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Flightmare!

Brit pair suffer three-day ordeal

A BRITISH couple were stranded for three days and forced to take a major detour after their Ryanair flight was cancelled due to French air strikes.

Samantha Breen, 30, and her partner Alexander Rutherford, 43, were due to fly back to the UK on October 10 after a five-day break in Mallorca but didn't make it until October 14.

After a six hour wait at Palma de Mallorca Airport, the couple were told that their flight had been cancelled and the next available seats were on October 13, but they had to fly



Photo credit Samantha Breen/Facebook

STRANDED: The family (inset) were left without money.

to Madrid and Lanzarote first.

The airline put the couple up in a hotel for three days, where they were stranded without food and with only €11 be-

tween them. Their family sent them €100 to help them out.

On October 13, the couple, from Thornaby-on-Tees, flew to Madrid and then on to Lan-

zarote, where they arrived just before midnight. Ms Breen told UK media that they were forced to sleep on a wooden bench outside the airport as there was no one at the Ryanair desk to assist them when they arrived.

They then had to wait at the airport for eight hours until their flight back to Newcastle.

A Ryanair spokesperson claimed that the flight had been cancelled 16 hours before the scheduled departure and that customers were sent emails offering a full refund or free transfer.

Rapist had escaped

POLICE admitted that a young Frenchman accused of drugging and raping a Palma woman had escaped from a detention centre.

The 20-year-old suspect is believed to have broken into the woman's home, raped her twice, then forced sedative pills down her throat. He then tied her up and set fire to the place.

See us on page 24



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'Number 2' prefers prison

THE right-hand man of accused Palma mobster and club

owner Tolo Cursach has said he prefers to stay in prison for the

time being. Bartolome Sbert, who along with his boss has been jailed since March, declined a €500,000 offer of bail, saying that jail "is the safest place for him."

Property Special 42 - 46

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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!

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 slashes UK flights

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

Norwegian operates routes to five destinations in Spain from the Midlands; Barcelona, Gran Canaria, Madrid, Malaga and Tenerife. The Manchester routes included popular winter destinations Alicante and Lanzarote. Apart from Tenerife, all flights departing from Edinburgh have also been scrapped.

A statement from the company on Tuesday 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," and then the following day they announced they would pull out of the northern hub.

NEWS EXTRA

Feeling fruity

THE Balearic Environmental Ministry will finance the replanting of 6,000 hectares of fruit and nut trees per year to combat the deadly Xylella fastidiosa bacterium. The disease is estimated to have wiped out more than a million trees on Mallorca.

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BARCELONA PORT

P19

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P16

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



P29

HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU

Crooked clan

A DRUG lord and his crooked clan are facing a total of 220 years in prison. 'El Pablo' and 51 members of his extended family are accused of smuggling Colombian cocaine directly to Mallorca. The gangsters have run Palma's La Soledat neighbourhood for years.

Image makeover

COUPLES enjoying a romantic get-away and families with children now make up 70 per cent of Magaluf's tourists.

Hoteliers claim the infamous party resort is shedding its negative image. Young Brits lured by sex, drugs and rock n' roll are just 22 per cent of bookings.

Direct flights

BETTER flight connections between the UK and Mallorca can be expected after the creation of Thomas Cook Airlines Balearics. The new airline will be based on the island and commence flights from early next year. Competitive rates are expected to fill the low-cost, low-season gap in the market.

Electric guns

POLICEMEN in Calvia may soon be armed with Taser guns which fire electric shocks at violent and drunken tourists.

Batons lead to bone fractures and lawsuits, while pistols are only for use in extreme situations. Despite being trained, officers are often physically overwhelmed by larger, drunk and drug-fuelled foreigners.

Moto Champ

HONDA driver Joan Mir won the Moto3 World Championship on Sunday night. The 20-year-old Palma phenomenon capped off an outstanding season with victory at the Australia Grand Prix. Mir becomes Mallorca's new racing hope after the tragic death of Luis Salom last year.

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

Pest poison

POISON spray will target the dreaded pine processionary caterpillar around Palma's Bellver Castle over the coming weeks.

The surrounding pine forests are a breeding ground for the creature, whose hairs can trigger serious allergic reactions, including breathing problems, in people and animals.

115

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1685 of the Euro Weekly News Mallorca edition, including 52 local stories.

PLUS THE REGULARS

News
1 - 15

Leapy Lee
25

TV
28

Letters
30

Time Out
32 - 33

Tech
34

Health & beauty
37 - 38

Social
39 - 41

Pets
48

Classifieds
49 - 50

Motoring
53

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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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Recycling one tonne of paper saves 682.5 gallons of oil, 7,000 gallons of water and 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space.

Lost in translation



Explosive dog

CORRECTIONS

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

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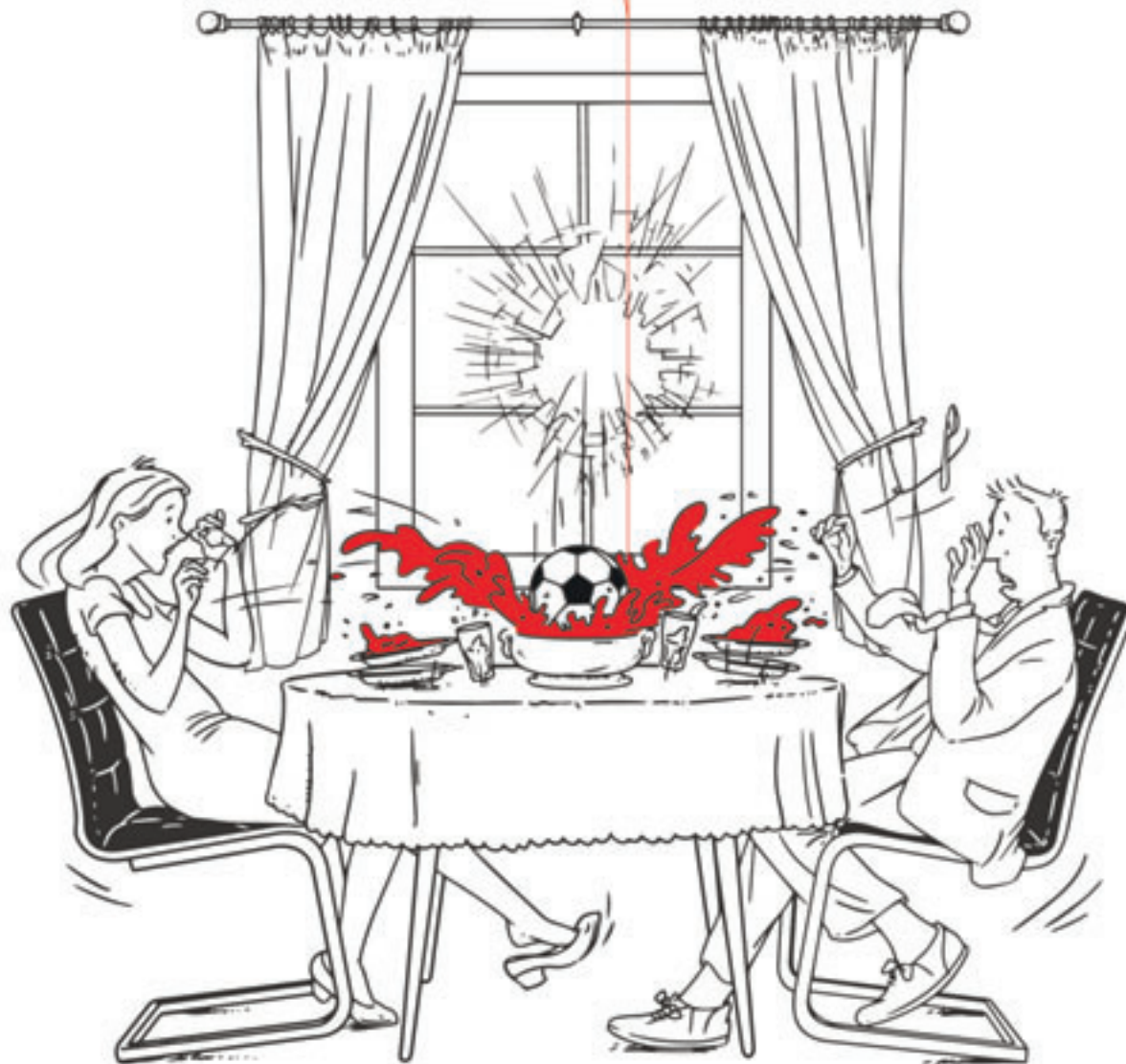
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Fun in the sun

