouting "This is the Balearics, not Cataluña", on major shopping street Sant Miquel. The owner was abused and spat at. Other clashes were reported during the day.

Protestors also carried images of the King of Spain and called for Carles Puigdemont, president of the Catalan Generalitat, to be jailed for treason.

The march came roughly one week after thousands poured into the streets of Palma in support of the Catalan referendum, with some calling for Mallorcan independence.

## OUR VIEW

### Compromise is needed

THERE was a major irony that yesterday (Thursday) was El Dia de la Hispanidad (National Day) here in Spain whilst the country seems to be more divided than ever.

October 12 is dedicated to Christopher Columbus, but radicals in Barcelona have been calling for the iconic statue built in 1888 that stands at the bottom of La Rambla to be treated the same way as statues of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein by pulling it down.

Another important celebration which falls on the same date is the Feast of Our Lady of Pilar who happens to be the Patroness of both Spain and the Guardia Civil which may also be a cause for discomfort in Cataluña following recent events.

Modern Spain is at a crossroads and the next weeks and months will determine whether the bitter split between those who want Cataluña to become an independent state and King Felipe VI and the government supported by PSOE can possibly be repaired.

A logical compromise could be for the Spanish government to offer Cataluña the opportunity to hold a non-binding referendum under different terms which would be overseen by Spain which would allow for all parties to fairly judge the wishes of the people.

It's unlikely to happen this way but without compromise on both sides, the schism will only widen.

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# Island's fantasy ambassador

## Nadal and Douglas followed by Great Dane

NEW cultural ambassador for Mallorca, Pilou Asbaek, has taken to his role with gusto. The Danish actor, best known for playing Euron Greyjoy in fantasy TV phenomenon Game of Thrones, follows in the footsteps of Michael Douglas and Rafael Nadal.

Asbaek, aged 26, was presented with his new title at a special ceremony at the CCA Andratx Cultural Centre. It was a fitting location as the centre was founded by his parents, Jacob and Patricia, back in 2001.

The artistic couple first visited Mallorca in the 1980s, falling in love with the island. Their actor son has grown up visiting regularly. "Mallorca is truly a magical place. Coming back, it is rather much like being newly in love. Again and again," he said during the press conference.



Photo credit: CCA Andratx



**STAR POWER:**  
Actor to represent Mallorca on world stage.

ons and wooing queens in Game of Thrones, Asbaek will represent Mallorca to the world.

"What I love the most is continuously rediscovering everything Mallorca has to offer, through new and fresh eyes."

When he's not fighting drag-

He is tasked with attracting new visitors to the island and working to repair the damaging effects from years of unrestrained mass tourism.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Raging Rafael

RAMPANT Rafael Nadal thrashed Aussie Nick Kyrgios 6-2, 6-1 to win the China Open and keep the momentum rolling in his excellent 2017 season, now boasting six titles.

### Don't judge

ADVERTS on buses and metros will help raise awareness about HIV and combat negative stereotyping as the Balearic Anti-Aids Association commemorates its 30th anniversary.

### Open wide

A BREASTFEEDING room with adaptive arm-chairs and helpful nurses has been set up at the Quironsalud Palma-planas hospital. A special lactation consultant is available for all new mothers.

### Debt crisis

ISLAND residents would need to dedicate 255 days of salary to pay off the regional debt, according to a new fiscal report. For Extremadura people it is 393 days, in Madrid just 195.

### Our house

VOLKSWAGEN is taking over the new Congress Centre in Palma. From October 23 until November 28, 12,000 VW employees will attend meetings and get to know 200 different cars.

### Faux pas

MALLORCAN midfielder Marco Asensio, who plays for Real Madrid, sparked 12,000 comments online when he posted a picture of himself smiling with an Israeli flag in occupied Palestinian territory.

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MPH-1818   695.000 €

### Nova Santa Ponsa

Mediterranean apartment in prestigious residence



🏠 2   🛏 2   🏠 104 m<sup>2</sup>   💎 110 m<sup>2</sup>  
MPH-1801   425.000 €



# How not to be a jihadi

## Alleged terrorist's spy claim mocked

AN alleged jihadi accused of plotting a terrorist attack in Spain has claimed in court that he works for the Spanish intelligence services. Mohamed Harrak al Loutah, of Son Gotleu, Palma, denied being a member of Daesh and said he worked with police and spies to get information on real terrorists.

Harrak, a 28-year-old Moroccan national, is on trial in Palma. He is facing 10 years if convicted of helping to recruit jihadis on behalf of the Daesh terror group and plotting an attack in Spain.

WhatsApp messages showing him communicating with people in Iraq and Syria were presented to the court. In them Harrak talks of Al-Andalus, and discusses replicating a suicide bomb attack in Turkey and Spain.



**DOUBLE AGENT:** Harrak claims he infiltrated terrorists as a spy.

He played airsoft, a shooting game involving replica weapons and books on jihad were found in his apartment. He also searched Google for information on 'how not to look like a jihadist'.

Yet Harrak claims to have been working on behalf of the Guardia Civil and an intelligence officer code-named 'Angel'. His role was to develop friendships with radicalised suspects.

He has emails he sent to

the CNI, Spain's intelligence services, in which they thank him for his 'information'. Far from training to join Daesh, Harrak told the court he wanted to join the Spanish Foreign Legion.

Police investigators have dismissed all of his claims as nonsense. They believe his emails to the CNI were simply an attempt to cover his tracks and deny any collaboration with the Guardia Civil.



**EXILE:** CaixaBank fleeing beleaguered Barcelona.

## Bank dreams dashed

DREAMS that one of Spain's biggest banks would relocate its headquarters to Palma were scuppered. CaixaBank, the largest bank in Cataluña, has moved its main office out of the troubled region and to Valencia.

The financial giant has a strong presence in Mallorca and Palma was reported to have the backing of the board.

Optimistic charts of the potential economic impact on the city were already being drawn up. Real estate and transaction taxes from having Spain's third largest bank on the island would have been enormously beneficial.

Caixa's presence would also strengthen international investors' confidence in Mallor-

ca's business credentials, said Balearic economist Antoni Riera.

But Caixa has ultimately decided to stay on the mainland and away from Catalan culture, by picking Valencia.

The Directors expect to return to Barcelona once the dust settles on the current constitutional crisis.

The legal uncertainty generated by Cataluña's contested independence referendum has seen dozens of domestic and international companies consider relocating their headquarters away from Barcelona.

Among those who have already moved are Naturhouse, Banco Sabadell, and Gas Natural Fenosa.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Nice little earner

PRESIDENT of the Popular Party on the Balearics, Biel Company, published his tax return after pressure for public transparency. The politician declared an income of €60,000 for 2016.

### Divers treat

A DIVER swimming 10 miles off the coast of Mallorca captured a 10 minute face-to-face encounter with a dolphin on his underwater camera in a rare display of friendship from the shy creatures.

### Tax treat

LANDOWNERS in Petra now enjoy the lowest property taxes on Mallorca. The IBI has been reduced to the lowest possible rate of 0.4 per cent for urban properties and just 0.3 per cent for fincas.

### Battle axe

JOAN FORTEZA was re-elected president of Palma's Federation of Residents' Associations on a platform of banning tourist rentals in family buildings and reducing noise from highways and the airport.

### New store

LIDL will open a new store in Sa Pobla in two weeks. The German supermarket is opening seven new Spanish supermarkets this month. The Sa Pobla store opens on Saturday October 26.

### Seven seas

FIFTY top scientists visited Pollensa to discuss the latest ocean trends. Balearic researchers joined NASA experts to discuss the likely impact of climate change on the world's oceans.

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## Politics causing trouble

### Commentary by Moneycorp

#### EUR weekly currency update

Sterling and the euro were both troubled by politics. The euro's problem was an independence referendum in Spain's Cataluña region. Prime minister Mariano Rajoy labelled it 'illegal' and sent in the police to prevent voters casting their ballot. There were hundreds of injuries. Sterling's headache was a flare-up in the struggle for control of the ruling Conservative party, particularly the announcement of an overt campaign to remove the prime minister. Investors were readier to ignore a regional spat in Spain than they were to overlook another outbreak of instability in Britain.

The economic data also tended to favour the euro. The purchasing managers' index readings from Euroland, which track private sector activity, were stronger than those from the UK and it was confirmed that Britain's economy expanded by just 0.3% in the second quarter. On the week the euro lost three quarters of a US cent and added two cents against the weakest performer, sterling.

#### USD weekly currency update

A successful week for the dollar left it ahead of the other major currencies, strengthening by an average of 0.7%. It took three quarters of a cent off the euro and lost two cents to the pound, which was at the back of the field. The US economic data played a part in the dollar's progress. Most came in ahead of forecast and the purchasing man-

agers' index readings were stronger than those from Britain and Euroland.

The dollar was also helped by political travails in the €Z and the UK which lessened the appeal of the euro and the pound. In Spain an unsanctioned referendum on independence for Cataluña provoked prime minister Mariano Rajoy into flooding the region with riot police. There were hundreds of casualties. In Britain prime minister Theresa May's position is being challenged by her own party following an unfortunate appearance at the Conservative conference.

#### CAD weekly currency update

At best it was an average week for the Canadian dollar, which lost one US cent. It was handicapped by the domestic economic data, most of which looked unimpressive in comparison with those from the States. The Canadian economy stalled in July, with zero growth, and the trade deficit widened in August as exports fell and imports rose.

Average week or not, the Loonie picked up more than two cents from the week's biggest loser, Sterling. The pound's problems were twofold; mediocre ecostats and messy politics. The UK purchasing managers' index readings, a barometer of private sector business activity, showed only modest growth in manufacturing and services and a slowdown in construction. The political prob-

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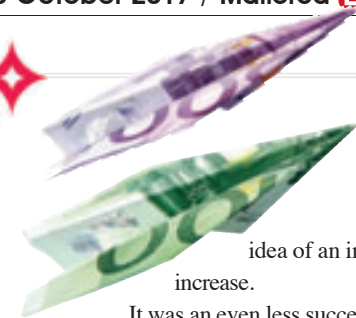
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lem was a power struggle for control of the ruling Conservative party. A faction of the party is trying to unseat the prime minister. Investors do not welcome another source of uncertainty.

#### AUD weekly currency update

It was a less than successful week for the Aussie, which weakened by an average of -0.3% against the other dozen most actively-traded currencies and lost four-fifths of a US cent. The Australian economic data did not help its case and nor did the Reserve Bank of Australia. There was a markedly negative reaction to the retail sales figures for August, which showed a -0.6% fall instead of the forecast 0.3% increase. And the RBA statement appeared to banish any



idea of an interest rate increase.

It was an even less successful week for sterling. The pound was way out at the back of the field, losing two and a third Australian cents. The mediocre UK economic data played a part but the main damage was another outbreak of political instability. Following an unfortunate appearance at the Conservative party conference prime minister Theresa May is now under fire from her own side.

#### NZD weekly currency update

The NZ dollar performed almost as badly as sterling. The pound's convincingly dismal showing ensured it was at the back of the field but the Kiwi was only a cent and a half ahead of it in penultimate position, down by more than one US cent. There were only two worthwhile NZ ecostats and they were unhelpful. Business confidence faded in the third quarter from 18% to 5% and the fortnightly GDT milk price index was down by -2.4%. Political uncertainty continues to be a handicap for the Kiwi: there is still no word on the shape of the coalition government following the general election.

It is an even bigger handicap for sterling. Following an unfortunate performance by prime minister Theresa May at the Conservative conference a faction of her party is campaigning to replace her as leader. Investors do not welcome yet another bout of political instability.

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## NEWS EXTRA

**Baby blooper drama**

A BABY boy was rescued from a locked car by two Palma policemen who smashed through the window. The mother left her keys in the car after taking out her shopping.

**Solar sold**

THE green light was given for Mallorca's two biggest ever solar parks. Combined, the Santa Cirga and S'Aguila parks will generate more than 10 per cent of Mallorca's energy.

**Golden eye**

PAUL HAGGIS, the director of James Bond films *Quantum of Solace* and *Casino Royale*, will be the star name at the *Evolution Mallorca International Film Festival* later this month.

SWASTIKAS and other fascist symbols were scrawled on the gates of Montiuri cemetery. The vandalism comes amid an ongoing excavation effort to uncover more Civil War-era victims of the Franco regime.

Joan Verger, mayor of Montiuri, said that the "cowardly and miserable vandals will not stop the town hall from dignifying the historical memory." He accused the anonymous aggressors of wanting "to sully the memory of those who fought and died for freedom and democracy."

The graffiti was sprayed overnight, meaning archaeologists working on excavating a mass grave with at least four men inside arrived for work only to be greeted by the fascist slogans.

They began work on the site several weeks ago. The bodies are believed to belong to four local labourers who were murdered when Franco's

# Nazis strike mass grave



Photo by twitter/Montiuri PP

“ They are trying to sully the memory.

troops landed on Mallorca.

Hundreds of other unidentified victims of the fascist regime lie across the island. Archaeologists fear that it will be near impossible to identify most of them. Bodies buried on top of one another make DNA analysis difficult.

Most are believed to be anti-fascist infantrymen from the mainland.

TWISTED: Cemetery gates covered in fascist graffiti.

## Sheep against the machine

A SHEPHERD suing Palma Town Hall has vowed to take his case to the Spanish Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights. Juan Jose Arias is fighting an uphill battle against the council, and just lost a decision by Palma's provincial court.

The sheep and goat herder claims to have been cheated when his farm was appropriated by the town hall to make way for the Mercapalma market. He received some compensation and was moved to a new property but is adamant that his rights were violated.

He accuses the town hall of pestering and pressuring him to sign the papers. He had no legal advice, no time, and was battling depression. Arias found himself signing off on an agreement that valued his 10,000 square metre farm as though it were just 500 square metres.

Arias also says that his neighbours, who had proper legal guidance, received three times the amount he did per square metre.

Last week his case faltered when Palma's provincial court found no reason to repeal the appropriation order. Judges found there was not enough supporting evidence to back the claim that he was 'harassed and deceived.'

Arias has now promised to fight for 'proper compensation,' or at least a new farm, suitable for his 100 sheep and goats.

He has been rehoused near the Son Banya slum. Ironically it is also on the verge of being demolished to make way for shops and apartments.



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## NEWS IN BRIEF



## Close shave for star

A KNIFE-WIELDING football supporter was arrested after approaching Spain's Isco during a pitch invasion in a World Cup qualifying match. The Israeli fan reportedly dropped the weapon before approaching the Spanish international but was held by police.

## Earth moves

SPAIN'S National Geographic Institute (IGN) has registered nine earthquakes in just 24 hours in Andalucia. The initial quake, centred on the town of El Saucejo in the province of Sevilla had a magnitude of 4.2.

## Joint operation

A CRIMINAL gang involved in international drug trafficking has been derailed following a joint operation by the Spanish police and tax agency. Police seized over 270 kilos of high-quality marijuana and nearly €500,000 in cash during the investigation.

## Light relief

BARCELONA will be turning on their Christmas lights early to honour those killed in the Las Ramblas terrorist attack in August. The event will take place on November 23 at 7pm.

## Tax fraud

FORMER Real Madrid and Chelsea star, Ricardo Carvalho, has been handed a seven-month jail sentence and fined more than €140,000 after being found guilty of hiding more than €545,000 worth of income gained from image rights in 2011 and 2012.

## United Spain

THOUSANDS of demonstrators calling for a unified Spain marched through central Barcelona one week after the regional government held an illegal referendum. More than 2.3 million Catalans took part in the poll - a turnout of 42 per cent.

## Lost and found

A MAN who went missing from a French psychiatric hospital in 2015 has been found with signs of malnutrition in Cadiz, Andalucia. Visibly disorientated, he claimed that he had been walking from Burdeos in France for three years.

# €220 million cocaine sting

SPANISH authorities have held seven drug traffickers who tried to smuggle almost four tonnes of cocaine worth an estimated €220 million into the country.

The bust comes following a tip off from international investigators.

Authorities intercepted a tug boat while it was crossing the Atlantic around 540 miles from the

Canary Islands.

The vessel was towed into the Spanish port of Cadiz where police officers arrested the crew.

They found over 160 individual packets of the drug, each weighing around 23kg, stashed away in a watertight compartment under the boat's kitchen.

The Spanish authorities con-

firmed they received assistance from the Colombian drug trafficking authorities (DIRAN) throughout the operation.

The incident is the second major international drug bust to take place in the Atlantic in recent weeks, after the Portuguese navy ambushed a yacht believed to be transporting cocaine to Europe from the Caribbean.

# Endangered Spanish lynx shot dead

POLICE have asked for help to find out who shot an endangered Iberian lynx at close-range in Jaen Province, Andalucia.

Agents from Seprona, the Guardia Civil's animal protection unit, have turned to social media to seek information after confirming that the animal's death was no accident.

In a post on Twitter, the Guardia Civil asked: "Do you know who shot a lynx in Sierra Morena?"

"Help us to hunt them down.

"Hunters are usually respectful."

An autopsy confirmed that the female lynx, which weighed 9.5 kilograms and was just over one-year-old, was shot at close range of around five to 10 metres.

An x-ray revealed more than 100 fragments of lead were inside its body.

The corpse of the critically endangered species was found in a small hunting ground in Villanueva de la Reina, a municipality in Jaen, and police are taking statements from those associated with the area.

The Andalucian Hunting Federation has condemned the act, they said in a statement: "Those who carry out these types of acts are furtive delinquents.

"The hunter can only be called a hunter when he respects the law and loves the countryside and nature."

The co-operation of hunters has been sought since the beginning of the Iberlynce programme which has aimed to save the world's most endangered big cat from the brink of extinction.

