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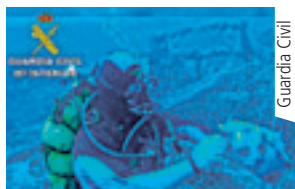
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ISSUE No. 1687 | 2 - 8 November 2017 **COSTA DE ALMERÍA » YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE, YOUR OPINION** WWW.EUROWEEKLYNEWS.COM

Catch of the day



THE LIFE AQUATIC: A diver releases a fish.

MARINE wildlife has been boosted after the Guardia Civil sent a team of divers to remove abandoned fishing nets from a shipwreck.

It comes after divers spotted a number of dead animals caught up in the webbing which had become entangled on the hull of the Vapor Arna, which sank off Cabo de Gata 90 years ago and came to rest in 40 metres of water.

The vessel is considered to represent part of Almeria's "subaquatic cultural heritage" a police official said.

A number of fishes and crustaceans were released alive during the operation.



SMASHED: Car theft syndicate spanned three countries.

Car wars

Motor mafia smashed

By Matthew Elliott

Police smashed a sophisticated syndicate which smuggled stolen cars from Almeria to Morocco.

Months of investigation led to the major bust, which stymied the international criminal group composed of Spaniards, Italians and Moroccans.

It was a joint investigation between the Guardia Civil and National Police. Officers arrested four Italians, one

Spaniard and one Moroccan during the port raid. They also recovered 15 stolen cars and dozens of falsified documents.

All of the stolen cars smuggled out of Almeria had been repainted and given new licence plates to avoid detection. In Morocco they were sold on the black market.

Police have uncovered evidence incriminating the gang in the theft and transport of at least 40 vehicles

worth more than €1 million. Lorries were used to transport the cars in bulk.

The gang were split by nationality, with the Italians managing the network and providing fake IDs. The Spaniards and Moroccans stole and sold the cars.

Police also uncovered six phones, nine SIM cards, stolen Italian IDs, and 18 bank cards. Financial investigators have frozen real estate worth €290,000 linked to the gang.

Touch of class

ICONIC actress Sophia Loren will visit Almeria as the city honours her contribution to cinema. The Italian beauty, now aged 83, will have her own star unveiled on Almeria's Walk of Fame.

Inspired by the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the Almeria version celebrates stars who have filmed in Almeria and left their mark on the province.

Sophia Loren worked with director Alberto Lattuada to film *The Sin* in 1972, partly shot in Almeria. She will be granted the 'Almeria Tierra de Cine' award and watch as her plaque is unveiled.

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NEWS EXTRA

Car crash horror

EIGHT people were injured when two cars collided on the AL-3115 between Ruescas and Retamar. All the victims were men aged 35 to 58 who needed treatment at El Toyo hospital.

Cheap seats

A SIXTY PER CENT discount is available on 6,000 seats on the long-distance train between Almeria and Madrid throughout November. Basic tickets will begin from €18.70 each way.

Boat block

SEVERAL boats carrying dozens of migrants were intercepted by the coastguard in the Alboran Sea. Rescue services are now working in tandem with Moroccan authorities to locate the vessels.

THE wealth gap between municipalities across the province has been exposed in a new report.

Mojacar, Almeria City and Carboneras have the richest inhabitants, while Los Velez and Oria have among the lowest average incomes.

The report from the State Tax Administration Agency (AEAT) analysed median incomes in 53 of the province's 103 municipalities. The 50 excluded have minor populations, often with less than 1,000 people.

Across the board the Almerian average take home income was €16,524 per year. Households in the capital had the highest average at just under €20,000. They were followed by Carboneras, Huerca de Almeria, Mojacar and Roquetas de Mar.

Tourism is considered key to raising average incomes, except in Huerca de Almeria which has strong industry and an expanding professional class.

In contrast, Oria, Lubrin, Abrucena, Finana, Gergal and Canjanar, all have average annual incomes of less

A bit rich

Wealth stats revealed

than €12,500. Maria in Los Velez is the lowest at €11,586.

Compared to the rest of Spain, Almeria Province is at neither the top or lower extremes of wealth. Almeria city is the 718th wealthiest

municipality in the country, while Maria occupies the

2,897th spot on the national ranking.



RICH LIST: Clockwise from top left, Mojacar, Carboneras and Almeria City topped the ranking, while Los Velez placed at the bottom.

Spain honours dead

THOUSANDS of people flocked to the graves of deceased relatives to pay respect as Spain marked the Dia de Todos los Santos (All Saints' Day).

As is custom, many Spaniards took the national holiday as an opportunity to return home and decorate the graves of dead family members with elaborate floral displays.

Town councils also made sure local graveyards were cleaned and ready for yesterday's public holiday. As happens every year, the graveyards were crowded with visitors, the surrounding roads were packed with traffic and stalls selling flowers lined the streets.

Many also indulged in the traditional food eaten on this day, including chestnuts and sweet treats.

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CELEB FOCUS
Who is doing what and who with, often in front of the cameras!

P6

SARA CARBONERO AND IKER CASILLAS.

TECH FOR THE TIMID

FROM FEARS OVER ONLINE BANKING TO A SIMPLE NEW ADDRESS



P37

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



P79

DAVID RAYA.

Horror crash

TWO people were killed in a horrendous 20 vehicle pile-up on the A-7 on the outskirts of Almeria City. Dense fog led to the initial collision, between a truck and small Citroen AX. Both drivers died and several other people were taken to Torrecardenas with serious injuries.

Green sting

POLICE seized 370 marihuana plants from an Adra home. It was heavily guarded, arousing neighbours' suspicions, and the owner popped round just twice a week. Police found fertiliser, pumps, six air conditioning machines and also charged their suspect with illegally siphoning off electricity.

Hateful husband

AFTER claiming she was burnt when she lit a cigarette next to a butane tank, an Almeria woman has pointed the finger at her husband. Police already believe he was responsible for the blaze, which burned 80 per cent of her body. He is now charged with attempted murder.

Electric avenue

TESLA, the American tech giant, is planning to open an electric car plant in Almeria Province. Delegates from the futuristic Silicon Valley firm are interested in exploiting Almeria's abundant solar energy to power the ambitious new plant. Just three Tesla plants are expected to be built across Europe.

River revamp

A MAJOR clean up of the Almanzora Valley river bed has taken place. It comes five years after disastrous floods saw trees, rocks and human waste gather in the river basin. Plans to clean up the river Aguas in Mojacar have also been confirmed.

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...35

Wild mushroom season is officially upon us and is the highlight of the year for fungi fans, reports Kat Ashton.

No 'shroom for error!



TASTY TREATS: Foraging for mushrooms is a popular pastime.

BOTH Spaniards and tourists alike flock to the countryside in the autumn months to forage for their favourite fungi, which can reach record sizes thanks to the moist woodland conditions.

The mushroom business is estimated to be worth millions of euros each year, and a whole range of varieties grow across the Iberian Peninsula. Experts believe that the climate creates the ideal environment for mushrooms to grow, with hot summers followed by autumn downpours.

The season tends to fall in October or November but can be earlier or later, depending on the weather. Due to the increase in popularity, many companies now organise mushroom hunts to help tourists seek out the best areas where they are found, often followed by a tasting.

As edible and toxic mushrooms tend to grow side by side, it is always advisable to go foraging for mushrooms with such an expert. There are around 50 species of poisonous fungi in Europe, and six of these can be lethal.

Mushrooms or setas are a staple Spanish cuisine and are often served on their own as the popular tapas dish *champinones al ajillo* (garlic mushrooms), as well as being used to make stews, soups and croquettes.

Top five wild Spanish mushrooms

1. Amanita caesarea: Commonly known as Caesar's mushroom, this prized fungi is easily the most expensive on the market and foragers can charge as much as €120 a kilo. It is prized in the culinary world for its bright orange colour and soft texture. Renowned Spanish chef Ferran Adria was known to use it to make fluorescent mousses.

2. Niscallo (Lactarius deliciosus): Commonly found in Mediterranean pine forests, this flavourful mushroom can also reach a high price in markets but is worth the price. It's known as the 'saffron milk cap' in English as it oozes a reddish-orange liquid when

bruised or cut.

3. Boletus del Pino (Boletus pinophilus): This popular mushroom is known for its sweet taste and can be recognised by its white or creamy brown cap and thick stem.

4. Rebozuelo (Cantharellus cibarius): This yellow, trumpet shaped 'shroom can be found in woods where pine, chestnut or oak trees grow. It can be eaten raw, but also goes great in stews or with meat dishes.

5. Seta de Cardo (Pleurotus eryngii): Considered one of the tastiest mushrooms out there and highly prized in the mushroom community. Studies have suggested that this species may also have therapeutic properties and could help to reduce cholesterol.



KING OF FUNGI: Caesar's mushroom resembles a boiled egg before it is fully grown.

Sexist sign

A SIGN reading 'Stop Feminazis' has been described as "ridiculous and cowardly" by Almanzora Valley women's

associations. The sign popped up in Purchena over the weekend. Local leader Remedios Serrano said "feminism hasn't killed anyone, whereas machismo kills people every day."

144

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1686 of the Euro Weekly News Costa de Almería edition, including 39 local stories.

