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ISSUE No. 1686 | 26 Oct - 1 Nov 2017 **COSTA DE ALMERÍA » YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE, YOUR OPINION** WWW.EUROWEEKLYNEWS.COM

## Mother punished



Guardia Civil

**ABANDONED:** Police rescue the victim.

A WOMAN who left her infant daughter alone on a high-rise balcony was spared jail.

She was, however, given a 10-month suspended sentence for abandoning the three-year-old girl in a dangerous location.

Tragedy was averted thanks to a neighbour spotting the girl crying on the balcony from the street below. She had begun clamouring over the railing, having grown hysterical when her mother disappeared for hours, locking her outside.

She got half way over the railing before becoming stuck and terrified. The passing stranger immediately called police, who dispatched officers to the scene.

## Weekend of despair

MORE than 100 immigrants were rescued from sinking ships off the coast of Almeria. Coastguards worked overtime to intercept six separate vessels in a chaotic 24-hour spell over the weekend.

A total of 104 people were saved from choppy waters near Carboneras and El Ejido. All were from North Africa and the majority were treated for hypothermia at local hospitals.



Photo by Ayuntamiento de Cuevas de Almanzora

**NO MORE:** Cuevas victim was number 42 in Spain this year.

# Murder suicide

## Local woman killed by husband

By Matthew Elliott

A silent rally took place in Cuevas del Almanzora after a local woman was murdered. All signs point towards her husband, who was later found hanged and left a message on his friend's phone confessing to the crime.

Maria Dolores, aged 38, was found strangled in the small hamlet of Burjulu where she worked. The Paraguayan national was a carer for an elderly woman, Maria Antonia, in whose home she was killed.

Her body was found with signs of violence early on Sunday morning. Her husband, a Bolivian, hung himself in the gardens of the property. Both bodies were removed by the early afternoon.

Cuevas mayor Antonio Fernandez has since revealed that the couple were separated and in the process of getting a divorce. They had an eight-year-old daughter who was in a different municipality at the time.

Fernandez expressed his "absolute repulsion, condemnation and rejection of all vi-

olence, especially gender violence." Two days of mourning were observed by the town hall on Monday and Tuesday.

Andalucian president Susana Diaz tweeted her 'pain and utter condemnation of this new sexist crime.' 'All society must fight against this scourge which kills women,' she wrote.

Dolores is the third woman in Almeria Province to be murdered by her partner this year. She is the seventh in Andalucia and the 42nd in Spain.

## Water woe goes on

WATER quality should be guaranteed for residents of the Los Velez region, ruled a Spanish senate committee.

Members of Spain's upper house committee on combating climate change said human needs should come ahead of agriculture. Senators urged the government to move immediately to control the water supply to Los Velez inhabitants. Of particular concern is the Sierra Maria-Sierra del Ocre-Llanos de Cullar aquifer. Over the past 15 years some 800 hectares have been switched for use in lettuce and broccoli cultivation, rather than going to people's homes.

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## About time!

THE clocks will go back this Sunday October 29 at 3am so remember to alter all your timepieces the night before to avoid any confusion.

The change officially marks the end of summer, so get ready for shorter days and cooler temperatures.

It also means you get an extra hour in bed so it's not all bad news!

## NEWS EXTRA

### What a ruff day

A 23-YEAR-OLD woman who left her Staffordshire bull terrier with severe neck wounds after restraining it with a heavy metal chain has been held by police in Almería City on charges of negligence and animal cruelty.

# No Brexit disruption

## Spanish minister interviewed by BBC

SPAIN'S foreign minister, Alfonso Dastis, has said British expats will be allowed to continue living in Spain even if Britain doesn't strike a Brexit deal with the European Union.

The senior government minister speaking on BBC One's Andrew Marr Show, said, "I do hope that there will be a deal.

"If there is no deal we will make sure that the lives of ordinary people who are in Spain, the UK people, is not disrupted.

"As you know, the relationship between the UK and Spain is a very close one in terms of economic relations and also social exchanges.

"Over 17 million Brits come to Spain every year and many of them live here or retire here and we want to keep it that way as much as possible."

Spain is host to the largest

number of British citizens living in the EU (308,805) and just over a third are aged 65 and over, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Prime Minister Theresa May is continuing to negotiate withdrawal issues with the EU, including a financial settlement, expat's rights and Irish border issues.



Photo by BBC TV/YouTube

**BIG WORDS:** Foreign Minister Alfonso Dastis on the Andrew Marr Show.

Spain's Foreign Minister also responded to questions on Catalan independence saying, "This is a matter to be decided by all of the Spanish people," before denying that the government's move to strip autonomy from the region represents a coup.

"If anyone has attempted a coup, it is the Catalan regional government," he added.

Meanwhile Donald Tusk, the president of the European Council, suggested that Britain could still choose to reverse Brexit. Tusk said that Britain's negotiations with the EU could finish with "no Brexit," if the UK government wanted.

"It is in fact up to London how this will end," he announced. "With a good deal, no deal or no Brexit."

## Norwegian is glum in Brum

LOW-COST airline Norwegian is scrapping all its flights from Birmingham to Spain with effect from this weekend.

Norwegian operates routes to five destinations in Spain; Barcelona, Gran Canaria, Madrid, Malaga and Tenerife.

A statement from the company said, "Following a review of our services, we will cease operating flights from Birmingham to Spain with the last services departing on Saturday, October 28.

It's a major blow for passengers at Midlands airport that lost 20 per cent of its traffic when Monarch Airlines collapsed recently.

Norwegian is the third largest low-cost carrier in Europe, the largest airline in Scandinavia, and the ninth-largest in Europe.

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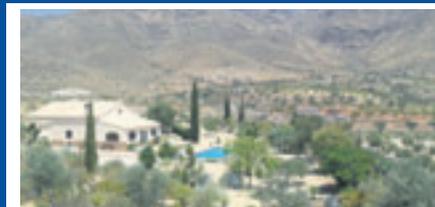
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**EWN**  
THE RESULTS OF OUR READERS' POLL



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**COUCH CRITIC**  
A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S TV THROUGH THE EYES OF A READER



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HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU

# Law breakers

THREE adolescents accused of threatening the suspects accused of starting a deadly cave fire which killed three people, including two teenagers, have been handed restraining orders preventing them from approaching the alleged suspects for two years. They are accused of trying to force one of the alleged culprits to change his testimony.

## Black flag

THE Carboneras beach is among the 48 areas given a 'Black Flag' by the environmental group Ecologistas en Accion. They claim the beach is in "environmental deterioration" caused by the illegal and unfinished Algarro-bico hotel which has been built too close to the shoreline.

## Road death

THE driver of a horse carriage has died after being hit by a car on the AL-4301 road, which links the A-7 motorway with the village of Matagorda. According to reports the man died after becoming trapped under a vehicle in the incident that occurred in El Ejido.

## Black market

FOUR people have been held in Almeria City on suspicion of selling goods stolen by a 19-year-old man accused of committing at least 20 robberies over the last few months. As previously reported in the *Euro Weekly News*, he was recently caught in the act of pickpocketing.

## Road rage

A MAN who threatened a family with a shotgun when they criticised his driving was jailed for 18 months. He had bumped into their Audi and, when asked for an explanation, followed them all the way to their Almeria City

## SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...34

Halloween has crept into the Spanish psyche in recent years, and is now the spooky event of the year

# Creeping it real

LIKE other religious holidays including Christmas and Easter, Halloween has become more commercialised in Spain over the years and has moved away from its religious origins.

While 20 years ago trick-or-treaters were a rare occurrence, stores these days are packed with themed sweets and creepy costumes from September onwards.

Another reason Halloween has become more popular is that the next day, typically known as All Saints' Day, is a national holiday. Children and adults now take advantage of partying the night away in spooky costumes without worrying about going to work or school the next morning.

Many Spanish cities still hold their own unique celebrations around this time, however, which keep the holiday separate from the profit-oriented notion of Halloween made popular by the US.

One of the best places to visit at this time of the year is Cadiz. Although not actually linked to Halloween, on October 31 they celebrate the 'Fiesta de Tosantos'. Locals create over-the-top market stall displays depicting all the latest political and social scandals and hold concerts and street performances across the city.

A more sinister event is celebrated in the small Catalan village of Sant Feliu Sasserra. During the two-day 'Witch Festival,' residents pay tribute to the 23 women accused of witchcraft during the Spanish Inquisition and sentenced to death.

Meanwhile in the rest of Cataluña, locals celebrate 'La Castanyada,' putting on various events and market



**HALLOWEEN:** Becoming popular in Spain.

stalls, selling chestnuts, sweet wine and traditional Catalan 'panellet' cakes.

In Castile and León, people commemorate the holiday by baking traditional pastries called 'Huesos de Santo' which they bring to the graves of loved ones.

## Feelin' spooky

These days, Halloween is now closely associated with the Mexican holiday 'Día de los Muertos' (Day of the Dead) on November 1. While Spain has traditionally celebrated 'Día de los Santos' (All Saints' Day) on this day, the increased popularity of the Mexican festival means that people are beginning to combine traditions from the two.

It is becoming more common to see people perform traditional 'Day of the Dead' rituals such as decorating graves with sugar skulls and gifts.



**ZOMBIE NATION:** Day of the Dead revellers.

Pixabay/Shutterstock

home before pulling out the weapon.

## Road works

THE Ministry for Development has pub-

lished plans to add a third lane on the A-7 motorway to alleviate traffic. Building the road between Almeria and Aguadulce will cost an estimated €31.5 million, with a €950,000 contract being offered to draw up the project plans.

# 151

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1685 of the Euro Weekly News Costa de Almería edition, including 84 local stories.

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## Top 5 stories

From October 17 - 23

- 1 Police warn of deadly poisonous bracelets on sale in Spain - **14,151**
- 2 One dead and 17 Brits infected following Legionnaire's outbreak in Mallorca - **8,893**
- 3 WEATHER ALERTS: Rain in Spain, thunderstorms and plummeting temperatures too! - **7,135**
- 4 Jet2 adds extra summer seats to Spain from former Monarch bases - **5,919**
- 5 STORM ALERT: Spain lashed by heavy and persistent rain - **5,905**

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## Poll of the week

After France announced it will introduce fines for wolf whistling, should it be banned in Spain as well?

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**

Should Spain turn back the clock and revert to Greenwich Mean Time, abandoning the time zone it joined under the Franco dictatorship?

Yes = 38%  
 No = 62%

## Top Social Media comments

**Police call for expats' help in Spain to find UK's 'most wanted' man**

You're wanting immigrants, to inform on someone who is on the run in Spain, when quite a substantial amount of British immigrants are also living in Spain because they could help the police in the UK with certain enquiries, (ie on the run)! Good luck. *George R Carman*

**British expats will be able to stay in Spain 'even if there is no deal' says Spanish foreign minister**

Okay, then they don't have to negotiate that issue, with the dumbheads in EU! *Carsten Thorvald*

Think about it. We don't cost Spain a penny/cent as we are self sufficient. If all the English pulled out they probably wouldn't survive. *Clare Lloyd*

Whereas the majority of Brits in Spain are pensioners or at least autónomo the difference is that the Spanish in the UK are employed because jobs in Spain are scarce. So the Spanish in the UK have more to lose and Spain has more to lose if the Brits were to depart. *Sandra Russell*  
 Goes without saying people forget that expats lived in Spain before the EU. *Neil Walker*

**Spanish police identify 800 British tourists accused of sickness scams**

Let's hope they are all caught and the people who set up companies to help scam the insurance companies are all imprisoned. These kind of people are the ones who give our resorts a bad name and travel insurance gets more expensive. Greed total greed. *Elizabeth Dobson*

Anybody want six months free stay in Spain? Free food, room, morning workout, TV, group activities and much more. Sunny patio, meet new friends! Make a false claim and you could be the lucky winner of a FREE jail sentence in the sun! Apply now, to avoid long waits at the local courthouse. *Dario Dumez*

Ban them from entering Spain as well as tracking them for fraud. *Richard Taylor*

Absolutely disgraceful I'm ashamed to be British reading this! *Wendy Nerdin*

Very soon all you Brits will require Visas to enter Spain, or any other EU country for that matter. I'm sure the Spanish keep records of all these scammer's names and their 'let's get rich quick' lawyers. Guess who won't be having a holiday in Spain in future! *André Van de Loo*



DEADLY: The intense red and black bracelets are made with abrin seeds

## TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

South Africa is called the 'Rainbow Nation' because it has 11 official languages.

35 per cent of men from rural Brazil have had sex with an animal, a study found.

In 2016, a Singaporean street food vendor was awarded a Michelin star.



According to research, all polar bears alive today can trace their ancestry back to one female brown bear who lived in Ireland 50,000 years ago.

★★★★★★

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**Lost in translation**



Explosive dog

**CORRECTIONS**

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Little bits on the side

FOR COMMENTS FROM EWN ONLINE TURN TO LETTERS PAGE

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**OUR VIEW**

## Results of the poll in Italy

COINCIDENCE or not, referendums have been held in two formerly secessionist parts of Italy calling for greater autonomy from the Italian state.

Lombardy with Milan as its main city and Veneto with Venice as its most famous icon both saw votes exceeding 90 per cent calling for a larger percentage of tax payments to remain in the regions rather than see it be sent to Rome.

The turnouts were in excess of 60 per cent in each case and although the results are not binding on central government they are an example of how a legally undertaken referendum can alert government to the wishes of the people.

Interestingly, the two Italian regions are both in the north of the country and like Spain, there is some divide between the wishes, aspirations and expectations of those living in the north and the south.

Whilst it is possible that there will be similar votes in other parts of the European Union, it must be remembered that as recently as 1993, Czechoslovakia split amicably to form two independent republics which both went on to become members of the EU.

The Spanish situation is much more volatile but it is to be hoped that the breakdown in communications with Cataluña will be resolved using sense rather than violence from either side.

*Now we want to hear your views.*  
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## Frenchman's suspect socks

A FRENCHMAN was caught at Almeria port with 900 grams of hashish strapped to his socks. The Bordeaux native was trying to smuggle the drugs from Morocco into Spain.

Guardia Civil officers manning the port saw he was limping slightly and had a 'suspicious and nervous attitude' He was separated from other passengers during ID checks and taken for screening.

Police quickly found 10 packages of hashish strapped to his ankles underneath a pair of heavy duty sports socks.

The precise weight was 894 grams, more than enough to see the 48-year-old male charged with drug trafficking offences.

He is currently awaiting sentencing in an Almeria prison. Police have upped security on the Nador-Almeria shipping route in a bid to deter traffickers.



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**MIGRANT RESCUE: The Britannia.**

# Found all at sea

A BRITISH luxury cruise ship with 4,000 passengers on board has rescued 10 African migrants off the coast of Spain near Almeria.

The crew of the the P&O Cruises flagship Britannia spotted an inflatable dinghy carrying the migrants at 1am in the morning and immediately performed a U-turn and issued a man overboard announcement to the cruise passengers.

A Spanish coastguard helicopter was sent

to pull the migrants out of the water and they were given shelter, food, drink and medical care on board Britannia until a coastguard ship arrived and they were handed over to Spanish authorities.

Once on dry land they were attended to by the Spanish Red Cross.

The MV Britannia, named by HM The Queen in March 2015, resumed its normal cruise itinerary.

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## Fun in the sun

HE'S the 90's pop star who became known for his six pack abs.

But Peter Andre, 44, managed to keep his shirt on as he made a splash on a jet ski in Marbella with children, Junior, 12, and Princess, 10, who he shares with ex-wife and glamour model Katie Price.

They were joined by the Mysterious Girl singer's current better half, Emily McDonagh, 28, who was rocking a tiny grey summer dress as she smiled from the deck of their luxury yacht.

The pair also have two children together, daughter Amelia, three, and son Theo, 11 months, having tied the knot in 2015 following a whirlwind romance.

Asked about her relationship with her step-children, McDonagh explained, "they are the loveliest children. It taught me what I was doing before I had my own children. They are great."



**DOTING FATHER:** Peter Andre.

Peter Andre/Instagram



Photo credit: Elsa Hosk/Instagram

**WORKING OUT:** Elsa Hosk.

## Hosk stuff!

SHE'S set to return to the catwalk in Shanghai for the Victoria's Secret 2017 fashion show.

And Swedish supermodel Elsa Hosk, 29, has been preparing to storm the runway with a week-long detox and Pilates blowout at the SHA Wellness Clinic in Alicante.

It will be the seventh consecutive year that the blonde beauty has rocked lingerie alongside the likes of Adriana Lima and Alessandra Ambrosio.

## Two Ronnies: Madrid ace bags gong

AND Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo was named the best player in the world for the second year in a row at FIFA's 'The Best' awards in London.

Accompanied by glamorous girlfriend Georgina Rodriguez, who proudly displayed her baby bump, the 32-year-old won by a resounding margin with 43.16 per cent of the votes. Five-time Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi came second with 19.25 per cent and the most expensive



Cristiano Ronaldo/Instagram

player in the world, Neymar, came third with 6.97 per cent.

Ronaldo was instrumental in Real Madrid's double winning campaign last season as Los Blancos secured the La Liga title and the Champions League.

The former Manchester United star scored twice in the 4-1 Champions League final win against Juventus as Madrid ensured that they became the first team in the modern era to successfully defend the Champions League crown.

**CRIS IN BLISS:** Ronaldo.



**Celeb focus**

## Suits her

SHE'S the Oscar-winning actress who made her name playing orphan Fantine in Les Miserables.

But Anne Hathaway is to show her lighter side in upcoming comedy remake Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, currently filming in Mallorca. The 34-year-old Hollywood star was spotted in character as she donned a white suit and yellow-rimmed sunglasses at a restaurant shoot.



Lady Gaga/Instagram

**ISLAND FUN:** Anne Hathaway.

## Feeling broody?

SPAIN'S glamorous Queen Letizia has been spotted looking broody as she held a baby on a trip to Porenu village in Villaviciosa. The royals were on the trip to honour the 2017 Best Asturian Village winner when Letizia held a resident's baby while her husband, King Felipe, looked on with an adoring smile.

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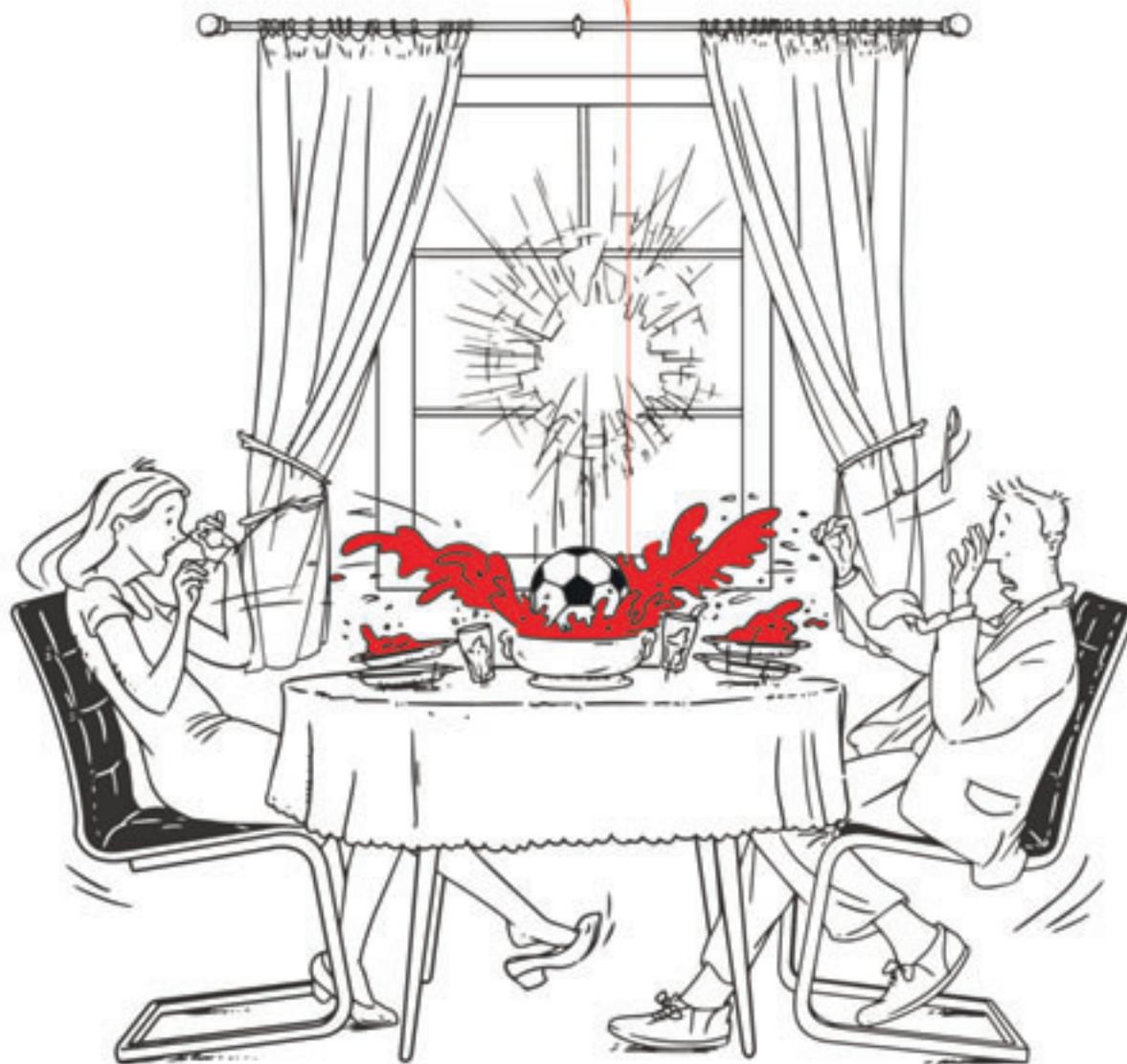
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## Double robber nabbed

AN armed robber who targeted two city shops in Almeria has been arrested. The 41-year-old is accused of threatening staff at two shops on Calle Granada in the city centre with a large knife.

The first was a clothes stores, from which he stole boxes of goods. The same day he targeted an off-licence, stealing a bottle of expensive spirits.

Police interviewing employees at both businesses soon realised they were looking for the same suspect for both crimes. The local man wore no mask or balaclava.

From their facial descriptions alone, police began to suspect that an old acquaintance with a lengthy criminal record was behind the twin attacks.

They began searching for their man in his known haunts across the city. Within a matter of days he was caught and charged. He has a colourful criminal past and was denied bail.

# Rains to the rescue

HEAVY rains caused eight injuries but were overall immensely important for the province. A torrential down-pour lasting almost 20 hours last week helped fill thirsty reservoirs and calm the nerves of anxious farmers.

That may be little consolation for the eight people injured in traffic accidents as stormy conditions made Almeria's roads especially dangerous.

Emergency services were called out more than 25 times

in just one day to deal with weather-induced disasters.

Five homes in Carboneras reported major flooding in the basement. Sewage pipes burst and flooded onto roads in Almeria City and Roquetas de Mar. There was a substantial landslide next to the abandoned Azata del Sol hotel in Algarrobo but no property damage reported.

Farmers' groups hailed the positive effects of the storm on water reserves. There was, however, some concern that



**PICK ME UP:** Cuevas reservoir desperately needed downpour.

the humidity may have damaged some crops in the west of the province.

The spectre of drought continues to loom over the local

agricultural sector. The Cuevas reservoir continues to run at a dangerous deficit. It was less than 10 per cent full before the latest rains.

98

The percentage of the country that were Roman Catholics once upon a time.

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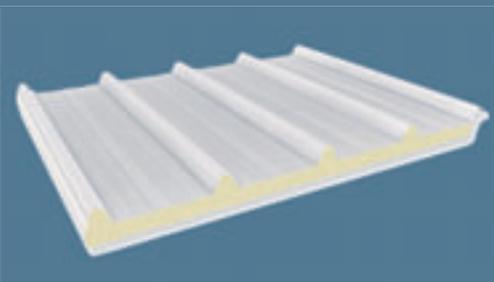
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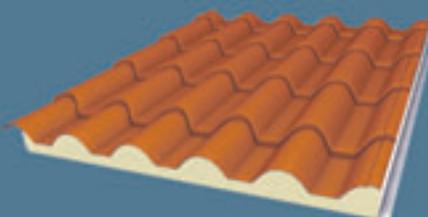
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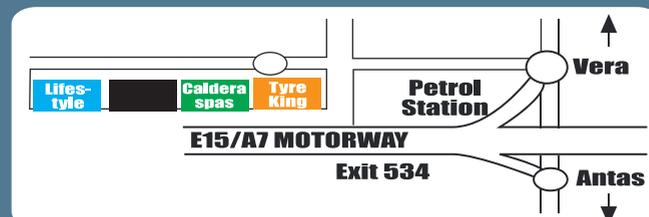


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A SCULPTURE placed in an Almería City street has sparked anger among local residents.