Between 2002 and 2016, 95 lynx deaths were recorded as a result of collisions with vehicles, but 25 deaths have been attributed to hunters.



ON THE BRINK: An Iberian lynx in the wild.

# Man gored in neck dies at bull run

ONE person has died and two others were injured during the annual Fiesta del Toro Revolao bull run in the small village of Valfermoso de Tajuna, in the Castilla La Mancha region of Spain.

The 33-year-old man from Madrid had been taunting the bull, waving a jumper at it, before it charged at him pinning him to the ground.

In videos posted on social media other participants can be seen trying to pull the bull from the man by the tail.

It is reported the man was gored in the jugular, but died lat-

er despite the best efforts of the emergency services.

The man's wife and children were in the crowd and witnessed the incident according to reports on television.

No-one has previously died at the event.

# Flight prices soaring

THE average price for flights from the UK to Europe has risen by nearly 25 per cent since mid-September, according to travel search engine Skyscanner.

The website confirmed that air fares for last minute trips have been 23 per cent more expensive in the past few weeks since Ryanair began to announce cancellations.

Passengers flying to certain destinations in Spain saw even higher increases, as last minute flights to Malaga were up 30 per cent, from around €120 to €150, and flights to Alicante increased by 27 per cent.

The demand for flights has also shot up after thousands of Ryanair and Monarch customers had their flights cancelled and had to find alternatives. Skyscanner reported that traffic on its website has risen by 86 per cent in the past few weeks.

Ryanair started to cancel thousands of flights across Europe after it botched up their pilot's annual leave, which has so far affected roughly 700,000 passengers, while around 860,000 Monarch customers had their travel plans thrown into disarray when the firm suddenly went bankrupt on Monday.

# Lottery jackpot

A RECORD-BREAKING €190m (£169m) Euromillions jackpot has gone to a single ticket-holder in Spain.

The huge main jackpot had rolled over since the start of September as no-one had matched five numbers and two lucky stars in the twice-weekly - Tuesday and Friday - lottery draws.

A lucky punter who bought their ticket in Spain had the winning numbers of 01, 09, 15, 19 and 25 and lucky star numbers 01 and 07.

The prize fund had reached its maximum limit, and, without any winners, would have remained at £169m for another four draws, before being distributed to those with fewer number matches on a fifth draw.

# Recovery driver killed

THE driver of a breakdown truck has been killed while attending a broken down car in Spain.

The 28-year-old worker died on the A-5 at Maqueda in Toledo when a van careered into him.



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## SWEDEN

### Senior success

SWEDISH authorities have granted temporary asylum to a 106-year-old woman from Afghanistan, overruling a previous decision to deny her refugee status on the

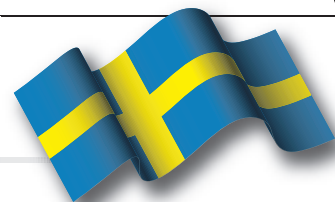


**RADIOACTIVE:** Swedish hunters found a boar which would have been lethal as a hog roast.

grounds that it was inhumane.

### Wild thing

A WILD boar shot in an area of Sweden that is still affected by the fallout of the Chernobyl nuclear



disaster was found to have 10 times the safe limit of radiation in its system.

### Wedding woes

A SWEDISH couple has been sentenced to a year in prison and a fine of over €9,000 for forcing their 19-year-old daughter to marry her cousin in Kurdistan against her will.

### Snail mail

SWEDISH residents may soon have to wait twice as long for their mail to arrive after the postal service made budget cuts due to a severe decline in business.

## NETHERLANDS

### New record

DUTCH politicians broke records on Monday for having formed a working government even though it had been 208 days since the national election - exceeding the last hiatus which was set in 1977.

### Toxic fungi

THE number of poisonings from wild mushrooms has increased sharply in 2017, according to the National Poisoning Information Centre which has so far received over 180 queries about mushroom poisoning this year.



### Green lane

A BIKE lane in the province of Friesland has been paved with recycled toilet paper, according to CityLab, which apparently helps to prevent bikes from slipping in wet conditions.

### Cars confused

MOTORISTS were left baffled in the town of Oostzaan as new cycle lane markings appeared on one of the roads which left only two inches of room for cars to pass through.

## GERMANY

### Capital chaos

THE capital city braced itself as Storm Xavier descended on Berlin on Thursday and created chaos in the streets, being the first storm with hurricane-force winds to hit in several years.

### Pricey policy

MANY German states have reversed

the free university tuition fee policy for international students, which was initially created to attract more foreigners to the country.

### Race mishap

THE five fastest runners at the Kassel Marathon were disqualified after taking a detour, which reduced the

race by five kilometres, when the timing car went the wrong way.

### Cheap commute

ALL state employees in Hesse will be able to travel on public transport throughout the entire region for free from January 2018, which includes all train, bus and tram travel.



## NORWAY

### Pot luck

NORWAY'S second largest airport, Bergen's Flesland Airport, was temporarily evacuated after a suspicious package was discovered in a piece of luggage but the grenade-like object turned out to be a ceramic ornament.

### Rudolph rage

THE migration of reindeer between Norway and Sweden has created conflict between the two country's agricultural ministries as the Norwegian claim the Swedes do nothing to stop their reindeer from wandering onto Norway's pastures.

### Cross over

A NORWEGIAN man in his 50's who had been reported missing was found three days later in Sweden after he accidentally crossed the border while walking in the mountains.

### Bagging it

THE EU's plastic bag charge has now been adopted in Norway in an effort to reduce pollution, and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to fund measures to protect the environment.



## FRANCE

### Timely escape

A MAKESHIFT petrol bomb, comprised of gas canisters and a rooky ignition device, was discovered under cement trucks in Paris last Thursday which led authorities to believe it was another terror attempt.

### Phone-free

A RESTAURANT in the tiny village of Saint-Guilhem-le-Desert has banned mobile phones in the premises in order to promote more traditional French values.

### Digging holes

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron has been criticised for accusing workers of 'wreaking havoc' when they were peacefully protesting to save their jobs at the bankrupt manufacturing firm which he visited last week.

### Hippo news

AN animal park in Port-Saint-Pere is asking members of the public to choose the name for a new baby hippo born last month, which has been the only one of its kind born in a French zoo this year.



## BELGIUM

### Flight fumble

BELGIAN officials plan to take Ryanair to court for allegedly punishing their customers by only communicating with them in English, despite the fact that the nation's official languages are French and Dutch.

### Suspect snatch

A BELGIAN man accused of carrying out the terror attacks in Paris in November 2015 has been returned to France to stand trial after anti-terrorist judges sent out a warrant for his arrest.

### Naked truth

A COUPLE of naturists from Belgium have gained infamy for writing a blog about their naked travels and they have so far bared all in nearly 10 countries including Brazil, Italy and Greece.

### Ale Mary

A CHURCH in Brussels has partnered with a local brewery to launch its own beer in order to raise funds keep the premises from closing.



## DENMARK

### Cold killer

AN inventor suspected of murdering a Swedish journalist on his submarine has been detained after a Copenhagen court heard how her body was found in the sea with 15 stab wounds.

### First frost

DENMARK'S temperatures look set to plummet in the coming days with the country's first frost predicted for Sunday or Monday, following the wettest September the country has had in 16 years.

### Oil slip

A FERRY departure in the harbour town of Hou was cancelled after 6,000 litres of gasoline was accidentally pumped into the ship's diesel fuel tank.

### Dart joy

THE 2021 Dart's World Cup will be held in the Danish city of Ejsberg, which has previously hosted the annual Denmark Open and Denmark Masters tournament.



## Madrid bank needs cash

CONSIDERED to be the most vulnerable of the Spanish Banks on the Stock Exchange, Liberbank is looking to raise an additional €500 million to prop it up.

Whilst approval for this capital increase will be required at a forthcoming shareholders' meeting, the bank already has foreign bank advisors in place, ready to underwrite the proposed new offer of shares.

## Catalan businesses will leave

A NUMBER of high profile companies have already announced that they will move their head offices out of Barcelona and others are considering their future.

It seems that the Sabadell Bank has made the decision to move in the event of independence to either Alicante or Madrid whilst it is strongly expected that CaixaBank will decide at an Extraordinary General Meeting to look to move to Valencia.

Other companies who are definitely moving are telecommunications operator Euronova which has proper-

By John Smith

ties acquired following takeovers in Madrid, whilst dental specialists Proclinic Expert have their eyes set on Zaragoza.

In addition and supposedly not due to the possibility of independence, Oryzon, a biotech company founded in Barcelona in 2000, confirmed through the Spanish stock exchange that it will be moving its head office to Madrid.

Independence could prove to be a major problem for banks headquar-

tered in Cataluña as in the event that the new Catalan State should fall into financial difficulty it would be unlikely to underwrite the liabilities of banks based there, whilst those who have head offices in Spain would continue to receive protection from the European Central Bank.

Share prices fell with the announcement of the result of the referendum, but those who have either announced or indicated the likelihood of moving out of the region have seen some very significant gains.

## Back on track in Saudi Arabia

THE Spanish consortium constructing the 450 kilometre high-speed link between Medina and Mecca in Saudi Arabia expects to see live tests shortly.

There have been delays and financial difficulties but rail operator Renfe plans to start running passenger trials by the end of this year and if all is successful a full service by the second quarter of 2018.

Taking nearly four years to complete, the service will see trains travelling at up to 300 kilometres per hour.

### Quote of the Week

"Beware of reactions and counter-reactions, which will not be good for Catalonia or Spain," warned Antonio Garamendi Vice President of the Spanish SME Confederation on companies planning to move HQs from Barcelona.



Photo by World Travel & Tourism Council flickr

RYANAIR CEO Michael O'Leary.

## Ryanair increases pilots' wages

THE chief executive of Ryanair Michael O'Leary has written to pilots offering them enhanced pay and conditions and apologising for annual leave confusion.

Not known for his tact in the past, on this occasion, the Ryanair boss appeared to be alert to the fact that a large number of pilots had joined unions since the problem of holiday rotas had seen the cancellation of thousands of flights.

In addition, there have been approaches from other airlines,

especially Norwegian inviting pilots to transfer to join their expanding fleet, so despite the fact that the recently failed Monarch airlines may see their pilots looking for work elsewhere, Mr O'Leary clearly wishes to keep continuity within his airline.

He has promised his pilots a secure future and referred to the insolvency of Air Berlin, Alitalia and Monarch this year and suggested that pilots consider long and hard before defecting to less financially secure airlines.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

## Smoke screen

THE Spanish Tax Agency has announced that in the past year it has seized 6.5 million packs of cigarettes and 97,000 packs of tobacco. It believes that its ongoing battle against contraband tobacco is continuing to be successful.

## Peseta plea

FOUR people who claimed compensation for the loss of 48,458 pesetas issued by the Republican side in 1936 have had their claim rejected by a Spanish court. They argued that the Nationalists seized the money illegally and wanted the euro equivalent including interest.

## Easy connect

THE number of Spanish households that has access to the internet has risen to 83.4 per cent, although the majority of access is through mobile phones. Just 13.5 million households have broadband access and a growing amount is through fibre optics.

## Airline staff call off strike

PILOTS flying for Thomas Cook airline have settled their dispute with the company and called off three strikes planned for Friday and the following two weeks.

The eight days of strikes were due after an earlier action in September, believed to be the

first British airline pilots strike in decades.

Both the pilots union BALPA and the management of the airline have expressed their pleasure at the fact they were able to come to an agreement which meant the minimum of disruption to passengers.

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SP16055EN

# Coal is out of favour

## LIQUID NATURAL GAS WILL TAKE OVER

AS governments around the world demand a move away from environmentally damaging coal and oil, the larger oil companies in particular are expanding their natural gas resources.

Currently, Royal Dutch Shell is managing a huge deposit in Australia and will convert the gas into Liquefied fuel (LNG) which can be transported around the world in tankers.

A similar operation in the Southern Hemisphere is being managed by Chevron which is reported to have invested a massive €75 billion into the building of a new platform and other major oil companies are also investing heavily in this growing area of business.

Currently a great deal of electricity, particularly in China and India is being produced by burning coal which is recognised as a major pollutant and a generating plant using LNG can reduce the amount of carbon dioxide produced by 50 per cent and 75 per cent less nitrogen oxide.

The large oil companies can see that their reliance on oil to fuel vehicles is coming to an end, with the decision to phase out diesel powered vehicles within a few years and the growth of electric cars with batteries which will stay charged for much longer distances.

Countries which had little if any oil may still have natural gas deposits as the deeper the compressed matter is found, the more likely it is to have turned into gas rather than oil.

The five countries with largest gas deposits currently known are believed to be in Russia, Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkmenistan although the figures presented by US Energy Information Administration are quite old and do not even include the USA.



Photo by Nakilat

**QATARI**  
ship transporting  
LNG.

More and more LNG projects are being presented to governments around the world whilst the search for crude oil is declining and with LNG suitable for urban taxis and other vehicles, distribution is almost as important as new finds.

The cost of freezing and moving the liquid gas in bulk is steadily decreasing as companies invest more in this area and even the movement of the gas can be greener as marine diesel is slowly being replaced by engines driven by LNG.

## DESPITE FALLS IN THE SPANISH STOCK MARKET

# German Bank tips Santander

IN a published statement, Deutsche Bank which appears to have recovered from its own financial difficulties has identified Banco Santander as a good investment option.

Untainted by the Catalan problem and only recently considered by the Spanish government and European Central Bank an ideal partner to take over Banco Popular, it seems ready to fend off law suits from disgruntled Banco Popular shareholders who have lost everything.

The majority of Spanish bank shares fell following the results of the arguably illegal Catalan Independence Referendum and the German banking group believes that Santander under the firm leadership of Ana Botin is undervalued.

It forecasts that 2018 will be a very profitable year for the Cantabrian based bank with profits rising by more than 10 per cent and an increase in the value of dividends paid to shareholders.

With a target price of €6.60, it would have to see a strong surge of around 14 per cent as shares have been trading between €5.80 and €5.85 for several



**ANA BOTIN: Has been chair of the parent company since 2014.**

weeks, although it had a short lived drop to €5.60.

Ana Botin the fourth generation of her family to head Santander Bank, studied economics at Bryn Mawr College and attended Harvard Business School where she earned an MBA.

She then worked for eight years at JP Morgan in the USA and in 1988 she came back to Spain and began working for the Santander Group. In 2002 she

was appointed the executive chairman of the Spanish bank, Banesto, a subsidiary of Santander where she served until 2010 when she became CEO of Santander UK.

When her father died in 2014, she was immediately appointed chair of the parent company which continues to be highly successful.

So impressed was David Cameron with this Spanish businesswoman that he appointed her in 2014 as one of his advisors in the Business Advisory Group and following this appointment she was then made an honorary Dame Commander of the British Empire (DBE) in December 2015, for services to the British financial services sector.

Now with more than 186,000 employees and 14,392 branches spread across most of Europe and much of South America, the bank has also been increasing its business in Asia and the USA and its charismatic and hard-working chair continues to be a driving force behind the bank's burgeoning strength.

## Christmas could be costly in the UK

CHRISTMAS is already upon us although Spain is not as quick to jump on the band wagon as UK retailers who are already promoting cards, decorations and gifts.

Stores such as Morrisons in Gibraltar are following suit offering plenty of Christmas items alongside an extensive Halloween collection but stores in the UK are worried that this won't be a bumper celebration as far as they are concerned.

British consumers are fearful that the prices of goods will continue to increase due to a weak pound and Brexit fears meaning that they may have to cut back on their spending according to a survey undertaken by Mintel, the world's largest market intelligence agency with global offices in Europe, the Far East and Asia,

## Foundation to quit Cataluña

MASKED by the interest caused by the move of industrialists and banks out of Cataluña, a charitable foundation worth almost €22 billion has also left.

La Caixa Banking Foundation Group which exists to manage a huge pension fund and administers charitable activities throughout Spain has decided to set up its new headquarters in Palma, Mallorca.

Madrid has been the main beneficiary of the move of head offices out of Barcelona although it is unlikely that the banks in particular will move the majority of their staff who will continue to operate from their existing offices, so fears of massive unemployment in Barcelona are unlikely to come true.

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Kathy Hutchins Shuterstock

**UNITY:** Demonstration against Catalan independence in Barcelona.

## IMF worried

WHILST the European Union has sided with Spain on the Cataluña situation, the IMF has now warned that the entire Spanish economy could suffer a loss of confidence.

Despite the fact that Cataluña is considered the industrial power house of Spain and accounts for 19 per cent of GDP, the American financial ratings agencies have steadily downgraded its rating and it is now considered to be junk (negative) investment status.

To some extent the flow of companies out of Barcelona to

the rest of Spain, which is being made as easy as possible by the government, will not necessarily be a disastrous blow, as in many cases, head offices will be set up externally but staff will continue to work out of Cataluña's capital.

Time will tell whether the Spanish economy will be badly affected by the current situation but, unless a settlement of some type is made, there will be continued ongoing problems, especially as not everyone in the province favours independence.

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## Andalucia's record-breaking exports

EXPORTS from Andalucia hit an all-time record for the first seven months of 2017 with a total of €18 billion.

This is a 20.1 per cent increase over the same months in 2016 and as an added bonus imports were down, leaving the economy in the happy position of having a €1.92 billion trade surplus.

The province is the second largest exporter in Spain after Cataluña and is well ahead of the Basque Country in third place.

According to the Extenda-Andalucian Agency for Foreign Promotion, the biggest growth in trade has been with China which saw a massive jump to €684 million making it the eighth largest market for

Andalucian produce.