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 - 2014 Diploma of Honour - Premios AEEPP
 - 2011 Company of the Year - Costa del Sol Business Awards
 - 2010 I Love Marbella - Professionalism award
 - 2005 Working together with Foreigners Department Mijas Town Hall

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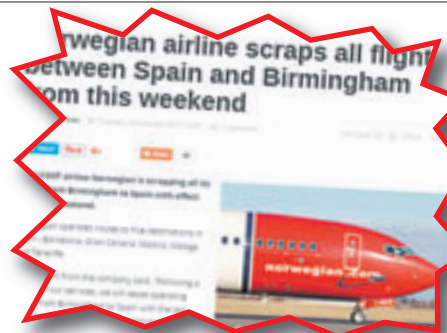
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Top 5 stories

From October 23 - 30

- 1 Norwegian airline scraps all flights to Spain from Birmingham this weekend - **13,058**
- 2 Ryanair release £5 flights between UK and Spain - But deals expire tonight - **7,204**
- 3 Costa del Sol insect bite sparks two year battle for life of British dad - **6,701**
- 4 Winter flights between Manchester and Spain axed by Norwegian airline - **6,523**
- 5 Motor homes plague Costa Blanca beach - **4,548**



NORWEGIAN: All flights to Spain from Birmingham scrapped

euroweeklynews.com Poll of the week

Following the Guardia Civil's announced crackdown on horse hobbling, are police doing enough to combat animal cruelty in Spain?

LAST WEEK'S POLL:

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

Yes = 34%
 No = 66%

Top Social Media comments

Man wanted for beheading his two-year-old daughter arrested in Spain -

Dear God I cannot comprehend anything more abhorrent than what this man did to his child. I hope he never leaves prison. *Jan Andersen-Page*
 Great work by the Spanish police. *Karen Joy Harley*

Police look into second incident of street porn filming in Spain -

Gosh! How terrible!! I remember once in Sitges with a group of friends, we were walking round the back streets and came across a porn film shoot. We passed by without comment. *Peter Harvey*

Carles Puigdemont flies to Brussels as rebellion charges loom -

Strange how this politician AND his party has created so much upheaval AND are now jumping ship to Brussels. *Colin Carter*

Get back here and face the music you weasel, cause all this unrest and upheaval then run for the hills. Coward that you are!! *Karen Joy Harley*
 Brits in Benidorm wreck hotel room and get banned from flight home - They should lock them up in Spanish prison for five years and ban them from ever returning to Spain again! They are an

embarrassment to the British people! Disgusting cretins! *Julie Jones Peel*

And so they should, they should be made to pay for all the damage before they are allowed to leave the country, they should be grateful that they haven't been put in jail for a while, before having to go to court! *George R Carman*

Catalan leaders summoned to Madrid to face sedition charges

Sedition? Rebellion? Are we in the 15th century? Have an agreed referendum. It is what most people in Cataluña want. They will probably vote no, but at the rate the PP and their allies are going, more yes votes are probably being created everyday. To be against separation is a reasonable position. To be against a referendum, when separatist parties have a majority in the Catalan parliament, is not reasonable. *David Coughlan*

They should be jailed for the trouble and unrest they have caused, pathetic how they have run for the hills at the first sign of trouble. Come back and face your punishment. Spain will not be held to ransom by people who will seek to destroy its Constitution!! *Karen Joy Harley*

TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Bangkok's official full name is Krung Thep Mahanakhon Amon Rattanakosin Mahinthara Ayuthaya Mahadilok Phop Nopparat Ratchathani Burirom Udomratchaniwet Mahasathan Amon Piman Awatan Sathit Sakkathattiya Witsanukam Prasit.



An Argentinian man planted 7,000 trees in the shape of a guitar as a tribute to his late wife. Although designed to be seen from above, Pedro Martin Ureta has never seen the instrument as he has a fear of flying.

The Burj Khalifa in Dubai is the tallest building in the world at 830 metres.

★★★★★ Did you know?

The aptly-named little penguin is the world's smallest penguin species. It grows to an average of only 33 centimetres in height and is native to southern Australia and New Zealand.

Lost in translation



Because you are dangerous, you must not enter.

CORRECTIONS

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

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Little bits on the side

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Sacked Catalan leader flees country

By Kat Ashton

EX-CATALAN leader Carles Puigdemont has fled to Belgium after Spanish prosecutors called for him to face charges of rebellion, punishable by up to 30 years in prison.

Following a vote by the Spanish Senate backing the decision to impose direct rule on Madrid, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy sacked the leader of the Catalan Parliament and dismissed the rest of his cabinet. Rajoy then called for regional elections to be held in Cataluña on December 21.

The decision was made following weeks of turmoil after 90 per cent of Catalans allegedly voted in favour of independence during the controversial referendum on October 1.

Puigdemont had refused to appear before the Spanish government to explain his actions and decided against calling

regional elections himself, instead choosing to make a declaration of independence from Spain.

On Monday, Puigdemont fled to Belgium with several members of his cabinet to

allegedly seek political asylum. Theo Francken, Belgium's immigration minister, had previously suggested it was not "unrealistic" for Puigdemont to be granted protection.

Hours later, Spain's attorney general Jose Manuel Maza announced that he would ask the Spanish court to bring charges of rebellion, sedition and the mis-

use of public funds against Puigdemont and 13 other members of his administration.

Puigdemont later denied that he had fled to seek asylum, but claimed he would not return to Spain until he was guaranteed a fair trial. He also declared he would accept the results of the snap regional elections called by Rajoy for December.

Belgium's Prime Minister Charles Michel also revealed that an asylum request was "absolutely not on the agenda" and claimed the ex-Catalan leader would be treated the same as any other European citizen.

Meanwhile, Cataluña's 200,000 civil servants returned to work on Monday, in spite of fears that they would protest direct rule from Madrid.



ON THE RUN:
Carles Puigdemont has fled Spain where he could face a 30-year prison sentence.

OUR VIEW

Direct control in place

WHILST it could be very tempting not to return to the Catalan problem, it is the most important piece of recent news to hit Spain.

With article 155 actually in place and most of the Catalan cabinet dismissed, the Public Prosecutor has said that he wishes to charge a number of the politicians with rebellion, sedition and misuse of public funds, which would certainly see them imprisoned if found guilty.

During an interview, Foreign Minister Alfonso Dastis confirmed that a new election for the Catalan Parliament which will be held on December 21 would be managed by a special electoral committee and that assuming former president Carles Puigdemont was eligible (not in jail) then he would be free to stand.

In the meantime, after leaving a recorded message of defiance, Mr Puigdemont reportedly fled to Brussels with members of his former cabinet as they may be offered political asylum by the Belgian Secretary of State for Immigration and Asylum.

Slowly but inexorably, the Madrid government is taking over the running of Cataluña and at the moment only the Catalan Speaker's Committee which is 'standing in' for the dismissed government is immune from prosecution until the December elections.

One unexpected result of article 155 is that Spaniards all over the country have clamoured to buy lottery tickets ending in that number.

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To the Tardis!

SHE is set to become a household name as one of three new Doctor Who companions.

And ex-Hollyoaks star Mandip Gill was understandably thrilled as she said: "I am over the moon to be joining the Doctor Who family. Certain roles seem unattainable and this is one of those, so much so I didn't believe it to be true for the first few weeks!"



OVER THE MOON: Mandip Gill.

The 29-year-old will play new character Yasmin in the Sci-Fi show and is clearly no stranger to celebrations after a series of images of her living it up on party island Ibiza emerged on social media in the wake of the big announcement.

She was pictured at the Ocean Club Champagne Spray Party alongside bikini-clad actress and friend Jennifer Metcalfe, 35, as the pair indulged in a spot of synchronised dancing while knocking back mixed drinks.



Hiba Abouk/Instagram

CHEEKY: Hiba Abouk. |

Birthday suit!

SHE'S the Spanish actress who made her name playing idealistic teacher Fatima in hit TV series El Principe.

But Hiba Abouk showed she has few hang-ups as she celebrated her 31st birthday by posting a naked photo of herself on Instagram.

Wearing only a baseball cap and with a lit cigarette in her mouth, she captioned the sizzling photo 'Happy birthday to me.'

He's a safe pair of hands

HE'S the ex-Real Madrid goalkeeper who became a heartthrob following his heroics with the Spanish national team.

And World Cup winner Iker Casillas, 36, was all smiles as he attended current club Porto's gala evening accompanied by stunning journalist wife Sara Carbonero, 33.

The pair's romance first came to light in 2010, and they had their first child Martin in 2013 before marrying at a secret ceremony in



Madrid last year.

The stopper has recently been linked with a move to Premier League sides Liverpool and Newcastle, although the rumours have been scotched by his agent Carlo Cutropia.

He told Spanish radio: "Of the crazy stuff I have seen, this is the craziest.

"It is crazy and there is no truth in it."

HANDSOME PAIR: Carbonero and Casillas.

Oar-some display

SHE'S the ex-Love Island star who famously flashed her boobs at Cheltenham Racecourse.

And Katie Salmon let it all hang out again as she paddled topless in Ibiza after slipping into a skimpy black bikini before whipping off her top.



Katie Salmon/Instagram

MAKING A SPLASH: Katie Salmon.

Got the boot

SHE'S the ex-desperate Housewives star who recently broke her leg while on holiday in Spain. And Eva Longoria, 44, has been told to wear a leg brace by doctors as she continues her recovery. She was seen sporting the boot-like device at a Los Angeles salon opening where she was joined by Victoria Beckham.

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Los Gallardos
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(ref: HNVEs)
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3 beds • 2 baths
Plot: 3,600m²
Build: 173m²



Los Gallardos
157,000€
(ref: LGMHM)
Single storey village home
2 bedrooms • 2 bathrooms
Plot: 181m² • Build: 77m²



Located 1km from the village centre this detached property built on a generous but manageable plot of 3,600m² offers a rural style property set on the edge of community living.

With garage, swimming pool, olive and assorted fruit trees, fully fitted kitchen with white goods and part furnished.



Presented to a show home standard, this delightful property with crisp clean lines and attention to detail throughout brings something that little bit special to the marketplace.

The 1965 traditional style Spanish property has been transformed into a bright contemporary home that benefits modern day installations, a courtyard with hot tub and a roof top solarium from which to enjoy the 330 days sunshine a year that Almeria is reported to achieve.