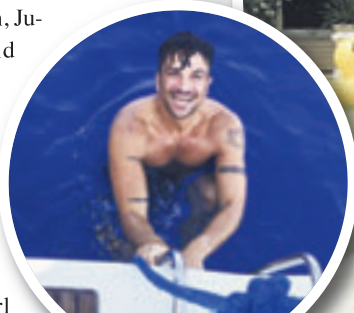
HE'S the 90's pop star who became known for his six pack abs.

But Peter Andre, 44, managed to keep his shirt on as he made a splash on a jet ski in Mallorca 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.

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.

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.



ISLAND FUN: Anne Hathaway.

Lady Gaga/Instagram

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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.

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Outbreak hotel!

One dead as disease disaster probed

By Matthew Elliott

AN outbreak of Legionnaires' disease that killed one British tourist and affected at least 17 others, is now under control.

Calvia Council spokesman Andreu Serra pledged "there will be no new infections," after dozens of Palmanova hotels decided to shut early for the winter.

President of the Palmanova-Magaluf Hotel Association, Sebastia Darder, was thankful that the outbreak occurred in October and not in the middle of summer.

He said that reservations had been diverted to different areas across the island to placate the British tour operators' association.

The Balearic public health ministry is now trying to identify the source of the outbreak. Legionella is a bacterium which affects the lungs. Outbreaks often occur in hospitals, hotels and other tight spaces. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting, and chest pain.



OUTBREAK: Brit tourist killed as Palmanova hit by disease.

A 70-year-old British man was the sole fatality of the outbreak. He suffered from diabetes, leukaemia and heart disease, which complicated his recovery. The rest of the affected are understood to be recovering well.

British tourists weren't the only ones affected. Two French nationals, one Czech, one Danish and a Spanish hotel worker also caught the bug. Eight of

them contracted the illness at one Palmanova hotel where a positive identification of the Legionella bacteria was made.

Samples have been taken from all seven of the affected hotels. The initial outbreak took place at the end of September, with the bug not spreading until a few weeks later.

A lack of further infections confirms that the threat is now over.

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Photo credit: Mes Per Mallorca/Twitter

DIVISION: Mallorca mirrors Cataluña divide on streets.

An island divided

THE decision to impose direct rule in Cataluña by Madrid has caused fresh fissures in Balearic politics.

Mes per Mallorca, which wants more autonomy for the island, called Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's controversial move a 'coup d'état.'

Spokesman David Abril denounced Rajoy as a dictator and said the Spanish constitution was being used as a

weapon against Catalan separatists.

The Socialist PSIB, which is Mes' senior coalition partner in the Balearic parliament, has kept relatively quiet. Balearic prime minister Francina Armengol has repeatedly called for dialogue amid accusations that she secretly favours Catalan independence, but is afraid to speak out.

The conservative Popular Party toed the line from Madrid. Balearic spokesman Biel Company called the Catalan leaders 'irresponsible' and said Rajoy was left with no choice but to defend the constitution.

With many Mallorcans sharing a Catalan identity with their neighbours on the mainland, the independence drama is also playing out on the island. Protests both for and against separation have taken place, with several ugly scenes reported.

2

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BUGGED: Hundreds of Brits scammed Mallorca hotels.

Great British bug-off

Hundreds identified as sickness scammers

AROUND 800 British tourists have been identified as potential holiday sickness scam artists. National Police have the names of the suspects, who allegedly filed fake sickness claims against Mallorca hotels.

In recent months hotels, police and private investigators have worked in unison to track down British tourists who may have launched false claims after their stay on the island.

The revelation that they have hundreds of names already comes one week after two Brits were jailed in England for trying to con Thomas Cook, and by extension a Mallorca hotel, out of thousands of euros.

The avalanche of food poisoning claims judged fraudulent by police were made through a total of 77 law firms. Spanish police and the British authorities believe a sophisticated criminal network both funds the firms and encourages tourists to make fake claims.

The joint investigation had already had a huge impact. Fearful Brits have begun a mass

withdrawal of sickness complaints as hotels and travel agencies begin scrutinising their claims.

Private detectives are scouring through social media websites hunting for evidence that contradicts their stories.

The British couple jailed last week were confronted with their online boasts that they'd had such a terrific holiday, while pretending it was 'ruined' by food poisoning.

In the past 18 months roughly €5 million worth of claims have been made by Brits against Mallorca hotels. It is now looking extremely unlikely that many will be paid out.



Tourist tax doubled

THE tourist tax will be doubled in the high season but remain unchanged between November and April.

The winter concession was made to encourage off-season tourism. Balearic residents will still have to pay the tax if they travel around the islands to avoid claims of discrimination.

Tourists can now expect to pay an average of €3 per night to stay on the islands during the peak season. The price hike will take effect from May 2018.

Balearic ministers expect to raise €120 million from the tax next year. It controversially debuted in summer 2016, with around €33 mil-

lion raised that year.

The money is ploughed into environmental protection measures, infrastructure and conserving historic sites, though there is considerable debate over its allocation.

Doubling the tax was vehemently opposed by the strong hotel lobby. It fears that Mallorca risks deterring tourists at a time when competitors, including Turkey and Egypt, are regaining momentum.

£40,000,000

The amount that Japan offered Spain to buy the Philippines in 1894.

NEWS EXTRA

Turning turtle

A SEA turtle rescued from Soller port in a poor condition is recovering well and has been named 'Trobol.' The 6.2kg female was found trapped in fishing nets and had a damaged right fin.

Anchor anger

DOZENS of fines have been issued against yachting companies as Mallorca fights back against illegal mooring, which damages the native posidonia seagrass. Last year just one fine was issued.

Shot dead

JUDGES found a man accused of murdering his wife's lover in Porto Cristo guilty. Arnau MN faces 22 years in prison for executing Angel Abad with two shots as he had breakfast.

Clean bill

ALL public lighting across the Balearics will be powered by LED light bulbs within five years. Energy minister Marc Pons says the move will reduce the lighting bill by 60 per cent.

Public voice

HALF of all Mallorca residents polled support banning holiday rentals in apartments. Fifty-five per cent support limiting traffic to natural areas. A majority don't want Palma to drop 'de Mallorca' in its name.

Violent gang

POLICE arrested five men and one woman who smashed into a couple's Sa Poba finca, hit them with metal bars and stole jewellery and their car, which was later set on fire.