France continues to be the market leader, spending €2.1 billion, followed by Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom, whilst of the non-EU countries in the top 10, joining China, are the United States and Morocco.

Important exports are olive oil and table olives as well as sweet oranges, lemons, wine, ham and tuna, with new markets for gourmet produce in particular being opened.

Although agricultural produce makes up a large proportion of exports, the province has also been particularly successful in the sale of minerals and oil as well as electrical goods and metal.

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# Look before you leap, or send a letter

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT**  
OTHERS THINK IT



I DON'T often react to mail I receive, particularly those that are not constructive and often downright nasty, but I do feel a couple of last week's missives merit a certain repudiation from the ol' boy. Of course, as usual, the wrong end of the stick was firmly seized by at least one of these communications.

My point about Facebook removing my posting of the naked white man being kicked and stoned to death by black youths, without intervention on an SA street, was not that it was actually taking place, but the fact that the site seemed to allow the most horrendous acts by terrorist groups to remain, but deemed it necessary to remove and, subsequently, continue to sweep under the carpet, the desperate and totally unacceptable treatment of the white citizens who still live in those African countries. Contrary to one of your letters I do, in fact, know exactly what I am talking about.

Not only do I receive weekly updates from friends in Africa, but I have also toured and lived for a while in both SA and Rhodesia/Zimbabwe; experiencing the apartheid and also their so-called liberated eras. Well I remember, during my trip to



**JOHANNESBURG: A city of stark contrasts to its own citizens.**

a then fairly young Zimbabwe, having local black residents furtively sidle up and inform me how much better their lives were under Mr Smith!

At least during those far off days these countries prospered. Although the blacks were disgracefully oppressed and reduced to second-class

citizens in their own land, they did at least reap the benefits of the hard work, efforts and expertise of the white settlers i.e. roofs over their heads, food on the table and schools for their children.

Both countries have now descended into utter anarchy under the jackboots of the ANC and the

despot Mugabe. Whites are afraid to shop or go into many public places alone.

Muggings and robbery are the norm. Abductions, rapes and murders of whites are not even reported. Johannesburg has become the most dangerous city in the world. Those whites who have survived, are forced to live in virtual fortresses, with high walls topped by barbed wire and compounds patrolled by dogs, backed up by armories of firearms.

Farms seized by the authorities, once productive and highly successful, lie barren and unattended, while the ordinary local black citizens, most living in poverty and starvation, look helplessly on as the privileged few indulge themselves in lives of luxury and decadence, far in excess of the white politicians and leaders of yore. And the world looks on and does precisely nothing.

I rest my case. Please, if you do feel the need to communicate, either by email or online, can you first make sure you actually understand my point and not merely pluck a couple of lines or phrases out purely to be unpleasant? It really is such an utter waste of precious time and energy.

Keep 'em coming however, I do peruse them all. Hang in there.

*Keep the faith. Love Leapy*

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# Have you travelled before?

**Mike Senker**

*In my opinion*

*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*



LAST week I mentioned Monarch running out of food. Well now they have gone skint and, of course, I had flights booked with them for Christmas. As I paid with a debit card I have probably lost my money, which is bad enough, but, of course, when I have gone to rebook all the other airlines have doubled their price.

Yeah, yeah, I know - supply and demand. I flew with Virgin Atlantic to and from the USA and I have to say they are a fantastic company to fly with. The only thing I wondered was why, when fitting out their female cabin crew, do they hear 'I'm a size 10' when she's obviously said 'I'm a size 14'? They all looked a little uncomfortable to me.

I decided to fly into Gibraltar on the way back so I didn't have to leave Heathrow on my return which meant I could stay in the same terminal and not have the extra expense of going to another airport. I had only two hours from landing from the USA to catch my next flight and I couldn't check my luggage all the way through to Gib.

All was going well until I got to security

and my bag went on the other side of the glass which meant it had to be double checked, which is fine. The problem was there were only two security people. One was dealing with the left hand side queue and one was dealing with the right hand side. The lady in front of me had a back pack, a handbag and a carry-on bag and the officer decided to go through the whole lot which took 40 minutes.

Half way through I looked at her and said, 'Have you actually ever travelled before?' She had water, three or four bags of cosmetics and gawd knows what else. I was getting very grumpy and asked, 'Why does this have to be done here? Why isn't she taken to one side so as to not hold everybody else up? After all, she's the problem, not us!'

The security officer's random comment to me was that only last week he had found six bullets in someone's hand luggage. That, of course, didn't answer my question at all. There should be three or four officers there. Two to do the general security and two to do the awkward stuff, so it keeps it all flowing.

Finally, BA, why, oh why do you make everyone pay for refreshments with credit cards? Everybody having to put pin numbers in for a two quid transaction! It's a joke!

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## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### Buying a new car - your rights

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



**NEW CARS:** Conditions will vary according to the manufacturer.

WHEN you purchase a new car from a dealer, you have a certain level of peace of mind accompanying your purchase.

New cars are covered by a legal guarantee of two years without a mileage limit, whereas the manufacturer has to take care of the faults and breakdowns that have arisen with the car, so long as they are not caused by misuse, lack of maintenance or wear.

Factory defects are also covered by the legal guarantee, but in this case the claim must be made during the first six months from the date of delivery of the vehicle. After that time it is necessary to prove that the defect is actually caused at the manufacture stage and, for that, an expert report must be presented to prove it.

The Madrid-based Asociación Madrileña de Distribuidores de Automóviles (AMDA), also wants to advise owners that you also have consumer rights if you have to visit the workshop for these repairs.

In the event that the vehicle suffers a fault covered by the warranty, the time spent in the

workshop for repair will not count as part of the warranty period and that time will be added to the original date of termination of the warranty. It is necessary to request a receipt with the date of delivery and return of the vehicle, together with the repair report.

The buyer not only has rights when buying a car, but work carried out in authorised mechanic's workshops are guaranteed, whether it is a maintenance check or a repair.

It is however necessary to differentiate between two situations: when it is a repair covered by the legal guarantee, in this case the period of cover is six months; If it is a repair outside the warranty period, the workshop will be responsible for its work for three months or 2,000 kilometres.

Many manufacturers offer the option to optionally expand the warranty period.

The conditions vary according to the manufacturer, the length of time, mileage, and what is covered. Therefore, the conditions must be read carefully.

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

## Can they ban dogs?

**Q.** In our community, we have always had a set of 'Internal Regulations of the Community of Owners' which are generally adhered to. However, a few owners have now brought dogs into the community.

Our Internal Regulations state that, 'No animals of any kind, except for guide dogs,

may be kept in any part of the Complex.'

Our administrator accepts the rule but says that it would not be possible to enforce it. My copy of your book 'You & the Law in Spain' is quite clear that, if our regulations say No Dogs, then our community can enforce this. Can you confirm?

*D W (Costa del Sol)*

**A.** Perhaps I was too optimistic. First, if your Internal Regulations do not form part of the original Statutes of your community, but were passed later, then you do not have legal ground for

**David Searl**

*You and the Law in Spain*



banning dogs. If the regulations indeed appear in the original Statutes, you

have legal grounds, but how do you enforce them? You will have to go to court and obtain a court order for the owner to remove his dog. If he does not, he will be held in contempt of court.

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



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**TECH FOR THE TIMID**

## VHS vs Betamax - again

SINCE ebooks began a decade ago there's been a 'VHS vs Betamax' slugfest of formats. We're down to two main contenders: Amazon's proprietary Kindle type, and what was intended to be the universal EPUB format found on most others.

Like music and movies, paid-for ebooks have copyright protection, and this 'DRM' means they can't easily be switched between systems or devices.

But for the millions of free ebooks online there are simple ways of converting between formats, most notably with the free Calibre program, which can also deliver thousands of the world's magazines and newspapers free to your e-reader.

Still dubious about deserting your beloved print-books? Then consider the internet's most popular verdict by tech guru Stephen Fry: "Books are no more threatened by Kindles than stairs by elevators."

A FRIEND now has 2,000 books in his home and will soon have to camp in his garden. I carry 2,000 books in my back pocket.

By next year a quarter of all worldwide book sales will be electronic, in a market worth €17 billion. You know it makes sense: are several gazillion copies of the latest E.L. James bonkbuster really worth felling the world's forests and then flooding Oxfam shops with books they no longer actually want or can sell?

Yes I know there's nothing to beat the feel of a 'real' book, or my own guilty secret, that evocative smell when you get your hooter right down there between the pages.

But forget the nostalgia, consider the convenience. A flash of your credit card, a touch on your screen and voila, there's this week's best-seller on your Kindle, Kobo or Nook. Or for cheapskates like me there are literally millions more for gratis out there, from the astonishing 54,000 freebies in Project Gutenberg, to Amazon's free ebooks lists.

Proper e-readers are simple one-trick ponies: they display text, the whole text and nothing but the text.

E-reading on a smartphone or tablet is certainly an option, but

# Why not curl up with a good screen?

Is it bye-bye books as paperback meets pixels? **TERENCE KENNEDY** suggests that clinging to print confuses the plate with the food.



**E-READERS:** Forget the nostalgia, consider the convenience.

monochrome e-ink is kinder on the eyes than traditional backlit LCD screens, and dedicated e-readers like Kindles, Kobos or Nooks can run for weeks on a battery charge.

You can buy a no-nonsense e-reader for the price of just two or

three 'dead tree' books, and unlike so many of today's gadgets they'll last for years; I have an ancient Kindle still going strong without a battery change after six years of reading 496 ebooks (yes, I'm one of those pedantic book-counters and

list-keepers. Hey, we all have our crosses to bear).

Sure there are drawbacks. Although some providers like Amazon let you share a book among family members, you can't easily pass it on - though digital lending libraries are gaining ground. And proper ebook devices (the best type for serious readers) still only display in black and white despite years of coloured e-ink predictions.

The convenience is unsurpassed. No more dragging bulky holiday reading around the world to bust your back and the easyJet baggage limit. Instant gratification when you want a book: find it online, click it, own it. No more struggling with fine print for those approaching their sell-by dates: just pump up the font size.

And an added bonus: no more disapproving glances from those in public places as we try ineffectually to hide our Fifty shades of whatever.

Advertising feature

# Your hair in expert hands

TINA HERLITZE is a name to be reckoned with in the world of hairdressing.

Recognising that hair is the crowning glory for many and is part of your personality, Tina puts her heart and soul into transforming lacklustre locks into a full mane of hair to be proud of.

Based in Bendinat, Tina Herlitz The Hairstylist salon has been open for just over a year but Tina has been well-established on the island for more than nine years. During this last year she has welcomed clients new and old, of all nationalities, and even some Hollywood A-listers and celebrities. Such is her reputation as a leading stylist, thanks in part to her passion and dedication and also her years of training and working with Udo Walz, a leading German hairdresser with two salons in Mallorca, people flock to Tina Herlitz time and time again.

Tina is also a specialist in hair extensions. Working closely with Hair Dreams, which she be-

lieves provide the best quality hair extensions on the market, Tina can transform your hair and even your personality with many clients leaving the salon with a newfound confidence.

Long gone are the days of hair extensions simply being used to add length to hair. With extensions no longer only accessible to the rich and famous, many are turning to extensions to add volume and body to the hair. Tina explained, "many women are experiencing hair loss as a result of pregnancy, stress or ageing so extensions can be used to give a natural look and enhance the hair."

Tina said she also observes hair regrowth and in many cases extensions have given clients the confidence boost they wanted, seeing their natural hair regrowing and thickening. She ex-



plained, "it makes me so happy to see clients leave feeling so amazing."

Home and private appointments are also available. Tina gives full guidance and advice on caring correctly for the extensions and whilst there are now numerous ways to put them in,



**TINA HERLITZE: A name to be reckoned with in the world of hairdressing.**

she still prefers bonding each one individually by hand herself, saying, "yes it is true extensions can damage the hair when done incorrectly or too many are used, but when done right by qualified stylists there should be no problems."

With sophistication and style exuding from her salon, all clients, whether well-known or not, are

given the VIP treatment with tea and coffee, water and even a glass of Champagne for you during your appointment.

As well as a full range of hair services from cuts and colour to wedding hair and extensions, the salon also offers nails, lashes and pedicures with a highly qualified team. Tina is also a trained expert make-up artist and regularly spends her weekends getting brides ready for their big day.

The salon is open Tuesday to Wednesday from 10am to 7pm and Thursday to Saturday from 11am to 8pm, as well as Mondays on request only.

So to get the luxury VIP treatments the stars adore, put your hair in the hands of Tina Herlitz and her team.