Located almost in the shadows of the village church and its plaza, the property has been enjoyed by the current owners for the past eleven years and their maintenance and investment to it has been exemplary.



Mojácar Playa - 165,000€ (ref: MPH)
2 beds • 1 bath • Plot: 134m² • Build: 88m²
Located 700m from the beach in a quiet cul-de-sac, the property benefits stunning sea views & privileged Mojácar Pueblo vistas too. Extensive outdoor living space, private garage, lots to offer.



Vélez Rubio - 395,000€ (ref: VRBB)
7 beds • 8½ baths • Plot: 153,854m² • Build: 312m²
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Xmas is coming

A QUARTER of a million euros will be spent lighting up Almeria for Christmas. The huge festive budget will see the province's tallest ever Christmas tree planted in Plaza de las Velas.

The 26-metre giant is nine metres taller than any other to grace the province. It will be just one of a series of extravagant decorations set up across the city.

In Plaza de la Cathedral, a Christmas ball measuring 10 metres wide will hang mid-air and dazzle young children. There will be a record busting nine floats for the Three Kings parade through the city.

But the Christmas lights will be the most eye-catching extravagance. The budget has been raised to €250,000, up from €190,000 last year. With the extra funds, colourful lights will be set up in even more streets than usual. The biggest display will be at Puerta de Purchena.

2.5m hectares of land is at present dedicated to olive farming throughout Spain.

Sneaky car boot cargo

SEVEN young Moroccan men were found stashed in car boots trying to enter Almeria. They were arrested by National Police at Almeria port in cars and trailers arriving from the North African city of Nador.

The men, aged 18-25, arrived in two groups, spaced just days apart. Four of them were hidden in the back of a bus. The other three sneaked separately into the car boots of paid people traffickers, who have been charged with crimes against foreign nationals.

All seven of the illegal



Photo credit: National Police

STOWAWAYS: Young immigrants were hidden in car boots.

immigrants were quickly processed and sent packing back to Morocco. As well as

the thousands of immigrants arriving in Almeria by sea, port authorities routinely

find people, drugs and even exotic animals in traffic arriving from North Africa.

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NEWS EXTRA

Good life beckons

A FEMALE farmer is set to become one of the few women to own substantial greenage in Almería. Maria Dolores Verdejo will grow fresh produce on 31 hectares of greenhouses she has purchased.

Time bank

HUNDREDS of volunteers who donate their time to invaluable language, psychology, and support services, were honoured as Almería's 'Time Bank' initiative celebrated its fifth anniversary.

Cold fire

A LORRY carrying refrigerators caught fire on the A-7 motorway at Vicar, forcing police to cordon off the entire right-hand lane while firefighters tackled the dramatic blaze.

Slot sneaks

TWO Russian men resident in Almería were caught sliding a metal rod into slot machines in three Granada bars. They travelled regularly outside the province, stealing at least €3,000 in small bills.

Smart move

A TOP European organisation has moved its headquarters to Almería from Barcelona. The European Institute for Diversity Management made the move in response to the Catalan crisis.

Road delays

MINOR delays can be expected on the A-332 highway from Cuevas del Almanzora to San Juan de los Terreros as workers set up gazebos on either side of the road.

Local fury over 'parasite' farms

By Matthew Elliott

MAJOR farms should suspend their operations to allow more water to be distributed to local people. That is the conclusion of the Los Velez Association in Defence of Water, which argues residents are exposed to extreme drought risk due to water mismanagement.

President of the association, Pascual Soriano, has urged large agricultural companies to 'suspend' their holding in the area. During this time a plan would be drawn up to better distribute water to residents of Chirivel, Velez Rubio and Velez Blanco.

"We do not want any more studied," he said. "Properties that are a lifelong legacy given from parents to children are now bone dry," he argued.

Meanwhile "what began as small-scale agricultural proposals, have become 800 hectares of irrigated land which requires a lot of water."

Soriano believes much of the area's population decline is because of the drought. He says it is more responsible for companies to farm less populated areas or to bring in their own desalinated water, rather than leeching off local wells.

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A NEW pet law has been approved for Almería. Tighter regulations on pet owners are designed to protect other city residents from dangerous animals and unsanitary conditions.

The law is also aimed at improving the lives of pets, ensuring that owners take proper care of them.

Highlights include limiting the number of dogs or cats in a single house to five, unless a special licence is granted.

Reins tightened on pet owners

Dogs must be kept off a leash and be untied for at least eight hours a day. When they are tied up, the tie shouldn't be less than three metres long, to allow them plenty of room for movement.

All pets must always be kept in hygienic conditions. The law bans the abuse, abandon-

ment, and neglect of animals.

Those definitions are expanded to include offering animals as prizes, experimenting with them, making them fight or participate in a circus, and selling them to children aged under 16.

Owners of hotels, bars, shops and restaur-

rants can stop animals entering the premises at their discretion, except in the case of guide dogs.

Dogs weighing more than 20 kilograms must be muzzled in public. No animal which has been identified by its microchip can be put down before notifying the owner. Pet owners who can no longer take care of the animal can take it to the Zoosanitary Centre free of charge.

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Django bites back



Photo by National Police

AWFUL: Django has recovered from shameful abuse.

DJANGO, a dog found badly injured, abused and abandoned by the side of the road, has made a full recovery. The American Staffordshire terrier has been treated for over a month by an Almería animal protection charity.

Police following up on the case have also managed to track down his owner. The 23-year-old woman from Vera was arrested on animal abuse charges.

Django was discovered in the Almería neighbourhood of Retamar, near the slip road

onto the A-7 motorway. He had serious injuries from an iron chain tied so tightly that it had embedded in his skin. Django was also severely malnourished.

Almería's Protection of Animals charity was able to guide him towards recovery and had now received multiple offers to adopt him from big-hearted local residents.

They paid for his surgery and also filed a criminal complaint with the National Police, who eventually tracked the owner down.

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Centre dogs have their day

CONDITIONS at Almería's Zoosanitary Centre will be improved thanks to an €80,000 investment. The city council is funding the renovation works and is now looking for a company to carry them out.

Deputy Mayor Miguel Angel Castellon said the works are a priority project to be finished by the end of the year.

Expanding the animal protection centre's space is the chief objective. The current ground area will be enlarged by 400

square metres, and the ceilings made uniform in height, at three metres tall.

This will allow staff to expand the number of dog kennels from 50 to 80. They will also have two new separate spaces for potentially dangerous dogs and animals in quarantine with health problems.

Waste disposal and hygiene will be improved. The centre will also have nine new surveillance cameras to boost security.

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Spanish succession and gift tax is always due on assets located in Spain, whether it is property or Spanish bank accounts and investments. Rates and allowances vary according to who the recipient is, and can be unexpectedly high in some cases.

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TWO young Croatian women were arrested and charged with 11 burglaries across Almería Province. Aged just 22, the pair were caught red-handed by police as they tried to work a city apartment door with screwdrivers and a wrench.

They were part of a travelling gang of professional burglars made up of mostly international recruits. Police believe the gang has been operating for at least five

Caught red-handed

years across Spain. The arrests come as city police in Almería revealed that home burglaries declined dramatically last year. With 290 recorded thefts, there were 500 less than in 2012.

Police say that victims are usually wealthier residents. Burglars typically tar-

get properties in the morning, once their victims have left for work.

They primarily want cash, jewellery, and electronics and aren't afraid to use the intercom to gain access to apartment buildings with the help of unsuspecting residents.



Photo by Mojacar town hall

STRATEGY: Delegates from Spain's prettiest pueblos discuss new ideas.

Pretty pueblos party

By Matthew Elliott

MOJACAR was present at a reunion of Spain's Most Beautiful Towns and Villages. Tourism councillor Emmanuel Aguero was the pueblo's delegate at the glamorous event held in Alpujarras, near Granada.

Dozens of towns and villages are part of the elite Spanish club. They, with Mojacar among them, regularly gather to promote new tourism initia-

tives and capitalise on their world famous beauty.

At the event delegates discussed seeking more financial assistance from the Spanish state, improving historic centres, and creative new strategies to boost rural tourism.

Other topics included the worrisome depopulation of many rural villages, and forming alliances with hotel chains to encourage tourists to become more adventurous in their choice of destination.

€164m was paid in speeding fines last year according to traffic authorities.



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Ref: LLCD16B • € 75,000



2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, first floor apartment in a private urbanisation with communal swimming pool and courtyards. Spacious and bright property with large terrace.

Ref: VEVH1766 • €79,000



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Ref: PEPDR160 • €130,000



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Quake victims honoured

VERA is preparing to commemorate the catastrophic earthquake of 1518 that left 150 residents dead. Next week it will be 499 years since the natural disaster which led to the

construction of a new Vera from the ruins of the old.

Holy Roman Emperor Charles I and Pope Leo X were directly involved in shaping Vera after the earthquake. It rum-

bled down from the Holy Spirit hill, which overlooks the town and now has an eight metre high image of Jesus to remember those who perished.

On that hill once stood Bayra, an important Muslim city taken over by Spain's Christian armies in 1488. Just 30 years later it was destroyed on November 9 when the violent earthquake shook the entire Levantine region.

Only the Santa Maria church and a water tank, now converted into a museum, survived. The new town of Vera was built on the foot of the hill.

This year, the 150 dead will be honoured with two scheduled climbs of the Holy Spirit. The first takes place on Sunday, the second next Thursday evening on the exact anniversary of the disaster.

Hundreds of people, dressed in 16th century garb, will climb the hill carrying the flag of Vera. They will read poems and listen to music of the period, played with flutes and tambourines.