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Advertising Feature

Politics dominates the week

Commentary by Moneycorp

Carney fails to calm the storm

THE pound has once again been buffeted by the twin forces of Brexit negotiations and the Bank of England this week. The previous week saw no progress in the negotiations, and there were suggestions that PM Theresa May did not have anything new to offer the EU president when she met with him early this week. In anticipation of a statement by Bank of England governor Mark Carney, the pound rose early in the day, but dipped again as investors appear disappointed at the lack of clear statements in his testimony to the Treasury Select Committee. While he did confirm that a rate increase might be appropriate "in the coming months," there was no confirmation of when this would take place.

Catalonian independence question answered

There was little news from Europe this

week, the potential threat from Catalanian independence has been neutralised for now, somewhat controversially, but any subsequent rise in nationalist sentiment may pose a challenge for the currency in the future. The headline rate of inflation there was unchanged at 1.5 per cent and the 'core' index was 1.3 per cent higher on the year. There was no reaction by the euro because Euroland interest rates are nailed to the floor and will remain there for the foreseeable future.

All eyes on the next US Fed Chair

The US inflation figures released at the end of last week were lower than forecast, but this had little impact on the dollar. Investors were primarily looking forward as the time approaches for the nomination of Janet Yellen's replacement as the new Federal Reserve chair. It seems unlikely that

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Janet Yellen will serve another term at the Fed. The dollar could be expected to react positively if the new chairperson is seen to have a more hawkish attitude to monetary policy than the current incumbent.

RBA stands firm on interest rates

Down under, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) confirmed that they would not be raising interest rates from the benchmark 1.5 per cent in the foreseeable future. Despite changes on the horizon elsewhere, the RBA stated that moves towards tighter

policy by central banks elsewhere 'did not have mechanical implications for the setting of policy in Australia.'

New government for New Zealand

It was a big week for New Zealand, but not necessarily a good news week for the New Zealand dollar. The market reacted positively to the Consumer Prices index, which went up by 0.5 per cent in the third quarter, lifting the annual rate of inflation from 1.7 per cent to 1.9 per cent.

However, this was short lived and any gains made were given back the same day. The big story is the new coalition government now that Winston Peters, the leader of the New Zealand First party, has agreed to team up with Labour and the Greens, making Jacinda Ardern the next prime minister in place of Bill English.

In an unknown quantity, the market did not react positively to the news and the New Zealand dollar struggled to keep its head above water now that the uncertainty of the election has been followed by more uncertainty in the form of a brand new government.



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End of privacy?

Tax man wants all rental details

LANDLORDS who rent their homes out to tourists will have their personal information collected by the government.

A Spanish government delegate made the announcement in Ibiza this week, arguing that holiday rentals had to meet the same

responsibilities as hotels.

Madrid is seeking to combat money laundering and

tax fraud by insisting that rental websites furnish information on owners.

In addition, landlords will

have to provide information on all the people staying with them, such as passport numbers and addresses.

This will bring them up to the same standards as hotels and was described as a security measure.

Naturally holiday rental websites don't like the idea. Airbnb has suggested it may breach strict European data protection laws.

A spokesman for the

American group also argued that holiday rentals brought almost €1 billion extra in tourist income to the Balearics last year and shouldn't be punished.

In a bid to heal the growing rift, Airbnb and the Balearic association of tourist rentals, Aptur, announced they will work together to promote the islands as a sustainable tourism destination.

Over the next few months they will hold meetings across Mallorca to discuss

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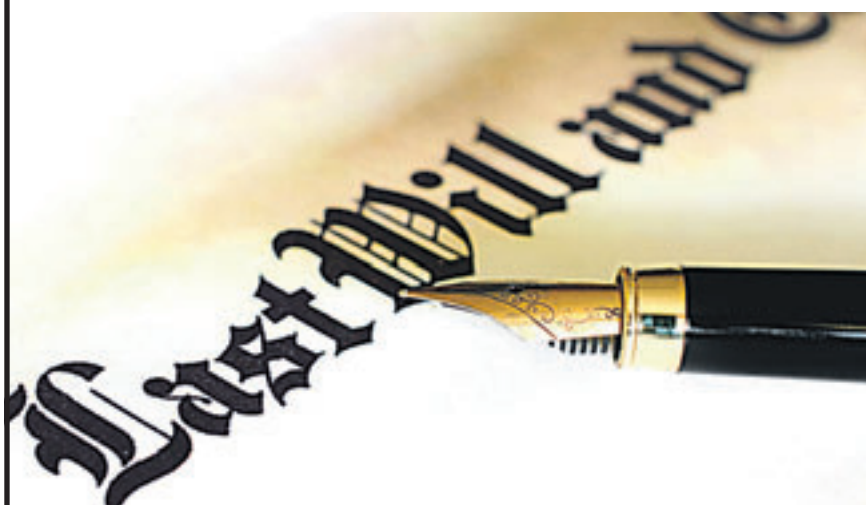
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CRACKDOWN: Rentals face same rules as hotels.

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NEWS EXTRA

Bottle of coke

A YOUNG Palma man was jailed for three years for receiving a bottle of Brazilian spirit Cachaca, which turned out to be around 800 grams of liquid cocaine.

Pension pot

A 65-YEAR-OLD German man who shipped marihuana from Mallorca to Germany was caught when police tracked 11 packages to his Llucmajor address. There they found 250 plants and five kilos of packaged product.

Boat chaos

TWO migrant boats carrying 30 people were intercepted by the coastguard before they reached Santanyi. So far this year 22 boats have reached Mallorcan waters, compared to just three last year.



CONTEST: Mallorca up against shopping havens like Dubai.

‘Still in fashion’

Rivals zero in on Mallorca’s lead

By Matthew Elliott

MALLORCA is now in direct competition with sandy shopping paradises Dubai and Abu Dhabi for the lucrative winter tourism market. Other rival destinations include Antalya in Turkey, and the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean.

Travel companies were discussing the future of the island at an event in Munich last week. Concerns were raised that an-

ti-tourism protests, drunken chaos, and the holiday rental ban could affect the invaluable German tourist market.

President of Mallorca’s Hotel Business Federation, Gabriel Llobera, told dozens of travel professionals “Mallorca is still in fashion.” But, he cautioned, “our direct competitors are gaining strength.”

He pledged more investment in hotels to combat competition from Tunisia, Turkey and Egypt. He also called on Mallorcan politicians to ‘think carefully’

about raising the tourist tax.

The Munich conference came as dozens of Mallorcan tour operators entertained top companies from Germany, France, Austria and Switzerland.

Meetings to discuss the lucrative MICE sector took place in Portals and Costa de la Calma. MICE involves setting up conferences, conventions and other business events. It is central to Mallorca’s strategy to encourage off-season tourism.

Woman’s extreme luck

A WOMAN was thrown out of a fourth-floor window during a violent incident in a Palma flat. Police have arrested two young Colombian men, charging one with attempted murder.

The 23-year-old mother, also Colombian, was with her boyfriend, Juan Sebastian aged 24, and his 18-year-old friend Juan Diego. They were drinking and an argument broke out between her and the friend.

He lashed out, punching her and knocking out a tooth, while her boyfriend sat and did nothing. She was then dragged by her hair to the bathroom, where the man almost drowned her.

He dragged her back to the living room and tossed her out the open window. Then “something strange happened”, she told police. Her feet somehow became entangled in the blinds of the downstairs apartment. Luckily people were home and they pulled her inside.