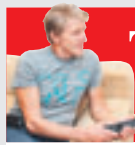
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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event
12 OCTOBER	6:15pm Pointless 7:00pm BBC News at Six 7:30pm BBC London News 8:00pm The One Show 8:30pm EastEnders 9:00pm Council House Crackdown 10:00pm Ambulance 11:00pm BBC News at Ten 11:30pm BBC London News 11:45pm Question Time 12:45am This Week	6:15pm Flog It! 7:00pm Eggheads 7:30pm Strictly - It Takes Two 8:00pm Coast: The Great Guide 9:00pm The Big Family Cooking Showdown 10:00pm Russia with Simon Reeve 11:00pm Match of the Day 11:30pm Newsnight 12:15am The Detectives	8:30pm Tonight 9:00pm Emmerdale 10:00pm An Hour to Catch a Killer with Trevor Mcdonald 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather 11:30pm ITV News London 11:40pm After the News 12:15am Lord Lucan: My Husband, the Truth Jackpot247	7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 9:00pm The Supervet 10:00pm Educating Greater Manchester 11:00pm The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice 11:50pm The Undateables 12:55am Gogglebox	6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News Tonight 8:00pm Police Interceptors 9:00pm Caught in the Act 10:00pm The Nightmare 11:00pm Neighbour Next Door Gypsy Kids: Our Secret World Wild Card	6:00pm Sky Sports News 7:00pm Sky Sports News A comprehensive round-up of the football headlines and all the day's sports news. 8:00pm Rugby Union 11:00pm The Debate - Live 12:00am Gary Neville's Soccerbox
FRIDAY	8:00pm The One Show 8:30pm A Question of Sport 9:00pm EastEnders 9:30pm Would I Lie to You? 10:00pm Have I Got News for You 10:30pm Porridge 11:00pm BBC News at Ten 11:25pm BBC London News 11:35pm The Graham Norton Show 12:25am Josh	7:00pm Strictly - It Takes Two 8:00pm Coast: The Great Guide 9:00pm Mastermind 9:30pm Only Connect 10:00pm Gardeners' World 11:00pm Mock the Week 11:30pm Newsnight 12:05am Dragons' Den 1:05am Snowfall 2:00am Panorama	8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm Coronation Street 9:00pm Australian Wilderness with Ray Mears 9:30pm Coronation Street 10:00pm Cold Feet 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather 11:30pm ITV News London 11:45pm After the News 12:15am Bad Move	6:00pm Four in a Bed 6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star 7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 8:30pm Unreported World 9:00pm The Crystal Maze 10:00pm Gogglebox 11:00pm The Last Leg 12:05am First Dates	6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News Tonight 8:00pm The Gadget Show 9:00pm Britain by Bike with Larry and George Lamb 10:00pm A Celebrity Taste of Italy 11:00pm Claire King: In Therapy 12:05am Alaska: A Year in the Wild	10:00am Live European Tour Golf 3:20pm Cricket 7:00pm Football 8:00pm Football 11:00pm Football 12:30am Gary Neville's Soccerbox 1:00am Through the Night 2:00am Through the Night
SATURDAY	6:55pm Weather 7:00pm Pointless 7:45pm Strictly Come Dancing 9:40pm Casualty 10:30pm Mrs. Brown's Boys 11:00pm BBC News 11:15pm Weather 11:20pm Match of the Day 12:45am The NFL Show	7:00pm Anglesey 7:30pm Gardeners' World 8:30pm Front Row 9:00pm Britain Afloat 9:30pm Dad's Army 10:00pm Lucy Worsley's Nights at the Opera 11:00pm Live at the Apollo 11:30pm Later... with Jools Holland 12:35am The British Guide to Showing Off	6:45pm Local News and Weather 6:55pm ITV News and Weather 7:15pm Cannonball! 8:15pm The Chase Celebrity Special 9:15pm The X Factor 11:15pm The Jonathan Ross Show 12:20am ITV News and Weather 12:40am The Last Boy Scout	4:30pm A Place in the Sun 5:30pm Best Laid Plans 6:35pm Location, Location, Location 7:30pm Channel 4 News 8:00pm Rivers with Jeremy Paxman 9:00pm Britain's Ancient Tracks with Tony Robinson 10:00pm Non-Stop 12:05am Tower Heist	5:40pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away! 6:35pm 5 News 6:40pm A Bridge Too Far 8:40pm Football on 5 10:45pm Football on 5 Goal Rush. 11:15pm Law and Order: Special Victims Unit 12:10am Law and Order: Special Victims Unit	4:15pm Live European Tour Golf 6:00pm PGA Tour Profiles 6:15pm Football 8:40pm Football 10:45pm La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid 11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten 12:00am Through the Night 1:00am Football
SUNDAY	7:10pm Weather 7:15pm Countryfile 8:15pm Strictly Come Dancing 9:00pm Antiques Roadshow 10:00pm The Last Post 11:00pm BBC News 11:20pm Regional News 11:25pm Weather 11:30pm Match of the Day 2 12:30am Possession	4:00pm Northern Italy Unpacked 5:00pm Coast 6:00pm Flog It! 7:00pm Top Gear 8:00pm Russia with Simon Reeve 9:00pm Dragons' Den 10:00pm Louis Theroux 11:00pm Snowfall 11:50pm Mock the Week 12:20am Leave to Remain 1:45am Question Time	5:40pm Victoria 6:40pm Local News and Weather 6:50pm ITV News and Weather 7:00pm Tipping Point 8:00pm The X Factor 10:00pm Victoria 11:05pm ITV News and Weather 11:20pm Peston on Sunday 12:20am Liar	6:15pm The Great British Bake Off 7:30pm Channel 4 News 8:00pm Secrets of China's Forbidden City 9:00pm Escape: Human Cargo 10:00pm Electric Dreams 11:05pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown 12:00am The Impossible	6:15pm Get Smart 8:20pm Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls 9:55pm 5 News The latest news coverage. 10:00pm We're the Millers 12:25am Grown Ups 2:15am Super Casino 4:10am Paddington Station 24/7	2:00pm Football 4:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday 7:30pm Live NFL 10:00pm Live NFL A match from week six of the 2017 NFL season. 2:00am Live NFL: NY Giants @ Denver 5:30am PL Highlights
MONDAY	9:00pm EastEnders 9:30pm How Safe is Your Operation? - Panorama 10:00pm Rellik 11:00pm BBC News 11:30pm Regional News 11:40pm Weather 11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More News for You 12:30am The Graham Norton Show	10:00pm Abortion on Trial 11:00pm WIA 11:30pm Newsnight 12:10am Weather 12:15am Billion Dollar Deals and How They Changed Your World 1:15am Panorama 1:45am Countryfile 2:40am The Apprentice	8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm Coronation Street 9:00pm Countrywise 9:30pm Coronation Street 10:00pm Liar 11:00pm ITV News and Weather 11:45pm After the News 12:15am An Hour to Catch a Killer with Trevor Macdonald 1:10am The Jonathan Ross Show	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star 7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 8:55pm The Political Slot 9:00pm Dispatches 9:30pm Tricks of the Restaurant Trade 10:00pm George Michael 1:10am Celebrity Hunted	6:00pm 5 News 6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News 8:00pm MotoGP 9:00pm Police Interceptors 10:00pm Paddington Station 24/7 11:00pm Hunted and Confronted: Crooks and Conmen 12:05am Resident Evil: Retribution	2:00pm Sky Sports Today 3:00pm Sky Sports Today 4:00pm Sky Sports Today 5:00pm Sky Sports Today 6:00pm Sky Sports News 7:00pm Sky Sports News 8:00pm Football 12:00am Through the Night 1:00am Through the Night 2:00am Info Not Available
TUESDAY	8:30pm EastEnders 9:00pm Holby City 10:00pm Our Girl 11:00pm BBC News 11:30pm Regional News 11:40pm Weather 11:45pm Valley Cops 12:35am Diabulimia: The World's Most Dangerous Eating Disorder	6:15pm Flog It! 7:00pm Eggheads 7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two 8:00pm Coast Great Guides 9:00pm Saving Lives at Sea 10:00pm Chris Packham: Asperger's and Me 11:00pm Later Live... with Jools Holland 11:30pm Newsnight 12:10am Weather	6:00pm The Chase 7:00pm Local News and Weather 7:30pm ITV Evening News 8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm Save Money 9:00pm Robson Green's Coastal Lives 9:30pm Call the Cleaners 10:00pm Cilla 11:00pm ITV News 11:40pm After the News 12:15am Lethal Weapon	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star 7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 9:00pm The Great British Bake Off 10:15pm Celebrity Hunted 11:20pm Gogglebox 12:25am Parenting for Idiots	6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News 8:00pm Tony Robinson: Coast to Coast 9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet 10:00pm Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild 11:00pm When Gameshows Go Horribly Wrong 1:55am Super Casino	3:00pm Sky Sports Today 4:00pm Sky Sports Today 5:00pm Sky Sports Today 6:00pm Sky Sports News 7:00pm Sky Sports News 8:00pm Soccer Special Pre-Match 8:30pm Info not Available 11:00pm The Debate - Live 12:00am Through the Night 1:00am Through the Night
WEDNESDAY	6:15pm Pointless 7:00pm BBC News 7:30pm Regional News 8:00pm The One Show 9:00pm Eat Well for Less 10:00pm The Apprentice 11:00pm BBC News 11:30pm Regional News 11:40pm Weather 11:45pm Anthony Joshua: The Fight of My Life 12:25am Ambulance	6:15pm Flog It! 7:00pm Eggheads 7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two 8:00pm Further Back in Time for Dinner 9:00pm Saving Lives at Sea 10:00pm Army: Behind the New Frontlines 11:00pm The Apprentice: You're Fired! 11:30pm Newsnight 12:10am Weather	7:30pm ITV Evening News 8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm Coronation Street 9:00pm Bad Move 9:30pm Coronation Street 10:00pm Doc Martin 11:00pm ITV News 11:45pm After the News 12:20am UEFA Champions League Highlights	7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 9:00pm Ugly House to Lovely House with George Clarke 10:00pm Grand Designs 11:00pm Trump and Russia: Sex, Spies and Scandal 12:05am How to Get a Council House	7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News 8:00pm Britain by Bike with Larry and George Lamb 9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors 10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away! 11:00pm Murder in the Family 1:05am Notorious 1:05am Countdown to Murder	11:00am Cricket 6:00pm Sky Sports News 7:00pm Sky Sports News 8:00pm Sky Sports Tonight 8:30pm Info not Available 11:00pm The Debate - Live 12:00am Through the Night 1:00am Through the Night 2:00am Through the Night 3:00am Through the Night 4:00am Live PGA Tour Golf

|| 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.



**TV Couch Critic**

# Burning questions as *Liar* stays just about plausible

THE plot certainly thickens by the week.

*Liar* (ITVI, Mondays) has suddenly turned dark. What started as another 'did he or didn't he' rape drama has turned into something far more sinister.

The series is staying just the right side of plausible with most of the characters interlinked in some way.

Andrew Earlham - an alleged rapist - has gained a universal door key, such is the ease with which he enters the houses of chosen women, who then wake to fears and beliefs of being victims of rape.

While the sister of main possible-victim Laura is having an affair with her sibling's ex, Earlham's son has Laura as his teacher at school.

Earlham also appears to have added the investigating Detective Harmon to his tally of victims, plus a wall of silence surrounds his past life in Edinburgh.

Burning questions also surround Ian, who met Laura in a hotel bar and, with so many intertwined plots and lies, I have to say, fantastic acting from both lead characters.

And will the dropped earring, later found by Earlham under his bed, turn around to bite Laura?

On a lighter note it seems TV's premier dat-



**LIAR LEADING ACTORS: Laura and Andrew Earlham.**

ing show (no, not Naked Attraction) is returning for a 10th series. *Take Me Out* (ITVI, Saturdays) is planned with two special episodes, one for the over-50's, the other, Paddy's favourite 30 contestants returning for one last chance at finding love.

The Undateables anyone? The equivalent of a bloke in the old days desperately searching for a last dance at 2am.

All those interested still have until tomorrow

(Friday) to register for the over-50's, so good luck!

I wasn't sure what to expect when watching *Cilla* (ITVI).

First shown in 2014 it's worth a watch if you missed it first time. Once past the odd, unconvincing scouse accent (take a bow Ringo) it becomes very enjoyable. Sheridan Smith pulls off the lead role superbly, with many local actors, and with a nod to the sectarianism that existed

in 1960's Liverpool.

A heartwarming throwback to the times when - without tablets and mobile phones - young people depended more on live music for entertainment.

Imagine going to a job interview and saying "A lot of people call me superwoman," or "I'm usually the smartest person in any room and I'll make sure people know that," and still remaining as a work candidate?

Yes, *The Apprentice* (BBC1, Wednesday) has returned with a new collection of over-confident, but perhaps, future business leaders, though seemingly all with the collective personality only a mother can love.

No doubt team names will be something inappropriate like 'Luminous' or 'Prosperity' as the series gets fully underway.

One of the contestants said "I'm going to throw people under the bus. I'm going to throw people over the bus. I'm going to get on the bus, take the wheel and get that investment from Lord Sugar," pure genius, thanks Jeff!

Final word goes to *Astronauts* (BBC2, Sunday). I wanted Tim Gregory, a 23-year-old PhD student to win, if only because he was a ringer for young Rodney Trotter in the days of *Only Fools and Horses* fame. I could imagine Trigger uttering the words "What do you know, Dave's an astronaut."

Never mind.

**Critique: SC Torrevieja, Costa Blanca**



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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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## Airport moaner driven to distraction

I THINK Grumpy Expat from Coin must have been totally confused with his visit to Malaga Airport.

Yes it can be difficult to know where you're going as there are so many signs for different car parks. Since he 'ended up in the 'new' short term car park by accident' he obviously didn't know which car park he was looking for.

The new space across from arrivals is convenient for collecting people and in fact is quite a good short cut to departures via the lifts and thus avoiding the drop-off car park and the dreaded 16 minutes, one second over and it's €2.63!!!

I have used the new arrivals car park several times over the summer months collecting family and on average paid €1.60 for around 10 minutes.

In fact my last visit I waited 25 minutes for my brother and that cost me €3.25!

*R G Waugh, Fuengirola*

### Double trouble

**REFERENCE your story on page 35 of the Costa Blanca North edition issue 1683:**

**I am livid! Subsidising the day trippers to Granadella is a total abuse by the council of citizens' IBI payments, and will surely make Costa Nova residents even angrier.**

**I understand from a friend that attended that council meeting that the councillor responsible said it had cost €33,000, far less than the figure you quoted! Manipulation of figures for political means?**

**If it is repeated the council**



**LA GRANADELLA: Free park and ride a disgrace?**

**MUST charge for the service.**

**If the Spanish won't pay it then there will be less of a problem down there. If the businesses object, then they must pay for the service.**

**On another matter, driving down to the Arenal today there**

**were police people at crossings for the children going to school. Two jumped out in front of me from the shadows and I only just saw them in time. They must wear 'hi vis' jackets for this job!**

*John Price, Javea*

### It's illegal

I REALLY fail to understand all the hand-wringing over the Catalan Independence Referendum. It is against Spanish law and should not therefore be recognised. Time for PM Rajoy to show what he is made of!

*Chris Perkins, Mijas*

### Sick as a dog

YOUR piece on the 112 Carlota Galgos dog sanctuary (*EWN Costa del Sol issue 1683*) really hit the nail on the head with regard to hunting dog cruelty in Spain. Why don't the government do something about these barbaric practices?

*Jill Jones, Estepona*

### Leapy again

I DID say in my previous letter that I would not be writing again because of this man's extreme racist views, but I thought his latest comments on Jeremy Corbyn need to be put into context. There are roughly 200 countries in the world of which only nine have nuclear weapons. No Southern Hemisphere nation has them, and among those that do 95 per cent are in the hands of Trump and Putin. Anyone with any semblance of common sense can see that any of the remaining seven would be annihilated from the face of the earth if they ever dared to use them!

*Ray Osborne, Los Alcazares*

THERE he was again, prattling on about rainbows, Corbyn and Michael Eavis. He enlightened us on our nuclear defence and how Corbyn would rid us of this and stick flowers down the barrels of enemy soldiers. Well Mr Lee, let me remind you of one of the first rules of national security and that's to protect your leader! The lapse in security at the Tory Party conference was scandalous. When someone handed her a P45, allegedly from the parties' full time jester Boris!! With all the major security scares of late they let someone within spitting distance, in the middle of a speech, in a party conference. If the P45 had been a gun, knife or hand grenade. Slack!!

*Philip, San Fulgencio*

### 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).

## Cataluña to 'declare independence'

**CATALAN authorities have announced a landslide 'yes' vote in Sunday's illegal referendum.**

Why is no one talking about the irregularities during this 'referendum'?

Why were the boxes full of votes before arriving at the polls?

How is it possible that a village of 700 people voted 2,000 times.... That was one of the reasons this was declared illegal as it was not regulated.

The percentage is also wrong as the Catalonians that didn't agree with the referendum didn't vote.

*Emilia*

*They had a legal referendum not so long ago and the people voted to stay part of Spain. So if politicians don't get the vote they want they can resort to illegal tactics. I'm not condoning the violence in any way.*

*Barbara Jago*

### Five dead in multi-vehicle crash

Dreadfully sorry for the families of the victims who have died. Vehicles are travelling far too fast and too close with not enough stopping distances!

*Wendy Nerding*

### Comments from EWN online

Terrible news...RIP to the people who lost their life n hopefully everyone else involved will pull through.

*Maria Hicklin*

Terrible news, I was on that motorway yesterday afternoon.

*Daniel O'Sullivan*

### End of my rainbow (Leapy Lee)

**Hi kids, This is your trendy Dad telling you how much I love you and how much I enjoyed speaking to you all at my recent appearance at Glas-tonbury.**

Ol' Little Arrows has now flipped completely onto his B-side! Utter tripe from a fantasist who knows nothing about the real Jeremy Corbyn - only the lies and rubbish in the UK gutter press. Just watch Leapy as your favourite party implodes this weekend and sacks the PM - again!

*Sam B*

### US man killed in Barcelona's family to sue

**THE daughters of a Californian man killed in the terror attack on Las Ramblas, Barcelona have filed a law suit against three social media firms 'for aiding, abetting and knowingly providing support and resources' to a terror group.**

They probably won't win but it will definitely raise a huge flag for the creator of social media. If Facebook for example can catch a photograph of a woman breastfeeding and disable the account for content, I am pretty sure they are capable of filtering terrorist sites as well. They may at least step up to the plate a bit more with this warning to be held accountable.

*Rhea Rouw*

I think the family know they probably can't beat big corporate lawyers, but at least they have drawn attention to how weak FB are. They seem to let any criminal and terrorist hoods on to mix with decent people. Gangsters using Facebook to sell stolen goods and counterfeit goods. But its when you open a page and some big terrorist jumps out at you.

*Robert B Johnston*

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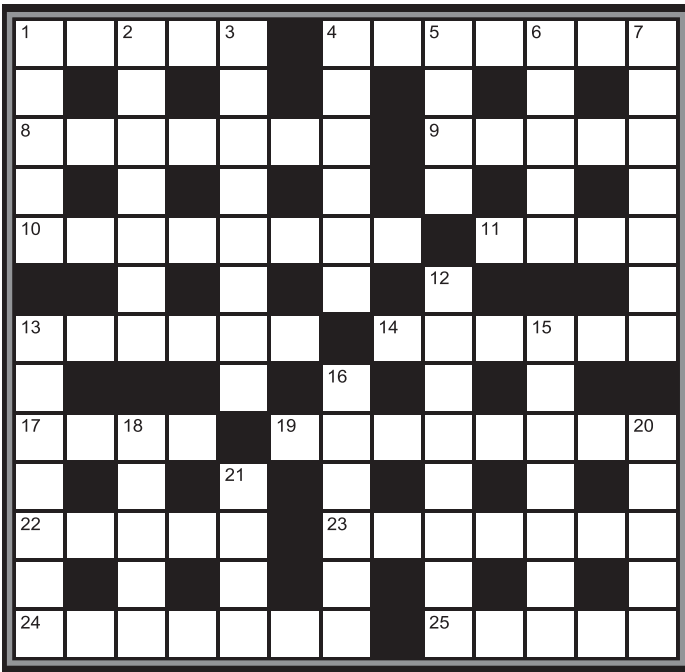
**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Sides reported swarms (5)
- 4 Sea bird can be cooked slowly (7)
- 8 They help make curls and waves (7)
- 9 The belief is that I am God returning (5)
- 10 They've been held by the innkeeper for a long time (8)
- 11 Not much of a fall? (4)
- 13 An American metal somewhere in Texas (6)
- 14 Nicked bundle of pound notes (6)
- 17 Prepare to leave the group (4)
- 19 To begin with I read revelation in Times' article naming the nuisance (8)
- 22 Brew some magic up pal (5)
- 23 Life jacket from same wet components (3,4)
- 24 Records the unmarried ones (7)
- 25 Spread mangled tapes (5)

**Down**

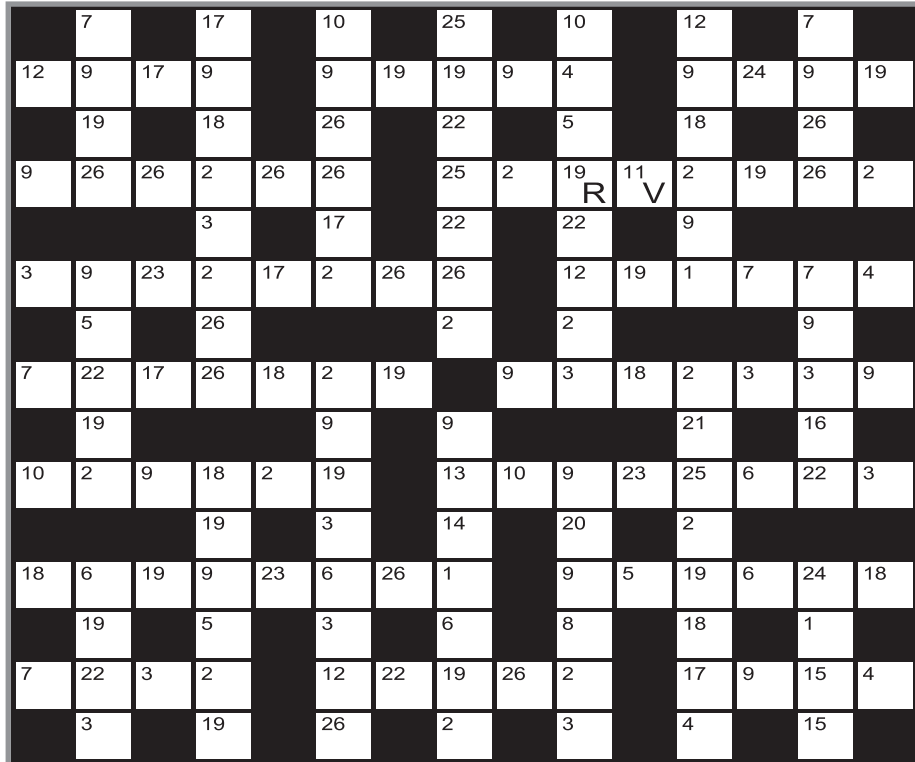
- 1 Set fire to a bit of toast or charcoal (5)
- 2 Listens, sort of, then joins up (7)
- 3 Written outline shows no care, is sloppy (8)
- 4 The coach, little Edward, is out of order (6)
- 5 A first-class lawyer in Verdi