Photo credit: Facebook/Mike-Tina Canille

MEMORY:
Ancient city once stood on Vera's sacred hill.



NEWS EXTRA

Sex abuse trial starts

A MAN accused of sexually assaulting his three children has gone on trial. The Almeria native, who has a history of abusing women, is facing up to 18 years in prison.

Big bill

ELECTRICITY costs soared to a historic high of 18.25 cent per kw/h last week. The peak occurred between 7pm and 8pm on weekdays due to skyrocketing wholesale prices.

Sea monster

A LARGE unidentified marine creature washed up on the Roquetas coast in an advanced state of decomposition. Biologists are analysing its bone structure to identify the mystery species.

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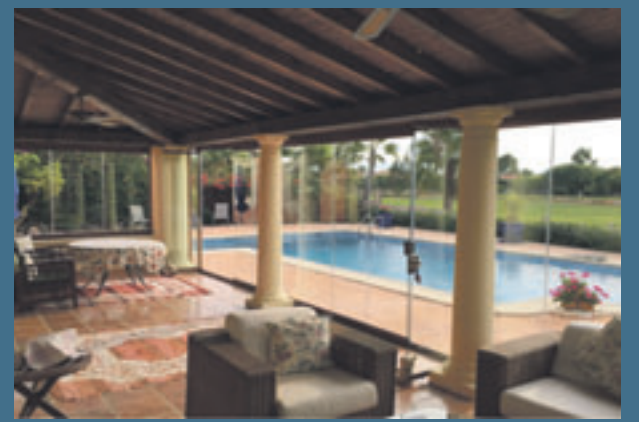


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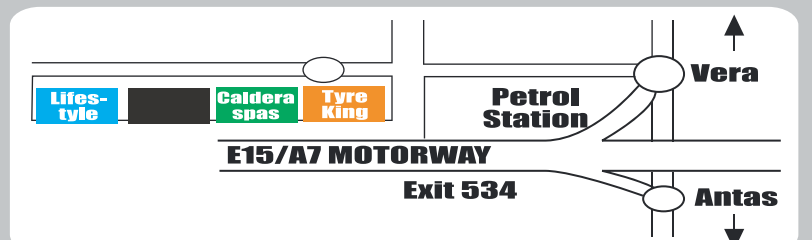
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Almería's 'Plastic Sea' of greenhouses rakes in billions (inset Almería-grown tomatoes).



EXPORTS from Almería Province have hit a record high. So far in 2017 exports have soared by 12.7 per cent compared to the first nine months of last year.

To date the province has exported more than €2.5 billion worth of fresh fruit and veg to destinations as varied as continental Europe, the UK, and China. The figure makes Almería the province with the fourth highest exports in Spain. It is also the fastest growing in the Andalusian community.

Since it imports so little, the province enjoys an extremely

positive trade balance, the best in Spain.

Almería's success comes as the Andalusian region also experiences a strong surge in exports. For the first time in history, exports from Andalucía have smashed the €20 billion mark this year, rising 18.5 per cent on 2016.

These figures include the growing mining and aeronautical sectors. The UK and China are hungry for southern Spain's natural stone and marble, as well as its agricultural produce.

The number one product, however, continues to be olive oil. More than €2 billion worth of the good stuff has been sold by Andalucía, which has benefited from news that the mafia is adulterating Italian olive oil. Almería and Andalucía are also diversifying where they export too. Two non-EU countries saw their imports from the province grow the most this year, China and the United States. The soon-to-be former EU country Britain, also saw imports from Almería rocket.

1,380 The number of Olympic size swimming pools that could be filled by beer consumed in Spain a year according to the Spanish government.

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Holiday home in the sun

Looking for a great family holiday home? This week's properties offer excellent value for money, perfect locations and have good rental potential. **Most have swimming pools, all have terraces and offer spacious accommodation. Arrange a viewing today.**

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Ref: NW1083 Beds: 2 | Baths: 2
Well presented refurbished duplex, new kitchen and doors, private driveway, roof terrace, sea views and close to the beach.

MOJACAR 82,000€



Ref: NW1100 Beds: 1 | Baths: 1
Frontline 1 bed apartment south facing sea views, perfect buy to rent opportunity, sold fully furnished.

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Ref: NW1087 Beds: 3 | Baths: 2
Attractive 3 bed villa on Agua Nueva, excellent condition, with garden, roof terrace, AC and sold furnished.

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Ref: NW1091 Beds: 3 | Baths: 3
3 bedroom triplex with 3 bathrooms, terrace and gardens. Excellent rental property.

Cariatiz **PROPERTY OF THE WEEK** Price: 199,950€



REDUCED Stunning modern villa with private pool, views over olive orchards, separate garage and driveway, only a 10 min walk to village shops and bars, 20 mins drive to the beach.

Ref: NW1056 Beds: 3 | Baths: 2



Mojacar REDUCED 279,950€



Ref: NW1058 Beds: 3 | Baths: 2.5
Well presented 3 bed villa with private pool, terrific sea and mountain views, 5 mins from beach

Mojacar EXCLUSIVE 449,950€



Ref: NW1082 Beds: 3 | Baths: 3
Impressive 3 bed gated villa with pool, garden, garage, roof terrace, large plot, parking, central heating only 300 metres to beach

MOJACAR 379,950€



Ref: NW1051 Beds: 3 | Baths: 2
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Photo credit You Tube

SHAMED: Algarrobrico beach ruined by eyesore hotel.

Hotel shames beach

ONE of the Costa de Almeria's most iconic beaches has been slapped with a black flag by green group Ecologists in Action. The black flag is the negative of the famous blue flags dished out to clean and sustainable beaches across Europe.

It represents 'environmental degradation' and was given to Algarrobrico beach in Carboneras. Ecologists in Action have spent months cataloguing some 8,000km of Spanish coastline, identifying 48 offending beaches in the process.

Algarrobrico is the site of the infamous Azata del Sol hotel, which is scheduled for demolition. The 400-plus room monstrosity, described

as one of Europe's biggest eyesores by *The Telegraph*, was built illegally within 100 metres of the shore of the virgin beach.

That sparked a decades-long lawsuit which has been disastrous for Algarrobrico's reputation. In issuing the black flag, Ecologists in Action highlighted the delays in demolition and worrying impact the huge hotel has had on the long-term health of the shoreline.

Other beaches singled out by the group include Les Marines in Denia, where luxury apartments are set to be built, and Can Pere Antoni in Mallorca, which suffers from plastic pollution.



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New research into a terrible condition

RARE, incurable conditions are often overlooked by medical research in favour of those diseases which claim large numbers of victims.

It is not a matter of health specialists being uncaring, but there is only so much money available although now some of it will be spent on studying Butterfly Skin (Epidermolysis bullosa) which affects children giving them extremely fragile skin which blisters and bleeds.

Even the simplest of activities can be extremely

painful and the children often have to be heavily bandaged and cannot live a normal life of rough and tumble.

Little is known about the cause or treatment of the disease but parents of sufferers are delighted that the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality has sanctioned the La Paz University Hospital, Madrid, Sant Joan de Déu-Clinic Hospital, Barcelona in collaboration with the Provincial Hospital Clinic of Barcelona to introduce the first Reference Centres for

Epidermolysis bullosa (EB) in Spain.

A Reference Centre is a health centre that dedicates its work fundamentally to the care of certain recognised conditions and has the mission of providing multi-disciplinary team care.

This news means that there will be more help and assistance for those affected with Butterfly Skin in Spain and there is the possibility that new treatments and even a cure may be found in time. An official ceremony at the La Paz Children's Hospital in Madrid formally



Photo by Debra-Butterfly Children Charity

announced this news in the presence of health specialists, Princess Elena of Spain, Nieves Montero an architect from Marbella who is President of the Spanish Association of EB Debra-Butterfly Children Charity alongside sufferers and their families.

Princess Elena in her role as project Director of the Mapfre Foundation has been collaborating with the charity via the 'Donate a

PRINCESS ELENA of Spain (left) with an affected child and mother.

Euro' campaign involving more than 4,600 employees of Mapfre to help raise much-needed funds.

It is believed that the establishment of these reference centres will not only help to highlight the needs of the children but will also lead in the long term to an extension of knowledge in how to treat the condition and bring some relief to those who suffer from its awful effects.

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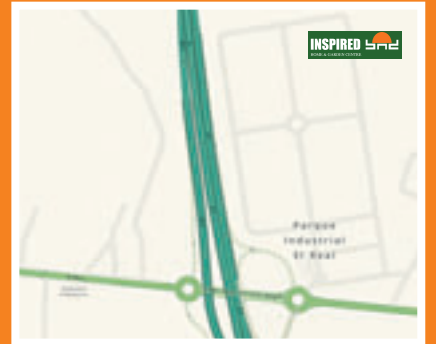


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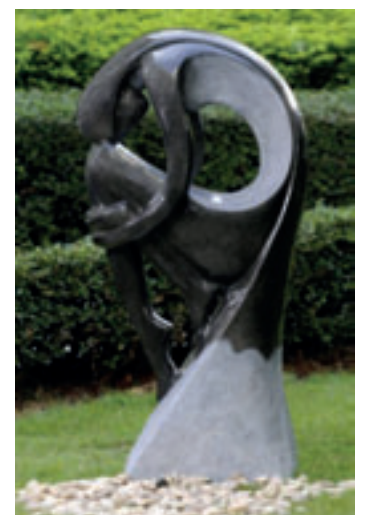
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ON KEY: The Rose Singers are all set to serenade the Hotel Parador on Tuesday.

Some sweet notes

THE Rose Singers are proud to present their November concert titled 'A Flower Remembered.' The programme of songs, sung in harmony by the local ladies choir, will include guest soloist Ellen Turner and an Oboe performance by Maddy Frowd.