The neighbourhood association in the city's historic quarter don't see the artistic merit and claim it terrifies children.

The offending piece is a bust of a head carved in stone. The face is deliberately deformed and is meant to represent a mythological Greek figure.

It was installed in a new 'artistic space' on the corner of the Trajano and Dalia streets. The area has recently been reformed to become

# Ugly bust scares children

more attractive to tourists eager to see the city's cultural side.

But president of the local residents' association, Baldomero Rodriguez, isn't impressed.

Nobody even knows which Greek god the bust supposedly represents, he argues.

"I can assure you that there are children who have been frightened to see that face," he told Development councillor Ana Martinez Labella.

He claims that Labella told him the sculpture would stay in place and that it is art. "I told her that art is better in museums," he scornfully replied in public.

He and the residents' association are also up in arms over a set of three cement pillars forming a kind of modern conceptual art in the area. They are collecting signatures for a petition to bring to the town hall.



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Andalucía is about to become an even more attractive region to live in. Once confirmed in the 2018 regional budget, in the majority of cases spouses, children and parents will escape this unpopular tax completely.

#### Who pays succession and gift tax in Spain?

If you are resident in Spain, you are liable to succession and gift tax on any inheritance or gift you receive, whether the assets are in Spain or abroad.

All assets located in Spain (property, bank accounts, etc.) are liable to this tax when passed on death or as a gift, regardless of whether the owner and/or beneficiary are resident in Spain.

The allowances and tax rates vary according to who the beneficiary is, as well as per region.

In Spain, beneficiaries are categorised as follows: **Group I** - children and other descendants under 21; **Group II** - children and other descendants aged 21 and over; parents, other ascendants and spouses; **Group III** - Brothers/sisters, nephews/nieces, stepchildren, cousins, aunts/uncles, in-laws and their ascendants/descendants, etc. (some of them can sometimes be treated as **Group IV** relatives); **Group IV** - everyone else, including

unmarried partners even those registered as a '*pareja de hecho*', unless the region recognises them as married - which *Andalucía* does.

#### What is changing?

Provided this is confirmed in the 2018 Andalucian budget, all inheritances of up to €1 million within Groups I and II beneficiaries would be



By **Gerald Turner,**  
**Partner,**  
**Blevins Franks**

exempt from succession tax in *Andalucía*. Anything over €1 million will be liable to tax at the usual rates. This threshold is per beneficiary, not per estate.

This is dependent on the pre-existing wealth of the beneficiary. If the beneficiary has an existing wealth of over €1 million, they will not benefit from this allowance.

The allowance also applies to gifts, but on condition that it is used to create business and employment in *Andalucía*, and the business is retained for at least five years.

This is likely to apply with effect from 1st January 2018. So far, only the highlights of the new rules have been. We have to wait until the budget is approved and the new law is finalised and published for more details.

#### Succession tax planning

If you or your heirs have wealth over

the €1 million threshold, seek personalised advice on how you may be able to lower the tax liability.

If you plan to leave assets to heirs other than your spouse, descendants or ascendants, succession tax will apply as usual. The allowance for Group III beneficiaries is just €7,993, while Group IV does not receive any allowance at all. Regional tax rates range from 7.65% to 36.5%. Multipliers between 1.0 and 2.4 could also be applied, depending on the circumstances.

This new €1 million threshold only applies to those who are eligible to benefit from the regional Andalucian rules. Whether the state or Autonomous Community rules apply depends on where the beneficiary and the donor are resident and where the assets inherited/gifted are located. If you do not benefit from the regional rules the state rules will apply instead -

and the tax payable will be higher, with no exemption between spouses.

It is important to understand how the Spanish tax rules apply to your situation and how they may affect your UK liability. This is a specialist area, so take professional, personalised advice to maximise your legacy and save your heirs from paying more tax than necessary.

*Tax rates, scope and reliefs may change. Any statements concerning taxation are based upon our understanding of current taxation laws and practices which are subject to change. Tax information has been summarised; an individual is advised to seek personalised advice.*

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

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This is a good time for us to help you review your tax and estate planning, investments and pensions. We will ensure you are in the best position going forward and keep you informed of Brexit developments that may affect you. It may be worth acting now, under known rules, rather than waiting to see if the situation changes after Brexit.

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

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OFFENSIVE graffiti has appeared on a statue in Almería's Parque Almadrabillas.

Nazi slogans have been scrawled across a monument honouring Almería's victims of the holocaust in Mathausen. The word 'jude,' (Jew) was sprayed in red paint over one of the depicted victims, while a crosshairs-style symbol was painted on his back.

The words, 'holocaust mentira,' (holocaust lie) were also sprayed in red on the pavement in front of the monument, while an information sign was crossed through in red paint. The site, which has been declared a historically important monument in Andalucía, was also strewn with empty alcohol containers.

This is not the first of these offensive attacks; in February 2016 Arabic graffiti was scrawled across around 20 of the 142 columns which represent each of Almería's holocaust victims.

The Mathausen concentration camp in Austria was a category-three camp in which prisoners were subjected to hard labour, including breaking up rocks. It is estimated between 122,766 and 320,000 prisoners were killed in the camp before it was liberated by the Americans in May 1945.

## Nazi graffiti shame

# One shell of a day

A TORTOISE trafficker was arrested by the Guardia Civil's Seprona unit at Almería port.

The police's animal protection wing rescued spurt-thighed tortoises hidden in a cardboard box in the boot of the man's car.

A 41-year-old man based in France, was arrested at the scene. He is charged with bringing a protected species illegally into Spain.

Tortoises are considered a protected reptile under

the European CITES agreement which combats the trafficking of exotic animals.

In this case four of them were stashed in a cardboard box, which was wrapped with adhesive tape with several holes in place for oxygen. The car had arrived from Oran, Algeria, where much of Spain's flourishing black market trade in endangered species originates.

Police handed the reptiles over to a local animal

welfare group for safe-keeping. Seprona works across Almería Province hunting traffickers in countless exotic species, including lions, monkeys

and parrots. Spain is typically just the first port of call with the animals arriving in southern ports before being driven across the continent.



RESCUED: Tortoises were stashed in a small crate with oxygen holes.

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**SAFETY FIRST:** Flu jab can half risk of serious infection.

FLU jabs are now available as Almería began its winter vaccination campaign on Monday. More than 87,000 doses will be administered across the province, with at-risk groups getting priority.

There are a total of 231 vaccination points scattered across the province and at least one in each municipal-

# Flu battle begins

ity. Key at-risk populations include the over 65s, pregnant women and those with chronic health problems, especially respiratory or heart issues.

Doctors, nurses, firemen, police officers, prison guards and other key public employees will also be vaccinated to protect both themselves and the people they attend.

The vaccination campaign continues into December. Those getting jabs are advised to double up and get further protections against bacterial infections and pneumonia.

For the rest of the popula-

tion, the Junta de Andalucía's health department has issued a series of guidelines.

Simple hygienic measures include covering the mouth, using tissues and washing hands regularly.

Last winter flu had a moderate impact across the province. There were 1,162 cases per 100,000 people, a lower rate than normal. The worst period was the second half of January.

Children aged five to 14 had double the average rate, while seniors aged over 65 saw just 600 cases per 100,000 thanks to the vaccination campaign.

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## NEWS EXTRA

## Sustainable tourism aim

ALMERIA City is "interested in attracting sustainable and quality tourism that helps to boost the local economy and generate employment," according to the councillor for the Promotion, Carolina Lafita.

## Vandals cost

MORE than €3,600 worth of damage has been caused after different acts of vandalism in Adra. Street lights have been damaged and four solid waste containers have been burned.

## Up in smoke

A MAN has suffered the affects of smoke inhalation after a fire at a halls of residence for people with intellectual disabilities in Velez Rubio.



NEW HOPE: Andarax set to become wildlife haven.

## Wildlife haven boost

BIRDS are expected to flock back to the Andarax river thanks to a huge eco project. An investment of €65,000 will be ploughed into the recovery of natural habitats along the winding river, especially in the Alhama de Almeria area.

The work is a key part of the wider Natura 2000 Network, a project aimed at regenerating Europe's natural spaces.

Conservationists and biologists are

advising the environment ministry on how best to make the area safe for local wildlife to flourish.

Work has already begun with the felling of dry trees and the clearing of invasive species and weeds. It will take until the end of December to completely clear the affected 2.5km stretch.

From early next year more money and effort will be invested in replanting vegetation along the river bank.

This will create a vibrant new ecosystem which kestrels, sparrows, jackdaws and even guinea pigs are expected to call home. There will also be frogs, native flora and citrus trees.

The Natura 2000 Network provides European funding for the project. The goal is to provide a safe haven for some of the continent's most endangered plant and animal species.

## Husband fined for outburst

THE husband of Cantoria mayor Purificacion Garcia has been fined for abusing one of his wife's rivals during a heated town hall debate.

Antonio Cerrillo dramatically burst into the meeting, took a seat in the front row and loudly insulted Popular Party spokesman Jose Maria Llamas. His wife, Mayor Garcia of the PSOE, was forced to order her own husband to leave.

He was accompanied outside by a policeman and could still be heard screaming obscenities from the street. Llamas lodged a complaint with the Albox police station and the case went to trial in Huerca-Overa last week.

Cerrillo was fined €600 for the offence and warned that, if he didn't pay, he would be jailed for 15 days.

No reason was provided for his outburst by Cerrillo, who bizarrely called his own witness to the stand for his defence. The same man has a conviction for providing false testimony. "I remind Antonio Cerrillo that I, like the rest of my fellow councillors, have been democratically elected by the people of Cantoria," said Llamas after the ruling.

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# Inside OUT In Europe

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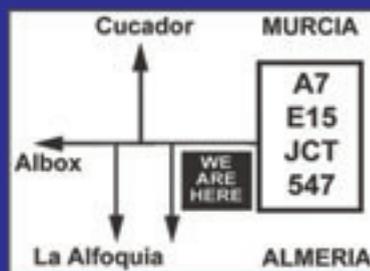
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Photo by Guardia Civil

**KNIVES AND GUNS:** Some of the recovered weapons.

## Police probe goes nuts

By John Smith

GUARDIA CIVIL investigators have arrested 21 people, seized goods worth €60,000, firearms and more than two tons of almonds.

There has been a major crime wave in the Valencian areas of Comarca de la Hoya de Buñol and Camp del Turia which saw more than 100 burglaries and had terrorised the entire community.

Of the 21 arrested, 11 of them were under the age of 18 so are considered minors and those detained were split between Bulgarian and Spanish nationals with seven women involved.

Those involved were part of a loose association which was involved with breaking and entering into properties, cultivation and sale of drugs, theft of almonds, theft of animals and electricity as well as

keeping a hoard of weapons.

The head of the gang decided upon targets for the minors and carefully studied the coming and going of various business owners and residents so that they were often able to break into properties knowing that the owners were away.

Among items recovered, many of which will be put on show to the public for identification, are mobile phones, tablets, televisions, laptops, e-books, play stations and games cameras, computer equipment and other electrical equipment.

In addition, officers recovered bicycles, jewellery, watches, baby chairs, wheelchairs, weapons and 44 sacks containing 2,300 kilos of almonds.

## Spaniard shot in Rio

MYSTERY surrounds the reason for the shooting of a 67-year-old Spanish woman by a military policeman in a favela in Rio de Janeiro.

Maria Esperanza Jiménez Ruiz was travelling on a guided tour of Rio's largest favela, Rocinha, with her brother and his wife when a shot rang out and a bullet struck her in the back. Maria was taken to hospital by emergency services

but was declared dead on arrival. Favelas are considered by many as dangerous slum areas which hide major drug dealers who

often fight with the police, but also attract the curious who want to see the lives that many poorer people have made for themselves.

First reports from the authorities suggest that the car in which they were travelling did not stop at a police check point which is the reason for the officer opening fire but it appears that the driver and passengers dispute this and say that there was no order to stop.

The Spanish Embassy to Brazil and the local Rio consulate are involved in trying to establish exactly what happened and Brazilian authorities have confirmed that there will be an internal enquiry.

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**46,560,000** The total population of Spain according to the last census in 2016.

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UK police have appealed for the help of expats to help find fraudster Mark George Acklom, who might be back in Spain again.

Acklom, 44, is the subject of a European Arrest Warrant and was named as part of Operation Captura, an appeal launched and run by the National Crime Agency and Crimestoppers.

He's wanted by Avon and Somerset Constabulary for defrauding a woman he was in a relationship with out of £850,000. Acklom allegedly made a number of false representations after starting a romantic relationship with a woman from Bath in January 2012.

The victim stated that Acklom first claimed to work in the banking world in Switzerland and was very wealthy. He then went on to claim he worked for an intelligence agency.

Acklom arranged for the victim to live in one of the properties he claimed to own in Bath. He stated he had cash flow problems that were hindering renovation work, and the victim gave him numerous loans totalling £850,000.

It later transpired that Acklom did not own the property. The victim never received any of her money back.

Acklom has also used the names Mark Conway, Mark Desmond, Marc Ros Rodriguez, Kid Con, Marc Ros and Marc Long. Detective Inspector Adam Bunting, who is leading the ef-

# UK's most wanted!

## Police call for expats' help

orts to find Acklom, said, "Mark Acklom is a convincing fraudster and we're working hard to locate him as soon as possible.

"We believe he'll be with his wife Maria Rodriguez and their two young daughters, who we know up until last year's appeal, were enrolled in El Limonar International School in the Murcia area of Spain.

"In the days following the appeal he removed his children from the school and together with his wife, he disappeared.

"We have significant concerns about the children's well-being given they were uprooted, with no notice, from their school, friends and family. It's highly likely Acklom will have placed his children in another fee-paying school.

The children are aged six and eight.

Since the Operation Captura appeal, a photograph was taken by a member of the public of Acklom in Geneva, Switzerland in May but he's not been sighted since.



Photo credit Avon and Somerset Constabulary

### ON THE RUN: Mark George Acklom, left, and Maria Yolanda Ros Rodriguez.

Now police are issuing details of Acklom's wife for the first time, as they believe she may be assisting him but she isn't the subject of a European Arrest Warrant.

Maria Yolanda Ros Rodriguez, 47, is likely to be with Acklom and may be using the aliases Yolianda Ross, Maria Long, Mary Moss or

another name entirely.

DI Bunting added, "Mark Acklom has links through property to Spain and there's been a positive sighting in Switzerland.

"We also have information linking him to Dublin and Italy, but he could be anywhere in Europe. It's possible he may have travelled outside the

EU. He's described as 5ft 10ins, of medium build, with dark brown hair and green eyes.

"We're grateful for the ongoing support of the National Crime Agency and our law enforcement colleagues in Europe but we need the help of the media and the public in the UK and Europe to track him down."

If you have information about the whereabouts of Mark Acklom you can contact Avon and Somerset police via their website - quoting reference number 7429713.

For those people calling from Spain there is a special Spanish 900 555 111 telephone number which will be answered in the UK by Crimestoppers' call agents and a translation service is available upon request.

People can also pass on information anonymously via the Crimestoppers number 0800 555 111 or through their Anonymous Online Form - reference: CS1610-15128.

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**HOUSE GUEST:** The camel is for the Three Kings.

LOCAL POLICE in Tenerife were called in after concerned residents reported

seeing a camel in a neighbour's house. Officers in Santa Cruz

were dispatched to the Barranco de Santos area of the capital to investigate.

But the neighbours' fears were soon allayed when all they found was a plastic camel being prepared by an artist for the Three Kings parade in January.

A Local Police tweet in which investigators confirm that 'the camel that is in a house in Barranco de Santos IS PLASTIC' has since gone viral.

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# Brit scams revealed

Investigators identify almost 800 culprits



**WISH POOL WERE HERE:** Many of the scammers claimed to have stomach bugs.

NEARLY 800 British tourists have been identified by the Spanish police for claiming compensation in fake food poisoning scams.

The claims were made while the tourists were on all-inclusive holidays in the Balearics.

A police probe was launched last summer after a surge in complaints which caused hotels

to lose more than €60 million.

Weak UK legislation on the issue reportedly made it possible for tourists to claim the full amount of compensation without proof. This meant that tourists were able to file the complaint against the hotel after they returned home, who refused to take the cases to court because of the high legal costs.

Officers have confirmed that nearly 800 tourists acted through more than 70 UK-based law firms. Allegedly, 'lawyers' would pick up clients in the hotels by telling them they could claim the cost of their holiday back by filing a food poisoning complaint.

Some complaints were made three years after the trip.

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Photo by Facebook - Find Agnese Klavina

# Family fury!

## Brit suspect released by Spanish court

STILL MISSING: Agnese Klavina.

By Karl Smallman

A JUDGE in Malaga has ruled that Craig Porter, 37, a chief suspect in the case of missing Agnese Klavina, can return to the UK for a month for the birth of his child in Liverpool.

Members of the Find Agnese Klavina campaign have said, "Sometimes you really have to worry about the Spanish justice system.

"We have just been notified that the Audencia (High Court) of Malaga has granted permission for Craig Porter to travel to Liverpool for the birth of his fourth child in spite of our opposition and a likely chance that he could use this opportunity to run away from justice.

"We have just filed an appeal to this decision.

"How can someone who is



HIT-AND-RUN: Fatima Dorado Para (inset) was struck by the Bentley in San Pedro.

currently being tried for making Agnese disappear, a crime that in our opinion is tantamount to murder be granted this kind of request?

"It beggars belief how the Spanish courts can allow this person to travel. He is bound to use this opportunity to escape from justice.

"Shame on you Spain."

Porter and his pal Westley Capper, 39, were the last to see the 30-year-old Latvian girl who went missing on Saturday, September 6, 2014 after leaving a popular Puerto Banus night club.

Capper and Porter admitted driving Agnese away from the

nightclub but Capper claims he dropped her off near her apartment, while Porter was asleep on the back seat of the car.

Police are in possession of CCTV footage which depicts the men leaving the club with Agnese, and, later, three unidentified men dragging a large suitcase onto Capper's motor boat soon after she vanished.

The boat left Marbella and was seized some 300 kilometres away in Cartagena, but no body has been recovered.

Both men refused to testify during a hearing in Marbella in April 2015, but a court source confirmed, "The investigating

judge has committed Westley Capper and Craig Porter to trial on a charge of aggravated unlawful detention and discharged another two suspects.

"Capper and Porter remain on bail but as part of their conditional release conditions, they have to sign on twice a month and are banned from leaving Spain.

The pair are also facing trial for killing a Bolivian mother in a hit-and-run in San Pedro, Marbella.

In the early evening of May 9, Fatima Dorado Para, a 40-year-old Bolivian woman, was struck by a British-registered Bentley as she was crossing the road on a pedestrian crossing adjacent to the San Pedro Alcantara Boulevard.

The Bentley struck her, throwing her about 100 feet in the air, before speeding off without stopping.

Emergency services were called and Fatima was rushed to the Costa del Sol hospital but suffered heart failure and died.

Police found the damaged Bentley about six kilometres away from the scene of accident, at Diana Park where the owner and his passenger were discovered drinking in an Indian restaurant.

Capper has been charged with negligent homicide, failure to stop and provide help to the victim, driving under the influence of alcohol, and possession of false documentation.



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**HOT TO TROT:** Images of the women were circulated on social media.

# The mane attraction!

## Police probe daytime porn shoot

AUTHORITIES in Spain are investigating the filming of two naked actresses cavorting in the back of a horse-drawn carriage in Sevilla at the weekend.

The two young women, a camera operator and director took to the streets in one of the busy, tourist areas in the centre of the city to the aston-

ishment of passers-by.

Witnesses described how there were families with children in the area but the scenes were shot in a few minutes before the arrival of the police.

Images of the naked women in a horse-drawn carriage have since been widely circulated on social media.

Sevilla's city council are now trying to locate the people who took part in the filming and warn they could feel the full force of the law saying, "This illegal action could have more serious consequences if the presence of children in the area is confirmed at the time of the filming."



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## DENMARK



### Horse around

THERE are now so many horse-owners who want to hand over their departed steeds to the lions at Copenhagen Zoo that there is a six month waiting list for donations.

### Foul fungi

TWO children have died and nine other family members have been poisoned after reportedly eating toxic mushrooms in the town of Haslev.

### Cheat feat

DENMARK'S Education Minister has proposed a new law which encourages students to grant schools access to their personal laptops to make it more difficult to cheat in exams.



**LION THING:** Feeding lions is a popular pastime of Danish horse owners.

### Teen tragedy

A 16-YEAR-OLD died from his injuries after being shot in

Copenhagen, and police have urged young people to come forward if they know any information about the incident.

## GERMANY

### Corrupt cop

A GERMAN police officer has been accused of encouraging extremists to carry out terror attacks and reportedly was in contact with the man who carried out the Berlin Christmas market attack last December.

### Knife attack

A MAN has been arrested after alleged-

ly harming four people with a knife in Munich last Saturday, but fortunately no-one was seriously injured in the attack.

### Hamster hamper

CONSTRUCTION on a building site in Euerbach has been halted until next spring after a species of endangered

hamster chose the spot to hibernate during the winter.

### Kebab crown

THE world's largest döner kebab was served at a Berlin shopping centre last Friday weighing 413 kilos, beating the previous world record held by Australians since 2004.



## FRANCE



### Fine time

FRENCH men will be charged fines for wolf-whistling or lecherous behaviour to women from next year, as the government plans to pass a new law against sexism and sexual abuse.

### Tragic tour

A 20-YEAR-OLD French cyclist was killed when he was hit by an accident travelling in the opposite direction of the race he was competing in on the French territory island New Caledonia.

### Poverty struck

ACCORDING to a national census, more than 16,000 people live in 570 shanty towns across the country, with over a third of these being children.

### Dire error

THE operator of Paris Charles de Gaulle airport faces charges for manslaughter for the collapse of an airport terminal in 2004, which killed four people and injured several others.

## BELGIUM



### Fatal slip

THE bodies of an elderly couple who had been missing for several days were found by divers in the Albert Canal in Limburg Province, and are believed to have drowned after a biking accident.

### Murder mystery

A MAN has died after being stabbed in the centre of Brussels, but police were unable to identify him at the scene as he didn't have any identification on him at the time.

### Smoked out

THE European Union were forced to change the venue of a summit in Brussels after toxic fumes were found leaking from the Europa building's drains.

### Sparkle city

ANTWERP has been revealed to be the world's main diamond hub, with over a quarter of the 26 tonnes of diamonds mined in 2016 taken straight to the city to be traded.

## NETHERLANDS



### Modern marvel

DUTCH officials have opened the world's first 3D-printed concrete bridge made from reinforced concrete in the city of Gemert, which will be mainly used by cyclists.

### Shaky base

A UNIVERSITY building in Rotterdam was shut down and temporarily evacuated due to fears that the building wasn't secure, following investigations into the city's buildings after an airport car park collapsed in May.

### Sea sick

THERE has been a 30 per cent increase in Dutch people falling sick or injuring themselves on cruise ships over the past two years, according to the Eurocross Alarm Center.

### Tourist trap

THE tourism industry in Amsterdam is growing faster than in other popular European cities, according to the SEO Economic Bureau, and contributes €2.7 billion to the city each year.

## SWEDEN



### Beggars backed

SWEDISH authorities overturned the country's first begging ban in the town of Vellinge after ruling that those asking for money were not disturbing the public.

### Assault avenged

THE biggest media companies in Sweden are investigating sexual assault claims, following the high profile #metoo campaign on social media, which has led women to accuse well-known TV presenter Martin Timell of harassment.

### Train named

SWEDEN'S MTR Express rail company launched a contest to determine the name of a new express train running from Stockholm to Gothenburg, with 'Trainy McTrainface' coming out on top.

### Blast theory

POLICE believe that criminal groups were behind the explosion that hit a police station in the city of Helsingborg, though luckily no-one was harmed in the blast.

## NORWAY



### Flood fees

OVER €50 million has so far been claimed in damages after recent floods in Norway which is reported to be one of the worst the country has experienced in recent times.

### Horse appeal

A RIDING centre in Oslo has applied for permission to be the first horse-drawn taxi service in the capital since the 1950s now that Uber no longer runs operations in the city.

### Girl power

FOR the first time, Norway's top three government positions are now all filled by women, after Ine Eriksen Soreide became the country's first female foreign minister.

### Royal statues

PRINCESS Ingrid Alexandra of Norway, who will one day be crowned queen, opened a new sculpture park in the grounds of the Oslo royal palace, which was also named after her.