The victim’s boyfriend, Juan Sebastian, is charged with assaulting police and failing to lift a finger to help his girlfriend.

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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, Almeria, 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

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

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

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.





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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

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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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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 / %
Most Advanced		
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%
Most Declined		
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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 Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

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 €0.9344 €0.0022

Price Movement

Accumulating Funds

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

DEALING PRICE

€0.9811 -€0.0002
 €0.9553 -€0.0006
 £1.1618 £0.0019
 €1.0831 €0.0016
 £1.3274 £0.0034
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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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Photo Credit: Wikimedia

BANK OF SANTANDER: Santander HQ.

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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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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.

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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.

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

Email me: mikesenker@gmail.com.

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Wet weather tips

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

WEATHER conditions pose the biggest risk to road users, partly due to inexperience and lack of preparedness, and partly due to changing road dynamics and the driving environment.

Here are our top tips for dealing with rain.

1. Slow down

It's easy to be lulled into a false sense of security but speed and adverse weather is a deadly combination. When the road is wet, your vehicle's tyres cannot grip the road as much as in normal, dry conditions, so slow down.

Cornering and braking are all affected by water on the road, reducing grip and increasing stopping distances considerably; slowing down allows more time to adapt and deal with the situation. Ease off the accelerator a little and you will see the difference immediately.

2. Avoid violent movement/sharp braking

Sudden braking, acceleration or harsh movements of the steering wheel may result in loss of vehicle control. If the operations are carried out progressively, smoothly and slowly, it also gives other drivers more time to react. Remember that a smooth drive is a safer and more efficient ride under normal conditions and even more so when it rains.

3. Avoid driving on road markings

Road markings provide less grip than the road surface itself and can therefore increase braking distances. Riders on two wheels should be particularly aware of this problem.

4. Be seen

During rain or reduced visibility, make sure that you have your lights on. Daytime Running Lights may not suffice, especially in reduced visibility where headlights must be used. The timely use of indicators and brake lights is crucial.

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

How much CGT do I pay?

Q. IF I sell my house in Spain valued at €225,000, how is the CGT paid, or can I roll this into another property?

M.C. (email)

A. THAT depends on whether you are a tax resident in Spain, selling your principal residence, or you are a non-resident.

If you are a non-resident, you will pay Spanish Capital Gains Tax (CGT) at 21 per cent of your profit. If you bought for €125,000 and sell for €225,000, you have a profit of €100,000 and a tax of €21,000. A

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



non-resident has no rollover provision.

You may be free of CGT if you meet three conditions. You are selling your principal residence, where you have lived for three years. You have paid your income tax in Spain for

three years. You are over 65 years of age. If you are younger than 65, you can also escape CGT if you purchase a new principal residence using the total value of your sale.

The resident pays CGT on a sliding scale. Tax is 19 per cent up to a profit of €6,000, 21 per cent from there to €50,000, and 23 per cent above that.

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

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Advertising feature

What is the flu?

INFLUENZA, commonly known as the 'flu', is an extremely contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza A or B viruses. Flu appears most frequently in winter and early spring. The flu virus attacks the body by spreading through the upper and/or lower respiratory tract.

“A severe case of flu can lead to life-threatening illnesses such as pneumonia.

What's the difference between a cold and flu?

The common cold and flu are both contagious viral infections of the respiratory tract. Although the symptoms can be similar, flu is much worse. A cold may drag you down a bit, but the flu can make you shudder at the very thought of getting out of bed.

Congestion, sore throat, and sneezing

are common with colds. Both cold and flu bring coughing, headache, and chest discomfort. With the flu, though, you are likely to run a high fever for several days and have body aches, fatigue, and weakness. Symptoms of the flu also tend to come on abruptly. Usually, complications from colds are relatively minor, but a severe case of flu can lead to a life-threatening illness such as pneumonia.

Remember: Antibiotics only treat bacterial infections.

Two antiviral medications are available to treat flu. But there are no medications that specifically defeat the common cold. Antibiotics may be helpful only if there is a secondary bacterial infection.

INFLUENZA: Will have you feeling much worse than a cold.



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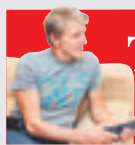
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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event
26 OCTOBER	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	8:30pm Car Crime: Are You a Target? Tonight	7:00pm The Simpsons	4:10pm A Sunday Horse	11:00am Premier League Daily
	7:00pm BBC News at 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 The Great British Bake Off	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 Horribly Wrong	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	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	11:00pm BBC News	8:30pm Coastal Path	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away	11:00am Live ATP Masters
	11:30pm Regional News	9:00pm University Challenge	9:00pm The Harbour	9:00pm Dispatches	7:30pm 5 News	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
	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	12:00am 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
	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	12:00am Sky Sports News
	10:00pm Our Girl	11:30pm Newsnight	8:30pm Countrywise	10:15pm Celebrity Hunted	10:00pm Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild	1:00am Live WWE Late Night
	11:00pm BBC News	12:10am Weather	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	11:25pm Gogglebox	11:00pm When Kids TV Goes Horribly Wrong	3:00am Sky Sports News
	11:30pm Regional News		11:00pm ITV News and Weather	12:30am When Harry Met Meghan: A Royal Romance		
	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
	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	12:00am SKY Sports News
	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.

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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.

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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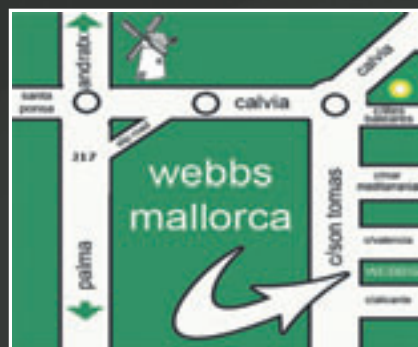
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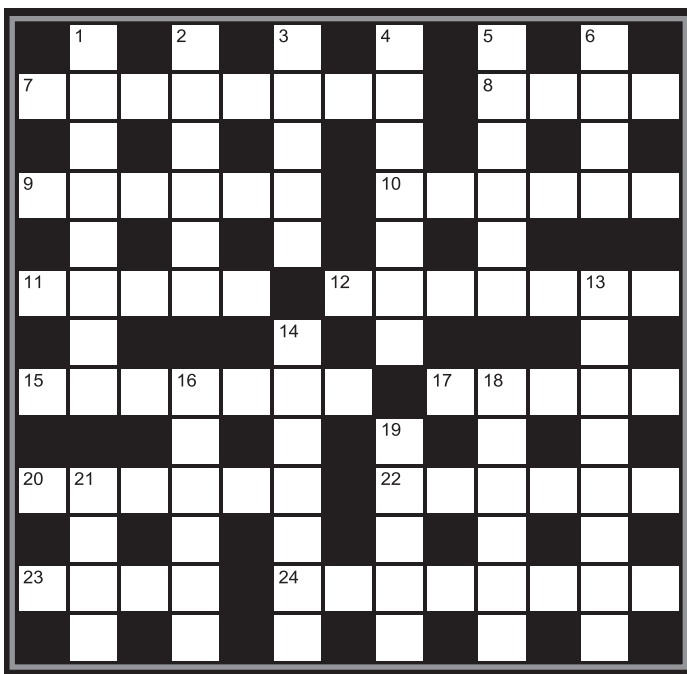
Cryptic