The afternoon concert will be held at their new location: the Hotel Parador in Mojacar Playa on Tuesday, November 7 at 3pm.

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

Tickets are €8 and can be bought in advance from Forget-Me-Not (Las Buganvillas), Total Entertainment (Turre) and The Shop, Camping Los Gallardos. They are also available on the day, through the choir members or by messaging the Facebook page (search Rose Singers, Mojacar).

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OBITUARY



Her friendly smile will be missed

VANDA first came to Mojacar in 1979 with her husband Don. They bought their first house on the beach the following year and moved here with their baby daughter Victoria in 1981.

Vanda started a holiday and rental business, Mojacar Holidays, which she built up to include over 40 apartments and many villas, one having a swimming pool, a rarity in those days.


She then started a car rental business, Almericar SL with her friend, Jan Mills. In the early 90's Vanda sold her businesses to indulge in her passion, clothes, shoes, fashion.

She opened her boutique, Vanda's, in the local that she owned next door to her friends, Jill and Keith (Badgers). Customers came from all parts of Europe. Vanda's shoes and handbags were so unusual she was asked if she could make them available in England. Thus Vicky Beth was born, the company named for her daughters Victoria and Catherine Elizabeth. Vanda designed the shoes and bags, selected the leathers and manufactured in Elda, Spain. By the time she sold the business in 2002 she was supplying over 150 shoe shops and boutiques in the UK.

Vanda took early retirement well. She threw lavish parties at her home, Cortijo los Habaneros. She travelled the world, bought a beautiful house in Goa, India where she would spend the winter months, returning to Mojacar each summer.

Vanda fought cancer the last two years of her life, dying on October 1, 2017. Her friendly smile and welcoming hugs will be missed by many.

Vanda Bennett



Vanda wished to invite her many friends in Spain to take a last drink with her at the **HOTEL PUNTAZO**
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Vera Orphanage needs you

CASA HOGAR, the orphanage in the centre of Vera, is facing a bill of almost €22,000 to make urgent repairs to maintain a safe and healthy environment for those who live and work there.

The building has become very run down with numerous leaks due to the poor condition of the roof, leading to collapsing ceilings and damp walls.

The home has been open since 1872 and has a capacity to care for 24 children up to 18 years of age - providing care, comfort and encouragement to orphans and underprivileged and, occasionally, abused children and young adults.

Its main characteristic is to guarantee adequate attention to minors, in all their basic needs as well as leisure and culture, enhancing learning experiences and access to social resources under the same conditions as any other person of their age.

The main purpose of the home is to create a space where children are looked after, promoting their development as people, combining technical quality and human

warmth.

How can you help?

To be able to assist in guaranteeing the future of the orphanage through giving, Shea Fox at Restaurant La Parata in Mojacar and his fundraising team would like you all to contribute through donations - either by attending a fundraising afternoon on November 6, with a three-course lunch, live music from Ashley and Dainius, raffle, auction and other activities, donating directly to the orphanage or offering gifts to raffle or auction on the afternoon. Details are below.

Why should you help?

Located in a quiet, shaded corner of Plaza del Hospital in Vera (just behind the church in Plaza Mayor), Casa Hogar is more familiarly known in this part of Almería as 'Vera Orphanage.'

It belongs to the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul and is dedicated to serving the most disadvantaged groups of society, through planned and

comprehensive social action. The orphanage is meticulously clean and decorated in typical Andalusian style. However, funding for repairs to the fabric of the building must be found from charitable donations.

For those who wish to donate to the event or directly to the orphanage:

- Please book a table at Shea's for November 6 and Shea will make a substantial contribution to the appeal. To reserve, please call Shea's Restaurant La Paratá on 950 478 186.

- Donate raffle prizes or auction items - for further information on donating money, raffle prizes or auction lots, please contact Keith Holland on 636 798 950.

- Buckets and jars are available at Shea's Restaurant La Paratá and in the Iceland/International supermarket in Vera for cash donations.

- The bank account for donations is: Casa Hogar IBAN ES89 2103 5960 4503 5000 0019.

- The Centre is inscribed in the Register of Religious Entities with the Number 1639-i.

Dates for the diary

THE Royal British Legion meets the first Thursday of the month at the artisan centre in Mojacar Pueblo at 11.15am.

If you feel they can help you, please ring 676 451 780 (9am to 5pm weekdays) or email: assistance.rbl.dns@gmail.com or rblmojacar@gmail.com.

Diary for November 2017

Thursday 2, 11.15am: Branch meeting

with speaker Tim Taplin.

Friday 3, 7.30pm: Fish & chip night with quiz at the beachcomber restaurant, Mojacar.

Sunday 12, 10.45am: Remembrance Day service, Mojacar at the Anglican church, followed by lunch at Bellavista at 1pm to book call number below.

Thursday 16, 11.15am: Branch AGM at Artisan Centre, lunch at Osteria.

For more information or to book a table call Christine on 697 887 362.

€ 7.12bn The amount generated in the Costa del Sol by tourism in 2017, according to official sources in Malaga.

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Vera Orphanage



Roof Appeal

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Charity Lunch

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LV694 99,950€

Cortijo Grande



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LV640 68,000€

Mojácar Playa



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DV1446 420,000€

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DV1441 395,000€

Mojácar Playa



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DV1439 499,000€

Vera



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DV1435 245,000€

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We hope the information provided in this article is of interest.

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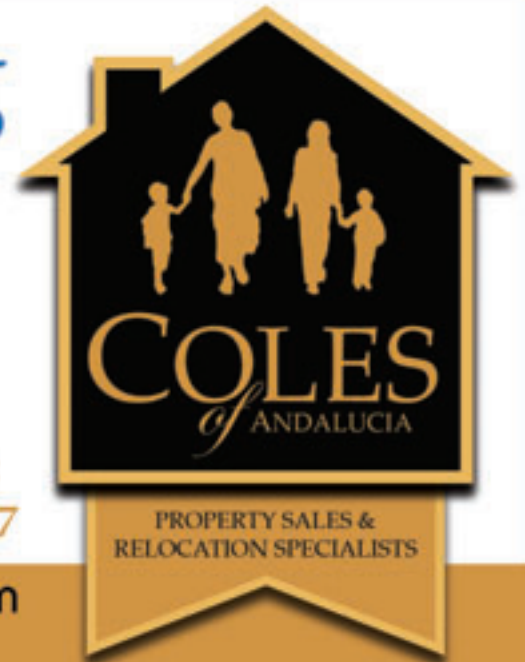


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SOLD Alfaix	SOLD Turre	SOLD Arboleas	SOLD Arboleas		SOLD Turre	SOLD Arboleas	SOLD Palomares
SOLD Arboleas	SOLD Arboleas	SOLD Palomares	SOLD Puerto Lumbreras	SOLD Los Gallardos	SOLD Cobdar	SOLD Piedra Amarilla	SOLD Arboleas

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Valle del Este

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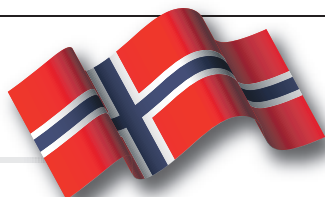
3 bed 2 bath detached villa in Arboleas very close to the village centre! Offering great views, private pool, conservatory day room, air-con, log burning fire, large car port, fitted wardrobes and a modern clean finish. A stunning home.

Arboleas

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IF YOU HAVE A FULLY LEGAL PROPERTY FOR SALE IN THE ALMERIA REGION PLEASE CONTACT US ASAP.

NORWAY



Brine dining

EUROPE'S first underwater restaurant will be opened in Norway, about five hours from capital city Oslo, and will feature a 36-foot wide ocean window stretching from floor to ceiling while 16 feet underwater.



Credit: AAs Architecture/Facebook

SEA DREAM: Norway's new underwater restaurant will offer guests the chance to eat with the fishes.

209 metres, and the eight men on board have been presumed dead.

Right smite

LOCAL politicians on the Swedish island of Gotland have requested that a far-right, neo-Nazi party be banned from the upcoming annual politics festival, claiming that the group's presence "limits freedom of expression for others."

Tragic trip

A RUSSIAN helicopter missing off the coast of Norway was located at a depth of

Statue spoilt

A MONUMENT showing a

hammer crushing a swastika in Oslo was vandalised with red paint last Thursday coinciding with the 75th anniversary of the Holocaust in Norway.

GERMANY

Savage storm

AT least three people were killed and transport services were suspended in seven German states on Sunday after Storm Herwart ripped up trees and caused flooding across the country.

Full bottle

A GERMAN motorway near Frankfurt was brought to a stand-

still by 30,000 smashed beer bottles when a lorry collided with another vehicle and its contents crashed onto the road.

Travel triumph

THE German passport was revealed to be the second best passport in the world as it allows holders to travel to 158 countries

without a visa, only following Singapore which allows 159.

Devil derailed

A GERMAN couple was persuaded by the courts not to name their baby Lucifer following months of disagreement after the local registry office warned that the name might put their child in danger.

FRANCE



Butter flutter

FRANCE'S croissants are under threat as the nation allegedly faces the worst butter shortage it's seen since the Second World War due to falling levels of milk production and growing global demand for the dairy product.

Literary love

NEARLY 6,000 of literary legend Marcel Proust's letters will be published online for free to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

Tongue twisted

THE Academie Française, which is officially tasked with protecting the French language, has warned that the native dialect is in 'mortal danger' due to the increase of 'inclusive writing' which promotes both masculine and feminine nouns.

Out of order

THE French government has condemned new evidence which revealed that the French police have been using tear gas on children, destroying belongings and ripping up tents in refugee camps near Calais.