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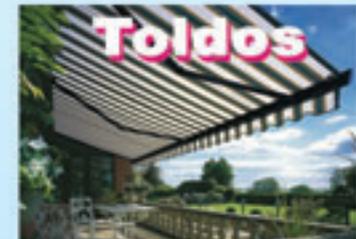
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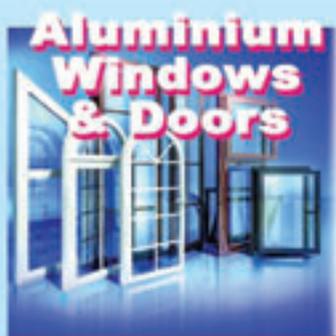
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# Readers help EWN make headline news

IN media circles there is a saying that “the news should not be the newspaper.”

But with the findings of the EWN's Win-a-Car Readers' Survey now fully digested and analysed, answers given by the more than 15,000

readers who took part over a two-month period earlier this year make truly fascinating reading.

For starters, take the three following pointers:

- 92 per cent of EWN readers give the local news coverage as their favourite topic, one point

ahead of the Time Out leisure section.

- 88 per cent check out the daily TV listings
- The Business, Food and Classified advertisements sections each attract more than 77 per cent of readers.

Many more revealing insights into the reading habits of some of our half a million plus weekly readers are also now to hand following the survey.

Across the six weekly issues of the EWN, with individual editions published for the Costa del Sol, Costa Blanca North, Costa Blanca South, Almería, Axarquía and Mallorca, almost four in 10 readers spend one hour or more checking through their latest copy.

### SURVEY FACT

**53%**  
were submitted by men.

A further almost three in 10 spend up to 45 minutes reading and digesting the articles, advertisements and everything else that helped lead the EWN to being named the Best Free Newspaper in Spain 2017.

The fascinating facts about the habits of the huge EWN readership - envied by the other English-language newspapers circulating in Spain, along with many of the nation's Spanish publications - also reveal that though 61 per cent of readers completing the survey were aged 51 - 70, and a further 25 per cent were 71 plus, they are still in the main technically savvy, as spelled out by statistics published in the accompanying Internet panel.



The €15,000 EWN Win-a-Car Readers' Survey prize draw for a Dacia Sandero Ambiance, plus one year's insurance and dinner for two at La Sala in Puerto Banus was won by Virginia de la Torre Unceta, a Spanish reader from Marbella.

## Moving with the times

ONLINE statistics gathered from the survey show that an amazing 96 per cent of those responding use the internet regularly.

And a further peep also reveals that just over six out of every 10 visit the EWN website

### SURVEY FACT

**72%** were married, 11% separated or divorced, 10% single and 7% widowed.

more than once a day, and a further two out of 10 check it once a day.

Seventy per cent of those who use Social Media ticked the Facebook box as their favoured site, followed by Twitter.

Linked In, Google and Instagram were also popular with many.

The survey statistics - gathered ahead of huge rises in online traffic over the last three months - also revealed that 65 per cent use desktop computers or laptops when online, and almost half also use tablets, and 40 per cent mobile phones.

### SURVEY FACT

**92%** use TV as the primary news source, 77% newspapers, 51% internet and 38% radio.

Almost four in every 10 readers answering online questions revealed that they subscribe to the EWN's daily news bulletins.

And nearly half admitted they browse the internet at various times throughout the day, and while 35 per cent indicated they mainly prefer afternoon sessions, a further 14 per cent like morning browsing.

## Extra servings

WE did not seek ONLY the good news, but pointedly asked readers: What would you like to change about the EWN?

The majority of readers indicated 'change nothing,' commenting 'Leave it as it is, it suits me fine' and 'Don't change, just maintain your standard,' plus a succinct 'Nada.'

But some asked for 'sport to be improved,' for 'more television' and 'extra Spanish news.'

These comments have already been acted

upon, with Sports veteran freelancer Andrew Atkinson now writing two new exclusive weekly columns, a weekly TV Couch Critics column has been introduced, and when pagination allows extra national Spanish news is published, though not at the expense of our hugely popular local news coverage.

Since the survey there is also added reader appeal with a newly introduced Bacchus wine column, and Technology for the Timid.



## Invest in Manhattan now

CROWDFUNDING for property whereby investors 'chip in' to purchase real estate has just taken a step forward with an American investment company offering in Spain. Prodigy Network in New York will accept Spanish customers who wish to commit \$10,000 (€8,500) or more into the purchase of commercial and residential property in Manhattan which will be rented out.

## Giving away €42 a month

ALTHOUGH a large number of mobile phone owners in Spain tend to purchase their telephones outright, the opposite is almost the norm in the UK.

In many cases, arrangements are made whereby customers agree a higher contract price in order to pay for expensive phones over a period of 18 to 24 months.

This means that phone users are able to obtain the latest models with affordable monthly payments but in many cases, once the contracted period expires, some com-

By John Smith

panies simply renew without deducting the extra charged for the phone.

Now, the British government accepts that a Citizen's Advice Bureau report that highlighted three companies - EE, Three and Vodafone - who act in this manner should be considered.

These companies have stated that their charges are fair, but the other major supplier O2 has made it clear that it separates the charges

so that customers are totally aware of costs and can see the reduction once the phone has been paid for.

It is also suggested that those over 65 are the least likely to change their contracts and are therefore at the greatest risk of paying too much.

As many expatriates in Spain still keep their UK numbers, it would be worth their while to check that they are not on expired contracts which can cost up to £38 (€42) per month more than they should according to the research.

## Catalan crisis could hurt property

MAJOR estate agents in Spain fear that what started out as a great year could see a property recession in Cataluña. Meeting at a symposium in Barcelona, they have called for the parliament to return to "legality" so that there is no loss of external investment in the province. The relocation of various companies outside of the province could see a glut of empty office property in the marketplace.

### Quote of the Week

Spanish companies are among the best options for building Jamaica together. To tell you the truth, I see Spain as the ideal partner for Jamaica,' Spain's Ambassador to Jamaica Josep Maria Bosch Bessa.



Photo Credit: Sky Cinema Shutterstock

BARCELONA: One of Spain's busier container ports.

## Imports increase but exports up more

EVEN though Spanish exports have increased by 9 per cent in the past eight months, the trade deficit now stands at €16.4 billion.

This deficit increase is 49 per cent higher than the same period last year and imports have continued to rise to €198.7 billion.

To some extent this was to be expected as the recovery in the economy required an increase in purchase of raw materials which

may be converted into consumer products for later export.

Despite the negative situation, Spain continues to be the most successful exporter within the European Union except for the United Kingdom, which has been helped by the drop in value of the pound against the euro.

These figures do not yet take into account any negative effect following the crisis in Cataluña.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

## Energy scam

A WARNING has been issued alerting customers of energy company Endesa that bogus e-mails are being sent asking clients to give bank card information as direct debits had been rejected. Anyone who has responded with details should contact their bank urgently.

## Not over

ALTHOUGH it seemed that the takeover of Spanish toll road operator Abertis by Italian company Atlantia was agreed, a surprise and financially better bid has been received from construction giant ACS. All activity is suspended whilst the National Securities Market Commission considers the situation.

## Share view

BARCLAYS is very impressed with the future trading of communications company Telefonica, especially regarding its potential Latin American business. It has upgraded forecasts regarding the target value of the firm's shares for the second time in 10 days.

## Romania and Spain

ROMANIA and Spain have entered into an in principle agreement to avoid double taxation following a visit from Foreign Minister Dastis.

Romanian Foreign Minister Teodor Meleşcanu described it as being of, "fiscal and economic relevance to the citizens and entrepreneurs of the two countries that will round up the legal framework

for encouraging bilateral economic relations."

During the meeting, Mr Meleşcanu reconfirmed his government's strong support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Spain and expressed solidarity with Madrid, reminding Mr Dastis that Spain is and will remain a valuable strategic partner of Romania.

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# LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES OCTOBER 23

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,431.75	-0.25	-0.02	20,113.97
Associated British Foods	3,337.00	12.00	0.36	26,323.17
Admiral Group	1,910.50	-10.50	-0.55	5,478.01
Ashtead Group	1,873.50	-5.50	-0.29	9,380.45
Antofagasta	994.00	-6.00	-0.60	9,858.57
Aviva	504.75	-0.75	-0.15	20,276.45
AstraZeneca	5,189.00	27.00	0.52	65,346.47
BAE Systems	598.75	2.25	0.38	19,000.86
Babcock International Group	823.25	1.25	0.15	4,156.00
Barclays	193.80	-1.90	-0.97	33,353.18
British American Tobacco	4,891.00	41.50	0.86	111,224.84
Barratt Developments	689.75	-5.25	-0.76	7,020.02
Berkeley Group Holdings	3,924.50	-22.50	-0.57	5,344.84
British Land Co	605.75	-4.75	-0.78	6,222.43
BHP Billiton	1,378.25	-5.25	-0.38	29,220.51
Bunzl	2,252.00	3.00	0.13	7,554.13
BP	489.35	-2.55	-0.52	97,455.79
Burberry Group	1,912.00	7.00	0.37	8,142.72
BT Group	273.80	2.95	1.09	26,862.16
Coca-Cola HBC	2,562.00	-8.00	-0.31	9,334.13
Carnival	4,932.00	-24.00	-0.48	10,573.28
Centrica	174.20	1.10	0.64	9,681.29
Compass Group	1,583.50	-0.50	-0.03	25,051.09
Croda International	3,874.00	-7.00	-0.18	5,099.35
CRH	2,838.00	48.00	1.72	23,337.27
ConvaTec Group	213.95	-0.45	-0.21	4,183.96
DCC	7,172.50	7.50	0.10	6,390.97
Diageo	2,575.25	7.75	0.30	64,537.68
Direct Line Insurance Group	377.60	-2.10	-0.55	5,220.88
Experian	1,563.50	-2.50	-0.16	14,502.15
easyJet	1,312.50	-0.50	-0.04	5,215.34
Ferguson	5,282.50	-12.50	-0.24	13,411.08
Fresnillo	1,367.50	0.50	0.04	10,073.34
G4S	280.20	-0.20	-0.07	4,350.67
GKN	312.30	8.90	2.93	5,210.83
Glencore	378.43	0.23	0.06	54,440.91
GlaxoSmithKline	1,523.75	0.25	0.02	74,935.35
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,530.50	-5.50	-0.36	7,285.53
Hammerson	526.75	-2.25	-0.43	4,196.14
HSBC Holdings	744.15	-4.45	-0.59	150,187.74
International Consolidated Air	657.25	-0.25	-0.04	14,024.40
InterContinental Hotels Grp	4,071.00	9.00	0.22	7,717.40
3i Group	941.75	-3.25	-0.34	9,193.52
Imperial Brands	3,157.50	17.50	0.56	29,982.32
Informa	686.75	-3.25	-0.47	5,685.64
Intertek Group	5,127.50	-7.50	-0.15	8,287.40
ITV	173.75	-1.15	-0.66	7,040.44
Johnson Matthey	3,430.00	-5.00	-0.15	6,647.87
Kingfisher	301.60	-1.80	-0.59	6,599.96
Land Securities Group	968.75	-6.25	-0.64	7,229.01

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Legal & General Group	267.35	-1.25	-0.47	16,001.18
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	66.73	-0.27	-0.40	48,210.64
London Stock Exchange Grp	3,860.50	11.50	0.30	13,343.01
Micro Focus International	2,464.00	-3.00	-0.12	10,733.38
Mediclinic International	633.50	-7.00	-1.09	4,722.05
Merlin Entertainments	376.05	1.05	0.28	3,809.29
Marks & Spencer Group	345.45	-1.45	-0.42	5,636.21
Mondi	1,885.50	-4.50	-0.24	9,176.97
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	234.10	-1.10	-0.47	5,538.93
National Grid	929.30	3.50	0.38	31,521.70
NMC Health	2,897.50	-10.50	-0.36	5,940.63
Next	4,847.00	-18.00	-0.37	7,131.12
Old Mutual Group	196.15	-1.05	-0.53	9,726.72
Paddy Power Betfair	7,750.00	0.00	0.00	6,541.39
Prudential	1,861.50	-5.00	-0.27	48,265.58
Persimmon	2,835.50	-13.50	-0.47	8,792.76
Pearson	698.25	3.75	0.54	5,716.07
Reckitt Benckiser Group	6,598.50	-11.50	-0.17	46,505.71
Royal Bank of Scotland Grp	280.45	-1.85	-0.66	33,609.16
Royal Dutch Shell	2,307.75	-5.75	-0.25	105,135.03
RELX	1,688.50	-2.50	-0.15	18,024.46
Rio Tinto	3,597.00	-3.00	-0.08	48,855.17
Rolls-Royce Group	925.25	-0.75	-0.08	17,043.83
Randgold Resources	7,377.50	-17.50	-0.24	6,956.72
RSA Insurance Group	636.25	-4.75	-0.74	6,555.74
Rentokil Initial	321.40	-0.20	-0.06	5,908.86
Sainsbury (J)	246.30	-1.40	-0.57	5,424.90
Schroders	3,472.50	-12.50	-0.36	7,876.88
Sage Group (The)	731.25	1.25	0.17	7,892.56
Segro	545.00	-4.00	-0.73	5,506.01
Shire	3,703.00	25.50	0.69	33,410.45
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,256.50	-3.50	-0.15	5,352.61
Sky	935.25	-3.75	-0.40	16,141.57
Standard Life Aberdeen	432.90	-1.90	-0.44	12,945.37
Smiths Group	1,553.50	-1.50	-0.10	6,152.57
Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst	435.40	-0.40	-0.09	6,090.39
Smith & Nephew	1,427.50	-0.50	-0.04	12,493.34
SSE	1,390.50	4.50	0.32	14,147.24
Standard Chartered	763.55	-8.55	-1.11	25,415.61
St James's Place	1,163.50	-12.50	-1.06	6,221.38
Severn Trent	2,140.00	1.00	0.05	5,053.19
Tesco	188.33	-0.57	-0.30	15,469.95
TUI AG	1,328.00	-6.00	-0.45	7,831.09
Taylor Wimpey	203.95	-0.75	-0.37	6,697.75
Unilever	4,158.50	-2.50	-0.06	52,112.02
United Utilities Group	841.50	-0.50	-0.06	5,741.50
Vodafone Group	216.13	-0.72	-0.33	58,812.64
Worldpay Group	404.95	-0.05	-0.01	8,100.00
WPP Group	1,377.50	4.50	0.33	17,373.37
Whitbread	3,939.50	-13.50	-0.34	7,250.84

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THE ABOVE TABLE USES THE CURRENT INTERBANK EXCHANGE RATES, WHICH AREN'T REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RATE WE OFFER

# DOW JONES

CLOSING PRICES OCTOBER 23

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE%	CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	221,320	+0.95%	2,080	132,022,80
AMERICAN EXPRESS	92,090	+0.21%	0,190	81,334,97
APPLE	156,250	+0.17%	0,270	807,066,88
BOEING CO	264,750	+2.20%	5,710	156,462,73
CATERPILLAR	131,360	-0.14%	-0,190	77,588,82
CHEVRON	118,64	+0.37%	0,44	224,879,97
CISCO SYSTEMS	34,250	+1.48%	0,500	171,251,85
COCA-COLA	46,38	-0.45%	-0,21	197,760,83
DOWDUPONT	71,18	+0.41%	0,29	166,064,27
EXXON MOBIL	83,11	+0.45%	0,37	351,976,38
GENERAL ELECTRIC	23,8300	+1.06%	0,2500	206,188,98
GOLDMAN SACHS	244,73	+1.98%	4,74	94,610,31
HOME DEPOT	163,4300	+0.12%	0,1900	192,512,70
IBM	162,07	+0.73%	1,17	151,025,58
INTEL CORP	40,4300	+0.85%	0,3400	189,933,58
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	99,5100	+1.43%	1,4000	344,957,57
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	142,4000	+0.25%	0,3600	382,013,68
MC DONALD'S CORP	166,3000	-0.12%	-0,2000	134,653,84
MERCK AND CO. NEW	63,88	+0.20%	0,13	174,155,21
MICROSOFT	78,810	+1.16%	0,900	606,936,83
NIKE	53,06	+0.70%	0,37	69,066,03
PFIZER	36,4200	+0.50%	0,1800	216,483,51
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	88,250	-3.65%	-3,340	224,947,13
TRAVELERS CIES	133,32	+0.11%	0,15	36,792,02
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	120,93	+1.21%	1,44	96,529,03
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	207,49	+2.09%	4,24	200,449,40
VERIZON COMMS	49,53	+0.65%	0,32	202,012,28
VISA	107,55	+0.50%	0,53	196,693,87
WAL-MART STORES	87,4400	+1.20%	1,0400	261,185,98
WALT DISNEY CO	99,4000	+0.39%	0,3900	153,398,86

M - MILLION DOLLARS

# NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES OCTOBER 23

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
uniQure N.V.	\$ 19.27	4.11 ▲ 27.11%
Xunlei Limited	\$ 6.58	1.33 ▲ 25.33%
Atlassian Corporation Plc	\$ 50.17	9.92 ▲ 24.65%
KalVista Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 11.26	1.99 ▲ 21.47%
Mammoth Energy Services, Inc.	\$ 17.26	2.77 ▲ 19.12%
LEAP THERAPEUTICS, INC.	\$ 5.69	0.70 ▲ 14.03%
Westmoreland Coal Company	\$ 2.26	0.27 ▲ 13.57%
Fluidigm Corporation	\$ 5.03	0.57 ▲ 12.78%
Stratasys, Ltd.	\$ 23.21	2.26 ▲ 10.79%
Collectis S.A.	\$ 30.39	2.60 ▲ 9.36%
Ericsson	\$ 6.45	0.55 ▲ 9.32%
<b>Most Declined</b>		
Celgene Corporation	\$ 121.33	14.63 ▼ 10.76%
Synlogic, Inc.	\$ 15.01	1.46 ▼ 8.86%
Amtech Systems, Inc.	\$ 13.73	1.19 ▼ 7.98%
Synacor, Inc.	\$ 2.40	0.20 ▼ 7.69%
Insteel Industries, Inc.	\$ 27	2.16 ▼ 7.41%
Alpine Immune Sciences, Inc.	\$ 11.03	0.82 ▼ 6.92%
Forward Pharma A/S	\$ 6.12	0.43 ▼ 6.56%
Axon Enterprise, Inc.	\$ 23.01	1.61 ▼ 6.54%
Gentex Corporation	\$ 19.38	1.28 ▼ 6.20%
Flexsteel Industries, Inc.	\$ 47.50	3.01 ▼ 5.96%
BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 4.80	0.30 ▼ 5.88%

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Price Movement

## Accumulating Funds

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 EUR Currency B  
 Multi Asset Conservative B GBP  
 Multi Asset Conservative B EUR  
 Multi Asset Balanced B GBP  
 Multi Asset Balanced B EUR  
 Multi Asset Growth B GBP  
 Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

£0.9811 ..... -£0.0002  
 €0.9553 ..... -€0.0006  
 £1.1618 ..... £0.0019  
 €1.0831 ..... €0.0016  
 £1.3274 ..... £0.0034  
 €1.2255 ..... €0.0029  
 £1.4826 ..... £0.0048  
 €1.3758 ..... €0.0043

Price Movement

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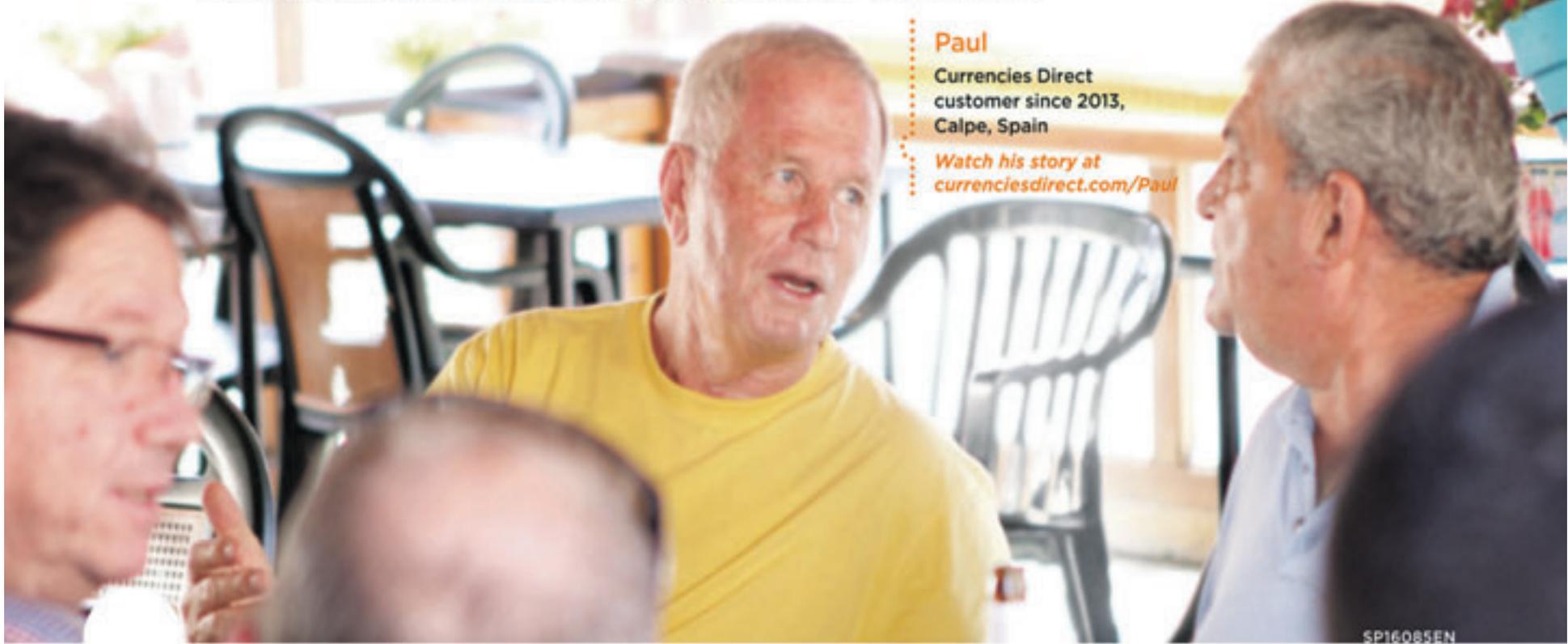
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# Large firms reduce waste

## MANY WILL BEAT THE EU 2030 DEADLINE

A LARGE number of major companies are now committed to significantly reduce the amount of waste they generate and to conserve energy and resources.

As a recent report suggested that 64 per cent of Spanish consumers polled were looking for greater clarity in packaging description and the European Commission is introducing strict targets for reduction in waste, Spanish companies are enthusiastically looking at their procedures. Landfills are a major environmental problem within the EU and although household waste is often not properly sorted for recycling, these companies which include Procter and Gamble (P&G), Nestle and Pascual are taking major steps to reduce their negative affect upon the environment.

One obvious area where those involved in the production of food and drink is to ensure that there is no spillage - which would result in rejection and end up as possible landfill - by improving their production lines and such investment also means in the long run that they will save money by producing more saleable products.

The Grupo Pascual has streamlined its Barcelona milk packaging factory so that it sends nothing to landfill and any waste liquid is recycled. It expects that all of its factories will significantly reduce waste by 2020 and will follow a 3R rule (reduce, reuse and recycle) to achieve this.

Already half of the 10 production units operated by Nestle in Spain are able to boast that they send nothing to landfill and they too are committed to make all of their factories environmentally friendly by 2020.

Unilever was able to declare its entire factory base around the world as free of waste in 2015 and discovered that it was able to make savings



Photo by © Nestlé

### GRAND OPENING: New Nestle factory.

of €200 million, so has now turned its attention to its global office network. More than 50 per cent of P&G factories are already producing zero waste and this group has also set 2020 as its target for all factories worldwide to join in the Spanish success which has already seen the elimination of all landfill.

As these major manufacturers lead the way in ensuring that their production produces as little waste as possible, so it is expected that other smaller businesses and consumers will start to play their part in making the world a less dangerous place.

## THE CATALAN CRISIS AFFECTS THE ENTIRE COUNTRY

# National economy suffers

WHILST a great deal has understandably been made about the political problems facing the Madrid government, managing the financial fall out of article 155 is another thing.

Already the Catalan economy is facing a potentially disastrous downturn with a number of major companies moving their head offices out of the province, but according to Prime Minister Rajoy, at least 1,300 small and medium size businesses have already moved with a further 3,000 considering the possibility.

Fear of potential public disruption with protests, especially in Barcelona appears to have frightened a number of potential foreign visitors off and bookings have already fallen by 30 per cent which will directly affect hotels with the possible knock on effect of lay-offs of staff.