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

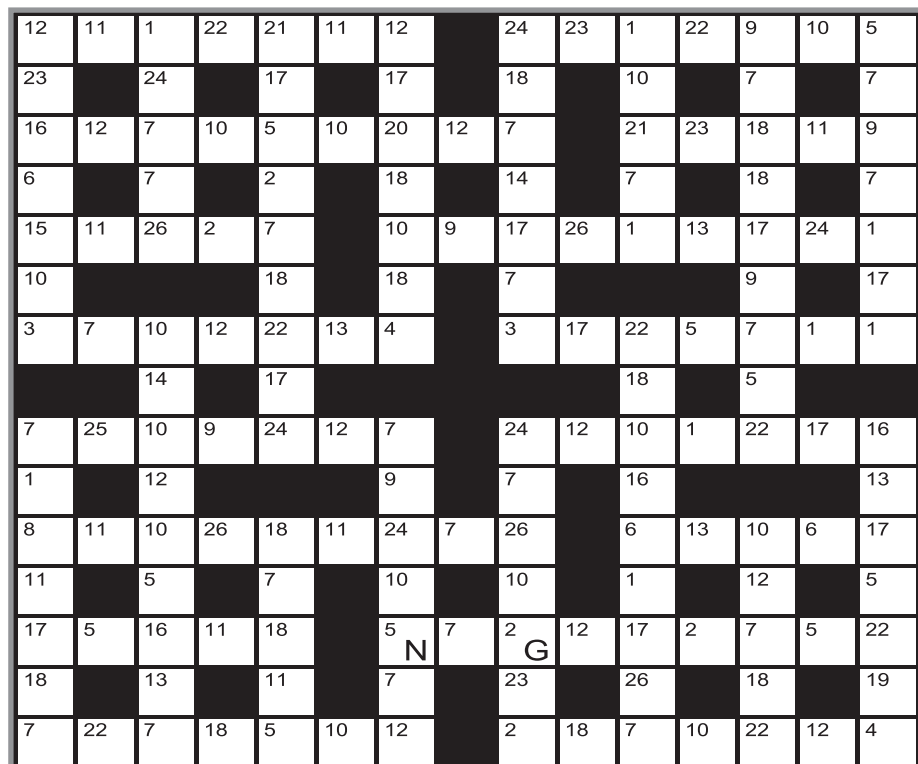
- 1 Hack reveals palace rates of pay (8)
- 2 Upset baby's plaything (6)
- 3 Right cards for sporting events? (5)
- 4 Resolute British detectives in action (7)
- 5 See about taking cover in flight (6)



- 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

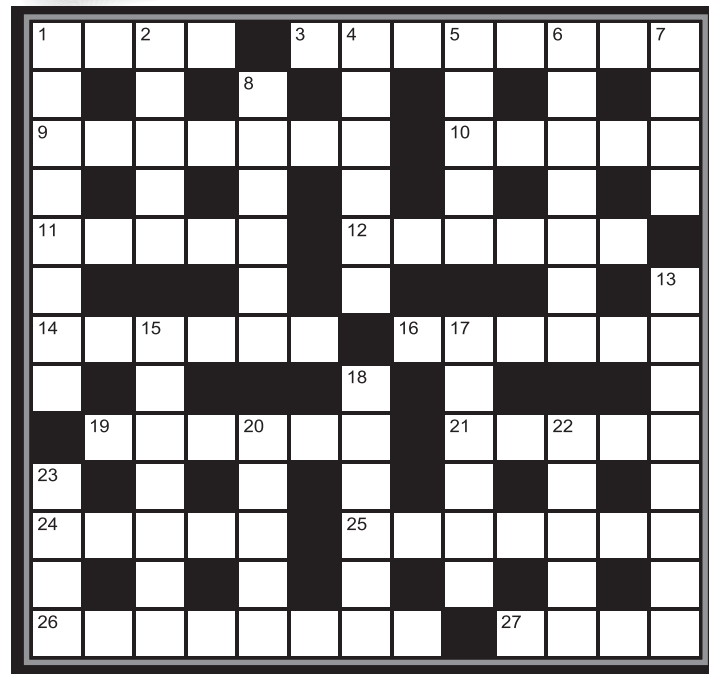
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 2 represents G and 5 represents N, so fill in G every time the figure 2 appears and N every time the figure 5 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should 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

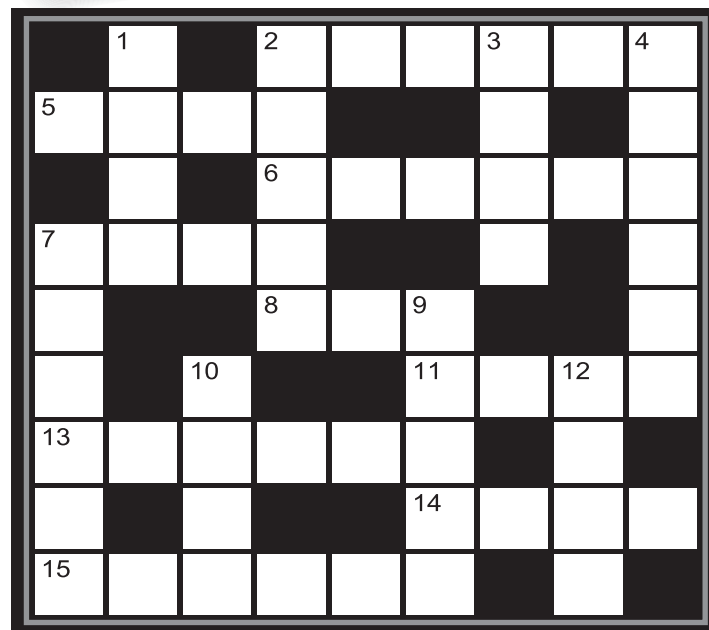
- 1 Final (4)
- 3 Authorised (8)
- 9 Housebreaker (7)
- 10 Take pleasure in (5)
- 11 Mislays (5)
- 12 Money that is paid regularly for doing work (6)
- 14 Blunders or mistakes (6)
- 16 Jail (6)
- 19 Scratch repeatedly (6)
- 21 Student (5)
- 24 Further or added (5)
- 25 Sculptures representing humans 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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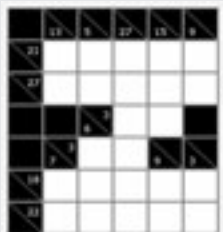
MADDOCKS'
 VIEW ON LIFE



'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
- Good: 13
- Very good: 19
- 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 Plaque, 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.

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				

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

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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



NO-NO: Menus with photos.

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

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

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

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.

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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.

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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**

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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.

• **New Insurance Provider**

We source our insurance provider within Lloyds, as the world's specialist insurance market. This year, we bring you our new product enhancements with Lloyd's Syndicate 4444, managed by Canopus Managing Agents as our new partners.

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Find out more at: www.globelink.co.uk - Or call 00 441 353 699 082, or Spanish linkline on 966 265 000.

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

The man behind LPL Commercial Services



INDEBTED:
To Stephen
Lewis.

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 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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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@helicopterosanitarios.com

Pushing the limit

A NEW study has found that white men who do excessive amounts of exercise each week are almost twice as likely to suffer from heart disease as those who work out moderately.

A study by the University of Illinois in Chicago analysed the exercise habits of over 3,000 people over 25 years and discovered that white men who exercised for more than seven hours per week were more likely to suffer from serious cardiac problems.

However, the researchers didn't find that the outcome applied to men from other ethnicities.