BELGIUM



Kidnap charge

A WOMAN from Hull is facing extradition to Belgium where she has been accused of child abduction after leaving the country with her son without his father's permission seven years ago.

Court change

BELGIUM is planning to set up an English-language court to deal with corporate lawsuits post-Brexit so international companies no longer have to go to trial in the UK once it leaves the EU.

Born free

THE first nudist beach may open shortly in Belgium, as the Federation of Belgian Naturism is in talks with two seaside resorts to persuade them to change their regulations on nudity.

Road rage

AROUND 1,800 people, including many children, have protested in Antwerp to demand safer roads and better cycling conditions following three recent road deaths.

NETHERLANDS



Rats on rise

REPORTS of rat sightings have risen by 25 per cent in Amsterdam and almost 50 per cent in Rotterdam in the past year, according to a report by the Dutch newspaper *the Telegraaf*.

School surge

THE Dutch government plans to increase the number of places in international schools to attract foreign companies and skilled workers, as half of these schools are now reported to have a waiting list.

Family time

A PRISON in Leeuwarden is set to open a special wing for inmates who are fathers next year, allowing them to play with their children or help them with homework, with the aim to prevent them from offending.

Traffic tots up

THE number of traffic jams in the Netherlands is costing the economy billions of euros and looks set to increase by 1.7 per cent next year, according to the KiM institute for mobility policy.

SWEDEN



Bomb ban

ALMOST 90 per cent of Swedish people want their government to sign a UN resolution to ban nuclear weapons worldwide, according to a survey by polling group Sifo.

House crisis

THOUSANDS of new arrivals to Sweden are in danger of being homeless as many towns struggle to find accommodation for asylum seekers, with those on short-term employment contracts at greatest risk of losing their homes.

Plane wrecked

POLICE are looking into an attempt to sabotage a plane in an airport in Gallivare, after someone broke into the terminal and tampered with the aircraft.

Top dog

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD German Shepherd has been named police dog of the year after helping to find a missing six-year-old girl last summer in Hudiksvall.

DENMARK



Royal rounds

PRINCE HARRY jetted into Denmark for a brief visit during which he visited Copenhagen's Amalienborg Palace to meet Queen Margrethe and attended a royal reception at the Tivoli Gardens.

All tied up

A 91-YEAR-OLD Danish man was tied to his bed while two thieves robbed his house near Copenhagen, taking cash and his television among other possessions.

Lucky escape

POLICE believe the shooting that took place in Copenhagen last Tuesday was related to gang activity and revealed the two victims, aged 22 and 24, escaped with minor injuries.

Mayor muck-up

A COUNCILLOR in Copenhagen has withdrawn her name from her party's list of candidates for mayor after it was revealed she didn't pay to hold her wedding reception at the city hall for free.

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Repaying debts

THE Spanish government has received permission from the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) to make an early repayment of €2 billion to reduce its borrowings to save banks.

This does however still leave an outstanding debt of €31.7 billion from the €41.3 billion originally borrowed in 2012 to allow it to save a number of struggling banks. The entire debt is due for repayment by 2027 but the ESM is impressed with current early repayments.

Comparison site review

A BRITISH initiative which will review the clarity and honesty of hotel booking comparison sites could well benefit consumers and hotels in Spain.

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) is contacting all of the major websites operating in the UK such as Booking.com, Expedia and Trivago to try to establish a number of matters.

The enquiry will want to discover whether there are any hidden charges, how accurate the discount offers are and whether the sites are influenced to promote particular establishments due

By John Smith

to the commission they receive.

According to the CMA as many of 70 per cent of UK residents looking to make hotel bookings do compare options on the various websites and should there be any evidence that consumers are being misled then action will be taken.

Having contacted hotel groups and websites, the watchdog also wants to hear from the general public about their experiences with these sites.

One area of particular interest is

whether sites ignore criteria entered by those searching for hotels and respond with lists of those hotels where they receive the greatest commission.

Another area of interest is the accuracy surrounding the number of rooms still available in a particular hotel as there is some fear that the numbers may be manipulated in order to encourage immediate booking.

One early conclusion is that those searching websites for hotel availability should check with more than one site to ensure the best available deal.

Bad news Barcelona

THE president of the Spanish Confederation of Employers' Organizations (CEOE) believes that the 1,500 companies leaving Cataluña employ 30 per cent of the Province's workforce. He made it clear that this situation is potentially damaging not only for the Catalan people, but also for the economy of Spain as the return to growth and prosperity could be halted.

Quote of the Week

"Our programme is flexible enough that we can adjust its size smoothly." European Central Bank President Mario Draghi on decision to halve the amount spent on government euro bonds.



Photo by The Djehuty project

THE TEAM involved in excavations.

Egyptologists turn to crowdfunding

AN incredibly successful team of Spanish archaeologists who have unearthed numerous valuable Egyptian artefacts is so poor that it has had to turn to crowdfunding to raise €20,000.

Whilst the group has been excavating the tomb of Djehuty and others in Luxor, many of their rare and exquisite finds are the property of the Egyptian government and end up in local museums. These experts are not treasure hunters but are dedicated to their work howev-

er they need to be able to pay their local teams of labourers in order to launch next year's exploration session in January and February.

Needing to raise €20,000 the group came up with the idea of making an appeal on the Kickstarter platform and with more than a month before the appeal ends, they have already raised just short of €28,000 from 247 supporters who will receive small tokens such as books and videos in thanks.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

More in work

LATEST unemployment figures show that the number without jobs in Spain has dropped to its lowest level since 2008. The National Statistics Institute third quarter figures show unemployment at 16.38 per cent, down from 17.22 per cent in the previous quarter.

La Caixa

LA CAIXA bank's CEO Gonzalo Gortazar said that whilst he feels that the Catalan situation would be resolved, there could be economic problems if matters drag on. Having moved its HQ from Barcelona, he confirmed that few withdrawals by disgruntled Catalans had occurred.

In the money

SPANISH billionaires saw their wealth increase by 10 per cent to a total of €105.81 billion in 2016 according to a report by Swiss bank UBS and consultancy PwC. The number of billionaires also increased by four to 25.

Sacked for working too hard

IN what is an unusual case, a store worker who was sacked for working too hard has taken former employer Lidl to court claiming unfair dismissal.

The supermarket branch in Barcelona for which he worked accused him of breaches of his employment contract as he turned up early and spent between an hour and an hour and a

half stocking shelves and generally tidying up.

Apart from working too hard, he also didn't clock in whilst he was doing this work as he didn't expect to get paid and didn't know that he wasn't allowed to do this as it breached the company's rules which required payment for all work undertaken.

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ECB decision and Catalan concerns drive euro

Ask the expert

Peter Loveday



Currencies Direct

Contact me at euroweekly@currenciesdirect.com

FOR the last few weeks central bank speculation and political developments have been the driving force behind currency movement.

Euro

EUR/GBP: Up from £0.87 to £0.90

EUR/USD: Up from \$1.16 to \$1.18

Although the euro has been pressured by political tensions in Cataluña and uncertainty about the path the European Central Bank (ECB) will take with fiscal policy, the common currency has still managed to strengthen against both the pound and US dollar over the last four weeks.

The euro was kept on its toes as the Catalanian populace voted overwhelmingly for independence, igniting fears for Spain's economic outlook. However, with Madrid refusing to sanction a split, EUR exchange rates recovered losses.

Hopes that the European Central Bank (ECB) would taper its quantitative easing scheme also bolstered the euro - right up until investors found



CURRENCY MOVEMENT: Has been driven by political developments.

out that the central bank was scaling down its programme, but running it for longer. The move inspired some EUR losses as October drew to a close.

The repercussions from the ECB decision are likely to remain a cause of euro movement over the next few weeks. Any significant developments in Cataluña are also liable to spark EUR shifts.

Pound

GBP/EUR: Down from €1.14 to €1.12

GBP/USD: Down from \$1.34 to \$1.32

The pound was knocked around a fair bit during October. The British currency swiftly dropped from September's highs as Brexit negotiations ended in deadlock - potentially delaying discussions about the UK's future trading relationship with the EU. A string of less-than-impressive UK ecostats (including concerning services and retail sales stats) also kept the pound under pressure.

However, towards the end of October the UK's third quarter growth data was published. The data showed quarterly growth of 0.4 per

cent, slightly better than the expected rate of 0.3 per cent. As the result was viewed as upping the odds of the Bank of England (BoE) increasing interest rates at its November policy meeting, GBP exchange rates were able to recover some of their recent losses.

The BoE rate decision is liable to be the biggest cause of pound volatility in the month ahead. A rate hike would lift GBP, while the decision to leave policy unchanged would weaken Sterling.

US Dollar

USD/GBP: Up from £0.74 to £0.76

USD/EUR: Fluctuating between €0.84 and €0.85

While expectations for a December rate hike from the Federal Reserve have been lending the US dollar support, USD gains have been limited by the debate over who President Donald Trump will appoint as Chairman of the Federal Reserve. A Chairman who is likely to increase the pace or size of interest rate adjustments would boost the US dollar, while a dovish President could send USD sliding.

The December Federal Reserve decision is edging ever closer but as long as upcoming US releases keep the odds of a December rate hike high, USD will remain sturdy.

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MORE GOVERNMENT MONEY TO BE COMMITTED Spain wants electric cars

THE Spanish government is to spend a further €50 million to support the widespread introduction of electric charging points and to encourage drivers to purchase electric cars.

This decision has been made despite the fact that a previous effort to assist purchasers of environmentally friendly vehicles was spoiled by the Volkswagen diesel emission scandal.

Of the money now due to be made available, €30 million will be put towards the introduction of more electric charging points which are almost non-existent in many parts of Spain as well as supporting additional research and development.