- 6 Something refined brought back from Ragusa (5)
- 7 Late Greek god betraying no emotion (7)
- 12 Start playing new super kit (6,2)
- 13 Small glasses around at views (7)
- 15 The Parisian reads out editorials (7)
- 16 Public transport around park for vagrants (6)
- 18 Some of Al Capone's mob are chicken (5)
- 20 In court it heard about church tax (5)
- 21 Social sphere (4)

**Code Breaker**

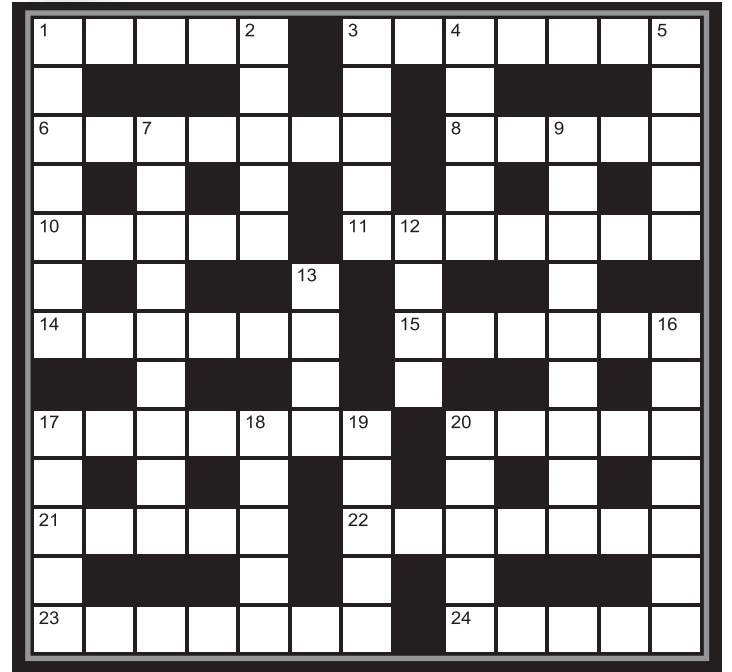
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 11 represents V and 19 represents R, so fill in V every time the figure 11 appears and R every time the figure 19 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters 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	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

**Quick**



**Across**

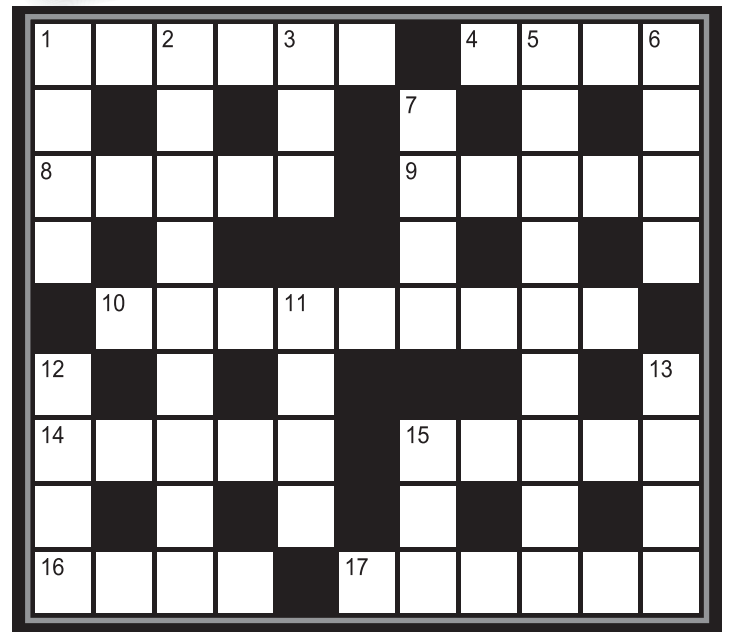
- 1 Underground parts of plants (5)
- 3 Smears (7)
- 6 Public toilet in a military area (7)
- 8 Drinking chocolate (5)
- 10 Be in accord (5)
- 11 Graceful and stylish in appearance or manner (7)
- 14 Suitable for use as food (6)
- 15 Cubicles (6)
- 17 Wet slightly (7)
- 20 Relating to audible sound (5)
- 21 Form a critical opinion of (5)
- 22 Educational institution (7)
- 23 Adjudicator (7)
- 24 Lone-Star state (5)

**Down**

- 1 Let go free (7)
- 2 Grab hold of (5)
- 3 Strainer (5)
- 4 Brother of your father or mother (5)
- 5 Not full or plentiful (5)
- 7 Frightened badly (9)
- 9 Dare (9)
- 12 Fewer (4)
- 13 Being nothing more than specified (4)
- 16 Triumph (7)
- 17 Army officer (5)
- 18 Belonging to them (5)
- 19 Recess in a wall (5)
- 20 Separate into parts or portions (5)

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1 Tablecloth (6)
- 4 Cerveza (4)
- 8 Queen (5)
- 9 Notice (warning) (5)
- 10 Courgette (9)
- 14 Mejilla (5)
- 15 Beret (5)

**Down**

- 1 Girar (llave, manivela, volante) (4)
- 2 Spring (season) (9)
- 3/15 Bolsita de té (3,3)

- 5 Buildings (houses, offices etc) (9)
- 6 Tejado (4)
- 7 Cow (4)
- 11 Pregunta (4)
- 12 Leisure (4)
- 13 Hand (4)
- 15 See 3

CROSSWORD PAGE

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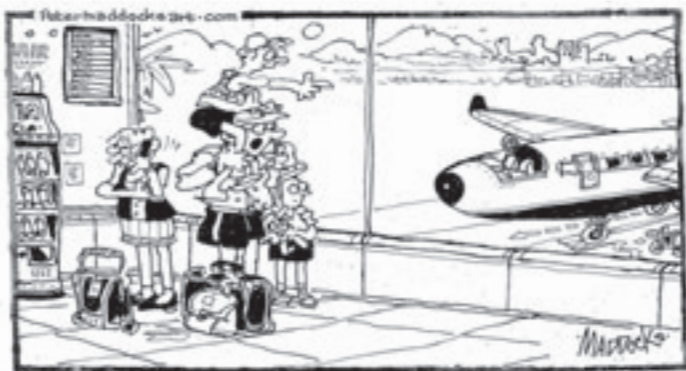


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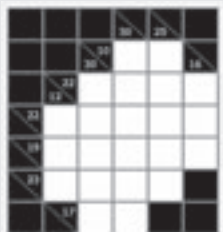
**MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE**



'SHE IS A NICE LOOKING PLANE, CHILDREN - BUT A BIT LIKE OUR PRIME MINISTER - WILL SHE STAY OR WILL SHE GO?'

**Kakuro**

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



**Nonagram**

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



**TARGET:**

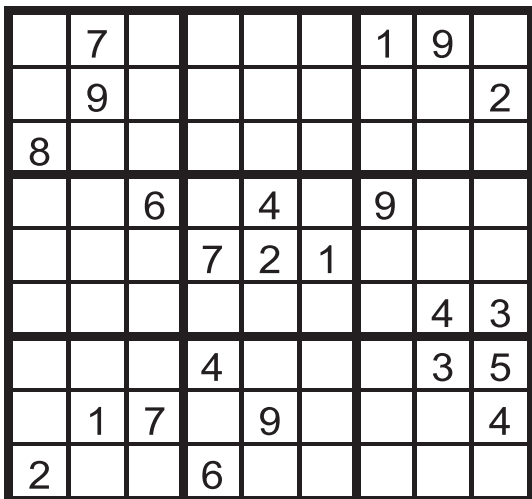
- Average: 8
- Very good: 16
- Good: 11
- Excellent: 21

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**

cede cedi cere cert cite cred dice epic iced rice ceded cered cider cited citer creed creep crepe crept cried diced dicer edict erect piece price recti rice terce trice credit creped deceit decide deicer depict direct pieced pierce priced recipe recte tierce triced decider decried pierced predict receipt recited credited decrepit depicted directed PREDICTED

**Sudoku**

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.



**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**

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

**LOTTERY**

**UK NATIONAL LOTTERY**

Saturday October 07



**IRISH LOTTO**

Saturday October 07



**EURO MILLIONS**

Tuesday October 03



Friday October 06



**LA PRIMITIVA**

Saturday October 07



**EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA**

Sunday October 08



**YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS**

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

There is a wonderful enthusiasm about you at the moment. Seeing the reaction of others to you, it occurs that you should have taken this attitude before. Therefore, make a resolution to put more energy into everything that you do.

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

Something new which you started in recent weeks becomes more than a passing interest. Although it may be surprising to you, it is owing to a predictable situation.

In opening your mind, you also seem to have opened your heart. Many people do that at this time of the year and so you are not alone.

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

Being totally inspired this week, you could be tempted to let enthusiasm run away with you. It is a lovely feeling, like being a child again. Be sure to have fun, but do keep as much money in your pocket as possible.

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

There will be a certain amount of discussion regarding holiday plans. You know what you want but how do you persuade others? It's quite easy really. All you have to do is to get someone else to suggest a certain place. You then agree and it looks like their idea.

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

You are so sharp that there is a danger you will cut yourself! Seriously, though, try not to appear pompous over a certain matter. You may be right and you may be clever, but smarty pants are rarely popular. Some of that sharpness gets things going for you in the love department, though.

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

With everyone busy round you, the chance may be taken to show what you are capable of. Instead of watching someone make a pig's ear of a work project, offer to help. It's important, though, to let them think any bright ideas were theirs. Giving praise now will mean it coming back to you ten-fold. Be aware that a close friend is in a delicate frame of mind.

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

A business partnership takes on a romantic tinge this week. It is possible that the other party sees this as more significant than you. To avoid problems later it would be best to let them do all the running. Unless, of course, you are determined to run yourself. With a lot of excitement in the air it is possible for you to show just what fun you can be. Enjoy!

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

Your outgoing attitude is spot on. Some may say you are a little crazy, the way you go for things. Each person has their own way and yours can be quite unique but that certainly does not make it wrong. People who make the world around us that little bit more colourful are gems.

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

Some legal matters need your attention. That's not really what you want at this time of the year. A decision has to be made and it needs a fine balance. Asking others may just confuse matters, so only seek expert advice. At the end of the day, you will know what is both best and acceptable. An attempt to bring romance into your life may be more successful than you think.

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

A last-minute invitation turns out to be just the ticket in more ways than one. An invitation to join a holiday may be proffered. This is unusual, certainly, but keep an open mind. Your company is clearly well appreciated so why not make that a point of pride? Let's face it, who is best equipped to blow your trumpet?

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

Someone you mistrust offers to add to your celebrations. Why not call a truce? We both know that little long term will come out of it, but who cares? Sometimes, it is better to share one good moment with someone than none at all.

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

As you are in the limelight, it comes as no surprise that admiration comes your way. What may surprise you, however, is the direction it comes from. Who would have thought that such a situation would arise?

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

**CRYPTIC**

**Across:**

- 1 Passage, 5 Tenor, 8 Geese, 9 Spartan, 10 Auto, 11 Relegate, 13 Torrid, 15 Stills, 18 Absorbed, 19 Yam, 22 Gristle, 23 Cadre, 24 Treks, 25 Ladders.

**Down:**

- 1 Pageant, 2 Spent, 3 Abed, 4 Easter, 5 Travesty, 6 Netball, 7 Range, 12 Migrates, 14 Respite, 16 Sonnets, 17 Repeal, 18 Argot, 20 Addle, 21 Acid.

**QUICK**

**Across:**

- 1 Suburbs, 5 Comic, 8 Insular, 9 Again, 10 False, 11 Combine, 12 Pester, 14 Laughs, 17 Tractor, 19 Start, 22 Extra, 23 Jealous, 24 Turns, 25 Nunnery.

**Down:**

- 1 Stiff, 2 Basil, 3 Relieve, 4 Strict, 5 Claim, 6 Moaning, 7 Confess, 12 Patient, 13 Scatter, 15 Abstain, 16 Trojan, 18 Traps, 20 Above, 21 Tasty.

**ENGLISH-SPANISH**

**Across:**

- 1 Syrup, 4 Toser, 7 Balonmano, 8 Crocodile, 12 Regularly, 14 Atras, 15 Study.

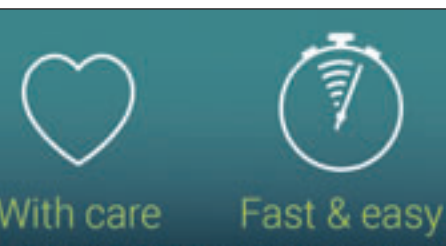
**Down:**

- 1 Swim, 2 Rib, 3 Peliculas, 4 Tenedores, 5 Small, 6 Rios, 9 Regar, 10 Grua, 11 Pray, 13 You.

**CODE BREAKER**

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

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## Flashback

Issue 1680

14 - 20 September 2017



AS much as Leapy Lee is up to here with his so called 'Gender bender bull,' a lot of people are up to here with reading about his ignorance and I personally feel, as do many others, that he maybe needs a bit of re-educating.

After reading an article he wrote a few weeks ago about gays, lesbians and transgenders, I was left in disbelief how someone in this day and age actually still thinks like this. I appreciate that he is from a whole different generation than I am, and although claiming to be 'liberal minded' having grown up in the 60's, I think his attitude shows otherwise.

I was assured by the EWN that it is only his personal opinion and not those of the paper, but also 68 per cent of their readers feel the same way. But do they realise the harm that this kind of attitude can do? I think not.

### My teenage children have gay friends and think nothing of it

I understand that 50 years ago it was taught that being gay or transgender was wrong. But come on, that was 50 years ago. And do you think that this stopped people being gay? Or stopped how they felt? Of course not. Being gay or transgender is not a trend, it's not something people do because it's fashionable.

People realise from a very young age whom they are attracted to. It's still a shame that a lot of gay teenagers don't 'come out' because they are afraid of the

# Children are not the confused ones

A reader gives the other side of the argument in response to a recent column by EWN columnist Leapy Lee.

reactions of their families, but I ask myself, don't you know your children? Don't you have a relationship with them where they can feel they can be just who they want to be without the fear of rejection? I know many people who's parents can't accept that their son or daughter is gay, and I find that very sad.

My teenage children have friends that are gay and think nothing of it. My point is that finally people are realising it is 'normal' and parents of my generation don't bat an eyelid when their child is gay. That is just how it should be.

I am glad that Leapy says he has managed to come to terms with gay people adopting children, having seen some disastrous and tragic outcomes for children living with same sex parents. I would like to have known what those disasters were. Worse than the abuse that unfortunately goes on in so many homes with heterosexual parents?

### Isn't the idea of 'Christianity' to love each other?

Then of course comes the topic of transgender. Feeling trapped inside the wrong body. You cannot comment on it really, unless you know how it feels. Maybe just listen, and instead of brushing it aside and saying 'what a load of gender bender bull' actually imagine how these children, teenagers and adults feel. They are forced into being someone they are not.

The child who had the full support from his parents and school who dressed as a girl, great, it couldn't be better, until the good 'Christian' parents of other children removed their children from that school? What are you teaching your children? To not accept people for who they are? Isn't the idea of 'Christianity' to love each other? And they don't have a problem with Jesus wearing a dress. If a girl dresses like a boy, she's a tom boy, nobody seems to have a problem with that, but a boy can't want to dress as a girl?? I thought what we are meant to be teaching children today is equal rights. Why do girls and boys have different uniforms at school if they are all the same?

Being gay or transgender can be a



Photo by John Lewis



**NO PINK OR BLUE:** John Lewis recently introduced gender neutral childrens' clothing.

very hard thing to go through, but only because of the reaction of the people around them. The fear of not being accepted. I have done some research, spoken to a lot of people, wondering if this really is how 68 per cent of people think.

I've asked their opinions and I have had pretty honest answers. From the people aged 70 and above, they squirm a bit when asked, knowing they shouldn't be anti-gay but it was drummed into them when they were young. I understand this, but I think that instead of saying 'You are right, it's bull' as Leapy Lee has done, they need to understand that their attitudes can be harmful. They pass on their teachings and they produce children who

ugly, so worthless that they cut themselves, burn themselves, starve themselves, hurt themselves, to relieve the pain, sometimes because they think they deserve it.

This happens a lot amongst gay and transgender teens and young adults.

Didn't the older generation fight for freedom in the war? It's what I was taught at school. Surely that means the right to be whomever you chose? I don't understand why it bothers anyone else what gender somebody wants to be. If a girl feels more like a boy and dresses as such then so what? And if a boy dresses as a girl, so what? Why does anybody else care? Why does it affect my child at school if the boy in the chair next to him decides he wants to be a girl? It doesn't.

It's not about being genderless, it's about not being labelled.