According to Public Health England, heart disease claims more men's lives in the UK than any other illness.

The study discovered that white men who exercised excessively were more likely to build up plaque in their arteries which can lead to severe heart problems such as heart disease. This suggested that too much exercise could put excessive stress on the arteries.

The results surprised the researchers, who expected those who did the most exercise to be less likely to develop these illnesses. Deepika Laddu, the co-author of the study, revealed



FIT FACT: Health experts recommend that we should do everything in moderation, including exercise.

that more research needed to be done to investigate why this was the case and why there was such a difference in the results from white participants and those of other ethnicities.

However, Laddu stressed that the study did not suggest that people should stop exercising altogether, but that they

“

Swimming, weight training and cycling all can help.

should limit workouts to the recommended 150 minutes a week.

While any form of exercise is considered crucial to keeping your heart healthy, there are some workouts that could be more beneficial than others. Swimming, weight training and cycling have all been shown to help prevent illnesses such as heart disease and boost overall health.



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Afa Algae

The blue-green micro algae from Lake Klamath

ALGAE form the primeval start to all life; they are rootless and leafless plants. Many types divide themselves millions of times per day. Of all known edible substances, algae possess the highest concentration of nourishments. Algae can play an important role when it comes to looking for new sources of food and possibly, in the future, they will become the world's most important food source.

The blue-green Afa algae (Afa stands for Aphanizomenon Flos-Aquae, also known as the invisible living water flower) grows at 1,400 metres above sea level in Lake Klamath, a nature reserve in the state of Oregon, USA. Afa algae grow only in a particular lake, which is surrounded by volcanic regions; set in an unspoiled landscape. The pure air and crystal clear spring waters, rich in minerals, that form the ideal living environment for these algae, don't exist elsewhere in the world.

To date, all attempts to grow the algae elsewhere have failed.

Afa algae grows in the wild and has a tremendously high concentration of vital food components, which is why it is also known as a 'super food.' The trace elements, amino acids, chlorophyll, proteins (22 amino acids, including nine essential ones), minerals (barium, calcium, chloride, chrome, cobalt) and vitamins (B1, B2, B3, B5, B6, B12 C, E, folic acid, biotin and beta-carotene) it contains, make it an ideal dietary supplement.

Afa algae strengthen the immune system and support healing and purifying processes in our body. They remove toxins from our body, since the algae can combine with poisonous metals such as lead and amalgam before being eliminated. The algae also stimulate the manufacture of digestive enzymes and strengthen the working of stomach, liver and pancreas. Afa algae contain chlorophyll together with some 2,000 different enzymes and thus can act as a probiotic model in the intestines leading to

a healthy intestinal flora.

The pH value of the algae lies between nine and 11, ie the algae are strongly biased towards the base end. Because our bodies are often far too acid, the algae can, in their function as a basic dietary supplement, restore the balance; so that typical 'vexing' conditions such as rheumatism, arthritis, allergies, eczema, acne and diabetes can be held back.

The algae also supply the brain with the high value proteins that renew and repair the so-called neurotransmitters. Their high percentage of glutamine acids support memory, concentration and mental flexibility. The communication network of the neurons is stabilised and expanded.

The great advantage that Afa algae enjoy above all other algae, is their immense concentration of food components, the highest of any known food. Thanks to their composition and their expanded surface structure, the food components are easily taken in and used by the human body.



AFA ALGAE: A valuable dietary supplement.

The rediscovered Afa algae, with their superfluity of vital substances, are an ideal dietary supplement for our body's needs, and they are also very effective against a number of ailments. Their high content of vital substances makes them an integral nourishment and activate and regenerate the metabolism of the cells.

As a result the cells can get rid of poisonous and other deleterious tox-

ins as well as superfluous fluids and start rebuilding themselves. The complete organism starts afresh with renewed energy. Thus the Afa algae growing in the wild can provide all the energy required in a lifetime. Today, algae makes an ideal enhanced food supply for children and adults.

Their high content of vitally important substances makes them a valuable dietary supplement.

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Eating habits change course

BRUNCH looks set to replace the traditional Sunday lunch and it is becoming increasingly common for Brits to buy lunch out rather than eat something home-made.

According to Mintel research, 34 per cent of UK citizens claim that going for brunch at the weekend has replaced the traditional Sunday lunch. In fact, restaurants specialising in brunch are becoming increasingly popular in major cities across Europe; even in Spain where meal times have traditionally been confined to a quick cafe con leche in the morning and a large meal at around 2pm.



BRUNCHING IT: Can avocado on toast really top a roast dinner?

At least 75 per cent of Brits have also admitted to buying lunch out for an everyday occasion, up from 68 per cent in 2016, with around 40 per cent doing so at least once a week. Two-fifths of these said they are influenced by their mood when deciding whether to bring lunch from home or not.

Helen Fricker, the Senior Leisure Analyst at Mintel claims that the increase in choice may account for these

changes, as the "range of options for lunch on the high street has grown, which means those with dietary needs are far better catered to than in previous years."

She also revealed "the increased availability of healthy, mood-boosting and functional foods" is tapping into people's desires to eat well and encouraging them to buy lunch out.

However, the research also revealed that many people are

still grabbing their lunch on the go, with around 40 per cent of those who bring their food from home admitting to eating it while on the move.

Experts have long emphasised the importance of taking a proper sit-down lunch break as it helps to improve health and can also make you more productive. Food has a significant impact upon mood and those who don't take a proper break could be missing out on the benefits.

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Advertising feature

Tapas with a difference at Tan a Gustito

THEY may be the relative new kids on the block, but Tan a Gustito Tapas, is already making waves in Magaluf.

Having only opened in June, this tapas style restaurant is a welcoming delight offering something different and unique to diners in the area and is open all year round including during fiestas.

It is here that the owners have combined their culinary tastes and worldwide gastronomic experiences, to create a wonderfully enticing and tasty menu together.

Working with their family and friends, Tan a Gustito Tapas exudes a welcoming and friendly ambience where diners can come and enjoy brunch, lunch, dinner and a special selection of wine, cava, cocktails, fruit juices, smoothies and Champagne.

The menu is designed to allow people to share dishes or savour on their own with full or half portions, whilst enjoying a relaxed dining experience of the highest quality.

There are special winter menus which are available from Wednesday to Sunday whilst November sees the introduction of a special white truffle menu.

With the festive season fast approaching, the



FRIENDLY AMBIENCE:
There are now special winter menus available.

owners David Hidalgo Cholota and his partner Fanny Fiolleau are preparing special menus for Christmas and New Year's Eve with group bookings very welcome.

There are many new innovations including a tasting menu with wine, a special winter menu with a daily recommendation of a seasonal product, a new gourmet centre which sells wine and food for the home and a takeaway service.

Using fresh and local produce, everything is home-made from the bread to the desserts.

Combining flavours from their home cuisines with their new surroundings, there are hints of Ecuador and France as well as Italy and Spain on the menu.

This is exemplified by their specialities of home-made fresh lasañeta pasta with pesto; the crispy shrimp with parmesan cream; the shrimp risotto; French Steak tartar; coca bread with caramelised onion and botiffaro sausage (a speciality of Mallorca).

There is also the Ecuadorian ceviche with

prawns, orange, lemon, lime, coriander, avocado, tomato and more, which is already a firm favourite with customers and a classic at Tan a Gustito Tapas.

For those with a sweet tooth try one of their desserts such as passion fruit mousse with toasted sesame seeds and honey or apple cake with cardamon, cloves and orange cream.