This reduction in the number of visitors has seen a similar loss of income for many retail outlets as well as bars and restaurants in city centres, which to a great extent rely upon tourists spending, with even taxis

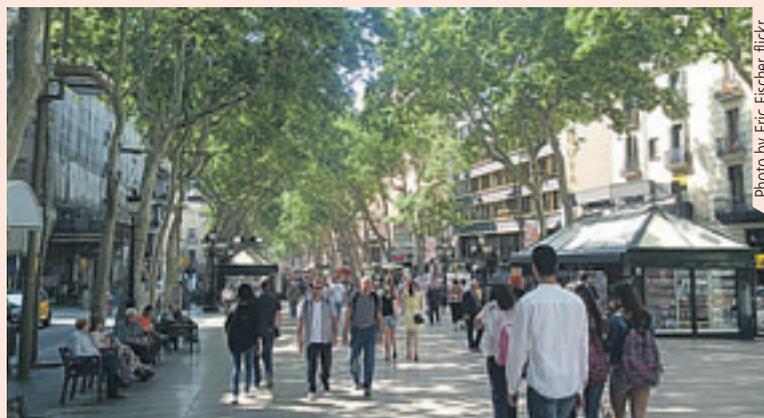


Photo by Eric Fischer flickr

### LA RAMBLAS: Losing tourists.

feeling the pinch.

Investment in the province is most certainly down, with companies considering whether investment or even the granting of loans to Catalan companies is a wise move at this pivotal time and indeed some operations have already indicated that they will put Spain as a whole on hold.

Car sales continue to appear to be buoyant at the moment, but that is because dealers have already placed orders with manufacturers, but the

harsh reality is that the number of advance orders being placed could have fallen by at least 20 per cent.

If Spain wants to hit its GDP forecasts and please the European Union, it needs a vibrant and economically strong Cataluña back in place, otherwise it will face a number of very unpleasant consequences.

Already the government is having to increase rates of interest paid when issuing bonds which means that it is costing considerably more to borrow money on the international market and with the European Central Bank looking likely to cut back on the amount it is spending on buying euro bonds, another interest hike could be on the cards.

Several years of economic growth meant that the international credit ratings companies such as Standard & Poor's and Moody's were considered likely to upgrade Spain's rating but this is now unlikely until what they consider a positive conclusion with Cataluña independence is reached.

## Stock markets still strong

MANY Stock Exchanges around the world have seen significant increases in share value except for Spain, although even there the Catalan problem has not seen huge drops.

The convincing re-election of Japanese leader Shinzo Abe saw the Nikkei index raise to its highest level in 21 years and Wall Street saw record levels last Friday, based on an expectation of tax cuts and the suggestion that Janet Yellen may be reappointed as head of the Federal Reserve.

European markets were fairly static and slightly worried about the Spanish situation and possible problems with other European separatists, but most analysts consider this to be unlikely and say the Catalan crisis will be contained within Spain.

## More jitters over Cataluña

THE Starwood Capital Finances Europe which has recently loaned €46 million for the building of a new hotel in Barcelona has expressed concern at the situation in Cataluña.

With a further €61 million advanced to two other developments in other parts of Spain, it has announced that it will divert investment to other parts of the EU until the current crisis is resolved.

It isn't just Spain which is being watched closely by the company which is also nervous over Brexit and the results of the German election but with €53 billion in funds being managed, the group intends to ensure that customer's funds are safeguarded as much as possible.

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# British banks split in two

AS British banks with assets in excess of £25 billion (€28 billion) split their businesses in two in order to protect retail customer's deposits, Santander takes a different stance.

Large retail banks around the world accept customer deposits and manage commercial accounts, whilst at the same time speculating in the international market.

The British government has given high street banks until 2019 to split their operations so that each stands alone with their own staff and accounts in order to try to ensure that the debacle of 2008

is never repeated.

With Brexit around the corner, there is the risk that some banks may consider taking the opportunity to relocate their speculative and high value customer business outside of the UK, although so far both Barclays and HSBC seem likely to keep the bulk of business within the UK.

Spanish bank Santander however is taking a different stance and has announced that its higher risk activities - thought to be worth £40 billion (€45 billion) - will be transferred to Banco Santander, the Spanish parent of the group.

# Largest trade partner

A RECENT visit by King Felipe VI to Saudi Arabia underlined the importance of trade links which in 2016 were worth €5.5 billion to Spain.

Whilst his visit was primarily aimed at ensuring that the Kingdom purchased five Avante warships, trade talks have continued and the recently appointed Spanish Ambassador Alvaro Iranzo Gutierrez made it clear that his government was not only happy to be involved with ongoing trade but supported Saudi Vision 2030.

"We fully support the Vision 2030. Our companies are ready to contribute and help it develop in all areas, such as the development of renewable energies and state-of-the-art infrastructure. Spain hopes to contribute to unleash the potential of Saudi youth using professional

training centres across the country," he told the *Riyadh Daily* newspaper.

There are currently 120 Spanish companies who have combined with Saudi partners to set up offices in Saudi Arabia and the rail link between Mecca and Medina, whilst having some problems has been hailed as a successful innovation managed by a consortium of Spanish companies.

Other large infrastructure projects related to water, electricity and renewable energies are also under way, while Spanish brands such as Zara with 34 stores and discount store Lefties are well represented in the Kingdom's shopping centres.

One potential new market for SEAT and other Spanish produced vehicles will be Saudi women, now that they are officially allowed to drive.

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# Moving on up!

## House prices in Spain increase by 16 per cent

THE price of houses in Spain has increased 16 per cent since the end of 2014, according to a report by the Bank of Spain.

This is a significant improvement following the 37 per cent drop the market experienced after the 2007 financial crisis.

Investment in Spanish property has also grown about 1.5 per cent each year between 2014 and 2017, which has been put down to higher employment rates and rising disposable incomes.

According to the same report, there has also been a gradual increase in sales of Spanish property during this time period, with deals by international investors up a whopping 17 per cent. This also means the number of homes still left on the market is starting to go down.

The Bank of Spain also revealed that there is a clear upward trend in mortgage stability. Given that the International Monetary Fund estimated that Spain's GDP growth will surpass 2.5 per cent by the end of 2017, making it the fastest growing economy in Europe, it would seem the country's recent financial stability is increasing investor confidence.

BBVA, Spain's second biggest bank, estimated that half a million properties would be sold in 2017, and figures at the six-month mark suggested that target would easily be met.

There are still several regions in Spain that stand-out in the recent property boom; however, including the Costa del Sol, Mallorca and the Costa Blanca. In fact, there has been a 43 per cent increase in real estate agencies in Malaga Province since 2013 as a



result of the surge in demand.

Nearly 30,000 property sales were recorded in the region from June 2016 to June 2017, marking an increase of almost 10 per cent from the previous 12-month period, according to data from the Registrar's Association.

The good news does not stop there as the country's prime property hotspots are

expected to continue to increase in value this year, according to a report by global real estate consultants Knight Frank.

Mark Harvey, head of European Sales at Knight Frank revealed that enquiries for Spanish homes are up 150 per cent year-on-year. He credited the strengthening euro as one of the reasons why international investors were keen to invest their money in the Spain market.

The study also revealed which nationalities monopolised the key property hotspots. Madrid's main investors were from Venezuela, Mexico and Switzerland while Barcelona was popular among those from France, Turkey and the US.

In Marbella, the main foreign investors tended to be from Germany, Morocco, Russia and Scandinavia while in Mallorca the market belonged to the Brits, the Belgian and the Dutch.

The predicted increase in prices also looks promising to those looking to make an investment on a Spanish home, as a property in an 'in-demand' location is likely to bring high returns.

**BOOMING:** The Spanish property market is the strongest it's been in recent years.

# Building soars in Spain

THE resurgence of Spain's real estate sector is most pronounced on the sunny Costa Blanca. Alicante Province is set to close 2017 with the largest investment in real estate projects seen in the past nine years.

Much of the new homes and developments being built are in the capital city itself, which is fast emerging as one of Spain's most exciting urban areas.

In the first nine months of the year a total of 720 homes have been built in the city. The vast majority are holiday and second homes for Spanish nationals from other regions of the country.

But naturally the surrounding Costas are proving more popular. In Orihuela alone 787 new homes have been built since January. The total investment is €48 million, compared to €45 million for the slightly more expensive homes in Alicante City.

Across the entire province a total of 5,350 homes are expected to be built this year, up from 4,800 in 2016. That reflects a 2017 investment of €400 million in new brick



**ORIHUELA COSTA:**  
Building boom.

alone.

Contrast that with 2012, when only 1,329 homes were built, the lowest ever recorded in the

province. There is still a long way to go, however, to reach the heights of the early 2000s, when more than 40,000 homes were being built per

year.

The situation in Alicante is being reflected across Spain. Between January and July this year, 33,085

homes were built, an increase of 39 per cent on last year. In 2007 Spain reached a peak of 641,419 homes built in a year.

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**LERIDA: Profitable for landlords.**

## Reaping the rewards

LANDLORDS enjoy the greatest return on their leased properties in Lerida, Algeciras, and Tarrasa. In those municipalities they reap an average of between 7 and 8 per cent return on an annual basis.

Across Spain the average return is in the range of 4 to 6 per cent according to analysis from the Spanish department of Urban Data Analytics. The international firm used big data analysis to investigate property trends in Spanish municipalities with populations

exceeding 100,000.

Multiple factors are considered. For instance, although Algeciras offers one of the best returns in Spain, the market there for landlords is still fairly risky. It takes an average of more than two months to find tenants, during which time thousands in rent is being lost.

By contrast, in Madrid and Barcelona, returns are lower in percentage terms but prices are far higher anyway and it takes less than two weeks on aver-

age to find a suitable tenant.

Then there are places like Marbella and Alcobendas where returns are slightly lower than average because, although rents are high, so is the initial investment required to purchase a property.

Overall the report found that the best places for landlords, in terms of overall profitability, were Las Palmas in Gran Canaria, Hospitalet, Tarrasa, and Reus.

The last three are all close to Barcelona.



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**PROPERTY OF THE WEEK**

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# Real estate's digital makeover

SPAIN'S real estate industry is set to get a digital makeover thanks to Neinor Homes.

The developer, created by an American investment fund, has launched Neinor Next.

The project will offer support to an emerging sector within the property business, known as 'proptech.'

At present the proptech field is occupied by start-up companies with bright ideas on revolutionising the sector from a digital perspective, but without the initial capital needed to make their ideas a reality.

Neinor Next is set to

## PROPTech: On the march.

change that. At a convention held last week in Barcelona, Neinor positioned itself as the link between the real estate and technology sectors.

These start-ups use blockchain technology, which dramatically improves market analysis, and artificial intelligence, to offer buyers and sellers the best chance at making a profit.

Gone are the days of guesswork and economic

reports. Complex computer programs will evaluate every possible feature of a property's vulnerability, or strength, in the marketplace and make recommendations beyond the scope of human intelli-

gence.

Other features, such as virtual reality, will also offer future buyers the chance to know even more about a potential property without even setting foot in it.



## Owner dilemma: Rent or sell?

PROPERTY players in Spain who own an unoccupied building have a fairly tough choice today between selling it or renting it out.

Both options have some excellent pros thanks to the wider health of Spanish real estate.

The price of second-hand housing rose last month by 4.8 per cent. Compared to September of last year it is the largest year-on-year increase since May 2007, just before the bubble burst.

On the other hand, in September the prices of rents clocked a 9.7 per cent year-on-year increase.

It also marked two years of consecutive monthly increases in rent, according to Foto-casa.

That leaves owners with a tough choice: take advantage of high prices to make a sale, or earn money from the rental game and look to sell further down the line.

House prices and rental prices are expected to continue rising steadily until at least 2020. Going into the new decade both are expected to plateau, allowing the rest of the market to catch up.

The trend at the moment is to rent. But the personal situation of owners is perhaps the decisive factors, since the market favours both options.

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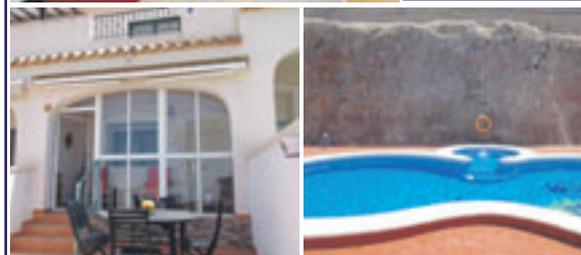
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**Mojácar Playa**



Attractive south facing 3 bed, 2 bath, townhouse of 86m2 with sea views. A/C. Private garden terrace with sea views. Upper rear terrace. Community pool.

**LV741 155,000€**

**Cuevas del Almanzora**



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

**LV731 59,950€**

**Turre**



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**A1316 125,000€**

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**DV1444 174,950€**

**Huerca Overa**



Beautiful 4 bed, 4 bath, country residence of 344m2 on a level plot of 20,000m2 with exceptional views to the sea. C/H, A/C, garage & pool. Highly recommended.

**DV1442 399,950€**

**Mojácar Playa**



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A LOT of expatriates, while on the hunt for property abroad, specifically hunt for a place in an urbanisation.

These often bring many advantages - such as an enriched sense of community, lack of DIY upkeep and shared amenities such as a swimming pool or sports facilities. However, community comes at a cost and it can often cause a financial headache if the property sellers are upfront about all the charges beforehand.

One thing worth taking into consideration is if the urbanisation allows short-term or holiday rentals. Tourists are often much noisier than permanent residents and a daily turnover of guests could be quite disruptive during the summer months. They are also likely to be less respectful of common areas and shared facilities as they are only staying there for a few days, which could get aggravating.

It is wise to check out how well communicated the urbanisation is to the other parts of the coast. Even if you have a car, road travel can be time consuming and expensive as coastal roads can get congested easily and it can be difficult to park in the summer months. Finding somewhere which has good bus connections and supermarkets within walking distance could make all the difference.

Another problem which can cause tension in these gated communities is

# Community spirit!

## Kat Ashton explores the pros and cons of urbanisation life



**GOOD NEIGHBOURS:** Living on an urbanisation is a great way to meet other expats.

making sure that everyone pays the upkeep costs. If many home-owners dodge paying these charges, the extra costs have to be covered by everyone else which can get expensive. If a development has many properties on the market, this also is a sign that you

could end up paying more in these fees than you first thought.

You should find out whether the community tends to carry out any major renovation work before you buy as this could also hike up the costs in the near future. Check whether you are li-

able for paying for these improvements and also find out if the previous owners owe any service charges, as the owners of the urbanisation might transfer those costs to you if they are not paid before they leave.

Finally, before you buy any proper-

ty abroad always make sure you hire a good, English-speaking lawyer to check out all the contracts and investigate any loopholes before you sign anything. This way you should be able to sleep sound at night knowing all the costs you have to pay upfront.

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**VH950 €184,950 CEE E49 45**



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
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- Los Carasoles / Zurgena area

**VH1047 €154,950 CEE F59 73**



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# THE GARNERS - SUN SEA



Ref: B1145 Mojacar 319,000€



Ref: A859 Oria 239,950€



- Featured
- ✓ Coastal property
- ✓ 2 floors
- ✓ Communal fees: €69.14 per month
- ✓ Refuse fees: €143.80 per annum
- ✓ Furniture Negotiable
- ✓ 3 bedrooms
- ✓ 2 bathrooms
- ✓ Plot Size 339 m<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Build Size 227 m<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Mains Water
- ✓ Mains Electric
- ✓ Roof Solarium
- ✓ Private Terrace
- ✓ Garage
- ✓ 5 minutes drive to the beach
- ✓ 5 minutes drive to the shops

- Exclusive to SPC
- ✓ Country property
- ✓ 2 floors
- ✓ Refuse fees: €143.80 per annum
- ✓ Furniture Negotiable
- ✓ 6 bedrooms
- ✓ 6 bathrooms
- ✓ Plot Size 8,600 m<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Build Size 381 m<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ Mains Electric
- ✓ Telephone Possible
- ✓ Internet Possible
- ✓ Private Pool
- ✓ Private Terrace
- ✓ Private parking
- ✓ 50 minutes drive to the beach
- ✓ 10 minutes drive to the shops

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## THE GARNERS

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Ref: B1009 Sierra Cabrera 475,000€



- Premium property
- Coastal property
- 2 floors
- IBI property tax: €955.94 per annum
- Furniture Negotiable
- 4 bedrooms
- 3 bathrooms
- Plot Size 3,897 m<sup>2</sup>
- Build Size 300 m<sup>2</sup>
- Water
- Mains Electric
- Telephone
- Internet
- Air Conditioning
- Private Pool
- Roof Solarium
- Private Terrace
- Garage
- Central Heating
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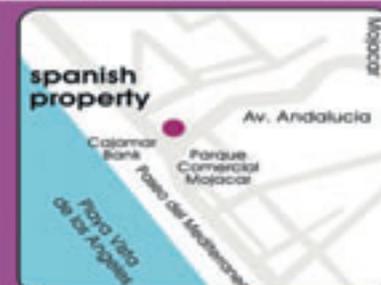


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## Sending money back to the UK? Let's stretch those euros.

If your time in Spain is coming to an end and you need to transfer your savings back to the UK, or if you need to send money home to meet ongoing expenses, you'll want to make the most of every cent.



### Take control of your currency transfers

As an expat, you've no doubt had to deal with currency transfers in the past – but you might not have had access to the most suitable services. Getting more for your money when moving it abroad (or sending it home) is simple with the right support and the best tools.

Leading currency transfer providers like Currencies Direct have spent decades working with expats and know exactly which services are most suited to their needs. If you're moving money back from Spain, what transfer options should you be aware of?

### Spot Transfer

Making an immediate overseas payment at the going market rate is known as a spot transfer. It can be beneficial if the market is currently in your favour and you have the money ready to send.

### Forward Contract

If the markets are in a favourable position, but you haven't sold your Spanish property yet or aren't quite

ready to send money back to the UK, you can use a forward contract to 'freeze' the EUR/GBP exchange rate for up to a year. You can then transfer your funds at the rate you've fixed when you want to, allowing you to budget effectively and protecting you from negative shifts in the currency market.

### Market Orders

Market orders allow you to target a specific exchange rate, or protect yourself from losing out should the market worsen while you hold out for a better rate.

A **limit order** targets an exchange rate higher than the current market rate, automatically transferring your funds when it's hit.

A **stop-loss order** allows you to set a minimum exchange rate at which you would be happy to send your funds, automatically transferring the money should the market weaken to that level. You can even combine both order types to create a target range in which you're happy to trade. The orders are set up to automatically cancel each other out once one is triggered.

### What else do you need to know?

As the last couple of years have shown, exchange rates are really volatile things. Even when there aren't major events like the German election and Catalanian referendum to contend with, euro exchange rates can move by as much as 5% in a matter of weeks.

Mistiming your currency transfer and choosing to move your money home from Spain when the euro is weaker could have a significant impact on how many pounds you receive – so it's important to stay on top of the latest market movements.

Subscribing to receive regular market updates from your currency broker is one of the easiest ways to keep track of what exchange rates are up to. With Currencies Direct you can even set up a Rate Alert and get an instant email or text when your target rate is achieved.

Maximise your money when moving it home from Spain by looking into your currency transfer options today.

**Let's talk currency.**

*At Currencies Direct, we've helped over 210,000 customers save on their currency transfers since 1996. Just pop into your local Currencies Direct branch or give us a call to find out more about how you can save money on your currency transfers.*

### Get in touch

#### Mojácar

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Mojácar  
Almería, 04638  
+34 950 478 914  
mojacar@currenciesdirect.com

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Murcia, 30875  
+34 968 976 383  
murcia@currenciesdirect.com

[currenciesdirect.com](http://currenciesdirect.com)

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### VILLA -750€ FOR RENT



#### VILLA IN PUEBLO SALINAS -VERA

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Brand new with garden and private pool  
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### CHALET -141.500€



#### CHALET IN VALLE DEL ESTE -VERA

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Comfortable floor plan  
Private parking and community pool

### DUPLEX -119.000€



#### DUPLEX IN VALLE DEL ESTE -VERA

Valle del Este corner apartment. Superbly equipped and furnished  
106 m2 built size + 34m2 roof terrace  
Impressive views  
Everything stays-Ready to live in

### APARTMENT - 65.000€



#### TOURISTIC APARTMENT - EL CALON

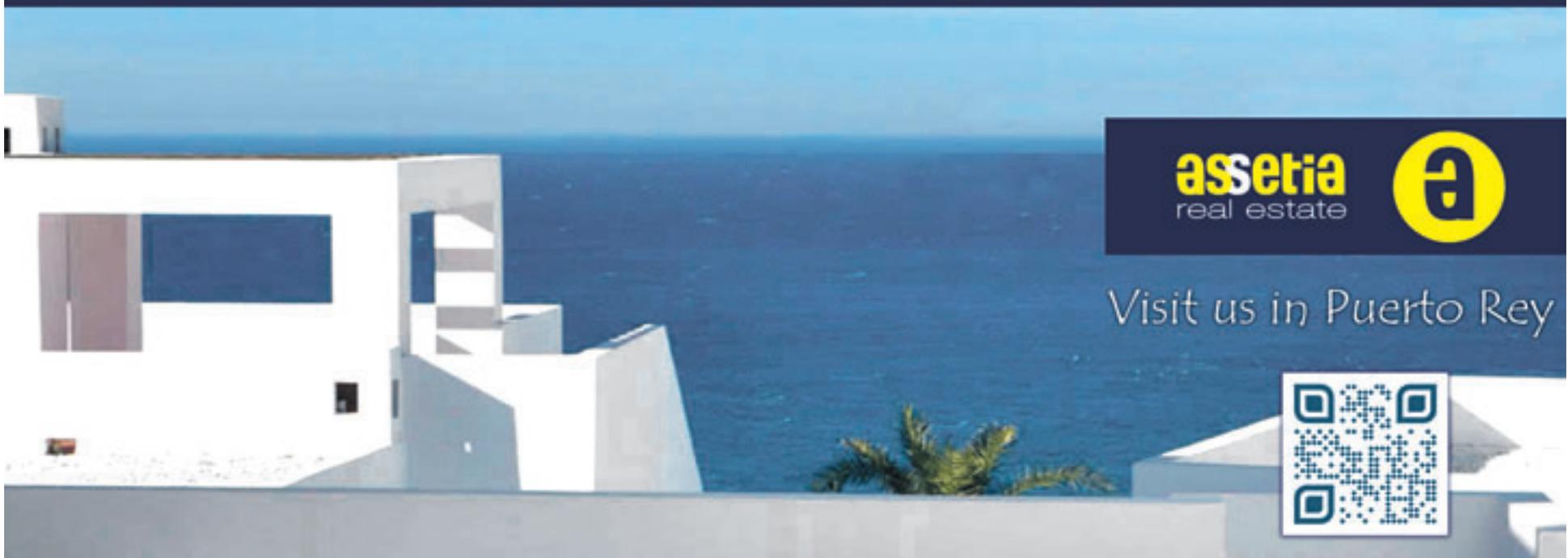
El Calón Touristic apartment in frontline beach complex 65.000€!  
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Guaranteed income

### TOWNHOUSE -155.000€



#### TOWNHOUSE IN MOJACAR PLAYA

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# A slice of paradise!

## How to give your garden the 'wow factor'

THERE are many easy ways to make the most of your garden's potential and turn it into the haven you've always wanted.

The secret of creating a stunning, open space is to add a few stand-out features, but oth-

erwise keep everything in moderation (so don't overdo it on the twinkly lights or beds of geraniums!). From oriental-themed flower pots to elegant plant structures, here are some things you can do to help your garden stand out from the rest:



**LIQUID ASSET:** A water feature can add drama.



**HUSH-HUSH:** Create your own secret garden.

### Add a water feature

If not done properly, a water feature can look garish or out of place. However, if you incorporate it well into the layout of your garden it can add a touch of class. Using rocks or pebbles is an easy way of helping it to blend in, so all you can see is the serene trickle of running water among your plants. If hidden well, you shouldn't be able to see the plastic parts of the feature at all.

### Use multiple floor materials

There are many different materials you can use to create paths and define space. Vintage tiles or locally sourced rock make great additions to any garden. To make your garden really stand out, try combining these features to create unusual but sleek lines and add extra texture.

Keep to a colour pattern to avoid any clashes, and you could even experiment with widening the path and lining small plants down the middle.



**FLOORING IT:** Use a mixture of different materials.

### Create a 'secret garden'

Regardless of how much space you've been blessed with, it's actually much easier to create your own 'secret garden' than you think. Just choose the most secluded corner of your garden and mark out the boundaries by planting shrubs and vines. Fragrant plants or even a mini-herb garden will help to make the area extra special. The space doesn't have to be entirely enclosed, but add some comfy outdoor furniture and you won't want to leave your new den.