### Because it was taught 50 years ago it doesn't make it right

So please, don't label people, don't judge them by the narrow-minded views so many of you have had drummed into you as a child. Just because it was taught to you 50 years ago it doesn't make it right, any more than the teachings of Hitler or Franco were right.

So Leapy why not try being a bit compassionate, or look into things before you judge everyone? You obviously have no idea to the harm you can be doing and how hurtful and disrespectful your words can be.

So all I ask of everyone is to accept people for who they are, because you have no idea what anyone is going through just trying to be who they really are.

become the bullies. The children who ridicule gay teens, who drive them to self-harming, and often suicide.

### I was surprised at the amount of people who self-harm

Self-harming is happening a lot, and it was something I never really knew much about. My life as a child and adolescent was happy, quite boring compared to a lot of people I have since met. I had no issues with anything, I had self-confidence, and luckily nothing traumatic had ever happened to me. But I have since met a lot of people who unfortunately have had abuse, or trauma in their lives, and I was surprised at the amount of people who self-harm. For those of you who don't know what self-harming is, as I am sure there are a lot of people who don't even know it goes on, it's when someone is made to feel so low, so unwanted, so

**LEAPY LEE:** The EWN Weekly columnist with views that frequently stir opinion remains the No 1 favourite with many readers.



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# What is chiropractic and what does it do?

CHIROPRACTIC is a complete health system based on the idea that the body, a wonderful and complex organism designed by nature, has everything it needs to cure itself.

The brain naturally communicates with the body through the spine, sending information up the body to the brain and down from the brain to the body. Sometimes, this information elevator is damaged, preventing communication.

The damaged elevator is what we call chiropractors call 'vertebral subluxation.' Vertebral subluxation occurs when one or more vertebrae in the spine cease to have adequate mobility and moves from its ideal position.

At that moment the spine starts to malfunction as a bicycle chain would do if a link moves. Sometimes, a person will have no symptoms, - subluxation would be a kind of 'silent killer' - but on many other occasions pain appears, the muscles contract, discs degenerate as a nerve might become trapped causing sciatic among other problems.

In the same way, other nerves can become trapped which help other organs function and which we cannot feel. Therefore, in order for the body to function to its maximum

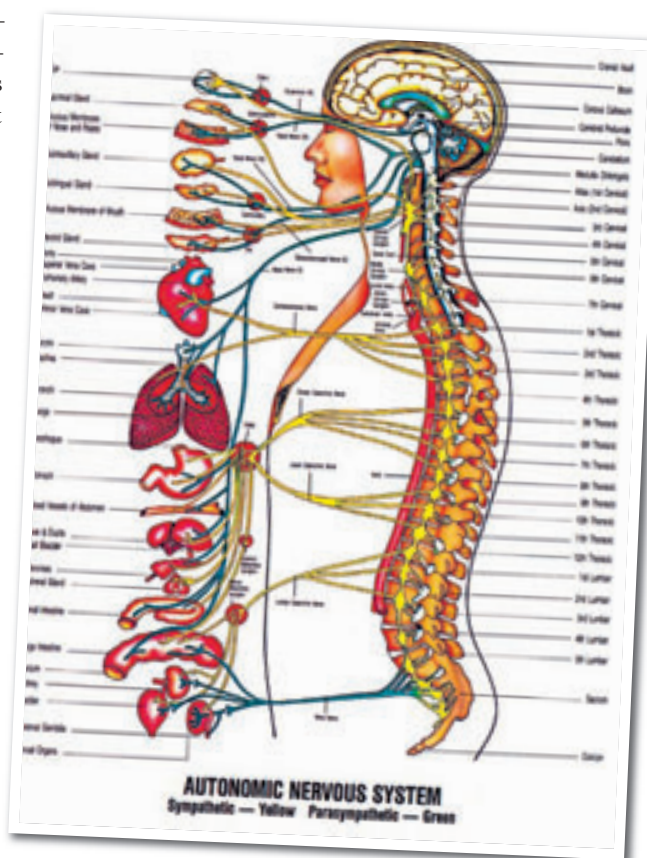
capacity, it needs to continually communicate with the brain to give and receive information and orders, and it is very important that the spine does not interfere with this flow of information.

Many things in life lead us to subluxation, including traumatic births. From a young age we fall continuously and adopt bad posture, and we later add sedentary lifestyle, obesity or repetitive strain to the problem. All this influences the spinal column and in turn vertebrae leave their position and hinder mobility.

Subluxation builds up over the years into intense muscle contractions, daily headaches, exhaustion, discomfort, insomnia and even illness and depression.

Chiropractic adjustment is aimed at ensuring that the vertebral column maintains its optimal functioning, with all vertebrae and all other joints of the spine aligned with the rest of the joints (hips, knees, ankles, etc).

The ideal is to detect subluxation long before it produces more consequences,



CHIROPRACTIC: Improve the life of your body.

which is why chiropractors invite parents to bring their children in as soon as possible for a spinal check.

Over time, with treatment the spine begins to function better and the patient is better able to adapt to life, allowing them to make better decisions to solve daily problems both big and small. Chiropractic helps improve 'the life' your body already has, allowing you to make the most of it.

That is why at QuiroVida we say that our goal is to be able to illuminate the path to health and fullness through chiropractic to everyone who comes to us.

As you can see, chiropractic is something simple with very great results.

So why not come in at C/ Camp Redo, 9 de Palma, next to S'Escorxador or call us on 971 730 291? For more information, visit [www.quirovida.es](http://www.quirovida.es).

By Kat Ashton

## Mad about micellar

THE magical solution that is micellar water may have only gained international acclaim on the beauty market recently, but it has actually been around for over a hundred years.

It was first used in France to help Parisians avoid the region's harsh water and the fa-

mous formula actually dates back to research from the University of Bristol in 1913.

Micellar water is made of micelles, which are tiny drops of oil, suspended in soft water.

The droplets are attracted to grime and oil, so help to draw out impurities from the skin without exposing it to any harsh chemicals.

Unsurprisingly, it makes a

fantastic make-up remover and leaves your face looking glowing and hydrated.

The water's gentle formula means that it can be used on all skin types, even super-dry and

acne-prone skin, and it's multi-purpose nature makes it great for travelling, as it can act as a substitute many of your normal beauty products.

This savvy solution could even help you cut down on your water bill as you don't have to rinse it off when finished, you just let it absorb into the skin and reap the benefits.

It also contains very few ingredients so is a great choice if you want to purify your skin-care routine and step away from products that contain lots of chemicals.

Hair care brands have also started to incorporate the micellar formula into their products as its gentle properties help to

clean hair without stripping it of all its natural oil.

New research from Mintel has revealed that one in three British women have made changes to their hair care routine because of damage concerns.

Many hair care companies are lured to micellar water because it silicone, sulphate and paraben-free and also helps to keep scalps healthy by reducing irritation and flakiness. It should be noted, however, that the product needs to be rinsed out when used on hair like regular shampoo.

Mintel is the world's leading market intelligence agency.



YOUTH TONIC: Switching to micellar water could rejuvenate your skin.

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## Ask The

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## Migraine pain



**SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.**

**WHAT causes migraines?**

A migraine is caused by abnormal brain activity, which can be triggered by many factors.

However, the exact chain of events remains unclear. The changes affect blood-flow in the brain and surrounding tissues.

Migraines can also be triggered by any of the following: caffeine withdrawal, changes in hormone levels during the menstrual cycle, the use of birth control pills, changes in sleep patterns, alcohol, exercise or other physical stress, loud noises or bright lights, fasting, certain scents and perfumes, smoking or exposure to smoke, stress and anxiety.

Certain foods can also trigger migraines. The most common are: chocolate, dairy products, certain cheeses, foods containing tyramine such as red wine, mature cheese, smoked fish, chicken liver, figs, certain beans, fruits (avocado, bananas, citrus fruits), meats containing nitrates (bacon, hotdogs, salami, cured meats), onions, peanuts and other nuts and seeds and processed, fermented, pickled or marinated foods.

**Can they be prevented?**

You can take measures

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

such as avoiding all circumstances and foods that cause migraines, which substantially reduces the likelihood of an episode.

Early identification of the signs that suggest an episode is starting, and taking appropriate measures are the best ways to prevent progression.

**What can be done to lessen the pain?**

There is no specific cure for migraine headaches. The goal is to treat the symptoms of migraines immediately and prevent migraines by avoiding or altering things that can trigger them.

If an episode persists, despite making efforts to combat it, then you should rest and take painkillers and muscle relaxants.

Sometimes you can use certain drugs that can block the episodes in their tracks, which must be prescribed by a doctor.

**Can they be a sign of a more serious disease or condition?**

Overall, migraines are usually benign and produce no lasting side effects.

However, it is important to consult a medical specialist when the symptoms appear, and to get regular check-ups.

## Ask the Optician: How can we help the Deaf-Blind?

Andrés Román Romero, Store Director, Specsavers Opticas Santa Ponsa

UNTIL the end of the year, Specsavers are raising money for the Once Foundation for the Deaf-Blind (La Fundación ONCE para la Atención de Personas con Sordoceguera - FOAPS) by offering free comprehensive eye tests and asking patients to donate €1 to FOAPS after their test. To raise awareness of the difficulties that the deaf-blind face, we wanted to dedicate this month's column to this important topic.

■ **Who are FOAPS?**

FOAPS is a charitable organisation formed in 2007 by leading Spanish charity ONCE to develop programmes to help deaf-blind people. They are particularly interested in helping with education and employment, improving the quality of life and encouraging integration and development.

■ **What is Deaf-Blindness?**

This disability results from the combination of two sensory impairments - visual and hearing, which can manifest in different levels of severity. This causes unique communication problems and special needs caused by the difficulty with interacting with people and the outside world.

■ **How can deaf-blind people communicate?**

This depends on the severity of the sight and hearing loss, many people use sign language if their vision is good enough. They can



also use tactile sign language, where the deaf-blind person puts their hands over the signer's hands to feel the shape, movement and location of the signs. FOAPS provide interpreters who can help the deaf-blind communicate and interact with the world.

■ **What are you fundraising for?**

The FOAPS interpreters are the eyes, ears and often voice of the deaf-blind and have a crucial role to play. We hope that through our campaign we can raise enough

money to fund an extra 400 hours of an interpreter. This costs €6,000 so we need 6,000 people to come in and have their eyes tested and make a donation before the end of the year.

■ **How can I support the campaign?**

Just come into your nearest Specsavers Opticas store for an eye test and donate €1 between now and the end of December.

Visit [www.specsavers.es](http://www.specsavers.es) to find your nearest store and book an eye test.

By Kat Ashton

SCIENTISTS have devised a new full English breakfast to more accurately reflect the DNA of the average Brit.

Researchers from London-based firm AncestryDNA found that the average Englishman is actually only 37 per cent British when it comes to genetics.

To give an accurate portrayal of what this looks like, scientists made a few changes to the ingredients of a typical English breakfast and have ditched bacon and baked beans for Iberico pork and French cassoulet.

They also suggest that traditional fried eggs should be replaced with Scandinavian baked eggs, hash browns should be switched with Irish potato farls and fried tomatoes should be swapped for Italian mozzarella-stuffed tomatoes.

According to AncestryDNA, the average Brit's DNA actually contains genes from 26 regions around the world, including:

- 20.5 per cent Western European (hence the French cassoulet beans)

## What's in a full English really?



GOOD STUFF: Not quite as traditional, but equally delicious!

- 20.3 per cent Irish

- 9.5 per cent Scandinavian

- 3 per cent Iberian

- 2 per cent Italian / Greek

The scientists from AncestryDNA used a saliva sample to test the genes of people from

across the UK.

They found Yorkshire folk to have the most Anglo-Saxon ancestry, with 41 per cent, while London was proven to be the most ethnically diverse region in the UK.

The East Midlands were revealed to have the most Scandinavian blood (10.37 per cent) as well as the most Eastern European (2.4 per cent) while those from the east of England have the most Italian/Greek (2.5 per cent).

Many of the new additions to the full English are also healthier, as well as being more reflective of your true heritage, as baked eggs are lower in saturated fat than fried and cassoulet beans have much fewer added flavours and preservatives when made from scratch.

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Update on food, drink, entertainments, what's on and weekly happenings

# Every dog has his day

BOASTING that it is the second biggest dog show in Mallorca, Magawoof takes place at the Balears International College in Sa Porrassa on Sunday October 29.

Described as a Fun Dog Show, proceedings kick off at 10am and the programme is packed until the event closes at 4pm.

- 10.15am Cutest Puppy
- 10.45am Best Dressed Dog
- 11.15am Dog Training with Audrey Page
- 11.45am Best Oldie
- 12.15pm Waggiest Tail
- 12.45 Nic the Vet
- 1.15pm Auction
- 2.00pm Most Handsome Boy



**A FUN event for all of the family**

- 2.30pm Prettiest Girl
- 3.00pm Friends 4 U Training
- 3.30pm Best in Show

Also on show will be the Magic Agility display team, for the children face painting and bouncy castles whilst there will also be craft stalls, drinks and a barbecue together with music from Spectrum FM.

Entrance cost €2 for adults, €1 for children although those under five will pay nothing and car parking is €1.

All proceeds will go to the Calvia Lions and Leo's helping disadvantaged adults and children in Mallorca.

The entire event is supported by Ibox Insurance and Currencies Direct.



**FLASHBACK: Christmas lights in Palma.**

## Palma Christmas lights

AFTER differences of opinion between the Palma Council and local retailers, it has been decided that the Christmas lights will be illuminated on Thursday November 23.

This is the day before Black Friday when stores and internet sites follow the American tradition of opening early with special discounts which often attract large numbers of people.

The council feared that a combination of those wanting to see the lights and those taking advantage of discounted shopping could cause problems on the roads and in the streets.

This is the same argument as that used last year and was opposed by the local traders as they believe that their sales would be increased as visitors to the lights took advantage of the discounts.

Each council will make its own decision, but the centre of Palma will definitely see the lights come on a day earlier.

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## 65 years of music

IT was in 1952 that a young singer, pianist and flautist Luis Perez Javaloyas formed a five-piece band in Valencia which soon visited Mallorca to perform.

Within a few years Luis and Rafael Torres on accordion and guitar decided to settle on the Island and recruited three musicians from the Balearics.

**“ The five-piece band was formed in 1952 in Valencia.**

The group, then called the Javaloyas has been playing in one incarnation or another from then on and is now led by Luis's son also called Luis.

The band will be playing at the Teatre de Petra Es Quarter in Petra today (Friday) at 7pm with tickets costing from €15.

LITTLE known outside Spain, Verdejo is one of the nation's most cultivated white wines, though not to be confused with the similarly named Verdelho from Portugal.

Verdejo is named after the green colour of the grapes and is produced mainly in Rueda, a region about two hours north of Madrid.

Thought to have been imported around the 11th century from North Africa, the grapes are better cultivated in high altitude vineyards in calcareous and well drained soil, and are generally harvested at night to control temperature.

Fermented in stainless steel, Verdejo labelled wine contains at least 50 per cent Verdejo grapes blended with Sauvignon Blanc and



**VERDEJO: A wide choice.**

## Cultivated pleasure

Macabeo/Viura.

But anything labelled Rueda Verdejo has at least 85 per cent Verdejo, with the remaining usually Sauvignon Blanc.

### BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi

Crisp, aromatic and light bodied, Verdejo is often compared to Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Gri-

gio.

Expect a fresh acidity with prevailing lemon, kiwi, pear and green apple, accompanied by nutty overtones.

A dry wine, it should be served chilled and is better drunk within two years of bottling.

It goes well with seafood and shellfish, pairs nicely with seafood paella and tapas, and additionally the acidity complements asparagus, olives or salads with vinaigrette dressings.

Alternatively, it can be an early evening snacking wine.

Priced € 3 - 9, some labels I have enjoyed include Corbata by Cuatro Rayas; Jose Pariente; 12 Linajes by Garcí Grande; Camina by Coop Cristo de la Vega; Condesa de Leganza and Chozo Viejo by Prado Rey.

Happy tasting!

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# Street Food Festival

THE Street Food Festival in Port Adriano is back for its 10th year running from Friday to Sunday with a mixture of great food and musical entertainment.

Guests will be welcome to come to the central square in the port on Friday from 5pm to midnight and at the weekend from 11am to midnight.

There will be 10 food trucks to visit;

**La Taquería:** Tacos al pastor, tinga, ternerita or chilli con carne, quesadillas, burritos and nachos.

**Nomad:** Chicken with Japanese tempura, roast beef sandwiches with salsa vitelo tonato, gourmet hot dog including vegan versions, nachos with home-made guacamole, hummus with nachos, brownie and home-made carrot cakes.

**Corazón Natural:** fresh juices and cocktails, salads, tofu hotdogs, piadinas and Angus burgers.

**Frapa's:** 100 per cent roasted natural beef sand-



Photo by Street Food Festival

ONE of the trucks at last year's festival.

wiches accompanied by various fresh ingredients and mollete bread. Gourmet hot dogs, home-made beef and chicken empanadas. Gluten free bread available.

**Anita Cakes Rosa:** Creative pastry, cupcakes, donuts, brownies, cakes and sweet and salty crepes.

**Vintage Food & Bus:** Author's burgers, pulled pork sandwiches, special SFF burger filled with three melted cheeses.

**De Aquí Pa Ya:** Steamed hot dog, french fries with their sauces and ceviche.

**La Hoja de Lata:** Selected meats, empanada gallega,

popcorn.

**Anita Cakes Turquesa:** Artisan bread with pulled pork and various sauces.

**Le Petite Caravan:** Vegetarian and Vegan food, french fries, home-made croquetas, pan-fried girgolas rebozadas, rice pacora, fried camembert, vegan burgers and hot dogs, vegan ali-oli.