The balance of €20 million is expected to be paid to motorists in the form of 'cash backs' or discounts from manufacturers' price when purchasing a new electric car or one that uses a propulsion system that is not oil based.

This new initiative which is expected to be in addition to €50 million previously agreed by government for expenditure in the second half of 2017 has been championed by the Ministry of



Velantur prototypes.

Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda and is expected to be managed by the Institute for Energy Diversification and Saving (IDAE).

This whole enterprise is quite different to previous funding plans as it will be managed by IDEA rather than Tragsa - which is associated with the Ministry of Agriculture - and whereas the previous campaign looked to persuade car owners to swap their old vehicles for more fuel and environmentally friendly oil driven cars, this

campaign will only apply to vehicles which use alternative energy.

As the world moves to develop vehicles driven by electric power and in some cases liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) the current option of hybrid vehicles continues to be a major leader in environmentally friendly motoring and will remain so until such time as electric car batteries can hold much greater charges and can be topped up quickly.

It will be very difficult to persuade drivers to give up their gas guzzlers in exchange for a vehicle which has a range of less than 300 kilometres and could take hours to recharge.

SEAT will be cooperating with the entire Volkswagen Group in order to try to find a workable solution and a small Spanish manufacturer Velantur has been trying to launch its four seater electric luxury sports car which it hopes will have a range of 400 kilometres.

Tesla continues to increase the charges of their batteries but unless it is quick, cheap and easy to recharge an electric vehicle, then the entire concept could turn into a disaster.

Royal Mint takes a pounding

WITH companies around Britain furious about the short time allowed for the changeover between the old and new pound coins, many are still accepting them as legal tender.

Councils who have not changed their parking machines to take the new pound are under fire from drivers and associations as they are fining anyone parking without a valid ticket, even though many have disposed of their old round pounds.

Gibraltar has taken the step of demonetising British round pounds but is continuing to allow Gibraltar round pounds to be considered legal tender on the Rock as the company they use to mint their pound coins has simply not been able to obtain blanks from the Royal Mint.

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MONARCH SHAREHOLDERS ADMIT MORAL DUTY May pay charter costs

THE main investors in Monarch Airlines have confirmed that they have a moral duty to help repay £60 million (€68 million) spent by the tax payer.

Greybull Capital have written to the UK Transport Committee confirming that it would be prepared to assist in paying some of the repatriation costs involved in bringing more than 100,000 people back to the UK if it makes a profit when the liquidation is finalised.

The British government chartered aircraft at short notice to bring back stranded Monarch passengers in what is believed to be the largest ever peacetime repatriation and picked up all of the costs.

The private investment company was responding to an observation made by Chris Grayling, the Minister for Transport with regards to the morality of the situation should Greybull - which is Monarch's main secured creditor - actually make a profit from the closure of the airline.

Much depends on whether the liq-



MONARCH'S first flight from Gatwick to Gibraltar May 2016.

uidators (KPMG) will be able to sell on the lucrative international take-off and landing rights 'owned' by Monarch and this is now being decided in court.

In the event that the court confirms that the rights can be sold to the highest bidder, certain of the rights to the more valuable slots could raise a significant amount of money, the bulk of which would be due to Greybull Capital.

If there was to be a 'bidding frenzy' then in theory, the main investor could

make a profit from the closure and it has confirmed that in such a scenario it would channel such profits back to the UK government as part repayment for the money spent on chartering the aircraft.

In its letter to the Transport Committee, Greybull maintained that whilst sorry for the closure it had been doing all that it could since 2014 - when it obtained the majority of shares in the airline - to try to stave off bankruptcy but was unsuccessful.

Apart from the inconvenience and in many cases financial loss suffered by passengers who may never receive their payments back, more than 2,000 Monarch staff have lost their jobs.

The other possible assets of the former airline will be their aircraft, although many have been leased rather than paid for outright and it may well be that the administrators will be unable to raise any funds from them and in fact depending on lease contracts, there may be a significant liability.

More steel production in the USA

THE steel manufacturer Acerox has invested \$150 million (€129 million) to launch a new production line in its North American Stainless (NAS) plant in Kentucky.

The introduction of this new plant will increase capacity of the American subsidiary of the Spanish manufacturer by 10 per cent and allow it to increase the range of different stainless steel products that it can offer, including a range that is produced with a glossy finish.

Currently producing half of all US stainless steel, it believes that the days of cheap Chinese imports are gone and that the market can only increase for the high quality locally rolled steel that it manufactures.

The main markets for the company's products are situated within a nine-hour drive from the factory which employs more than 1,000 local staff.



Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

by Stone King

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at international@stoneking.co.uk



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

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

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



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

What is an LPA?

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

Why should you get an LPA?

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

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

Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

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

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



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I am now truly confused with it all!

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



I REALLY am up to my male chauvinistic eyeballs with women's lib.

To be honest, I'm not really sure what our ladies truly want any more. I'm beginning to think that many of them won't really be happy till the male of the species are homebound unpaid servants, escorted to the sperm donor's labs once a week, to keep the frozen coffers stocked up for future females to draw on.

I truly am confused with it all. Some (not all!) want to dress and look sexy and attractive, but don't want male reaction because they consider it sexist (no wolf whistles please.) They will NEVER forgive the creator for making them the only gender that can give birth (believe me they're working on that!).

They consider a pat on the bum sexual harassment, but still reckon squeezing a man's behind a bit of harmless fun. A man can be ruled by an overbearing woman, but reverse it and the man is described as a monster. We are now being deluged with 'personally moulded' tampons, intimate hair shavers and vaginal lubricants on TV, and the genital removers are gathering to operate on any man who has pub-



WOMEN'S LIB: Have things gone too far?

licly uttered any vaguely sexist remark over the last half century. Well, to my mind, one thing becoming painfully clear, is that it is not in fact equality the libbers ultimately seek, but female domination. These women want to rule the roost (and woe betide any woman who

doesn't think as the feminists do!). SKY news is a glaring example. Under Eammon Holmes it was considered a bit male chauvinist. Since his departure the producers have utterly capitulated and, with a new female anchor, have now managed to turn it into a newsy version

of 'Loose Women.'

Let's be perfectly clear. Equality is when both sexes have the same rights, not power. As a true adorer of the female gender, can't we just be sexy ladies and lusty males again? Come on girls, although I'm 100 per cent with you on equal pay, you're allowing the so-called feminists take all the fun away. Promise I won't pinch your bum if you don't pinch mine. Awright?

As I've got all the housework to do, I'll just finish up with a final observation on the Weinstein affair. Among the droves of complainers that are emerging from the woodwork, actress (not actor you notice!) Ashley Judd's story caught my eye. The 49-year-old apparently avoided the mogul's advances by promising to sleep with him when she won an Oscar for one of his films. It did remind me of the story attributed, among others, to George Bernard Shaw. The lady in question, when offered a paltry sum for sex, huffily retorted: "Five pounds? Just what do you think I am?"

"I think we've already established that," replied the great man. "I believe we're merely haggling over the price!"

Keep the faith,

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TECH FOR THE TIMID

Staying safe

ONLINE fraud makes good headlines, but they don't always match reality as any *Daily Mail* reader knows.

This year's cybercrime estimate is €2.5 trillion worldwide, but very little of it is from online shopping.

Trusted payment methods like credit/debit cards or PayPal take the sleepless nights out of buying online. And if you're worried about an online retailer's reputation, so are they in these days of buyer review overload.

The better retailers are on rating sites like Trustpilot. When an order of mine disappeared into a Hong Kong void recently, my critique on that site quickly got my cash back.

Just be careful not to overdo it. It really is time to stop shopping online when the computer asks if you need another shopping cart.

TERENCE KENNEDY offers up the online shopper's prayer: 'Dear Lord, please don't let my wife be home when all my online orders arrive.'

Shop till your computer drops

AN older friend who doesn't 'do' the internet just gave a local travel agent nearly €400 for air tickets I found online for €89. Frankly I was amazed travel agents still exist.

Yes, doing stuff online can be risky, especially when a Nigerian prince offers you untold riches. But squadrillions of online transactions occur every day with barely a hitch, and by 2025 the majority of the world's retail trade will apparently happen online. So there.

Why then, like our overcharged dinosaur friend, wouldn't you do it? London department store Harrods used to advertise you could buy anything from an elephant to a safety-pin; these days with watertight security Amazon, China's Alibaba and eBay sell more in a second than Harrods could in a year.

Including elephants.

Hunt for an offbeat item in your local shops and you could be at it for days. Find it online in just seconds, have it delivered to your door the next day. Or perhaps in an hour if Amazon's current drone delivery tests work out.

The main objections are fraud and identity theft. Yes they do happen, but the percentage is minuscule, and if you use a plastic card your bank covers most of your risk anyhow if things go pear-shaped.

The bad news for online-shopping virgins is that they soon won't have any choice: from tax declarations to newsagents' top-shelf magazines, everything's moving online for better or worse.

Worse, certainly, for traditional



SHOPPING: From the comfort of your own keyboard.

bricks-and-mortar retailers, whose plight has even added a new word to the Oxford dictionary, 'showrooming': the practice of examining and fondling a product in a physical shop before going home to order it more cheaply online.

It was an album by Sting which is said to have launched online shopping back in 1994, say the (online!) histories. By next year online shopping will be nearly 9 per cent of all retail sales (but 18 per cent for the world's most enthusiastic e-shoppers, the Brits). Seven out of every 10 internet users in Spain shop online, spending around

€1,100 each a year.

The bad news for our reluctant buddy is that it's unstoppable and that, inevitably, even he is going to have to bite the bullet (also available online). Within his lifetime only those enterprises which cannot easily sell through what he calls the 'Interweb' will be left standing, like convenience stores, bars, bistros and brothels. And perhaps elephant traders.