### Keep to a colour scheme

While this is more of a general rule of thumb - don't deprive yourself of your favourite plant because it clashes with the monotone theme you're trying out - keeping everything to one colour palette can really help to make your garden look modern and stylish. Bright colours, such as hot pinks, reds and oranges, work well in sunny gardens, while subtle shades complement those in cooler climates.



**IN THE PINK:** Choose colours for a striking effect.

### Invest in a few stand-out accessories

Forget the gnomes, these days garden centres are packed with stunning items you can add to your garden to make it a true work of art. Giant stone pots add a touch of drama, while bamboo climbing plant structures help to decorate bare walls. Show off your interior decorating prowess outdoors by buying a few stylish cushions and throws for your outdoor furniture.



**ACCESSORISE:** Use cushions and flowerpots.



# almeria homes

Here is a selection of properties sold and newly listed by Almeria Homes

<p><b>Albox</b></p> <p><b>UNDER OFFER</b></p> <p>€149,950 Villa Mirto</p>	<p><b>Cucador</b></p> <p><b>UNDER OFFER</b></p> <p>€85,000 Cortijo Selva</p>	<p><b>La Alfoquia</b></p> <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>€135,000 Villa Lisboa</p>	<p><b>Piedra Amarilla, Partalao</b></p> <p><b>SOLD THE SAME DAY</b></p> <p>€149,950 Villa Piedra</p>	<p><b>Albox</b></p> <p><b>UNDER OFFER</b></p> <p>€270,000 Villa Palazzo</p>
<p><b>Cucador, Zurgena</b></p> <p><b>UNDER OFFER</b></p> <p>€174,950 Villa Santorini</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 10px;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">WE NEED PROPERTIES FOR SALE</h2> </div>			<p><b>Oria</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€225,000 Cortijo Bella</p>
<p><b>La Alfoquia</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€139,950 Villa Daniela</p>				<p><b>Albox</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€145,000 Cortijo Torres</p>
<p><b>Zurgena</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€184,950 Villa Diciembre</p>	<p><b>Partalao</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€189,950 Villa Mykonos</p>	<p><b>Arboleas</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€199,950 Villa Zenia</p>	<p><b>Arboleas</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€229,950 Villa Platinum</p>	<p><b>Almanzora</b></p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>€138,000 Cortijo Almendro</p>

One of these properties could have been yours! Sell with Almeria Homes today!

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# 6 things to remember now you've moved to Spain

AFTER making the move across the Mediterranean, there are many people who may feel lost and unaware of what to do next. Now that the move is done, the boxes might not yet be unpacked but here is our list of things to do to make sure the move continues to go as smoothly as possible.



## Paperwork needs sorted out.

### 1. Sort your residency

One of the biggest issues in Spain once you have bought your property and decided to make the move is the paperwork.

Those who live in Spain need a Foreigners' Identity Number (NIE) and a residencia.

If you are intending to work in the country you will also need a Seguridad Social (SS) but that can only be obtained once you have your NIE or residencia.

### 3. Correct driving licence

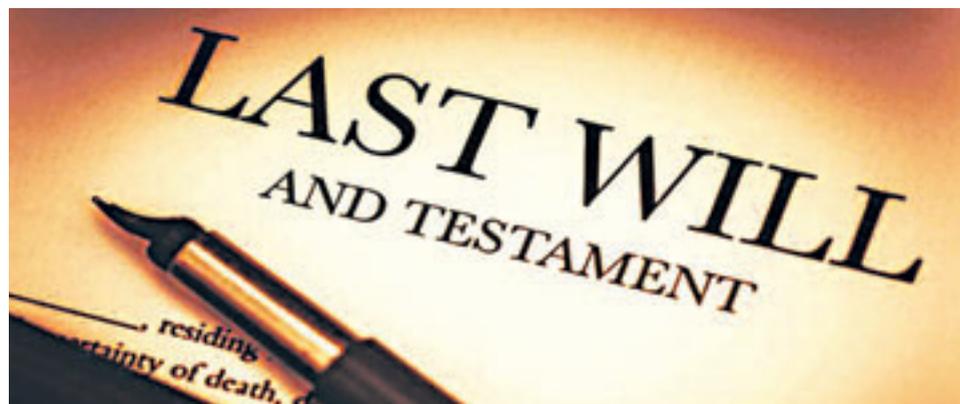
There are a lot of rules about having a European driving licence once becoming a resident in Spain. After gaining residency, you have two years to change your driving licence over to a Spanish licence when living in Spain and when driving a foreign-registered vehicle, you will need to have it re-registered in Spain within a month.

### 4. Health Care

Once you are registered on the padron, you are then eligible to apply for a SIP card, or the Spanish health card, if you are entitled to state health care. If not, you will have to ensure that you have private health insurance or buy into a state health insurance scheme.



Health insurance needs taken care of.



Laws are different in Spain to the UK.

### 2. Organise your utilities.

Bills should have been changed over once the property has been bought but can be one of the most frustrating things to sort when first moving so it is better to get them all sorted sooner rather than later.

Bear in mind that the utilities may have seasonal variations so due to these potential variations, it may be best to make sure to note how much is being charged for each utility and have a sum of money needed in the bank to cover the costs at the end of the month.



Get the bills put into your name.

### 5. Make a will

When moving to live in Spain, it is important to make a Spanish will if you want to ensure that your wishes are fulfilled when you die, as Spanish succession laws are different from those in Britain and Ireland.

With regular income you may get an account with reduced charges.

### 6. Banking

When setting up a new bank account in Spain, make sure it represents the specific residency status. When setting up a bank account as a resident and if you also have regular income going into the account then you may be eligible for an account with reduced charges.

## House prices slashed

RURAL co-operative group Cajamar have announced that they are putting 340 properties on the market in Malaga, with discounts of up to 40 per cent.

The commercial offer comes as part of a scheme, called 'Now or Never,' that sees prices on a range of properties such as apartments, offices, and chalets, dropped in Malaga until December 31.

At national level, Cajamar has put more than 4,000 properties on the market, including more than 400 commercial premises and industrial buildings.

Most of the commercial campaign is centred in Andalucia, with more than 1,800 properties, and Comunidad Valenciana with more than 1,600, followed by the region of Murcia with 680, and Catalonia with 120.

The Andalucian offer is based around the province of Almeria, with more than 1,200 properties, followed by Malaga with 340 and Granada with 220.

## No Brexistential crisis

BREXIT will not affect British real estate investment in Marbella, according to Senior Financial and Economic Officer at the British Embassy in Madrid, Paul Clark.

There have been worries since the Brexit vote that the link between the Costa del Sol and the UK may be at risk.

However, Clark moved to distance those fears and remained optimistic that a positive outcome can still be achieved.

Speaking at the 13th ICA Malaga Legal and Judiciary Conference at the Palacio de Congresos in Marbella, Clark said: "The conditions here are optimum for investment.

"The latest official statistics this year show that property sales have risen again. There is currently a great deal of optimism about the future."



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Los Garcias

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**SOLD**

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Los Carrascos

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**SOLD**

3 bed 2 bath villa  
La Judea

199,999€ | cla 7047



4 bed 3 bath villa  
Los Golondrinos

198,000€ | cla 7054



4 bed 2 bath villa Los  
Higuerales

165,000€ | cla 6978



**SOLD**

3 bed 2 bath villa  
Los Cerricos

133,000€ | cla 6805



**SOLD**

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# An observation on society's poison

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT

OTHERS THINK IT



WHY is it that people who speak out against minorities are vilified and attacked by all and sundry, but minorities seem to be at liberty to declare their own views with impunity and no interference from the authorities whatsoever?

The recent sacking of Magistrate Richard Page is a case in point. This Christian judge stated publicly that he believed children were better off with both male and female parents than those of the same sex.

To cut a long story short, because of the ensuing outcry and protests from gay and lesbian groups, the ultimate outcome of this statement of belief resulted in him getting the sack. You can rest assured, if this had been someone in his position who had stated that they believed children were better off with same sex parents, they would have been hailed as heroes of free speech and most probably promoted.

Why is there a war against majority factions in the world today? Why are people in prominent positions and leading media organisations bending over backwards to appease and grovel to minorities, while treating those who make up the majorities of the human race as some kind of pari-



Photo by You Tube

**RICHARD PAGE: Sacked over beliefs.**

ahs who should be not only ashamed of their positions but penalised for actually believing what the bulk of the human race agrees with?

While we're on this tack, why should success be frowned on and wealth accrued by legitimate

hard work be considered unfair to those who haven't managed, for one reason or another, to attain higher levels of life satisfaction achieved by others? Well I'll tell you, in my opinion there are two main reasons for all this inequality bleating

and bitter furore that is poisoning our societies today. Insecurity, and envy.

Insecurity in their own beliefs, and envy for what others possess, be it normality, success, or merely a comfortable existence. The greatest weapon disgruntled minority whingers can lay their hands on, is the power to cause as much disruption to those of us who are happy or satisfied with our lot as they possibly can. If we continue to appease those who are inclined to blame everyone else for their problems, we will create so much unrest that today's minorities will become the majorities of tomorrow, which is of course the main intention of most of them anyway.

Just as a final observation and knowing full well that one should never wish another human being any harm, did it not give a certain sense of warm serves 'em rightness to read the final days of Abu Sa'eed were apparently spent in the torture chambers of the very people he went to fight with? Bet he wished a thousand times he had stayed in the country that nurtured him! Let's hope more of these traitors also suffered the same miserable end.

Thanks for all those letters of support. Fair warned the 'cockles.' Nice to know you're there.

*Keep the faith. Love Leapy.*

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

[leapylee2002@gmail.com](mailto:leapylee2002@gmail.com)

*Leapy Lee's opinions are his own and are not necessarily representative of those of the publishers, advertisers or sponsors.*

**Advertising feature**

STEPHEN LEWIS, the Managing Director of LPL, created the idea of an effective and successful collection company back in 1979, having started his business career in the Food Industry working in both wholesale and retail distribution for the European wide SPAR organisation.

It was during his time in the Food industry, working as a Food Technology graduate in Odense, Denmark, that Stephen gained an appreciation of payment habits of buyers and sellers both in manufacturing and retail distribution in the UK, Europe and worldwide.

Having formed LPL with a dedicated team, some still with him over the many years of successful trading, LPL progressed to serve business and commerce in general throughout the UK and overseas.

During subsequent years Stephen joined the Board of the governing body for debt collection in the UK, The Credit Services Association, becoming their youngest president, serving from 1999 to 2002. Thereafter, Stephen became Head of Training for a further 10 years, teaching specialist debt collection courses to students at Manchester Business School, Warwick University and

## The man behind LPL Commercial Services



**INDEBTED: To Stephen Lewis.**

The Open University in particular.

Having been a Member of The Chartered Institute of Credit Management since 1984, Stephen was honoured with a Fellowship in 1999 and continues to be a contributor to the CM Magazine - as well as other publications - and has appeared on numerous BBC and other broadcast networks' programmes when an expert credit opinion is required.

Some years ago, due to a personal involvement in the Spanish property market Stephen realised that help was needed by communities to recover management fees owed by non-Spanish residents. The story has unfolded to over 10 years of successful collection for hundreds of communities that use LPL to collect these overdue fees.

Stephen continues to play an active role in all departments within LPL but

takes particular interest in the Spanish department so that his wealth of collection knowledge can translate to successful collections for LPL clients.

**“ Helping LPL's Spanish clients to effect successful collections. ”**

*For more information, visit [www.lplgroup.com](http://www.lplgroup.com) or speak with the head of Spanish operations, Greg Bryan, who is based in Spain and can be contacted on 689 408 412.*

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# The enchanted village still lives!



**Ric Polansky**

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

AS if someone waived a magic wand parking spaces have opened up, traffic has diminished drastically and you can once again walk into favourite watering holes and restaurants without booking in advance. And, as if to put the jewel in the crown, we beach folk can once again visit our enchanted village.

My Saturday outing was organised by Mojacar's first foreign lady, French Dominique whose town presence was well already established even before I arrived in '69. An invite is usually shouted across the street or plaza, "come along we're all going for tapas and drinks at Rincon de Embrujo, meet us there."

Everyone within shouting distance is alerted. It becomes a village party. What was initiated as



**TIME TO PAY: Who ate more, drank quicker and shouldn't be punished if they didn't want dessert?**

an outing of a few friends turns into a circus parade of local villagers. Within moments of seating we are a boisterous bump-tious riot of people not caring what anyone else thinks of our noise, profanity or well-being. Some tables scoot away. Others

stand and leave making a purposeful journey to the open nearby church.

We dine next to the pristine marble statue of the Mojacar lady. As the party heats up our noise increases with the rattle of new bottles arriving. Passers-by

stop, linger a bit and trundle off to other places. One Manchester Dave saunters up taking off his cowboy hat and asks if he owes anyone an apology for his last night's antics - before he sits. I like him. He is the living ghost of so many from 50 years ago.

The decibels at our table increase proportionately as the wine is diminished.

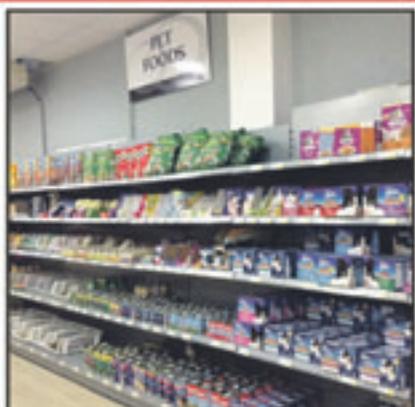
Eating frenzies soon get filled. We are not en situ for more than a hour when we are all worn out from shouting, smiling and talking trash to each other. Not a drop more drink fits. It is time to close down and go for a siesta. I asked for the la cuenta.

The table grows quiet. For what we have drunk and wolfed back it is a pittance but bitching immediately ensues claiming others ate more, drank quicker and shouldn't be punished if they didn't want dessert.

The bon vie is gone. Snarls abound. Some shovel my way a few Euros. No paper money is produced. I repeat again but am responded with the same growling and snippets of displeasure. Parties are OK, paying for them is not. In the end the physical largest paid more than the smallest. Wouldn't Darwin like to know about that?

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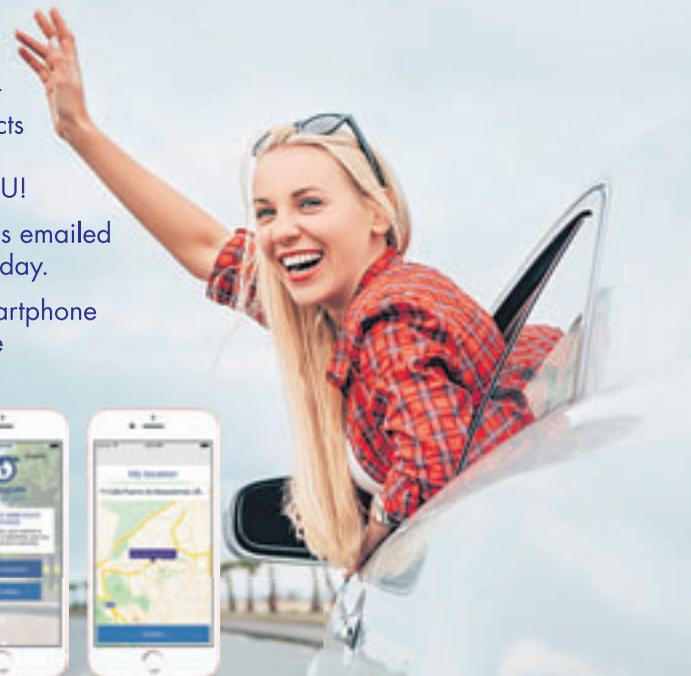
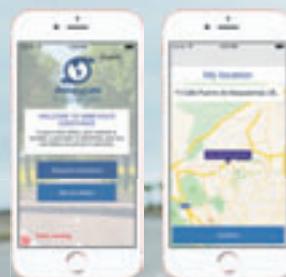
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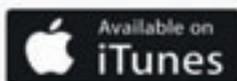
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TECH FOR  
THE TIMIDThat's  
inkredible

PRINTERS come in two main flavours: laser and inkjet.

Lasers are the workhorses of the printing world: generally monochrome, more expensive to buy than inkjets but cheaper to run if you're a serial printer.

Inkjets are cheap as chips - until you start buying the replacement ink cartridges. And they print ever so pretty in colour, at a price.

That's a pain you can ease slightly by buying generic cartridges online or from your local shop, and despite the manufacturers' quality warnings, I've never yet encountered one which printed any worse than the branded one, or which 'ruined' a printer.

(And don't even think of refilling your cartridges by hand, as some of us used to do. Accompanied by frequent embarrassment when visitors would remark on the profusion of used syringes lying around the home...)

Now is the printer  
of our discontent

TERENCE KENNEDY shares his love-hate relationship with the most treacherous of computer devices, the printer.

EVER wondered why your printer won't let you produce a black and white document because it's 'out of magenta ink'?

Is it a good idea to let your printer know you're in a hurry, because it can smell the fear?

And if we had a 3D printer, could we then print out our own 3D printers?

You'd think after more than three decades, Messrs Hewlett-Packard, Epson, Canon, Brother and co. could finally get it right - but 'printer rage' is now so common that an idle search on Google produces more than three million hits.

Paper jams, empty cartridges, upright A4 printed in landscape, worthy but misguided attempts to save the forests by printing double-sided: these are all facets of our troubled interactions with technology.

The irony is that not too long ago, pundits like me were confidently predicting the paperless society, yet today in the developed world we each consume an astonishing 200 kilos of paper a year. And in 15 years the planet's paper consumption has actually grown 77 per cent.

As for the printers themselves, at the current rate they'll soon be given away free with the cornflakes.

That's because they use the Gillette business model, so-called from the days when that company sold the razor for next to nothing, but made its fortune on the blades we then had to buy for it (one of the reasons I stopped shaving; call it a matter of principle - but more probably sheer laziness).

I recall staying up all night years ago trying to persuade my clunky bubblejet to print a British pound symbol. Or wrestling with it for hours



## PRINTERS: What happened to the paperless society?

to produce an envelope despite my exasperated partner's entreaties to 'Just write the \*\*\*\* thing by hand!'

Now printers 'simply work', or they should, at a (hidden) price.

Despite printers being cheap and cheerful these days, ink in branded cartridges has become one of the most expensive liquids in the world: €1,500 a litre by my quick calculation.

You'd think as a result that we'd be more selective about what, and how much we print. Yet I had an older colleague who insisted on

printing all his e-mails.

Until he saw reason, he was using an entire ream of paper (that's 500 sheets to the stationery-challenged among us) every few days.

So next time you're wondering whether to print, you could do worse than abide by the automatic signature I've had at the end of all my e-mails for years:

'Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail. No trees were harmed in sending this message, but quite a few electrons were slightly inconvenienced.'

Serving the right ingredients  
for a successful restaurant

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)



## NO-NO: Menus with photos.

reservation of the M25, or the salmon hand-smoked in a skip in Stornoway.

And are restaurant staff instructed to wait until they see you fill your mouth with some especially trying, invariably leafy, mouthful before they ask the 'How's everything?' question, making an intelligible answer impossible? Some restaurants are worse than others, waiters hovering around watching, one after another coming to ask.

Well, here's my TripAdvisor five-star advice for hipster waiters: shut up asking how's everything every five minutes... please.

But the thing I detest most is pictures of food outside restaurants. Holidaying in Greece way back, the custom was so widespread that I took a stand: never to enter restaurants where photos of spaghetti bolognese, bangers and mash or whatever else was displayed outside. If you don't know what spag-bol looks like, you've only yourself to blame for what you end up with!

Another rule is to avoid (like the plague) restaurants where waiters are desperately trying to lure you in. They're nowhere to be seen when your order arrives - that lacks any resemblance to the photo of spag-bol. For me, it's Nora's Law and it's never let me down.

Finally, heard about the new restaurant on the moon? Fabulous food but no atmosphere...

*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 go to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity.*

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

## THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Graham Braben, Albox

## Enjoying your life

DO you ever stop and wonder to yourself, has the world lost its marbles? I'm sure you do it many times, I did it only last week. We keep being told how little money there is for this, that and the other thing that may be lifesaving, then we see a story about what I'm about to tell you and you think, there's more sense in an episode of Popeye than there is out in the world in general.

Just recently the Glasgow Science Centre launched a chocolate teacake into space. Over 30,000 people watched the whole thing live on the internet. Yes, you read it right, huge numbers of people took time out of their busy day to watch... a flying teacake. Can you imagine asking your boss for time off to go and watch a biscuit being launched into space? I'm quite sure you can guess what the response would be.

Maybe I've got it wrong here. Could it be that in years to come, people will remember exactly where they were on that momentous day when the first teacake hurtled into space?

But it's not just teacakes. Even though it could have ended in tragedy, I had to do a double take at a story earlier this month about a man who swallowed a live fish, whole. As far as I can see there is no reason I can fathom for trying to swallow a fish. As it turned out it was an accident - the man was trying to kiss the fish when it shot out of his hands and went down his throat. Fortunately, paramedics were called and they managed to save the man - though the unfortunate fish didn't fare too well.

The point I'm trying to make is that, really, there's often no point to things so we should just carry on in blind ignorance, and enjoy life as much as we can.

[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).

HEARD about the country pub in North Yorkshire voted best restaurant in the world by TripAdvisor? My first thought was great! Hopefully, a no-nonsense country restaurant serving no-nonsense food that excluded one of my restaurant bugbears: taster menus (convenient and lucrative for the restaurant but only half the items of which many of us really like). But no! It has a taster menu that'll set you back £95 (including a £50 deposit).

And my other bugbears since you ask? Serving food on bits of wood, roof slates, shovels, drinks in jam jars, chips in mugs, tin cans, dog bowls and shoes. You didn't know some restaurants serve food in shoes? Count yourselves lucky!

Then, there's the 'concept.' Explained by hipster waiters who breathlessly tell you the salad leaves were foraged from the central

Advertising feature

**Christina Sharp**

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# What's new this autumn?

AT Globelink, we've seen customer travel habits evolve over the last 20 years. You are now more adventurous; travel more often; for longer periods of time; and keep on travelling, whatever age you are! We like to think we stay ahead with what we offer, and this year is no exception.

From October 1, you can now get a lot more for your money, so keep reading and find out what's new and how this could benefit you, or your family and friends.

**• Improved Cover for the Same Price!**

We know that holidays can cost a lot and things can go wrong once they're booked. That's why we've increased the Cancellation and Curtailment cover and Delayed Departure Abandonment cover on all Comprehensive and Annual Multi-Trip policies to £6,000 per person. Our budget

products - Economy, Regular and Globetrekker - also have improved cover with £2,000 for Cancellation and Curtailment and Missed Departure cover of £500.

**• More Pre-Existing Medical Conditions covered as standard**

The older we get, the more likely we are to have a pre-existing medical condition. We now cover 50 different pre-existing medical conditions at no extra charge. This includes arthritis, breast/prostate cancer, diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis and more.

**• Annual Multi-Trip Cover for Travellers up to age 79**

The over 75's are young at heart and enjoying their senior years exploring the world. We are delighted to offer Annual Multi-Trip cover up to age 79. Each trip duration can be up to 60 days, depending on where you go.

**• Longer Trip Durations for 71-74 Years**

You told us that you are enjoy-



**GLOBELINK: Offering you a lot more for your money.**

ing longer breaks abroad, so we now offer trip durations of 45 and 60 days on Annual Multi-Trip policies, so you don't need to hurry back from those relaxing breaks and visits to family and friends.

**• Winter Sports up to age 70 and Free Winter Sports on Annual Policies**

Over 65 and struggling to find winter sports travel insurance? Get Winter Sports cover up to

aged 70 with Globelink. You also get 17 days cover free if you buy an Annual Multi-Trip policy with a 45+ day trip duration (for ages 66-70, geographical limit - Europe).

**• Wider Range of Adventure Activities**

From archery to zip lining, we've got you covered. Globelink are now including more adventure activities than ever before.

**• Already Travelling and forgotten to buy Travel Insurance?**

Sometimes travel insurance is the last thing on your mind when preparing for a trip. We get lots of requests from customers, often calling for their young-adult children who have forgotten to buy insurance. That's why we offer 'Already Travelling' insurance, so you can get cover even if you are already away.