There will be plenty to enjoy apart from the food with the emphasis on jazz and swing so that the evenings will see several dance performances and classes featuring the Lindy Hop, Charleston, Tap Dancing and much more.

Children can join in with the dancing and there will also be face painting and fun activities with coloured balloons.

As it is the Festival's birthday, the first three visitors who also celebrate their birthdays on October 13, 14 or 15 will receive a voucher for a dinner in one of the port restaurants.

To receive the gift they will have to present their ID card at the organisation tent and take a photo with the slogan 'It's also my birthday.'



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# A boy named Sue and other resented baby names

**Nora Johnson**

*Breaking Views*

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

WHEN I'm exhausted from thinking deep thoughts, (say, about Kim Jong-un and nuclear war or the Catalan independence issue) which is often, because I am a very deep and thoughtful person, I find myself contemplating the great philosophical questions. Like why do slebs choose such daft names for their kids?

Take, for instance, Jamie Oliver. His fifth child, River Rocket Blue Dallas, was born last year. His eldest, Poppy Honey, is now 15. In-between are Daisy Boo, Petal Blossom Rainbow and Buddy Bear. Good grief!

But a recent joint Mumsnet/Gransnet survey found

one fifth of grandparents dislike their offsprings' choice of baby name (with Aurora, Elijah, Finn, Noah and Tabitha among the most hated).

Then, we have Serena Williams calling her daughter Alexis Jr - named after the baby's father. What next with this name-jacking: a boy named after his mother? But, hey, didn't the late Johnny Cash have a thing or two to say about a boy named Sue?

But surely the daftest fashion now is giving a surname as a first name, such as the maternal grandma's maiden name. So girls are called McKenzie, Kennedy or, even dafter, Smith.

Yes, fashion is the killer: remember all the 80's girls called 'Crystal' and boys called 'Dean'? And what about made-up names? Remember how Wayne Rooney named one of his sons 'Klay'? Will the next be



**DAFT NAMES:** Jamie Oliver and (right) family.



called 'Konkrete'? (Recall that song Concrete and Clay?)

I read about someone, on registering his daughter, asking the registrar what was the weirdest name he'd ever heard. Maybe it was a wind up, but he reminisced about a second generation Vietnamese family registering the birth of their son. Their surname was 'Dong' and they named him 'Ramalama Ding' - poor kid with a name ending up sounding like something from Ann Summers' remaindered seconds counter.

When the next celebrity pregnancy's announced in Holly-

wood, may I suggest a national primary school competition to choose the name? After all, the winning entry couldn't be half as daft as the ones given to the previous lot.

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

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## THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Graham Braben, Almeria

# Slaves to the TV

DOES anyone remember when the BBC convinced the nation that it had uncovered spaghetti trees? The report even came complete with footage of a spaghetti tree orchard. Well, if the BBC showed it, it must be true, even though they're the people who convinced many of us of the existence of talking plant pots in Bill and Ben. Despite that, we still find ourselves glued to programmes that we know can't be real.

There's a programme called Mountain Men that follows the lives of people who have opted out of society and gone to live in remote mountain areas in the USA. They live miles from anybody and people are amazed they can survive on their own with only a horse, a log cabin, cameramen, a director and at least two sound crew for company. To say nothing of the hospitality truck!

Then only recently, viewers expressed concern for a character in Coronation Street who had microwaved something whilst it was still in a metal tray. I think it's very nice of these people to be worried, but the thing is... it's pretend.

Thankfully, there are still quality programmes to be had. Yes, we may not have the BBC Shakespeare plays to enjoy, but compensation for that comes with our regular helpings of Come Dine With Me. Quality indeed, but I do wonder, on the odd occasions I accidentally see a portion of the programme, whether we wouldn't rather see that narrator, the one with the most irritating voice on television, cooked on gas mark 5, rather than some of the disastrous concoctions that are attempted by the contestants!

I did want to finish with an important and erudite point about being slaves to TV, but Peppa Pig's just started so I've got to go.

[columnists@euroweeklynews.com](mailto:columnists@euroweeklynews.com)

*Readers interested in submitting articles for this guest column should send articles of around 250 words on topics felt to be of interest to the cosmopolitan EWN readership to [editorial@euroweeklynews.com](mailto:editorial@euroweeklynews.com).*

## Advertising feature

# Say goodbye to your dentist back home

WHETHER they've lived in Mallorca for 10 months or 10 years, plenty of residents still go back 'home' for their dental treatment.

Doubts about pricing, standards or language affect some, while others are just too afraid to cut ties with the familiarity of their 'old' dentist. It doesn't have to be this way.

"We're delighted to have converted hundreds of residents from flying back 'home' to being comfortable that they're getting the best treatment right here on their doorstep in Mallorca," says Dr Howard Forge, owner of Santa Ponsa Dental Practice. "Our relationship often starts with an emergency dental issue, but they leave confident that they've found a 'new' dentist they can put their trust in. We hope we've made plenty of busy lives a whole lot easier."

It's also likely to be a fallacy that dental treatment is cheaper back 'home'. In a 2016 study, WhatClinic revealed that the average cost of a simple private check-up is now £51 and an implant £2,814 - your UK dentist may not be as affordable as you remember.

Furthermore many treatments require multiple visits (planned or unexpected) over a certain time frame - so you may have to factor in several flights.

Of course standards vary wildly from practice to practice in Mallorca, as they do in the



**IN THE HOT SEAT:** Dr Howard Forge, owner of Santa Ponsa Dental Practice

UK, and this can be reflected in the age and quality of the equipment used, the dentist's experience and expertise, and whether the dentist chooses to work alone or with a nurse.

"I can only speak for Santa Ponsa Dental Practice but, having qualified and worked in the UK, I can assure that we meet the same high standards here in Mallorca," says Howard.

"We have the latest technology, including a digital pan-oral x-ray and on-site CEREC to create same-day crowns, as well as team experts in all kinds of treatment, from root canals to implantology."

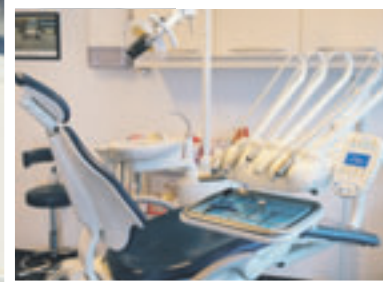
"I am also fully registered with the Balearic College of Dentists who insisted I learn Spanish and go through a homologation process before being able to practise on the island. You're in safe hands."

"As for language, I employ other native Brits, bilingual born-here Brits, and Spaniards from both mainland and here in Mallorca - so don't panic. We can communicate with highly-skilled lab technicians and referral centres for more complex oral surgery or orthodontics - and with you - with ease."

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

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Living area 73m<sup>2</sup>.

### Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€



Semi-detached house with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with American kitchen, garden and roof terrace. 75m<sup>2</sup> living area.

### Ref 3115, Son Bielo, 268,000€



Terraced house near the sea with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, laundry room, private garage, garden, aircon

### Ref 3112, Campos, 1,060,000€



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### Ref 3105, Lluçmajor, 260,000€



Completely reformed townhouse with 2 bedrooms (3rd possible), 1 bathroom, guest toilet, living room, kitchen, courtyard, pre-installation for central heating. Living area 150m<sup>2</sup>.

### Ref 3021, Vallgornera, 585,000€



Lovely semi-detached luxury villa. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, guest toilet, very large living room with American kitchen, garage, large terraces, community pool and garden (4,000m<sup>2</sup>). aircon and central heating. Living area 220m<sup>2</sup>

# Astronomical prices

By Matthew Elliott

THE average Madrid resident has to work eight years to buy a home in their city.

The average home now costs 8.1 times the typical salary in the Spanish capital.

Unsurprisingly they have to work harder than the average Spanish resi-

dent. Nationwide, people today would have to dedicate 7.6 years of their salary towards the purchase of a home.

The price versus salary analysis comes from ST Valuations, which assumes people repaying a mortgage over 30 years with a 1.95 per cent interest rate.

Experts advise that a home's value be a maxi-

mum of five year's salary in order to keep household finances well balanced.

But in Spain the discrepancy between the optimal situation and real life is set to grow wider.

House prices are rising far faster than salaries.

First time buyers, facing less flexible financial packages, are turning to the rental world in droves.

In some of the capital's most desirable addresses, prices now stand at €20,000 per square metre, more than 10 times the national average.

On Calle General Castaños, Amancio Ortega, Spain's richest man, and Rafael Nadal have pooled resources to build a block of the most expensive penthouse suites in Madrid.

## Top 10 Spanish property trends

TEN top trends in the Spanish real estate sector have been identified by the Alfa Inmobiliara group. The firm's property experts claim these trends could define the crucial next three years in the thriving sector.

The first key trend is that prices will continue to increase. Barring nuclear war property specialists unanimously expect Spanish home prices to grow on average.

This will be sharper in some areas and non-existent in others but steady across the board.

Secondly it will become harder to make a profit from those same increases as the secret of Spain's success is now out.

On the other key front, rents will continue to rise, both in the residential and commercial sectors.

“Property prices and rents in Spain set to continue to rise despite the fear of Brexit's impact.”

As a whole the real estate sector is projected to grow by around 4 per cent per year until 2020 due to investor confidence.

Much of that growth will be concentrated in Spain's biggest cities, Madrid and Barcelona.

The sixth major trend is that bargain buying opportunities will be-

come harder to come by due to a reduction in stock and prices peaking in certain desirable spots.

Of slight concern to first time buyers is that the low financing deals of recent years will dry up and mortgages made more expensive.

Alternative sectors, including student accommodation and office space, are projected to enjoy substantial growth. Meanwhile Spain will continue to be among the western nations most flirted with by major international investors.

Finally, Brexit's impact on Spanish real estate is expected to be far less damaging than originally feared as a new wave of German, French and Belgian buyers easily make up the difference.



# Lifestyle Properties

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LP-1796

- 5
- 3
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- 2
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**Santa Ponsa - Frontline Ground Floor Apartment**  
Modern ground floor apartment with large private terrace centrally located to all local amenities.



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- 3
- 3
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- TBC

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LPC-00111

- 3
- 3
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LPC-00133

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- 1
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- 53m<sup>2</sup>

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LPR-1881

- 0
- 1
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# Enjoying the second spring in October

## DICK HANDSCOMBE



Holistic gardener and author living in Spain for 29 years, 24 in full retirement.

WITH cooler but generally sunny weather so far, and the softer soil after late September rains, the month will be a busy garden month for many expats for five main reasons.

Firstly, temperatures have dropped to make working in the garden comfortable all day long.

Secondly, seeds and plantlets can be sown and planted for autumn, Christmas and early-spring edible crops.

Thirdly, the earlier night skies remind one how local agriculturalists used to study, prior to home and street lighting and television, the patterns and movement of the moon, planets and stars to de-



**PAELLA AL FRESCO: An autumn must.**

termine the best days for sowing, planting, pruning, cutting canes and mating animals.

When we check the dates in our annually purchased lu-

nar calendar with those of the older villagers, theirs are uncannily similar.

Fourthly, the recent, humid, subtropical jungle conditions stimulated lantanas,

bougainvilleas, begonias and tall salvias into exceptional growth.

They now needed urgent trimming to clear pathways before holding a paella par-

ty in the garden last Sunday.

Fifthly, it's a great time for entertaining in the garden, as plants are full of their autumn flush of flowers and green foliage is brightly coloured, having had the summer dust washed off by autumn showers or storms.

Naturally, having published the Amazon book 'Your personal guide to making authentic Valencian paellas' a few years ago, the recent and planned festive days each Sunday are tapas and paella parties, each with 10 or 12 friends of four to seven nationalities.

Having, pre-retirement, worked and visited gardens on days off in some 32 countries, I find that mixed groups that talk beyond Brexit great fun.

If you have olive trees, they need a trim to tidy them up and make it easier to get around the trees to harvest a few olives for bottling at the end of the month.

The main harvest for oil is in a few weeks' time.

I suspect you have a similar list of October tasks but if you are not really sure of the full range of seasonal gardening tasks, comprehensive lists are included in each of our quartet of books 'Your garden in Spain', 'Apartment gardening Mediterranean style', 'Growing healthy fruit in Spain' and 'Growing healthy vegetables in Spain'.

Fortunately, if you are new to Spain you found copies in your purchased property or you might find some remaining copies on the websites of Amazon books or the London Book Depository, the publishers and Spanish distributors having closed down during the economic crisis.

Naturally, the later Amazon-published book 'How to use less water in your garden' is readily available.

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## Strawberries on a tree may seem unlikely

### GRAEME TYRRELL

ONE of the fascinating things about gardening is the variety of plants that are available from various regions around the

world.

Here in the Mediterranean there are a number of lesser-known plants that make great ornaments, produce sweet smelling flowers and provide fruit. One of my favourites is

the strawberry tree (*Arbutus unedo*).

You can see the tree growing wild in its native habitats in oak forests in zones below 800 metres in Spain.

It has also become domesticated and can be seen in gardens as a feature tree due to its cinnamon coloured bark and deep green foliage being most attractive and highlighted in autumn with bunches of scented, white, waxy, vase-shaped flowers in clusters and dangling fruits that ripen individually from green to yellow and finally red when mature over a long period of time.

The fruit resembles a strawberry hanging from the tree but the similarities end there. It does not taste at all like a strawberry. It requires an acquired taste to appreciate and is not a fruit that you usually would eat many of.

If you have a tree or can source the fruit, it makes wonderful jams with a unique tinge to the taste. It needs the fruit to be fresh to use as the fruit deteriorates quickly once off the tree.



Photo Credit: Bernard Dupont/Wikimedia

**PRETTY: Strawberry tree full of fruit.**

Only the soft, red fruit is fully ripe and the fruit ripens gradually at different times on the tree making it difficult to collect significant numbers at one time.

This makes it tempting to pick some nearly ripe ones to make up volume for making jams but it does reduce the quality of the jam. Some people prefer to collect the fruit regularly from the ground as they fall once fully ripe. This is why it is very difficult to find the preserves and nearly impossible to buy the fresh fruit

in good condition.

The fruit can be made into a compote, syrup, puree, glaze, jams, jellies, ice cream flavouring and converted into wine and spirits.

It is an interesting addition to the garden and can grow in a large container. It does not like to be transplanted or moved so it should be located permanently in a partly shaded zone.

It is a pioneering and understory tree that only grows to around five to 10 metres over many decades. It is drought-tolerant but needs watering to get established.



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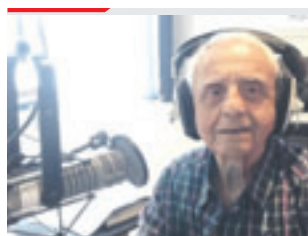


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TEACHING your dog tricks is every dog owner's dream, but you must start with basic obedience. Your dog should know the basic commands (sit, down, heel, stand, and come) before you attempt any type of trick training. Once you have these mastered, you can build on them with one of these three simple tricks.

#### Begging

This trick is best taught by first having your dog sit in a corner of the room with you standing in front of him.

This allows the corner to support your dog and keep him from

falling over.

Using food, hold it above your dog and entice him to reach up and take it. Progress slowly, each time encouraging the dog to rise higher.

Make sure your dog keeps his haunches on the ground. Use the treat to encourage the dog to shift his weight back over his haunches - it will help him keep his balance.

Once your dog is balancing well in the corner, slowly move your dog outward and attempt the trick.

Expect some regression when the dog loses the support of the walls and move slowly until the dog perfects it.

#### Shaking hands

Start with your dog in a sitting position.

Giving the verbal command 'shake,' outstretch your right hand until it is a few inches in front of your dog's right leg.

Your outstretched hand is the non-verbal cue for this trick.

Using your left hand, gently push or prod her right leg forward



#### HAVE FUN: Patience and praise bring the best results.

until it rests in your right hand. Praise.

After practising several sessions, slowly try to reduce the amount of prompting until only the verbal or non-verbal command is needed.

#### Shaking the head

Shaking the Head 'No.'

Start with your dog in a sitting position.

You will need to find something that will cause the dog to shake his head naturally. Blowing lightly

on the ear, tickling the ear with a feather, or lightly attaching a paper clip to one ear are some things that can work. You do not want to cause the dog pain.

Once you have discovered a method that will cause your dog to shake his head, decide on a non-verbal and verbal cue you want to use. 'Head' along with shrugging the shoulders is a good idea. You do not want to use the word 'no' as you are likely to use this word when scolding the dog and this will lead to confusion.

Using both cues, stimulate the dog to shake his head. Reward, even if it is only a small movement.

Take a momentary break and then try again. Don't repeat the trick more than five times in one session.

Eventually, try signalling the dog with only the verbal or non-verbal cues as well as signalling the dog from a standing and a lying position.

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# Volvo Ocean Race fleet prepares to set sail

SEVEN VO65 boats who will compete at the Volvo Ocean Race from October 22 are heading towards Alicante, Puerto de Salido, starting point for the Vuelta al Mundo a Vela.

Alicante's Race Village, organised by Society and Themed Projects of the Comunidad Valenciana, will receive the Volvo Open 65 fleet.

The competitors will have travelled 700 miles, from the Atlantic, to the Mediterranean, from Lisbon to Alicante. The journey will be an important test for MAPFRE, AzkoNobel, DongFeng, Vestas 11th Hour, Sun Hung Kai Scallywag, Turn the Tide on Plastic and Team Brunel, who won't waste the chance to measure their opponents skills before the Volvo Ocean Race.



ALL ABOARD: The racing fleet.