Another new innovation is the chance for a party to join Chef David Hidalgo

and watch how he makes the most delicate pasta and then tuck into his delicious creation.

Tan a Gustito Tapas is open Monday to Saturday from midday to midnight and offers a takeaway service so you can enjoy their tapas delights in the comfort of your own home.

So to try something truly different, book your table now by calling 655 438 625 or by visiting their website at www.tanagustitotapas.com.

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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 grown in Penedès, Navarra



LA RIOJA: The heartland of Tempranillo.

Trophy catch of Spanish grapes

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, pro-

viding 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.

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by Lorenzo Barbareschi





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Oh Cuba! Federico García Lorca

ONE of Spain's greatest 20th century writers Federico García Lorca is celebrated in dance and music at the Palma Auditorium.

No less than 21 performers including the charismatic actress Loles León appear in this show which mixes flamenco with Cuban interpretation of the works of Lorca who died during the Civil War and his friend Nicolás Guillén who travelled from Cuba to report on what was happening.

Choreography is meticulously staged by Adrián Galia with music composed by Antonio Carmona and Diego Franco with Cuban soprano Alina Sánchez taking the major vocal role.

A record-breaking 41,000 visitors saw the performance in the Lorca and Granada festival



Photo Credit: Junta de Andalucía

A CELEBRATION: One of the dances from the performance.

but there will be just four performances in Palma.

Tickets range from €40 to €55 and can be purchased

from the Auditorium box office and website with the following performance times; Friday November 3 at 9pm

Saturday November 4 at 7pm and 9.30pm

Sunday November 5 at 7pm.

A tribute to Leonard Cohen

THE Mallorcan indie band Sterlin will be performing a tribute to the late Leonard Cohen on Friday at Espai 36 in Sant Llorenç des Cardassar.

With some of the lyrics translated into Catalan, the band will interpret songs from one of his best loved albums Songs of Love and Hate.

Admission is €7 on the night or €5 in advance.

Drive into film

AS part of the Evolution Mallorca International Film Festival, Port Adriano is set to host its very own drive-in cinema.

Beginning on Tuesday October 31, four films will be screened across two days at the main square of Port Adriano, with space limited to 50 cars with a maximum height of 1.5 metres per vehicle.

Only two people are recommended per car as the back seats may not have the best visibility, but up to four people are welcome in

one car.

Tickets are priced at €10 per car, with two daily screenings at 19.00 and 22.00.

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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; how-

ever, 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.

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

Ref 3117, Vallgornera, 170,000€	
Apartment with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living room, kitchen, laundry room, large balcony, garage, community pool, aircon Living area 73m2.	
Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€	
Semi-detached house with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with American kitchen, garden and roof terrace. 75m ² living area.	
Ref 3115, Son Bielo, 268,000€	
Terraced house near the sea with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, laundry room, private garage, garden, aircon	
Ref 3112, Campos, 1,060,000€	
Large finca perfect for keeping horses: main house 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, kitchen/diner, garage. Guest house for total reform, large stables, own well, mains electricity. Totally constructed 750m2, plot 70,500m2	
Ref 3105, Llucmajor, 260,000€	
Completely reformed townhouse with 2 bedrooms (3rd possible), 1 bathroom, guest toilet, living room, kitchen, courtyard, pre-installation for central heating. Living area 150m2.	
Ref 3021, Vallgornera, 585,000€	
Lovely semi-detached luxury villa. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, guest toilet, very large living room with American kitchen, garage, large terraces, community pool and garden (4,000m2). aircon and central heating. Living area 220m2	



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



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LPS-1488

- 3
- 2
- 220m²
- 1143m²

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Costa de la Calma - House

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LPC-1874

- 3
- 2
- 115m²
- 130m²

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Apartment - Calvia Village

Modern and luxury apartment centrally located in the picturesque village of Calvia.



LPC-1779

- 4
- 2
- 140m²
- 152m²

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Puerto Portals - Frontline Apartment

Modern and fully reformed luxury apartment ideally located in the marina of Puerto Portals.



LPS-297

- 1
- 1
- 40m²
- 48m²

€175,000

Santa Ponsa - Apartment

Centrally located apartment in the heart of the popular area of Santa Ponsa.



LPS-247

- 3
- 3
- 147m²
- 169m²

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Nova Santa Ponsa - Ground Floor Apartment

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LPS-279

- 2
- 2
- 80m²
- 90m²

€430,000

Santa Ponsa - Frontline Apartment

Apartment with beautiful panoramic sea views of Santa Ponsa bay.



LPS-257

- 3
- 3
- 120m²
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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 Fotocasa.

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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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.

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Sweeten up your garden 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 flowers form appearing as an arrow 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.



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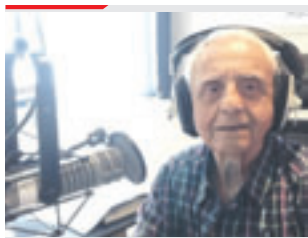









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MANY times in a week I am informed that a dog only understands German, French, Spanish, or English.

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?

Understanding dogs

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.

Instinct is something either there



CHASING INSTINCT: Can be managed.

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 instinct 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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Sometimes people ask if I really understand what is required in house and pet-sitting. Yes I tell

them because as a home and pet owner I have had house-sitters in my home. Also, I house-sit within out network to help me understand both sides of the story.

Here you see some photos taken at a house-sitting assignment where I am currently caring for four dogs (all rescued) and 12 hens in northern France. It's fun! And I have made some great friends on my travels.

The way we work is simple. If you are looking for house-sitters you need to register on www.HouseSitMatch.com as a homeowner. There is a small an-



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nual charge for membership (please note the discount coupon code below we offer for *Euro Weekly* readers). Then you build a profile about you and your pets. And create a house-sit advert with your dates. If you need help choose the PREMIUM membership and we'll give you a call to help you out.

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Photo by Yachty4000

CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: A moored Swan 42.

Spain secure inaugural Nations Trophy

SPAIN has won the first Nations Trophy after winning two out of the three Championships.

The Nations Trophy, launched in 2017, is a biennial, focal event in the world of Swan One Design activity, with the first event being hosted in the waters off Palma de Mallorca.

Open to ClubSwan 50s, Swan 45s and ClubSwan 42s, the 2017 Nations Trophy also served to determine the Swan 45 World Championship, plus the ClubSwan 50 and Swan 42 European Championships.

The Nations Trophy was decided by combining the place-positions of the two top-placed boats of each competing country, with the winning nation being the one with the lowest place-position total.

Racing was held on October 11 to October 14, with the Swan 45s competing for their World Championship and the ClubSwan 50s and 42s for their European Championships.

Earlybird (GER) assumed the lead of the 11-boat ClubSwan 50 Europeans on day three of the event, and secured the title for

the Germans. The Spanish team secured their victory though after winning both the Swan 45 and ClubSwan 42 classes in commanding fashion.

Porron IX (ESP) set aside her problems on day three and closed strong to reassert control of the nine-boat Swan 45 Worlds, while Nadir (ESP) had already proved unstoppable in eight-boat ClubSwan 42 Europeans.

Italy, the early leaders in the competition, finished in second and Germany's late run saw them finish third.

New stabiliser for fast vessels

A MANUFACTURER of stabilisers for boats larger than 16 metres will be exhibiting at the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show in Florida.