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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event
26 OCTOBER	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm Car Crime: Are You a Target? Tonight	7:00pm The Simpsons	4:10pm A Sunday Horse	11:00am Premier League Daily
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:30pm Strictly - It Takes Two	9:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm 5 News at 5	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	7:30pm BBC London News	8:00pm Further Back in Time for Dinner	9:30pm Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours	1:00pm Live ATP 500: Vienna
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Autumnwatch 2017	10:00pm Gordon Ramsay on Cocaine	8:55pm Stand Up To Cancer	7:00pm Home and Away	5:00pm Cricket
	8:30pm EastEnders	10:00pm The Big Family Cooking Showdown	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm The Supervet	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	9:00pm Live Sportswomen of the Year
	9:00pm Council House Crackdown	11:00pm Match of the Day	11:30pm ITV News London	9:00pm Feral Families	8:00pm All New Traffic Cops	10:30pm Sky Sports Tonight
	10:00pm The Ganges with Sue Perkins	11:30pm Newsnight	11:40pm After the News	11:00pm The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice	9:00pm Bargain Loving Brits in Blackpool	11:00pm Boxing
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	12:15am Army: Behind the New Frontlines	12:15am The Best: The FIFA World Football Awards 2017	11:50pm Fighting Cancer: My Online Diary	10:00pm Rich House, Poor House	11:30pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	11:30pm BBC London News			12:50am Gogglebox	11:00pm Bad Habits, Holy Orders	12:00am Sky Sports News
	11:45pm Question Time				12:05am Borderline	1:00am EFL Matters
12:45am This Week						
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER	7:30pm BBC London News	5:15pm Sea Cities	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	6:00pm 5 News at 5	10:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm The One Show	6:15pm Flog It!	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	11:00am Premier League Daily
	8:30pm Sounds Like Friday Night	7:00pm Strictly - It Takes Two	9:00pm Australian Wilderness with Ray Mears	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	9:00pm EastEnders	8:00pm Will Britain Ever Have a Black Prime Minister?	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	1:00pm Live ATP 500: Vienna
	9:30pm Porridge	9:00pm Mastermind	10:00pm Bear's Mission with Anthony Joshua	8:30pm Unreported World	8:00pm The Gadget Show	1:00pm Live Mexican GP: Practice
	10:00pm Have I Got News for You	9:30pm Only Connect	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm Food Unwrapped	9:00pm World's Greatest Bridges	7:00pm Sky Sports News
	10:30pm Tracey Breaks the News	10:00pm Gardeners' World	11:30pm ITV News London	9:30pm Travel Man	10:00pm Eight Days That Made Rome	8:00pm Football
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm QI	11:40pm After the News	10:00pm Gogglebox	11:00pm The Undiscovered Secrets of Petra	11:00pm Boxing
	11:25pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight	12:15am Bad Move	11:00pm The Last Leg	12:00am Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild - Canada	11:30pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	11:35pm The Graham Norton Show	12:05am Snowfall		12:05am First Dates		12:00am Sky Sports News
12:25am Josh						
SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER	6:30pm BBC News	6:30pm Gardeners' World	4:25pm Overboard	4:30pm A Place in the Sun	3:05pm The A-Team	5:15pm Boxing
	6:40pm Regional News	7:30pm Who Do You Think You Are?	6:30pm The Cruise	5:30pm Best Laid Plans	4:10pm The A-Team	5:45pm Boxing
	6:43pm Weather	8:30pm Front Row	7:00pm Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs	6:35pm Location, Location, Location	5:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	6:15pm Boxing
	6:45pm Pointless	9:00pm Dad's Army	7:25pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Channel 4 News	6:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	6:45pm My Icon
	7:35pm Strictly Come Dancing	9:30pm Talking Pictures	7:35pm ITV News and Weather	8:00pm Egypt's Great Pyramid: The New Evidence	7:10pm Mosquito Squadron	7:00pm Boxing
	9:20pm Casualty	10:00pm Harry Potter and the History of Magic	7:45pm You've Been Framed!	9:00pm Hidden Britain by Drone	9:00pm Conspiracy: Pearl Harbor	8:00pm Live Mexican GP: Qualifying
	10:10pm Gunpowder	11:00pm QI XL	8:15pm Ninja Warrior	10:00pm When Harry Met Meghan: A Royal Romance	9:55pm 5 News	9:40pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	11:10pm BBC News	11:45pm Later... with Jools Holland	9:20pm The X Factor	11:00pm Formula 1	10:00pm Football on 5	10:30pm Sky Sports Tonight
	11:25pm Weather	12:50am Flying Blind	11:20pm The Jonathan Ross Show	12:40am Source Code	11:00pm Football on 5	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	11:30pm Match of the Day		12:25am ITV News and Weather		11:30pm 2012	12:00am Sky Sports News
12:55am The NFL Show						
SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER	6:55pm Weather	1:15pm MOTD2 Extra	3:30pm Nanny McPhee	1:25pm Paranorman	2:30pm The A-Team	7:00am Live WGC - HSBC Champions
	7:00pm The Countryfile Ramble for Children in Need	2:00pm NFL Live	5:25pm Your Song	3:20pm Hocus Pocus	3:30pm The A-Team	9:00am Cricket
	8:15pm Strictly Come Dancing	6:00pm Rugby League World Cup Highlights	6:25pm Local News and Weather	5:15pm The Great British Bake Off	4:30pm The A-Team	India v New Zealand
	9:00pm Blue Planet II	7:00pm Britain's Classroom Heroes	6:40pm ITV News and Weather	6:30pm Channel 4 News	5:35pm The A-Team	1:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	10:00pm The Last Post	8:00pm Top Gear	7:00pm Tipping Point	7:00pm Escape	6:35pm The Man in the Iron Mask	1:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Robot Wars	8:00pm The X Factor	8:00pm Great Canal Journeys	9:00pm Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	4:30pm Leicester City v Everton
	11:20pm Regional News	10:00pm Louis Theroux	10:00pm Ball and Boe: Back Together	9:00pm Electric Dreams	9:55pm 5 News	7:30pm Live Mexican GP: Race
	11:25pm Weather	11:00pm Snowfall	11:00pm ITV News and Weather	10:00pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	10:00pm When Talent Shows Go Horribly Wrong	10:30pm Live NFL: Sunday Game
	11:30pm Match of the Day 2	11:45pm Mock the Week	11:20pm Peston on Sunday	10:30pm Formula 1	1:00am Seven Pounds	1:00am Live NFL: Pittsburgh @ Detroit
	12:30am The Women's Football Show	12:15am What We Do in the Shadows	12:15am Bear's Mission with Anthony Joshua	1:45am Grand Prix: The Killer Years		
MONDAY 30 OCTOBER	8:00pm The One Show	6:15pm Flog It!	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Four in a Bed	3:15pm NCIS	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:30pm Inside Out	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	4:15pm The Good Witch's Wonder	9:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	9:00pm EastEnders	7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:00pm 5 News	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	9:30pm Inspector George Gently	8:00pm Coastal Path	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours	11:00am Live ATP Masters 1000 - Paris
	11:00pm BBC News	8:30pm Coastal Path	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	11:30pm Regional News	9:00pm University Challenge	9:00pm The Harbour	9:00pm Dispatches	7:30pm 5 News	11:00am Live ATP Masters 1000 - Paris
	11:40pm Weather	9:30pm Nigella at My Table	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:30pm Tricks of the Restaurant Trade	8:00pm MotoGP	11:00am Live ATP Masters 1000 - Paris
	11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More News for You	10:00pm Elizabeth I's Secret Agents	10:00pm A Very Royal Wedding	10:00pm 999: What's Your Emergency?	9:00pm All New Traffic Cops	8:00pm Football
	12:30am Anthony Joshua: The Fight of My Life	11:00pm Motherland	11:10pm ITV News and Weather	11:00pm First Dates	10:00pm Paddington Station 24/7	12:00am Sky Sports News
		11:30pm Newsnight	12:25am Gordon Ramsay on Cocaine	12:05am The First 48	12:50am The Descent	1:00am My Icon
TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER	7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two	5:00pm Tipping Point	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	6:30pm Neighbours	9:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	7:30pm Regional News	8:00pm Who's Spending Britain's Billions	6:00pm The Chase	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Saving Lives at Sea	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News	11:00am Live ATP Masters 1000 - Paris
	8:30pm EastEnders	10:00pm The Balfour Declaration: Britain's Promise to the Holy Land	7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm FIA WRC Wales Rally GB Highlights	11:00am The Debate - Live Sky Sports News
	9:00pm Holby City	11:00pm Later Live... with Jools Holland	8:00pm Emmerdale	9:00pm The Great British Bake Off: The Final	9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet	1:00am Live WWE Late Night Smackdown
	10:00pm Our Girl	11:30pm Newsnight	8:30pm Countrywise	10:15pm Celebrity Hunted	10:00pm Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild	3:00am Sky Sports News
	11:00pm BBC News	12:10am Weather	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	11:25pm Gogglebox	11:00pm When Kids TV Goes Horribly Wrong	
	11:30pm Regional News		11:00pm ITV News and Weather	12:30am When Harry Met Meghan: A Royal Romance	1:55am Super Casino	
	11:40pm Weather		11:40pm After the News			
	11:45pm Valley Cops		12:15am Lethal Weapon			
12:30am Young and Sterile: My Choice						
WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER	5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	5:15pm Back in Time for Dinner	6:00pm The Chase	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:00pm 5 News	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	6:15pm Pointless	6:15pm Flog It!	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours	9:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm Eggheads	7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away	10:00am Live Ladies Euro Tour Golf
	7:30pm Regional News	7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two	8:00pm Emmerdale	8:55pm Robbie's Story: Stand Up to Cancer	7:30pm 5 News	2:00pm Sky Sports Today
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm The Super-Rich and Us	8:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Ugly House to Lovely House with George Clarke	8:00pm Traffic Cops	2:30pm Cricket
	9:00pm Eat Well for Less	9:00pm Hidden Cardiff with Will Millard	9:00pm Gino's Italian Coastal Escape	10:00pm Grand Designs	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	6:00pm Live ATP Masters 1000 - Paris
	10:00pm The Apprentice	10:00pm Trust Me, I'm a Doctor	9:30pm Coronation Street	11:00pm Man Down	10:00pm Big Family Values: More Kids Than Cash	8:30pm Football
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm The Apprentice: You're Fired!	10:00pm Doc Martin	11:30pm 999: What's Your Emergency?	11:00pm Shannon Matthews: What Happened Next	11:00pm The Debate - Live SKY Sports News
	11:30pm Regional News	12:10am Weather	11:00pm ITV News and Weather	12:35am Feral Families	12:00am Murder of April Jones: 5 Years on	
	11:40pm Weather		11:45pm After the News			
11:45pm A Question of Sport		12:15am UEFA Champions League Highlights				
12:15am Junior Doctors						



**TV Couch Critic**

# Focus on Auntie Beeb, and she won't like it

*Have I Got News for You* (BBC1, Friday) has returned to our screens for an unbelievable 54th series.

If you can stand it, watch, turn the sound down and wait ... you will quickly realise you could be watching any of the shows from the previous 53 screenings.

I realise it is not strictly true (or *Strictly Come Dancing* for that matter) for you can roughly date the series being shown by gauging the amount of make-up Ian Hislop has been plastered with, combined with how bored he looks.

The more make-up and bored looking, the more recent the series.

Even with a random mix of rotating hosts, I wonder if they have considered Max Headroom. Do you remember him? This tried, tested and now past-it format is surely due for the refresh treatment; to illustrate, years ago I was in the audience (there was free wine, warm and nasty, but free) and I'm sure they still use the same audience shot in the opening sequence.

Just look for a blonde haired male, second row from back, fourth left.

For the second of three swipes at the Beeb, there are reports of a new look for *Question Time* (BBC1, Thursday).

This is another offering following the same format; correctly balanced panel and specially invited angry - though slightly ignorant - audience member primed to ask the one question which will make them a hero or an idiot, depending on choice.

In a digital age, surely there is a more gripping way to probe the panel and involve a wider pool than 'the lady in the sweater, yes you madam.'

While we all love a Dimpleby and I subscribe to the notion every casa (home) should have one, part of any refresh must include a new host, just not anyone who has sat in the middle chair for *Have I Got News For You*.

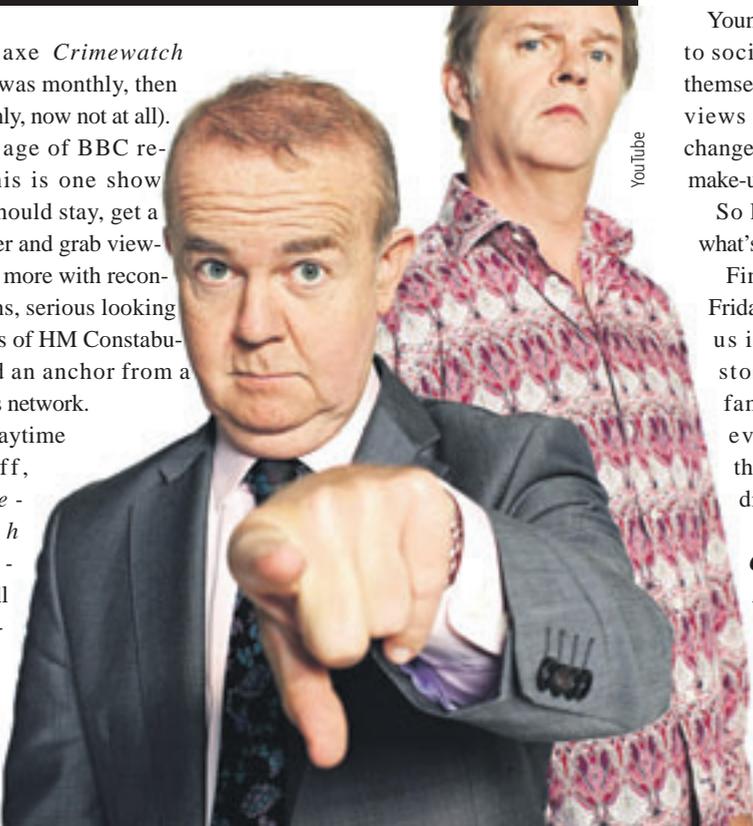
Mind you that's cutting it down.

My final nudge, not a swipe, is that someone at Broadcasting House

should axe *Crimewatch* (BBC1, was monthly, then bi-monthly, now not at all).

In an age of BBC refresh this is one show which should stay, get a makeover and grab viewers once more with reconstructions, serious looking members of HM Constabulary and an anchor from a US news network.

The daytime spin-off, *Crimewatch Roadshow* will continue, just don't confuse it with the one



about antiques.

Away from the Beeb if you haven't caught up with *Bad Habits*, *Holy Orders* (Channel 5, Thursday) give it a look. The Daughters of Divine Charity (they are the Nuns in this piece) fling open their convent doors and invite five ladies in.

Young, glamorous, and addicted to social media, body image and themselves, it seems their lives and views of themselves are going change without phones, selfies and make-up.

So keep watching, just to see what's in it for the Nuns.

Finally *Modern Family* (Sky1, Fridays) series nine is launching us into weekends with fresh stories about the everyday family who are anything but everyday, doing ordinary things, in an anything but ordinary way.

Enjoy.

**Critique: J S Mojacar, Almeria.**

**HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU: Tired and dated?**

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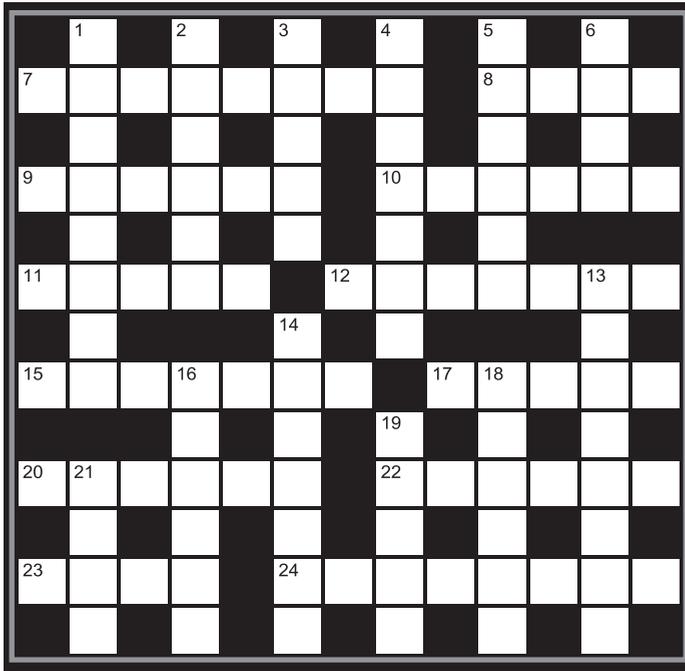
**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 7 Shell motor at full speed (8)
- 8 Behind Defense Attorney's disclosure (4)
- 9 Follow the French say is kind (6)
- 10 Ageism in motion pictures (6)
- 11 Agree about Earnest (5)
- 12 Surrenders and somehow enters mid-Wales (7)
- 15 It tends to confuse one involved in oral examination (7)
- 17 North American swine's home is revolting (5)
- 20 Show about meat (6)
- 22 Set a stage for The Stones (6)
- 23 Family doctor's first to be sympathetic (4)
- 24 Example of epic men's make-up (8)

**Down**

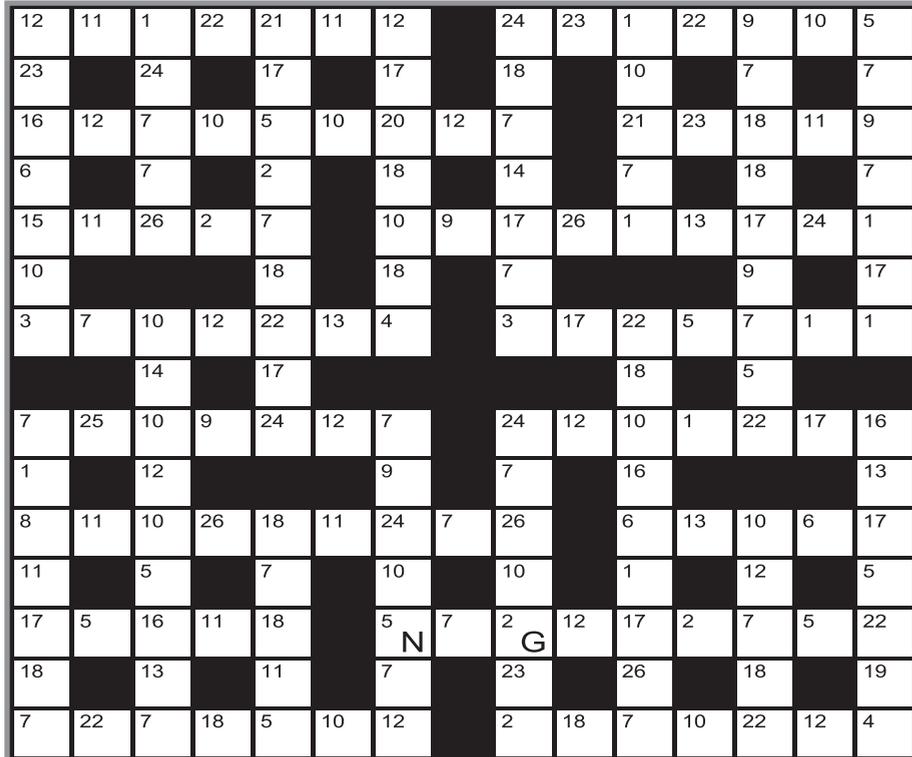
- 1 Hack reveals palace rates of pay (8)
- 2 Upset baby's plaything (6)
- 3 Right cards for sporting events? (5)
- 4 Resolute British detectives in action (7)
- 5 See about taking cover in flight (6)



- 6 Weak beginning left a muddled ending (4)
- 13 Carrying mammal, Edward moved unsteadily (8)
- 14 Vain female tennis player in America? (7)
- 16 Finish in an attempt to be hip (6)
- 18 Some para mistaken for a Musketeer (6)
- 19 Supply for Tom Queen (5)
- 21 Eat up, Miss Blyton (4)

**Code Breaker**

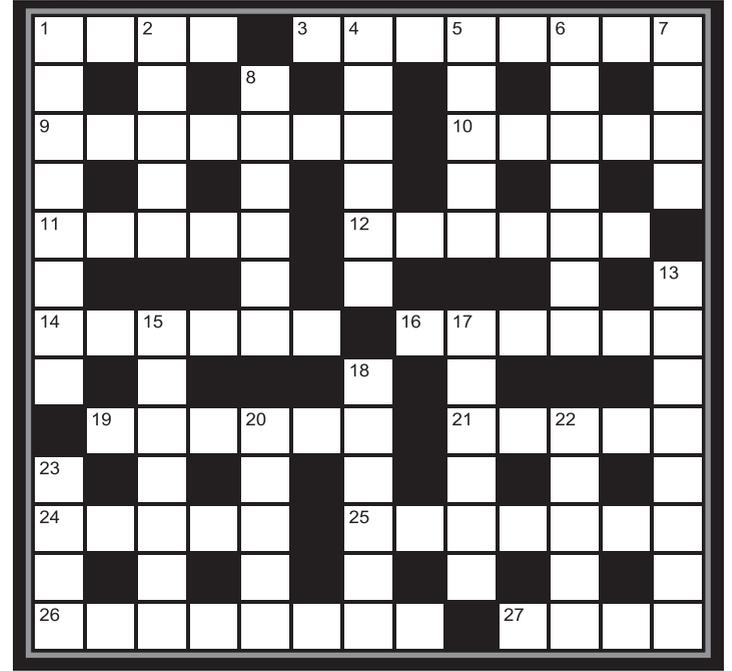
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 2 represents G and 5 represents N, so fill in G every time the figure 2 appears and N every time the figure 5 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should 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
	G			N								
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

**Quick**



**Across**

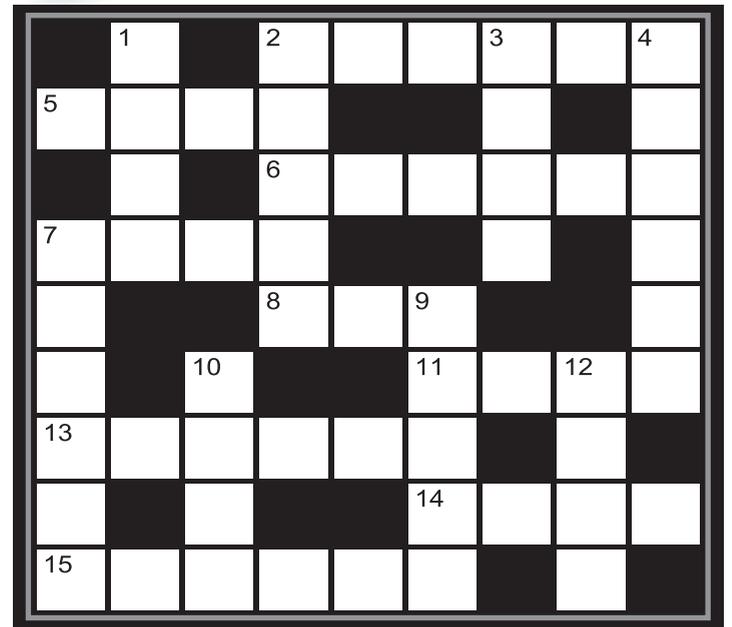
- 1 Final (4)
- 3 Authorised (8)
- 9 Housebreaker (7)
- 10 Take pleasure in (5)
- 11 Mislays (5)
- 12 Money that is paid regularly for doing work (6)
- 14 Blunders or mistakes (6)
- 16 Jail (6)
- 19 Scratch repeatedly (6)
- 21 Student (5)
- 24 Further or added (5)
- 25 Sculptures representing humans or animals (7)
- 26 Cellar (8)
- 27 Show the way by going first (4)

**Down**

- 1 Tagged (8)
- 2 Arranges (5)
- 4 Woodland (6)
- 5 Perfection (5)
- 6 Harms (7)
- 7 Ballads (4)
- 8 Nearer (6)
- 13 Shut in (8)
- 15 Repeats aloud from memory (7)
- 17 Revoke (6)
- 18 Cause (6)
- 20 State of sudden fear (5)
- 22 Intermission (5)
- 23 Part of speech (4)

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 2 Veneno (6)
- 5 Eyebrow (4)
- 6 To lose (6)
- 7 Mismo (4)
- 8 Tapa (de caja) (3)
- 11 Envidia (4)

**Down**

- 13 Almendra (6)
- 14 Hatred (4)
- 15 Tornillos (6)
- 1 Candle (4)
- 2 Paper (material) (5)

- 3 Silk (4)
- 4 Noruega (6)
- 7 Ensaladas (6)
- 9 Fingers (of hand, glove) (5)
- 10 To love (4)
- 12 Vena (4)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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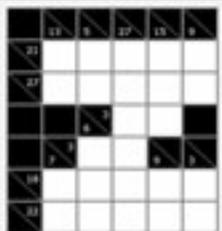
**MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE**



'FOR A SUCCESSFUL BREXIT IT IS VITAL WE ALL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO ILLUSTRATIONS!'