Light winds did not make it a quick journey, which was expected to take three days. They had set sail on Sunday 3pm from Lisbon, heading towards Cabo San Vicente. The journey through the Estrecho de

Gibraltar was more complicated as there were strong currents and winds, but things were calmer once they reached the Alboran sea and the Cabo de Gata. The last 100 miles were markedly calmer.

Alicante's Puerto de Salida opened its Race Village doors on Wednesday at 6pm and will remain open until the start of the Volvo Ocean Race on October 22, with 12 days of activities for its visitors.



FLASHBACK: A scene from last year's busy show.

## Valencia Boat Show

VALENCIA is getting ready for the annual boat show which opens on Wednesday November 1 for five days.

Daily ticket price is €5 which can be purchased online from [www.valenciaboat.com](http://www.valenciaboat.com) but on the closing Sunday, entry will be free. Following on from the successful 2016 show it will focus on new boats and nautical innovations but as it continues to grow the range of items being offered is expanding to include sailing boats, Rhibs, motors, accessories and many goods associated with sea-based sports.

Some of the biggest names in quality shipbuilding will be present, with motor boats of all sizes and prices including some superyachts as well as international engine manufacturers like Volvo Penta. There will be an innovations area for new developments and like last year there will be sea trials which can be booked in advance by those interested in making a purchase.

For those coming from a distance, it will be possible to receive a 30 per cent discount on rail travel from Renfe and for all information on this and other attractions, visit their informative website.

## Azimut Benetti Group takes full control of Fraser

ITALIAN shipbuilder the Azimut Benetti Group has acquired the remaining share capital of the Fraser Group from V Ships, giving it a 100 per cent shareholding.

Fraser Group is the world's largest provider of consulting services for yacht and superyachts ranging from sales, charter retail, charter management, yacht management and crew placement.

Fraser buys and sells over 50 superyachts a year, with a value of more than €500 million and holds about 15 per cent of the worldwide market share.

The Group manages some 120 superyachts, many of which are very large, with dozens of crew members.

It operates around the world with manned offices in Munich, Fort Lauderdale, San Diego, Seattle, London, Palma, Bodrum, Doha,



BENETTI: Ulysses managed by Fraser.

Dubai, Kuwait, Singapore and Sydney and now new offices have already been set up in New York and Hong Kong.

Benetti specialises in mega and superyacht construction, and strategy will focus on strengthening its leadership in Southern Europe, increas-

ing the sale of megayachts over 90 metres as well as the launch of the Oasis collection, a new lifestyle product.

Technology is seen as being the key with the introduction of the innovative propulsion systems developed by Rolls Royce exclusively for Benetti.



POPULAR: Picturesque Sotogrande Marina.

## Andalucia buzzing

By Michael Cano

BOATING is increasingly popular in Andalusia with the 17 marinas belonging to the Andalusian Marinas Association seeing earnings of €7 million.

Average occupation at these 17 private marinas reached 85 per cent during the summer months and according to the association, this popularity is thanks to the high quality of service and standards reached by its members

which attract an increasing number of tourists.

Group members provide 60 per cent of all of the berths along the Andalusian coastline and the busier they are, the more work that is generated both directly and through support services.

Marinas which are members of the association comprise some of the best known in the Costa del Sol including Cabopino, Duquesa, Estepona, Fuengirola, Marbella, Puerto Banus and Sotogrande.

**Clarkson**  
**Quote of the Week**

“I would rather go to work on my hands and knees than drive there in a Ford Galaxy.”

Some might say...



# Simply the best

## Contenders for 2018 World Car of the Year

by Matthew Elliott

NOMINEES for the World Car Awards 2018 have now been announced. There are six different categories: design; luxury; performance; green; urban; and the overall World Car of the Year, which was won by Jaguar's F-Pace for 2017.

The 'shortlist' for 2018 includes 35 models. They come from all regions of the world. Interestingly the field is dominated by SUVs and 4x4s, with just one fully electric vehicle, the Nissan Leaf, in sight. There are 21 SUVs and 4x4s among the world's top 35 contenders.

Judges are motoring journalists from across the world and only cars released in the past year and which are available for purchase in either five countries or two continents can be consid-

**HOT STUFF: Crowded field ahead of World Car Awards 2018.**

ered. After a few months of testing the field will be narrowed down before Christmas.

All the usual suspects are included in the 35-strong running for the World Car of the Year Award. BMW, Mercedes, Volkswagen and Volvo are especially well-represented.

Topping the luxury field are the Audi A8, Cayenne and Panamera from Porsche, and the Lexus LS.

In the performance field, Audi

has its RS3 Sedan and RS5 Coupe in the running. They'll be up against the BMW M5, Honda Civic, and Polo GTI.

Green car contenders include the Nissan Leaf, Hyundai FE and BMW 530e iPerformance, a

plug-in hybrid in the executive class.

In the crowded urban car field, the Ford Fiesta, Kia Picanto, Kia Stonic and Nissan Micra are vying for city supremacy. Seat

Ibiza, Suzuki Swift and Volkswagen Polo are also in the running.

Finally the design field is looking like a face-off between the BMW i8 Roadster and Lamborghini Urus.



**Motoring shorts**

## Bloodhound blur

TWENTY years after setting the world landspeed record, Britain's Bloodhound SSC is back in business. New footage has been released showing the supersonic, rocket-shaped car firing up its engine.

Driver and former RAF pilot, Andy Green, is preparing to steer the Bloodhound to a record-breaking speed of 1,000mph. In 1997 Green captained the car to the current landspeed record of 763mph.

The Bloodhound wields a EJ200 Eurofighter jet engine. It will be further boosted by a Nammo rocket cluster which will generate the face-bending speeds guided by an estimated 135,000 hp.

Testing is still underway. Last week's video, filmed in Cornwall, England, shows that the team are still working on their record-breaking goal. The team hope to hit 1,000mph on a track in South Africa next year.

**ROAD TEST** by Nick Fletcher

# Toyota RAV4



**WISH LIST:**  
Toyota's latest addition.

TOYOTA'S rugged RAV4 is well established in the SUV sales battle where it takes on very tough opposition. The RAV4 is more spacious than most, has the bonus of a full hybrid version, and its other ace card is the brand's formidable reputation for durability and dependability.

Price start at €28,246 (£24,765) and there is a good choice of petrol and diesel engines as well as the hybrid, and the option of 2WD or 4WD and manual or auto gearboxes.

The latest model looks cool and sharp in a sector where visual kudos is a key factor, so the RAV4 is off to a good start. Inside, it's roomy and can take four tall adults with ease and a fifth at a squeeze, and the rear

seats recline for extra comfort.

At 501 litres the boot area is excellent and folding the rear seats can more than triple the space to 1,633 litres. Seating is comfortable and supportive and there are plenty of stowage places around the cabin. The designers seem to have put all the emphasis on functionality, for while the dials and controls are all user-friendly, the overall visual impact of the dashboard is rather muted and out of sorts with the charismatic exterior.

My test model was an upper-spec RAV4 Hybrid Excel, with all-wheel drive and powered by a 2.5 litre petrol engine and electric motor giving 195 hp. With a 0-100 kph time of 8.4 seconds it is nippy by class

standards, top speed is 180 kph (112 mph). Fuel figure is 19.6 kpl (55.4 mpg).

This version costs €38,751 (£33,975) and comes with alloy wheels, adaptive cruise control, lane keep assist, road sign assist, pre-collision system, auto lights and wipers, smart entry and push button start, powered tailgate, rear view camera, leather upholstery, front and rear parking sensors, sat-nav, Bluetooth and on-line connectivity among its long list of features.

On the move the RAV4 proves smooth and assured, with a balanced suspension set-up and precise steering making

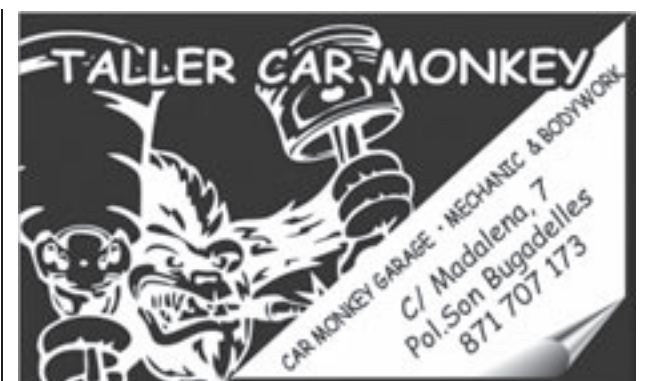
the car well planted on the corners. Ride quality is very good even when the surface gets rough. The only adverse comment in my notebook was more tyre hum at motorway speeds than I expected.

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# De Gea in safe hands at United - for now?

DAVID DE GEA returns to club football on Saturday October 14 as Manchester United travel to Liverpool in the Premier League - with Spain's national keeper in safe hands at Old Trafford - for now?

"David is really happy at the moment," said club and country teammate Ander Herrera.

Real Madrid have pursued long-term target United stopper de Gea for two years - and speculation rose its head when he sold his £3.85 million house in September.

Reds' goalie de Gea is currently renting a property, leading some pundits to link him to a move to Real Madrid next year.

De Gea's 'on-off' moves to Real from Old Trafford have collapsed twice - when the La Liga Champions failed to complete a deal.

And Herrera, who moved to United from Athletic Bilbao in 2014, said de Gea, 26, will not move to the Bernabeu any time



## UKSPORTSCENE

with Andrew Atkinson

soon. "We are going to try to keep him at the club - for as long as possible. I can see him staying here for more years," said midfielder Herrera.

United boss Jose Mourinho has ambitions to lead United to the Premier League title this season and Herrera said: "We need to win titles to keep David with us - that's what we did last season."

In the wake of Real's unsuccessful attempts to lure de Gea to Spain they have turned their sights to Athletic Bilbao 'keeper Kepa - a No 1 target for the summer - for free.

Zinedine Zidane has been linked with signing Kepa, 22, on a free transfer next summer. Kepa - who has refused to extend his contract - is in the final year of his con-

tract at Bilbao, and can head for the exit door in July 2018 a free agent.

Bilbao had reportedly been unsuccessful to increase Kepa's release clause - from €18m

to €65m - and tie him down to a new contract.

Ahead of United's trip to Anfield this weekend, Herrera said: "David is the number one. I train with him every day - I think he wants to be a legend at Manchester United."

De Gea switched to United from Real Madrid in 2011 for £18.9m and Herrera revealed: "David has been at the club six



DAVID DE GEA: World No 1.

years. The first six months he told me were difficult for him."

Herrera is confident that de Gea will remain, pointing to silverware: "We won three titles last season - that is what he

wants," said Herrera.

United won the Community Shield, the EFL Cup and Europa League last season.

De Gea said: "I want to be the best keeper in the world."



ROY HODGSON: Another lesson at Palace.

## Another lesson in football for ex-teacher Roy

ROY HODGSON taking the reins at Crystal Palace doesn't get any easier - with The Eagles hosting Premier League Champions Chelsea on Saturday October 14 awaiting a beating: We are the boxer - fighting.

Hodgson is up for a fight against all odds of keeping The Eagles in the top flight: "We are the boxer - fighting - and we are going to have to take the blows.

"It's going to be a longish and hard process - but I know there's light at the end of the tunnel," said ex-England chief Hodgson.

Veteran manager Hodgson, 70, has had more clubs than Tiger Woods - with Palace being his 23rd club in all managerial positions.

Hodgson, whose mother was a baker in his home town Croydon, saw his career rise, from that of being manager at Swedish club Halmstad BK in 1976, to that of becoming England national chief in 2012.

Hodgson has returned to Palace - where he was a youth player - before playing non-League football with Tonbridge Angels and Gravesend & Northfleet.

Age 23, Hodgson gained his fully qualified coaching badge and joined Maidstone United, as a player and assistant-manager.

In 1976 Hodgson was appointed manager at Halmstad BK and was successful in winning the League Championship in 1976 and 1979.

Bristol City, Oddevold Orebro and Malmo FF were among clubs that saw Hodgson in charge, before taking the reins of the national team in Switzerland in 1992, prior to returning to club football at Inter Milan in 1995.

In 1997 Hodgson took charge of Blackburn Rovers, returning to Inter Milan, as caretaker coach in 1999.

Grasshoppers, Copenhagen, Udinese, UAE, Viking and Finland saw Hodgson away from British football during 1999-2007, returning on English soil at Fulham.

Liverpool swooped for Hodgson in 2010 - paying a £2 million compensation fee for his tenure - that lasted only until 2011 when he departed Anfield by mutual consent, when replaced by Kenny Dalglish.

Hodgson's next stop was at West Brom - but he left The Baggies when approached by England to become the national manager, a job he began in 2012.

After Euro 2012, the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Euro Championship Hodgson departed the England national stage under a barrage of criticism.

In September Hodgson came full-circle when heading back to the club where he spent time in the youths at Crystal Palace - in the wake of The Eagles sacking Frank de Boer after a poor run of results after just 77 days in charge.

Hodgson, who signed a two-year contract, has had a baptism of fire since taking the baton at struggling Palace, with Premier League games against Southampton, Manchester City, Manchester United - and Chelsea this weekend.

One-time teacher Hodgson, who can speak five languages, said: "All you can do is try to get the best performances out of the players. If they are not good enough, you struggle."

After a baptism of fire with heavy defeats, Hodgson said: "We know the task in hand is difficult. There will come a stage in the season - hopefully - if you get better, the points will come."

Despite injury-hit Palace's woes Hodgson remains undeterred: "Hopefully you will catch up the ground you have lost at the beginning - there's no point crying over spilt milk," said Hodgson.

Palace lost 4-0 against United before the international break, leaving The Eagles rock bottom of the table - with seven defeats from seven games - and no goals scored.

"The fixture list has been tough - we knew that. We've had enormously tough fixtures - and Chelsea coming up," said Hodgson.

## Matthews on the move

AFTER seven years as sports reporter/correspondent for the EWN, Tony Matthews is switching papers. He will now be contributing to our sister publications, the RTN and Sol Times.

Since 2010, Tony has submitted his weekly sports bulletin from all parts of the world, from Venezuela to Barbados, from Singapore to Scotland and from Wales to France and Spain. He has interviewed many top sports personalities including Fernando Alonso, Rafael Nadal, Marc Marquez, Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo, Sir Ian Botham and the late boxer Jake LaMotta, as well as former Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Abba's Bjorn Ulvaeus.

He has also penned the history of Spanish football, the Olympic Games and the World Cup, and has covered the sporting lives of Seve Ballesteros, Lester Piggott, Alfredo Di Stefano and Ferenc Puskas.

Tony, who will continue to submit 'exclusive stories' to the EWN, said: "I've been involved in sport virtually all of my life, as footballer, cricketer, PE teacher, radio reporter and author of over 150 books... and I will continue to contribute stories, facts and figures to my best ability."

Tony has worked tirelessly and loyally as a



PROLIFIC AUTHOR: Tony Matthews.

freelance sports contributor on behalf of the EWN. The changes being introduced are part of overall plans to further improve the services offered to both advertisers and readers. Thank you Tony for all your hard work on behalf of the EWN, and it is great that RTN and Sol Times' readers will continue to benefit from your regular contributions.

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**ICELAND QUALIFY:** Iceland have become the smallest nation ever to qualify for the World Cup Finals after they beat Kosovo 2-0 in Reykjavik in their final qualifying match to secure top spot in Group I.

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Mallorca's best guide to local sport

# Magical Messi secures World Cup spot for Argentina

## Barcelona star scored a hat-trick against Ecuador

LIONEL MESSI produced one of the finest performances of his career as he scored his 44th career hat-trick to secure World Cup qualification for Argentina.

The Barcelona maestro scored all three goals in the 3-1 win over Ecuador, which moved Argentina from sixth into the automatic qualification places alongside Brazil, Uruguay and Colombia.

Prior to the game, Argentina were on the brink from being eliminated from World Cup Qualifying for the first time in 50 years and seemed to be in serious trouble after they fell behind less than a minute into the match.

The 2014 World Cup finalists weren't behind for long though, as Messi brought them level in the 12th minute.

After a lovely one-two with Angel Di Maria, Messi slid the ball past Ecuador goalkeeper Maximo

**THE MAGICIAN:** Messi produced an emphatic performance against Ecuador.



Banguera and the 30-year-old soon had La Albiceleste in front.

Messi pinched the ball away from Ecuador in the 20th minute, before ghosting into the box and unleashing an unstoppable left-footed shot into the roof of the net.

Ecuador, who were also in need of a win to qualify, applied pressure after half-time and seemed the most likely to score, before the five-time player of the year's sublime third in the 62nd minute sealed the points.

Messi picked the ball up 35 yards out and ran right through the Ecuador defence, before chipping the ball over the goalkeeper from just inside the box to cap off a wonderful night for himself and Argentina.

## Spain record first win of U17 World Cup

La Rojita produced a 4-0 win over third placed Niger

SPAIN recorded their first win of the U17 World Cup after an emphatic 4-0 victory over Niger.

Goals from Cesar, Sergio Gomez and a brace from Barcelona youngster Abel Ruiz ensured that Santiago Denia's side registered their first win of the campaign to move alongside the African side on three points.

After a 2-1 defeat to Brazil in their opening Group D match, Spain were looking to bounce back and did so with a dominating performance against the African side.

Ruiz's first goal in the 21st minute settled the nerves, before he got his second 20 minutes later and Cesar Gelabart's volley late in the half gave them a resounding 3-0 half-time lead.

Spain, who dominated much of the second half and could have scored more but for Niger goalkeeper Khaled Lawali, finally grab their fourth goal in the final minutes through Sergio Gomez.

The win leaves La Rojita second in the group on goal difference and they now face Korea DPR in their final group game on October 13.

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