The show which runs from next Wednesday to Sunday will allow CMC Marine a European company founded in 2005 to exhibit its High Speed stabilizing system with a one square metre fin, which has been well regarded at European boat shows this autumn. The HS version is a further development of the SE Stabilis Electra system and has been designed specifically for planing hulls faster than 24 knots.

Compared to the SE stabilizers, the new system features several innovations including an upgraded blade profile that ensures improved performance by dramatically reducing the resistance, and the adoption of latest generation technology, to deliver better performance and weight reduction.

The HS system also offers the possibility of integrating and controlling different support surfaces (rudder or in-truder) in combination with the stabilising fins.

CMC Marine sees the United States, South America and Caribbean waters as being of major importance with more than 100 of its stabilisers sold to shipyards that produce directly within the United States.

THE HS High Speed System.



Photo by CMC Marine

Yamaha's new nautical gear

ALTHOUGH the natural assumption is that Yamaha is almost exclusively involved in motorbikes, the company also has a range of nautical items.

Blowing its own trumpet, it boasts that Yamaha's approach to sports leisure gear, on-water toys and accessories has always been the same.

Before they can carry that famous name, they must prove themselves to be every bit as well designed, tough and reliable as their other world-beating powered products.

The latest Yamaha line-up of stylish clothing and exciting water sports gear has been very carefully chosen - and thoroughly tested - to add a new dimension to fun days out on the water.

There is a new clothing range which runs from full suits, shorties,



Photo by Yamaha

ENJOYING safety with style.

and 'Long Johns,' through to four-buckle vests, Neoprene jackets, gloves and shoes.

All are said to be comfortable to wear and are designed to keep you warm, as well as looking good especially when coupled with on-shore lifestyle gear such as hoodies, t-shirts and caps.

In 2018 we will see the all-new range of skis and toys as they have expanded the line-up to include more towables in a choice of styles and shapes - like the ultra-tough deck tube, shuttle, and fun tube as well as dry bags, inflatable chairs and a child's body board.

Spain rules at Valencia Boat Show



Photo by Valencia Boat Show

THE Rodman Spirit 31.

THE Valencia Boat Show which opens on Wednesday and runs until Sunday will be highlighting the number of Spanish boatyards who are exhibiting.

There will even be a special area dedicated to products made in Spain where visitors will be able to see a range of innovative proposals such as a boat connected to the Internet in real time, a boat capable of high performance sailing and motoring as a speedboat, and a sailboat inspired by the great ocean races.

There will also be plenty of boats that can be handled with a day skipper licence, as well as working boats in different sizes and costs, the only similarity being that they are all made in Spain.

Galician boatyard Grupo Rodman, the oldest company in Spain in its sector, has confirmed that it will be present this year at the show with two boats.

One of them, the Rodman Spirit 31 Fuera Borda is one of its most innovative models as it is a boat connected to the Internet that will feed to the skipper information such as the level and condition of the batteries, possible routes or even dangers of sinking due to water in the bilges.

It will be joined by the Rodman 890 Ventura, a model built for enjoyable sailing, fishing, and cruising, thanks to Rodman's characteristic combination of robustness, navigation, build quality, and functionality.

Clarkson
Quote of the Week

“There are footballers’ wives who would be happy with this quality of stitching...on their faces.”

Some might say...



Motoring shorts

Goodbye gearbox

BETTER efficiency and more choice have seen automatics now account for more than a third of all new car sales. The clutch is still dominant but future trends clearly favour the automatic.

A report from Glass’s, a car guide specialist, found that the automatic’s share of the UK market has leapt from 15 per cent in 1997 to 35 per cent in 2017.

The firm also found that premiums have increased on automatics across the board. They are now 4 per cent more expensive on average than their manual equivalent.

This is because their retained value is also improving. After two years of use, manuals typically are valued at less than half their purchase cost. Automatics, however, retain 55 per cent of their value.

Brexit’s luxury gamble

Hopes and fears for UK’s niche motors

by **Matthew Elliott**

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 gov-

erning 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.

Porsche 718s get GTS makeover



Twitter/Porsche Newsroom

NEW BLOOD: 718 GTS models put Porsche back on track.

GTS versions of Porsche’s 718 Boxster Convertible and Cayman Coupe have been unleashed. Both boast 365hp and top speeds of 180mph, being capable of hitting 62mph from a deadstart in just over four seconds.

The release is being interpreted as Porsche trying to fix the Boxster and Cayman’s less than stellar reputations. While the German giant’s GTS models have enjoyed critical acclaim thanks to their engineering prowess and

manual gearbox options.

Both the new Boxster and Cayman will have six-speed manual gearboxes as standard. Those who prefer automatic have a seven-speed PDK option.

They are 35hp more powerful than previous incarnations of the models. The GTS logo is emblazoned over both cars, which boast 20-inch black, satin-finished alloy wheels.

A Sports Chrono Package, Active Suspension Management, Porsche Torque Vector-

“Both are more powerful than previous models.

ing, and electrically adjustable seats are included in both packages.

Both the new 718 models are available to order now. Deliveries are already pencilled in for December across the continent. The 718 Cay-

man GTS starts at around €70,000, and the 718 Boxster GTS at around €72,000.

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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."

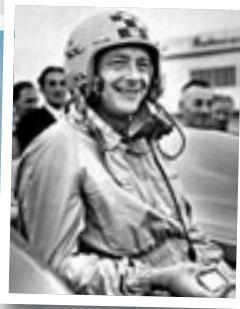
Gale, aged 29, who underwent an operation in September to have his appendix removed, said: "A lot of planning goes into the squad's performance."

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."

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56 **W** Mallorca

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.

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

26 October - 1 November 2017

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SPORT

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Spain to face England in U17 World Cup final

By Benjamin Park

SPAIN will play England in the final of the U17 World Cup after a 3-1 victory over Mali in the semi-final.

Abel Ruiz's first half double, his fifth and sixth goals at the tournament, and a Ferran Torres header were enough to defeat the African Cup of Nations Champions and secure La Rojita's progression to the final.

Spain took the lead early in the first half as Barcelona youngster Ruiz converted a 20th minute penalty after Cesar had been fouled.

Mali seemed to be the better of the two sides in the opening 25 minutes but struggled to break the Spanish side down, who were very comfortable in possession and seemed to want to slow the game



SPAIN: Abel Ruiz helped secure a victory for his country against Mali.

down.

And Ruiz had his sixth goal of the tournament late in the second half after he finished a perfectly weighted pass from the ever dangerous Cesar.

Mali came out fighting in the second half and seemed to be back in the game after Cheick Doucoure smashed the ball off the underside of

the bar and it looked to have crossed the line.

But with no goal-line technology at the tournament, the goal was not given, leaving the Mali players and bench furious.

Spain soon capitalised on their good fortune as Ferran Torres headed home Sergio Gomez's cross all-but sealing the victory.

Despite Mali's quick response through N'Diaye and a lot of late pressure from the African side, it was too little too late as Spain held out to reach the final.

They now face England in the final, who secured their place in the final with a dominating 3-1 semi-final

win over Brazil.

Liverpool youngster Rhi-an Brewster scored his second hat-trick in as many games as he continues to fill the void left after Jadon Sancho was recalled by Borussia Dortmund.

The Young Lions, who are yet to lose at the U17 World Cup, could cap off an amazing tournament year for England with a victory in the final and will look to follow in the footsteps of their U20 and U19 counterparts.

England have already won the U20 World Cup in South Korea and also the Under 19 European Championships in July.




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