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



**TARGET:**

- Average: 9
- Very good: 19
- Good: 13
- Excellent: 24

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**

alit caul ceil clue cult evil lace laic late lave leva lice lieu lite live lute tael tail talc tale teal tile tilt vail vale veal veil vela vial vile alive atilt calve cavil clave cleat latte telic title utile uveal valet value vault vital cattle cutlet cuttle lattice tactile victual CULTIVATE

**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**

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

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

**LOTTERY**

**UK NATIONAL LOTTERY**

Saturday October 21



**IRISH LOTTO**

Saturday October 21



**EURO MILLIONS**

Tuesday October 17



Friday October 13



**LA PRIMITIVA**

Saturday October 21



**EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA**

Sunday October 22



**YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS**

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

You are likely to reveal information unintentionally. You'll find it easy to charm members of the opposite sex this week. Have some fun, but draw the line if someone tries to fast talk their way into your heart. You have to let go of your past if you wish to get out of any sentimental mood that might be hanging over your head. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

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

Those you work with may have little consideration for the underdog. You can raise your standard of living if you pick up some freelance work on the side. Don't jump into investments too quickly. Try not to overreact to the loss. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

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

New partnerships will develop if you join investment groups. Property investments could be prosperous. You can't do everything on your own. Family responsibilities are escalating. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

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

Use your energy wisely. You may find yourself in the limelight for the wrong reasons. Someone envious of your popularity may challenge you to a debate. Travel for business purposes may bring the highest returns. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

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

Your home environment may be hectic, which could result in emotional upset if you aren't well organised. Try not to take everything so seriously. Be sure to find out all you can before you commit to anything. There might be a problem with a will or with an insurance policy. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

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

You can ferret out secret information if you just listen to what others have to say. Travel will be good if you are seeking knowledge. Minor accidents may occur if you don't concentrate on what you're doing. Problems with financial investments could make you nervous. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

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

Put your efforts into being creative. Don't give out any personal information that you don't want spread around. You could lose a good friend because of it. Learn some new skills that will increase your income. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

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

Changes involving your domestic scene may be unpleasant. Try to mix business with pleasure while travelling. You can convince anyone of anything. Get your domestic chores out of the way early.

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

You can't make things better if you don't know what to fix. You may interest people in a service you have to offer. Work quietly behind the scenes for best results. Don't hesitate to look for alternatives that will enable you to raise the kind of donations you need to do the job right. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

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

Arguments with children or friends may leave you steaming. You will have excellent ideas and you should be able to help your partner get ahead. Concern yourself with legal matters and formulating contracts rather than finalising your objectives.

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

Your ability to visualise will help you convince others of the possibilities. Insincere gestures of friendliness may be misleading. Spend some time with people who can shed some light on your personal situation. Don't be too quick to voice your opinion. Listen to others carefully. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

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

You need to sit back and enjoy. Things have been moving so quickly that you need to do something physical to release your tension. Unexpected changes in friendships could occur. Make creative changes to your living quarters.

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

**CRYPTIC**

**Across:**

- 1 Draughts, 5 Scar, 9 Tribe, 10 Barge, 12 Copse, 13 Yoke, 15 Wander, 18 Script, 20 Elba, 23 Serve, 24 Aorta, 27 Skint, 28 Nest, 29 Vehement.

**Down:**

- 1 Drab, 2 Afar, 3 Gates, 4 Trivia, 6 Corporal, 7 Ravens, 8 Decide, 11 Ago, 14 Kestrels, 16 Arrest, 17 Resign, 19 Plaice, 21 Bit, 22 Lathe, 25 Rage, 26 Abet.

**QUICK**

**Across:**

- 1 Drops, 3 Crayons, 6 Surreal, 8 Bongo, 10 Robin, 11 Octagon, 14 Eclair, 15 Rafter, 17 Alimony, 20 Goals, 21 Nonet, 22 Ancient, 23 Shannon, 24 Outdo.

**Down:**

- 1 Deserve, 2 Stern, 3 Cello, 4 Abbot, 5 Spoon, 7 Rebellion, 9 Nightmare, 12 Carp, 13 Iron, 16 Risotto, 17 Aunts, 18 Often, 19 Yearn, 20 Gecko.

**ENGLISH-SPANISH**

**Across:**

- 1 Skirt, 3 Necks, 6 Egg, 8 Rainbow, 9 Somewhere, 12 Nuestro, 13 End, 14 Tools, 15 Ritmo.

**Down:**

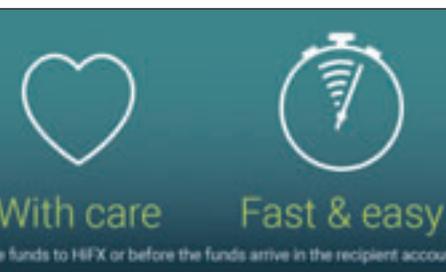
- 1 Seed, 2 Tormentas, 3 Neighbour, 4 Cobarde, 5 Saws, 7 Grosero, 10 Knot, 11 Odio.

**CODE BREAKER**

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

**KAKURO**

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



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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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## Time to clamp down on sex trade

SIR,

Reading an article in your issue number 1684, I would like to raise a point. A few years ago, a Nigerian prostitute mugger was arrested, spat in the face of the police and was sentenced to be banned from Magaluf. She moved to Palma Nova.

Now two women have forced a 17-year-old Nigerian into prostitution, but why are they still here and not deported?

Magaluf has always been a party resort but recently the drug and sex trade has taken over. Yes, there was recently a big drug bust but nothing significant in the sex trade.

Magaluf is what it is - a party town for the young. But you need the tourist industry, so get rid of the sex and drugs and party people will still come!

It's up to the local government and the courts to do the right thing. It's called common sense. But no government officers ever address the serious issues. Why?

Ronald Lutschan, Puerto Pollensa

### Brassed off with Brexit?

I KNOW that it's important cos my life is here in Spain

But all this talk of Brexit has become a tiresome pain

It's spouted daily on the news, it's just been on again

I wish it wasn't happening, I wish we could remain

The vote was o'er a year ago and people voted out

The info we were given full of fantasy and doubt

Money for the NHS did Boris Johnson shout

And Theresa May who voted in is now supporting out

So here we are, no wiser, as we fumble on the ground



BREXIT: A rotten deal?

Getting out of Europe isn't easy we have found

The whole thing is a bloody mess, the talks go round and round

They need to get it sorted quick, it's ruining the pound

David spat his dummy out and left it all to May

Europe says deserting ship means Britain has to pay

Boris says we're paying nought, there is no chance, no way

The future isn't looking bright, it's turning dark and grey  
As the people voted out then Brexit must be done  
But talking on the telly news has all been overdone  
Whether it's a rotten deal, the time has come to run

As long as I can stay in Spain and live here in the sun

Bye bye Britain, bye bye bye, it's time to say goodbye

I'll pop back every now and then to say a sunny hi

Brexit is in motion and the time is almost nigh

So bye bye Britain, with a sigh, it's time to say goodbye.

John Sharples,  
La Cala de Mijas

### Sad good-bye



BIG MISS: Karen and Jean-Michelle.

I HOPE that your newspaper can mention the sad fact that after 30 years of delivering fine foods and wines to an impeccable standard, Jean Michelle and Karen will on October 31 be closing their doors for the last time. We loyal customers wish them a long, active and happy retirement but we will miss our favourite restaurant, El Perro Negro, and Altea will have lost a gem.

John E, Altea

### Badly educated

THE swivel-eyed version of Catalan history that has been peddled to school children in the region over the last four decades has only served to educate them in racism and hatred while being told that we are tolerant. We are clearly moving towards a fascist society within which only independence is 'acceptable.'

David Penya, Barcelona

### Bawdy Brown

YOUR TV Couch Critic wisely mentions that some of the scrit of Mrs Brown's Boys (BBC 1) is best referred to adult humour. Within the concept of the show, it's acceptable, but I guess my Great Aunt perhaps wouldn't agree!

What your excellent critic might not be aware of is that all Brendan O'Carroll's 'Adlibs' are in fact scripted and timed, but certainly none the worse for that!

Robert W Barnes, Campoverde

### Gone south!

COLUMNIST David Noon in his article on bullfighting (*Issue 1685*) stated Gabriel Garcia Marquez is American when in fact he is Colombian.

Philip Rigg (by email)

**Editor's note: Oooops. The original submitted for publication stated SOUTH American.**

### 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).

## Brit suspect released for birth of child

Just wrong, all wrong. Plain as the nose on your face. Should be behind bars. Lorraine Quinn

Unbelievable, he should be in prison not out on bail. Gill Reynolds

### Catalan protesters punish banks

They want to have the right to decide about their future but deny the companies / banks the same right. Hypocrisy. Paula Neumeier

Just think of the amount of people who kept their money in because they moved, me for example! Peter Jones

### Norwegian airline scraps flights from Birmingham to Spain

Not surprised flew to all the wrong destinations in Spain, the real business is done by the expats going backwards and forwards. Monarch were the best and offered lots of bonuses with

### Comments from EWN online

Vantage cards. Mike Bulmer

What's going on with these airlines?! Deborah Foster

### Brit expats can stay in Spain post-Brexit

Sounds a bit of the relationship we had with the Spanish people before we joined EU. Michael Childs

Oh, that's very magnanimous of him! Considering the millions of Brits living and holidaying here pays his wages... they should be begging us to stay. Steve Walsh

Undoubtedly the Spanish would want to do the right thing, but they will have to act as agreed amongst the EU27. And, if the UK doesn't treat EU nationals in the UK properly, then it is possible the EU would retaliate. Graham Clark

### 800 Brits accused of holiday sickness scams

Hope they get them all and the companies behind it all. Bloody disgraceful another black mark against us Brits. They don't deserve to holiday again - should confiscate their passports. Lilian Vela Rubio

So anyone who has a genuine claim will face the 'Spanish Inquisition' because of the pure greed of the scammers! Ray Moody

Get the companies that are creating the scam as well. Alexander Ongley

### Cataluña 'will not accept' Spain's plan

They insult 47 million Spaniards with their acts ... the Spanish and European democracy will triumph ... the independentistas will end up in jail. Carlos Games

Put the leaders in jail, they are trouble makers and should be locked up for an attempted coup!! Karen Joy Harley

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HELPING HANDS: Providing entertainment for charity.

# Benidorm tributes return to Turre!

NEXT month sees the return of Benidorm's talented and popular tributes, the Jersey Boys and Bee Gees, to the Hostal Rural at Turre.

Following a previous sell out show last year, the Helping Hands charity have bowed to numerous requests for the boys to return, and their return appearance is now sched-

**“ We see the return of Benidorm's most popular tributes.**

uled for November 4. Another scheduled show for the charity, at Mazarron on November 11 is now

completely sold out.

For those with an appetite, a pre-show buffet is also available at €10. Tickets for either show only, or show and buffet can be purchased at Hostal Rural now.

For those not local to the area, further information and tickets can be reserved by calling Linda on 634 456 701.

# I just can't remember!

**Mike Senker**

*In my opinion*

*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*



HAVE you noticed that all the fun of getting old is slowly disappearing? Things like little aches and pains appear, we have pills for this, creams for that, something to help you sleep then something else to get you going in the morning.

I have an injection in the morning and another one at night. The first one is insulin and the other one is something that stops me getting hungry so I don't eat too much and therefore take less of the insulin I use in the morning.

And of course with advancing years there is the memory loss. I just got a message from a friend of mine that I had lunch with yesterday asking me the name of the video I suggested he watched on YouTube as he can't remember. I text him back saying I couldn't remember either and could he give me a clue and, of course, neither of us have any idea what we were talking about. So that was the end of that conversation.

My memory for this sort of thing now is getting worse and worse. This was further

proved last night when we had some friends round and, as the evening progressed, we were chatting about all different topics and as we were talking all of us had our phones and had to keep Googling so many things like names of actors, names of songs, singers, film titles etc. It was a constant search fest.

That in turn got me wondering - do all these search engines help or hinder? I mean if we didn't have them the whole evening would be us not being able to recall anything or would it? Are we relying on the fact that we have Google to just quickly reference everything? If we didn't would we try that little bit harder?

The strange thing is I can remember poker hands that I've been beaten by or won with for weeks and rattle them off to anybody who wants to listen (there's not many!) Yet I don't know my wife's or daughter's telephone number off by heart any more. Why? Well I don't have to, do I? I just pick up my phone and press their name. Yet I can remember my home telephone number from when I was six years old.

There was something else I was going to write about but I can't remember what it was now. I'll get back to you if I do.

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Email me: [mikesenker@gmail.com](mailto:mikesenker@gmail.com).

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# Pills of sunshine

By Kat Ashton

OFTEN called the 'sunshine vitamin,' Vitamin D is produced in your skin when exposed to sunlight and plays an important role in the body.

Research suggests that the body needs at least 10mg of Vitamin D to function properly, which can help to boost health and ward off diseases.

Spending too much time in the sun can be dangerous to your skin health, however, with around an hour a day being the recommended maximum, depending on how strong the sun is. Fortunately, you can also get your daily dose of vitamin D by eating certain foods or taking supplements.

If it doesn't receive the recommended

daily dose, your body is at risk of developing soft or fragile bones. It has also been proven to have many other health benefits, such as fighting illness and disease. According to research by the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, it can help reduce your likelihood of getting flu and

could also reduce your chances of developing heart disease.

Studies have also suggested that people with a vitamin D deficiency are at more risk of feeling anxious or depressed. On one occasion, scientists discovered that patients suf-

fering from depression noticed an improvement in their symptoms after taking vitamin D supplements.

While taking a supplement is an easy way to ensure you're getting enough of the vitamin, it also helps to include more vitamin D rich food in your diet.

This ranges from salmon and sardines to fortified milk and fresh orange juice.

If you're worried you suffer from a deficiency, the symptoms to look out for include tiredness, general aches and pains and severe bone or muscle weakness. Doctors can easily diagnose a lack of vitamin D by carrying out a blood test, so it's worth paying them a visit to be on the safe side.



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# Chemical bothers

PARABENS have been widely used in cosmetic products since the 1950s to prevent bacteria growth, but have been getting some bad press recently over fears that they cause certain diseases.

Allegedly, around 85 per cent of cosmetic products on the market contain parabens, ranging from shampoos and lotions to lipsticks and fragrances.

However, parabens allegedly disrupt the body's natural oestrogen levels, which have been linked to reproductive issues and breast cancer. They are also believed to cause skin irritations such as dermatitis and rosacea, and can even make you more vulnerable to allergies.

As a result, scientists in many countries have started recommending putting a limit on paraben levels in cosmetics. The EU now limits beauty companies to a maximum of 8g of parabens per kilo of cosmetic product.

In 2011, the Danish government also decided to put a ban on companies putting parabens in products intended for children

under the age of three due to fears that they are at a higher risk from the side-effects.

Nowadays, there is an increasing number of products on the market labelled 'paraben-free,' but should you really swear off all products without the tag? Both the World Health Organisation and the US Food and Drug Administration have stated that the chemicals are not harmful at low levels. Typically, the amount of parabens used in cosmetic products is quite small.

To be on the safe side, look out for oil-based or organic items as water-based products often require more preservatives to make them last longer. Products in dark containers with a pump also generally contain fewer chemicals as they don't go off as quickly.

If you are going to cut parabens from one item in your beauty cabinet, make it a body lotion or moisturiser which is used to coat large areas of skin as this can increase vulnerability to the side-effects of chemicals.

Ask The  
**Doctor**

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## Sciatica and how to deal with it



**SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.**

**What are the symptoms or signs of it?**

The main symptoms that produce pain usually originate in the lower back. This can affect the legs and produce muscle contractures and the inability to move.

**When should I talk to my physician?**

Whenever you begin to feel symptoms that may suggest something's wrong in the previously mentioned areas you should consult a health care professional. First, talk to your family doctor but if that's not enough you will need to consult a specialist.

**What causes it?**

It's usually caused by problems in the intervertebral discs which bring about herniated discs, inflammation of the tendons and muscles and dislocation of the back bones, typically

via arthritis and mainly in the elderly.

**How do I treat it?**

The first things needed are rest, dry heat, painkillers, anti-inflammatories and muscle relaxants. Physiotherapy exercises are also helpful in lessening the pain derived from this illness. In very advanced cases when pain cannot be managed, surgical intervention may be required.

**OPTIONAL INTRO:**

*The term sciatica describes a set of symptoms that are characterised by leg pain (and possibly tingling, numbness or weakness) starting at the bottom of the back and going through the buttocks and the greater sciatic nerve down the back of each leg. Sciatica is a symptom of another underlying health problem. It is not a disease in itself.*

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

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## Escorted hike to Mount Alfaro

SPORT, nature and cinema will meet when an 11 kilometre hike organised by the Almeria City Council takes in the sights of Mount Alfaro.

Expected to take at least five hours, the route will funnel walkers to the 619 metre summit of one of the most emblematic peaks in the Tabernas Desert which has appeared in a number of films including the iconic Lawrence of Arabia.

The climb which is considered to be of medium difficulty will take place on Sunday November 5 at 9am but applications from suitably fit hikers need to be in by next Wednesday by visit-



Hiking through the Tabernas.

ing the organiser's website at [www.pmdalmeria.com](http://www.pmdalmeria.com).

The hike will start at the Maestro Padilla Auditorium taking the maximum of 50 participants through some thick cane fields until they

reach the two kilometre ascent of Alfaro and although it is quite a strenuous hike, the path is well marked so an incredible view awaits those who accept the challenge and make it to the top.

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NEW CONCERT: The Rose Singers.

## A Flower Remembered

THE ROSE SINGERS are proud to present their November concert titled 'A Flower Remembered.'

The programme of songs, sung in harmony by the local ladies choir will include guest soloist Ellen Turner and an Oboe performance by Maddy Frowd.

The afternoon concert will be held on Tuesday, November 7 at 3pm at a new location, the Hotel Parador, Mojácar Playa with a special appearance by violinists Lesley Wilson and Emma Randle. The evening concert will be at Miraflores

Restaurant, Camping Los Gallardos on Thursday November 9 at 7.30pm.

A raffle will be held at both events with proceeds going to the aid of Stepping Stones carers support group.

Tickets are €8 each and can be bought in advance from Forget-Me-Not (Las Buganvillas), Total Entertainment (Turre) and The Shop, Camping Los Gallardos.

They are also available on the doors, through choir members and by messaging the Rose Singers Mojácar Facebook page.

## Academy's annual buffet

THE Universal Wonderful Street Academy will holding their sixth annual fundraising Buffet Lunch on Sunday November 12 at Marina Playa Hotel, Marina de la Torre, Mojácar.

The lunch will begin at 1:30pm with prices at €20 for adults and €15 for children.

The Street Academy helps children, who are orphans or whose parents cannot afford to send them to school and provide a nutritious meal a day.

The Academy also helps to prepare the children to go to formal school because they believe that only through education; children can have a better future.

## It takes two to tango

NOVEMBER will see the return of the Arcos Company's Buenos Aires Tango show to Mojácar.

Organised by the town hall of Mojácar, through the Department of Culture, the Arcos Company of Buenos Aires Tango Show offers a recital of the popular Argentine Tango in a unique inter-

pretation.

Celebrated in the Building of Multiple Uses, Walter O Tejada's 'One night in Buenos Aires,' combines the tangos 'of the whole life' with the milongas and waltzes of the most varied styles.

The violinists Walter Tejada and Laura Sánchez put the music to the dancers and

choreographers Jupa Arias and Esther Medina, first figures of the Argentine National Ballet, combine the classical string instruments with the popular dance.

The theatre season in Mojácar will begin on November 3 with the representation of 'Boda, noviazgo, divorcio,' based on the work of the brothers Alvarez Quintero, intermingled with four well-known coplas in which the protagonists are the relationships of couple and their emotions.

The month will be completed with the representation of 'Open Couple,' Polvorones and 'Buffoon Buffet,' all staged at the Building of Multiple Uses of Mojácar.

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## Cinema-themed shopping

A MASSIVE shopping centre due to open in Torrecardenas next year will have a cinematic theme.

The enormous facility will cover more than 150,000sqm and cost €1.2 billion to construct.

Work is already underway and last week representatives from dozens of Almería Province councils were treated to a guided tour.

International company Chapman Taylor, which is designing the centre, revealed that Almería's film history is the inspiration behind its unusual concept.

They have the full backing of Bogaris Retail, which is funding the entire project. General director Francisco Marin said that scenes from films shot in Almería, including Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade,

would form part of the centre's interior design.

This would be a "wink" to the consumer, he said, adding that the shopping centre would be equipped with a full Yelmo cinema complex.

He also announced that the centre would hold regular film festivals and competitions and attract shoppers from across Spain.

The Torrecardenas shopping centre is due to open its doors in late 2018.

It is being billed as the future 'gateway to Almería.' With more than 3,000 spaces it will have the best parking space to shopper ratio in all of Spain, claims Marin.

There will be more than 100 shops, including the usual suspects, Zara, Primark, Mercadona, Leroy Merlin and El Corte Ingles.

## Freestyle battle

DOZENS of rappers will be battling it out for hip-hop supremacy in Vicar this Saturday. The contest is just one of six being held across Almería.

Winners get the chance to compete in Spain's national hip-hop tournament in January.

Vicar's event is being organised by the council's youth and sports department.

It will be held at the Youth Plaza from 5pm and admission is free.

For those who prefer freestyling with a pen there is also a competition for the design of Vicar's 2018 Hip-Hop Street Festival poster.

Entrants must submit their ideas by November 20. Top prize is €300.

WITH autumn approaching especially with the clocks changing this weekend this is a perfect time to explore red wines, and what's better than Tempranillo?

A black grape variety widely grown to make medium to full bodied reds and often referred to as Spain's noble grape, the Tempranillo name is derived from 'temprano,' which is Spanish for early. This refers to the fact that it ripens several weeks earlier than most Spanish red grapes.

Grown in Spain since Phoenician times more than 2,000 years ago, although native to the north the grape is found throughout the globe from Argentina to New Zealand.

The major producing Spanish regions are Rioja in north central Spain and the more southerly Ribera del Duero, though substantial quantities are also



LA RIOJA: The heartland of Tempranillo.

## Trophy catch of Spanish grapes

grown in Penedès, Navarra and Valdepeñas.

Tempranillo with a fairly neutral profile is often blended with other varieties or aged in oak where the wine takes on the flavour of the barrel.

Ruby red in colour, Tempranillo aromas and flavours can include berries, plum, tobacco, vanilla,

leather and herb, providing reminders of Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Tempranillo with its savoury qualities pairs well with all food, including regional Spanish cuisine, ham, lamb, grilled meats, casseroles and game, dishes with tomato-based sauces, Polenta, and Mexican food including tacos, nachos and burritos.

Alternatively try it along with a nice Manchego cheese with crusty bread.

Happy tasting.

### BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi



# Stage 35 new dates

STAGE 35 have had to change a couple of performance dates for 'The Speakeasy Murder.'

The new dates are as follows, El Cortijo, Bedar has moved to Monday November 27. Tickets are on sale now and available from the venue. Please be in your seats by 7.30pm as the show starts promptly at 8.00pm.

For those who live in or near Los Gallardos, you can now see the show in the Miraflores Ballroom on Camping Los Gallardos on Tuesday November 28. As with the other venues, please be in your seats by 7.30pm as the show starts at 8.00pm.

You can win a prize not only for guessing who did the dirty deed but also for best-dressed gangster and moll.

If you can't get to see the group in any of the above venues, fear not as they return to Kuki's Bar on Mojacar Playa on Tuesday December 5. Start time is the same and tickets are now available.

Stage 35 are one of the most well established and well equipped drama groups in the area so if you are interested in joining, please contact Bill White, on 671 810 819 or email [williamwhite9552@aol.com](mailto:williamwhite9552@aol.com) as they are always looking for new members on stage, back stage and front of house.



STAGE 35: Will be performing The Speakeasy Murder.

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INTERNATIONAL TOUR: A scene from the show.

# Dirty Dancing the musical in Almeria

ONE of the most successful contemporary musicals is in Spain as part of an international tour.

This huge hit from the 1980s, Dirty Dancing will be live at the Auditorio Municipal Padilla in Almeria City from today (Thursday) until Sunday.

Directed by Federico Bellone, this version of the show manages to bring to the stage the emotions that distinguished Jennifer Gray and Patrick Swayze on the big screen.

The plot of Dirty Dancing records how in the summer of 1963, Frances 'Baby' Houseman, a 17-year-old girl, is caught up in a boring and monotonous vacation with her family in the Catskill Mountains of New York.

This situation changes however when, during a party at the hotel, she meets up with the handsome and famous dance teacher Johnny Castle.

Produced by Iñaki Fernández, head of the Letsgo Company, an extraordi-

nary mix of international talent makes up the cast, but the music and dance without doubt form a major part of the performance.

Tickets cost €45 and €55 depending upon the seats chosen with two separate performances on Friday and Saturday and single performances on the other days.

To find out times and to book, visit the auditorium box office or the Almeria Culture website.

## Bird lovers flock to Almeria



BIRD SHOW: Bright yellow canary in a cage.

THERE will be a caged bird show at the Congress Cabo de Gata Almeria El Toyo opening next Sunday and running until the following Sunday.

The third International Ornithological Championship, organised by the Ornithological Association of Almeria with the support of the city council expects to bring together 4,000 birds and 12,000 from across Spain and many countries in Europe.

A diverse number of different birds including canaries, hybrids, exotics and parrots will swoop into the city from France, Italy and Portugal as well as a strong Spanish contingent all competing for a number of coveted prizes.

Judges from Brazil, England, Malta and Portugal will be choosing the best of the various breeds on show, all of which have been bred in captivity.

Admission is free and the general public will be admitted for the last three days of the show giving them the opportunity to enjoy the bright colours and beauty of the exhibited birds.

The president of the Ornithological Association of Almeria has recently highlighted the importance of Almeria in the world of Ornithology, pointing out that Almeria Province is setting the pace for national ornithology and boasts a number of breeders who are world champions.

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Photo credit Ayuntamiento de Albox

ALL TILES: Mayor Torrecillas, left, and two of the local craftsmen.

# Potted luck!

CERAMICS are back with a vengeance in Albox. A new space dedicated to handicrafts will restore one of the town's most traditional trades back to pride of place in the community.

An abandoned area just behind Calle Purchena has been converted into 'Potters' Square,' the catchy new name given by the town hall.

Last week Potters' Square welcomed several ceramic pieces from acclaimed craftsman Antonio El Puntas. Along with new benches and trees it was the icing on the cake for the new social space.

Albox mayor Francisco Torrecillas said that the initiative was designed "to honour all the local families in the pottery industry, who have put Albox's name on the national handicraft map with their work over the decades."

He said it was wonderful that an area, which until recently was a rubbish heap, was now a popular recreational area enjoyed by locals. Potters' Square will become an open-air museum expressing Almería's traditional art and culture, he said.



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# No hard shoulder! Motorway project goes on



Photo credit Junta de Andalucía

## IN THE PIPELINE: The new stretch.

THE Junta de Andalucía regional authority's Development and Housing Ministry has announced that work on the A-334 Almanzora motorway will continue next summer.

It comes as officials revealed that a contract for the section between Cucador and El Pilar will be put to tender

by the end of the year.

The Junta has also published in its official gazette a list of former landowners who are now authorised to collect payments from Huerca-Overa Council after their land was earlier expropriated for the multi-million Euro project.

Once complete, the motorway is set to connect 28 Al-

manzora Valley municipalities and more than 70,000 residents with its A-7 counterpart, offering a much faster route for local drivers.

This story appeared in the previous issue (1685) of the *Euro Weekly News* but regrettably contained some factual inaccuracies, for which we apologise.

## Lightbulb moment

ZURGENA'S La Cruz neighbourhood is set to benefit from new lighting and an upgraded water network.

Works have begun to install a modern sewage system as well as to asphalt the neighbourhood's main square. Accessibility will also be improved for those with reduced mobility through a series of ramps. New tiling, lighting and metal works will finish off the project.

Luis Diaz, Zurgena's mayor, explained, "these works will provide an answer to the historic problems residents wanted dealt with in the neighbourhood, which has visibly deteriorated and outdated infrastructure."

He added the works "will allow us to beautify pavements and other public spaces in the La Cruz area at the same time. Improvements to the new square and pavements have already been carried out."



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# Official business

## ‘Illegal’ works mayor could face jail

ALBOX'S mayor has been threatened with prison over a building project on private land.

Francisco Torrecillas has been warned by opposition party, PSOE, works to private land next to Parque Fofó could be illegal.

They accuse the mayor of starting construction work to the area before any formalities had been agreed and leaving large

holes around the plot which they say endangered safety.

His former coalition partners have claimed “thousands of Euros of municipal funds were thrown in the trash,” when Torrecillas, “made a unilateral decision to undertake work on a private plot.”

The party further claims work began before the plot was fully owned by the

council, something which the mayor denies. PSOE added the project was started “on the basis of only one conversation, without any documentation or legal contract and putting at risk the safety of pedestrians, children and mostly the elderly, who use the area every day.”

The PSOE councillors, who were part of the governing team with Torrecillas when the controversial works took place, have accused the mayor of being “imprisoned by his ego,” and of lying to residents.

They concluded, “he could be guilty of the crime of prevarication and we therefore reserve the right to launch the corresponding legal action,” adding they would seek “political and judicial remedies.”



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# Sweeten your garden up with sugar cane

**GRAEME TYRRELL**

**BRIGHT** sunny spots in the Mediterranean garden are often a challenge to find plants hardy enough to tolerate the intense heat and sun and yet be strong enough to resist the cold winter months with shorter day length.

An interesting alternative to the more common species for these zones that requires minimal maintenance and provides a wonderful food source is sugar cane, (*Saccharum officinarum*).

Sugar cane has been grown commercially in Spain for hundreds of years, especially along the Mediterranean

coast, but production declined when it was found to be more economical to grow in the New World after Christopher Columbus took plants there to grow on the tropical islands off Central America.

For the home gardener it is a great alternative to bamboo as it is less invasive and gives the option of extracting the wonderful sugar cane juice.

The sugar cane plant grows and looks similar to bamboo as it is of the grass family of plants,

Poaceae. With stalks of cane growing up to four metres high and with a width of five centimetres, it has wonderful flowering tassels at the top of the canes that are often called arrows, due to the flow-ers form appearing as an ar-

row head.

The tassels wave in the wind giving a gentle relaxing rhythm reminiscent of the waves in the sea. The leaves are long, a very distinct shade of green and rustle in the wind. The canes can be used like bamboo for making supports in the garden, or other structures.

The juice from the mature canes is used to make crystallised sugar, molasses and syrups. Sugar is controversial for its health benefits as the refined sugar made from the juice has chemicals including added sulphur, which makes it acidic in nature, but the natural juice is deliciously sweet and alkaline has many positive health benefits. It is recognised in Ayurvedic and other traditional medicines as therapeutic.

Extracting the juice requires a strong press to remove cleanly but alternatives are to boil down the inner core of the canes to make a syrup, or use a powerful blender or juicer.

In India it is a common refreshment with lime juice and ginger, added from street vendors all over the country using what looks like a washing machine wringer to crush and extract the juice.

The plants are easy to grow from the stalks, by planting a piece from a strong healthy plant about 30 - 40 centimetres long with three or four joints which the plant will grow from. Growing from seed can give very variable results as the sugar cane can cross with other Poaceae species and may not be true to the parent plant. It takes two to three years for the emerging canes to be mature enough to produce the juice that can be extracted and be tall and thick enough to harvest as canes.

They are best grown in a position in full sun all year but protected from the cold if only growing a few as an ornament feature.

**GREEN FINGERS:** Growing and flowering sugar cane.

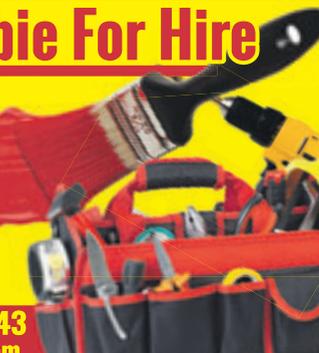
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# Understanding dogs



## David THE Dogman

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MANY times in a week I am informed that a dog only understands German, French, Spanish, or English.

I find that many owners and some trainers have a misguided perception of what a dog really is and entertain false expectations of their pet. Most think their pet is a small hairy person based on the assumption that a dog's level of understanding is equal to their own.

It is vital to keep in mind that dogs do not have the capacity to intercept human language, behaviour or emotions.

### How intelligent is a dog?

Dogs are capable of linking two ideas together, but cannot link actions, which are separated to another time. If for example a dog makes a mess during your absence there is no point in telling the dog off or getting annoyed; the dog's brain cannot link the action. Many will say 'He knows he has done wrong', he does not, the brain is not formulated this way.

A dog's brain is much smaller than man's, in particular the cerebrum - the portion of the brain associated with intellectual function, emotion and personality. Dogs cannot understand our human language. It is far more important to use sound patterns, intonation and facial and body language as a form of communication.

A dog wants to please and all learning should be based on a positive reinforcement of reward. Owners should keep in mind that a large part of a dog's brain is occupied with sensory activity, particularly the interpretation of scent.



**CHASING INSTINCT: Can be managed.**

Instinct is something either there or not there.

Dog's natural instinct plays a vital role and often it is difficult to understand why so few dog owners can differentiate between in-

stinct and intelligence. Instinct is an urge from within which makes a dog act in certain ways and has no connection with intelligence.

Dog's first instinct is to survive, when a pup is born he squirms

about until he finds a teat and then sucks it. No intelligence or learning by any association plays a part in the process.

The maternal instinct tells the female to clean up the foetal membrane and stir the puppy into action by licking it. The female is not taught, as she has not seen another female do this. Most instincts provide pleasure to the dog, and because it associates the action with pleasure, the instinct grows stronger with usage.

Instinct can be strengthened, weakened or diverted, it cannot be put there and it cannot be taken away. It might lie dormant, but once developed it can never be weakened.

A dog with an obsession for chasing balls or chewing socks can be controlled by training and by providing other outlets for his energy. The same if a young dog is corrected the first time he chases a car he may give up the idea, but if he is allowed to chase cars the hunting instinct becomes stronger, and in no time it will be very difficult, even impossible to cure the habit.

Instinct also covers survival, hunting, guarding, and the pack.

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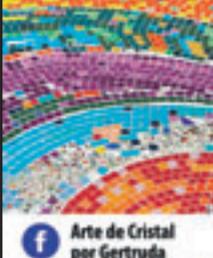
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# Brexit's luxury gamble

A HARD Brexit could threaten Britain's continued leadership in the motoring world's luxury market. The UK is currently a global trailblazer in the specialist and high-performance car production business.

But that could all change according to a study from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). If leaving the EU means tighter import restrictions and costs, the study suggests that British superiority might be over.

"We need certainty on Britain's future trading relationships, including customs plans,

market access, regulations governing the design, production and approval of vehicles", said SMMT boss Mike Hawes.

But Aston Martin chief executive Andy Palmer, who described Britain as the "Treasure Island" of the European motor market, isn't concerned.

"The UK is too important for European manufacturers", he said. "If you take away the treasure then it becomes just an island.

"Brexit is something we will manage and move on - it's the British spirit. We've good

products we need to engineer and launch and we are not letting it get in the way", he added.

There are more than 60 specialist car manufacturers in the UK. Turnover for the market last year was an incredible £3.6 billion (€4) billion. Aston Martin, Bentley, Lotus, Caterham, and McLaren are just a few of the biggest names.

Two out of every three specialist cars produced in the UK are exported to the rest of the world. There are 32,000 built annually now, expected to rise to more than 50,000 by 2020, assuming Brexit doesn't interfere.



**HOME GROWN:** Aston Martin isn't fussed about a hard Brexit.

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**ROAD TEST** by Nick Fletcher

# Ford Fiesta Titanium

SINCE it was launched in the 1970s, the Ford Fiesta has notched up total sales of more than four million.

The obvious conclusion is that so many buyers just cannot be wrong. Ford puts the long-term success down to style, value and driving dynamics, though there is probably more to it than that.

There are class rivals which are cheaper, and in the view of some, may look better and perhaps drive better, but they all have individual shortcomings. The reason the Fiesta remains king is that it pulls all those strands together to make it the best car overall. It's the perfect all-rounder and that's key to why it has such a devoted following.

Fiesta prices start at €14,325 (£12,715) for a version which has alloy wheels, air-conditioning and Bluetooth, but not too much more. Mid-range Zetec models add more kit and my upper range Titanium test model added even more, which took the price of a five-door diesel to €20,871 (£18,525).

This model has a refined 1.5 litre 118 hp diesel unit with six-speed manual gearbox, and nippy performance of 0-100 kph in nine seconds and top speed of 195 kph (121 mph). However, it still returns an impressive 31 kpl (88.3 mpg) - so frugal that at times I felt the fuel guage may have

jammed!

The Fiesta is fun to drive, nimble and composed in the corners with a very comfortable ride.

Steering is accurate and gives good feedback and while the gearshift isn't quite as slick as it might be, the gears are well-spaced.

The latest Fiesta - longer and wider than its predecessor - benefits from a mild visual makeover which sharpens its exterior looks, but the main difference is a re-designed cabin which looks more impressive, with greater use of soft-touch materials. The driving position is excellent, with good visibility and plenty of seat and steering wheel adjustment.

Fiesta scores highly for practicality. There is more leg-room for rear seat occupants, and boot space is 303 litres, expandable to 984

litres. The tailgate is larger than on the previous model though there is a deep load-lip. However, a variable-height boot floor is an option.

Standard kit on the Titanium version includes alloy wheels, heated windscreen, rear privacy glass, keyless entry and push-button start, cruise control, tyre pressure monitoring, auto lights and wipers, sat-nav with touch screen, DAB radio, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto - plus illuminated cup holders!

## Stats panel

**Model:** Ford Fiesta Titanium  
**Engine:** 1.5 litre diesel  
**Transmission:** 6-speed manual  
**Performance:** 0-100 kph 9 seconds, top speed 195 kph (121 mph)  
**Economy:** 31 kpl (88.3 mpg)  
**Emissions:** 89 g/km



Model tested is UK-specification and equipment levels and prices may vary in other markets.

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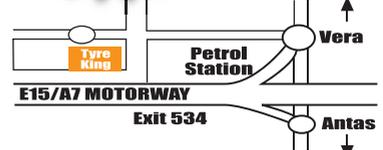
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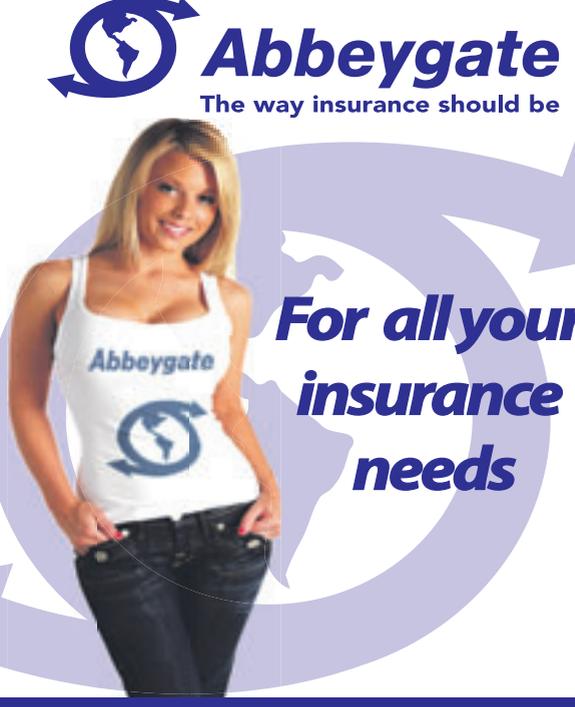
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# Wake-up call for England in Rugby League World Cup



**UKSPORTSCENE**

with Andrew Atkinson

ENGLAND face Australia in Melbourne in the opening match of the 2017 Rugby League World Cup on Friday - with preparations of tailor-made mattress toppers and personalised pillows.

"Quality sleep on a familiar surface is proven to enhance recovery rates naturally," said Rugby Football League Head of Human Performance, Richard Hunwicks.

Members of the England squad will be hoping to benefit from the tailor-made mattress toppers and personalised pillows in preparation for the 2017 Rugby League World Cup.

It is deemed the preparations will offer players a cooler,

pressure-relieving and more breathable sleeping surface - while in competition.

The England squad have undertaken pressure point testing, prior to the 2017 Rugby League World Cup, to determine preferred levels of mattress firmness in a bid to improve recovery rates and induce quality rest.

"This approach, accompanied by regulating breathing before sleep, will add to the detailed processes we have in place during the World Cup," said Hunwicks.

England are amongst 14 teams playing 28 games over a five week period - during October 27 - December 2 - in a bid to become World Champions on the international Rugby League stage.

After England's fixture against Australia in Melbourne they have two Group games - against Lebanon in Sydney and France in Perth. In addition to playing matches in Australia and New Zealand, there will be three pool matches played in Papua New Guinea.

"The challenge of training, games, travel and changing hotel beds on a weekly basis are all elements that can affect a player's rest and recovery," added Hunwicks.

And England and Castleford Tigers star Luke Gale said: "It can get pretty busy when on international duty with the training schedules, meetings, travel and games. A quality night's sleep is essential - to maintain our energy levels."

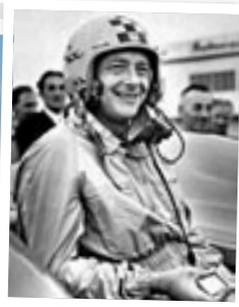
Gale, aged 29, who underwent an operation in September to have his appendix removed, said: "A lot of planning goes into the squad's performance."

Gale, who was set to miss the 2017 Rugby League World Cup having been rushed into hospital for emergency keyhole surgery, said: "The doctor said my season was over - and I wouldn't be going to Australia."

And half-back Gale quipped: "In Rugby League we tend not to listen to doctors. I'm feeling fit and healthy again."

On England's preparations, Gale added: "It's good to know that we're leaving no stone left unturned when it comes to doing our best at the World Cup."

The 2017 Rugby League World Cup Final will be staged at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane on Saturday December 2.



**50 YEARS AGO: Donald Campbell and Bluebird K7 (insets).**

## Campbell-Bluebird - 50 years on

THE Coniston Power Boat Records week gets underway on Monday on Coniston Water - featuring all classes of boat in the finale to the 2017 racing season - 50 years after Donald Campbell's tragic death.

In 1964 Campbell broke both world land and water speed records, making history. Three years later Campbell, aged 46, died on Coniston - a mere split-second from claiming

the water speed record for an eighth time.

In 2017 hydroplanes, inshore circuit racers and offshore boats are entered for the Coniston Power Boat Records week.

Bluebird was raised from Coniston Water in 2001 and donated to the Ruskin Museum in Coniston. The Coniston Power Boat Records week takes place during October 30 - November 3.

SPAIN'S two-times F1 world champion Fernando Alonso is looking ahead to 2018 - with the Gods mapping out his future: better times are coming.

"I believe things happen because they have to happen," said Alonso, who is competing in the F1 2017 Grand Prix in Mexico on Sunday October 29.

Alonso's last F1 win was the 2013 Spanish Grand Prix at the Circuit de Catalunya, Barcelona. It was Alonso's 32nd Grand Prix victory.

Looking ahead to 2018, Alonso - whose odds to win in Malaysia on October 1 were an astonishing 400-1 - said: "Next year there are minimum changes of regulations."

Renault will be supplying Alonso's current team McLaren's engines in 2018, and he said: "I think the rate of development this year has been very high - because of new regulations - and there will be extra development over the winter."

Alonso, who has approaching 100 podiums, finishing first on 32 occasions, sees his fall from the top of F1 as fate: "All the things that happen - in a race, in a championship, or in your life - are for a reason," he said.

"Better times are coming - I prefer to think that way," said Alonso, who tipped Lewis Hamilton for the 2017 F1 title, ahead of Sebastian Vettel.

Alonso, who has competed against both Hamilton and Vettel for world titles, revealed he punched a fist into a wall in frustration after the 2017 Singapore GP.

Alonso, who went out of the race at the first corner, said: "It was frustration.

## SPORTSCENE SPAIN

with Andrew Atkinson



**SPAIN'S F1 STAR ALONSO: Destiny awaits.**

# Destiny awaits Alonso in 2018

"I want to be competitive - back in victory for the F1 world championship."

That podium could have been one of the biggest things of my career - and we missed it."

Alonso, who ended Michael Schumacher's reign at the top, moved to McLaren, had spells with Renault and Ferrari, and clocked up 17 victories, with three championship runner-up titles.

Oviedo born Alonso, aged 36, secured his first F1 race drive with Minardi, prior

to joining Renault as a test driver in 2002, becoming a race driver in 2003.

In 2005, aged 22, Alonso made history by becoming the youngest ever pole-sitter in Malaysia, and the youngest winner, with maiden victory in Hungary.

In 2007 Alonso moved to McLaren, alongside Hamilton, returning to Renault in 2008 - gaining victories at the inaugural F1 night race in Singapore - fol-

lowed by a race win in Japan.

In 2010 Alonso took just one podium, in Singapore. A move to Ferrari followed, to partner Felipe Massa, a season that saw Alonso gain five wins - finishing behind new world champion Sebastian Vettel.

Alonso's second season with Ferrari saw victory at Silverstone - followed by nine podiums - finishing fourth overall.

In 2012 Alonso won the Malaysian GP, and victory in front of a home crowd in Valencia saw Alonso head the drivers' standings, only to be thwarted by Vettel, who won a third F1 title.

Alonso achieved wins in China and Spain in 2013 - along with seven podium standings - but Vettel was crowned F1 Champion, yet again.

In 2014, despite Alonso's two podium finishes, the team failed to win for the first time since 1993, leading to Alonso returning to McLaren.

In a woeful 2015 campaign Alonso scored points - in just two races - ending the season with a paltry 11 points.

Alonso, who was lucky when he avoided serious injury following a crash at Melbourne's Albert Park in 2016, said: "I want to be competitive next year, back on the podiums. I want to be back in victory - fighting for the world championship. I remain optimistic."

Despite no F1 wins during the 2017 season - and no podium placings, Alonso is undeterred: "I think positive - always.

"What has happened this year is because destiny wanted that - it is taking care of our luck for better opportunities."

**SERGIO GARCIA** has won the Andalucia Valderrama Masters. The Spaniard, whose foundation hosted the event, carded a final round four-under-par 67 to beat Dutchman Joost Luiten by one shot.

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## Valle Del Este Golf Society

FOLLOWING the fantastic success of the Asprodalba charity day, the society has been getting back to normal with the Monthly Medal and the Stableford the following week

The Monthly Medal was contested by a good turnout and there was some very creditable scoring across the board but it was Geoff Owen, really enjoying a purple patch, taking the honours from 'Dangerous' Andrew Tatlow and the ever improving Tony Dudley.

- 1st Geoff Owen: nett 67
- 2nd Andrew Tatlow: nett 73
- 3rd Tony Dudley: nett 75

Stableford action returned this week with the biggest turnout of the year thanks to a huge visiting contingent from Wales. They made a very welcome addition to the event and the sunny conditions obviously suited them as Lynne Nash pipped Jax Quigley on countback after both finished on 35 points with the ever consistent Steve Bailey taking third place.

- 1st Lynne Nash: 35 points
- 2nd Jax Quigley: 35 points
- 3rd Steve Bailey

Valle Del Este Golf Society is affiliated to the Valle Del Este Golf Resort in Vera. They play every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Singles competitions are played every Thursday including a Monthly Medal. Visitors are welcome (subject to available tee times). Please ring Alan Townsend on 634 379 887.

# Aguilon golf match members report

WITH the annual Ryder Cup match between the UK team and their Spanish friends taking place over the weekend of November 4, qualifying rounds for a place in the UK team are in full swing (no pun intended).

One round worthy of note was from Norman Whibley, who shot a one under par gross 70 playing of six for a nett 64.

Another crowded leader board with the top 10 all within four shots.

Monthly Medal results are as follows:

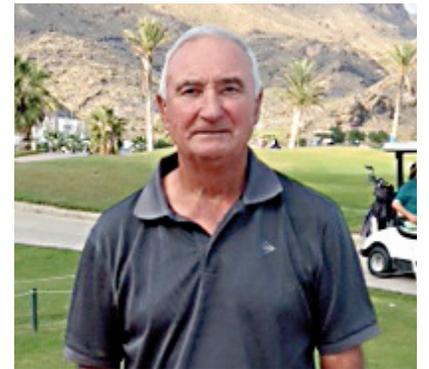
1st Peter Death: 78-8= 70 on a card play off

2nd Norman Whibley: 76-6= 70

3rd Phil Miles: 79-8= 71

Two's: John Bridgen: 14, Colin Waters: x2 14, Norman Ridgway: 17, Dave Wilson: 17.

The snowbirds seem to have arrived early this year and the course is very busy,



**AGUILON GOLF CLUB:** Gearing up for the annual Ryder Cup match.

however yet again good scores were posted on a fine day for the second qualifier.

Campbell Lamont Qualifier results:

1st Glyn Ombler: 39 pts

2nd Phil Miles: 38 pts

3rd Bob White: 37 pts on a card play off

Twos: Bill Gibb 3rd, Rich Hull x2 8th and 12th, Bob White 12th, Mark Newall, Dave Wilson 14th, Dave Greaves and Chris Tyler 17th.

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