As for his happy travel agent? Most likely she will have followed the clever advice I once saw pasted up in a travel agent's window: 'Please go away!'

Advertorial

Bar La Reva, a popular Bistro Bar in Vera Playa

FOUR years ago, Teresa Hallas decided to move to Spain to make a fresh start and both she and the residents of Vera are delighted that she did.

Having worked in the catering industry in the UK over the years, a chance conversation struck a chord with her and she decided to take over the Bar La Reva in Vera Playa as her first ever venture as a bar owner.

Initially, she envisaged running a sports bar but realised quite quickly that this wasn't what she or the area wanted and now has a very successful business which she describes as a relaxed bistro bar which offers a wide range of freshly cooked food.

Recognising that there are people who have special dietary needs, she and her team of four dedicated staff have introduced a range of gluten free and vegetarian friendly foods alongside two meat favourites.

Teresa tries to offer a range of specials and one of those which customers seem to adore is a Steak and Ale pie which she makes herself and serves with salad and potatoes.



BAR LA REVA: For a great atmosphere, visit this value for money bistro bar.

Having installed a professional rotisserie, Bar La Reva is also offering a special of a whole chicken with chips, salad, chef's coleslaw and a bottle of wine to share between two at a very reasonable price.

Whilst many of the regular customers at the bar are expatriates, it doesn't mean they are only interested in British style food and there is a regular choice of Spanish cuisine, including paellas and fresh fried fish and for those with a small

appetite, raciones are available on request.

The latest innovation for the winter is the introduction of a carvery, with a choice of three meats, fresh vegetables, cauliflower cheese, Yorkshire pudding and mini sausages, all for the low price of €8.50.

The carvery will run every Sunday between 12.30pm to 4pm starting from Sunday November 12 and reservations are strongly recommended by calling 618 541 115.

For the winter months, the Bar La Reva will be open every Friday and Saturday from 6pm for drinks as well as food with the added bonus that there is live music every Saturday night and a wide choice of different foods including a delicious meat feast for two.

There is a great atmosphere at the bar with a combination of local residents and regularly returning holidaymakers, so a visit to this value for money bistro bar is certainly recommended.



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HELPING HANDS: Providing entertainment for charity.

Benidorm tributes return to Turre!

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

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

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

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

completely sold out.

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

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

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Home Insurance - Replacing your home is an expensive proposition. When shopping for a policy, look for one that covers replacement of the structure and contents. Keep in

mind that the cost of rebuilding doesn't need to include the cost of the land, since you already own it. Also, be sure that the policy covers the cost of any liability for injuries that might occur on your property.

Car Insurance - This is something you shouldn't skip. If you are involved in an accident and someone is injured or their property is damaged, you could be subject to a lawsuit that could possibly cost you everything you own.



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Bradley Walsh 'thrilled' as confirmed he's to be new Doctor Who companion

Richard Shanley
Dishing the Dirt

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BRADLEY WALSH, who has been a fan of Doctor Who for 50 years, has been confirmed as Jodie Whittaker's companion in the new series.

The actor, game show host and comedian briefly appeared in a spin-off of the sci-fi show. He made a guest appearance as a villain in the Sarah Jane Adventures in 2008. Whittaker, who takes over from Peter Capaldi, will be the 13th Time Lord, and Walsh had been tipped to be the sidekick to the show's first female lead.

Walsh, 57, who has starred in Coronation Street and Law & Order: UK as well as presenting The Chase, said: "I remember watching William Hartnell as the first



NEW COMPANION: Former game show host Bradley Walsh (left) and Jodie Whittaker, the new Doctor Who.

Doctor. Black and white made it very scary for a youngster like myself. I was petrified, but even though I'd watch most of it from behind the sofa through my fin-

gers, I became a fan," Walsh added. "Am I thrilled to be part of this whole groundbreaking new dawn for the Doctor? Oh yes!" But Walsh isn't the only actor re-

vealed as a companion to the Doctor. Rising stars Mandip Gill and Tosin Cole will swap their roles in Hollyoaks for the inside of the Tardis. Cole joined the Hol-

lyoaks cast in 2011 as Neil Cooper and also appeared in spin-off Hollyoaks Later, but is "grateful and excited to be part of this journey with the team. I'm looking forward to jumping in this Doctor Who universe," he said. The BBC confirmed the series will have a 10-week run in autumn 2018.

If you would like me to answer any questions you may have on satellite TV or to expand on anything I have written about please call me on 678 332 815 or email richard@europa-digital.com.

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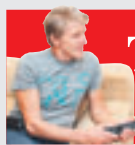


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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event
2 NOVEMBER	6:15pm Pointless	6:15pm Flog It!	8:30pm Fast Food	7:00pm The Simpsons	4:15pm The Christmas Heart	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:00pm Eggheads	9:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm 5 News at 5	9:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	7:30pm BBC London News	7:30pm Strictly - It Takes Two	9:30pm Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours	10:00am Live European Tour Golf
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm The Super-Rich and Us	10:00pm Ross Kemp Behind Bars - Inside Barlinnie	8:55pm Stand Up To Cancer	7:00pm Home and Away	3:00pm Live ATP Masters 1000 - Paris
	8:30pm EastEnders	9:00pm The Big Family Cooking Showdown	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm The Supervet	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	10:30pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	9:00pm Harry Styles at the BBC	10:00pm Exodus: Our Journey Continues	11:30pm ITV News London	10:00pm First Dates	8:00pm All New Traffic Cops	1:30pm Live NFL: Buffalo @ NY Jets
	10:00pm The Ganges with Sue Perkins	11:00pm Match of the Day	11:40pm After the News	11:00pm The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice	9:00pm Bargain Loving Brits in Blackpool	4:45am NFL Masterclass
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:30pm Newsnight	12:15am UEFA Europa League Highlights	11:50pm A Summer to Save My Life	10:00pm Rich House, Poor House	
	11:30pm BBC London News	12:15am Louis Theroux		12:55am Gogglebox	11:00pm Bad Habits, Holy Orders	
	11:45pm Question Time				12:05am Borderline	
12:45am This Week						
FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER	7:30pm BBC London News	3:45pm Family Finders	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	9:30am Good Morning Sports Fans
	8:00pm The One Show	4:15pm The Railway: Keeping Britain on Track	9:00pm Australian Wilderness with Ray Mears	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	10:00am Live European Tour Golf
	8:30pm Sounds Like Friday Night	5:15pm Back in Time for Dinner	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	3:00pm Live ATP Masters 1000 - Paris
	9:00pm EastEnders	6:15pm Flog It!	10:00pm Bear's Mission with Rob Brydon	8:30pm Unreported World	8:00pm The Gadget Show	6:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:30pm Porridge	7:00pm Strictly - It Takes Two	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:55pm Stand Up To Cancer	9:00pm The World's Greatest Bridges	7:00pm SKY Sports News
	10:00pm Have I Got News for You	8:00pm Mastermind	11:30pm ITV News London	9:00pm Food Unwrapped	10:00pm Eight Days That Made Rome: The Spartacus Revolt	8:00pm Football
	10:30pm Tracey Breaks the News	8:30pm Match of the Day Live	11:40pm After the News	9:30pm Travel Man	11:00pm Shrunken Heads of the Amazon	11:15pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm QI	12:15am Tonight at the London Palladium	10:00pm Gogglebox	12:05am Jack the Ripper: The Missing Evidence	1:30am Premier League Match Pack
	11:25pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight		11:00pm The Last Leg		
	11:35pm The Graham Norton Show	12:05am Snowfall		12:05am First Dates		
12:25am Josh			1:10am The Pyramid			
SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER	6:40pm BBC News	7:00pm The Big Family Cooking Showdown	4:30pm Thunderbirds are Go	2:25pm Come Dine with Me	12:45pm 12 Gifts of Christmas	7:00am SKY Sports News
	6:50pm Regional News	8:00pm Britain Afloat	4:55pm Father of the Bride	2:55pm Come Dine with Me	2:25pm Christmas Card	8:00am Live Chinese Super League
	6:55pm Weather	8:30pm Front Row	7:00pm Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs	3:25pm A Place in the Sun	4:10pm Christmas in the City	10:00am Live European Tour Golf
	7:00pm Pointless	9:00pm Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands	7:25pm Local News and Weather	4:30pm A Place in the Sun	6:00pm A Mission for Christmas (Inc News Update at 18:00)	12:30pm Football
	7:50pm Strictly Come Dancing	9:30pm Dad's Army	7:35pm ITV News and Weather	5:30pm Best Laid Plans	7:45pm Rio Lobo	3:55pm Rugby Union
	9:20pm Casualty	10:00pm Josh Widdicombe	7:50pm You've Been Framed!	6:30pm Location, Location, Location	9:55pm 5 News	6:15pm Football
	10:10pm Gunpowder	11:00pm QI XL	8:15pm Ninja Warrior UK	7:30pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Football on 5	8:40pm Live Fight Night
	11:10pm BBC News	11:00pm Later... with Jools Holland	9:20pm The X Factor	8:00pm Volatile Earth	11:00pm NCIS: New Orleans	International Fight Night
	11:25pm Weather	12:50am Red Tails	11:05pm The Jonathan Ross Show	9:00pm Pearl Harbour	11:55pm NCIS: New Orleans	
	11:30pm Match of the Day		12:10am ITV News and Weather	10:00pm The Other Woman	12:50am Lip Sync Battle	
12:50am The NFL Show			12:10am Unknown			
SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER	7:00pm Panorama	3:00pm Wild Brazil	3:50pm Catchphrase	3:30pm The Simpsons	4:05pm Let it Snow	7:00am SKY Sports News
	7:30pm Countryfile Autumn Special	4:00pm Flog It!	4:35pm Ball and Boe: Back Together	4:00pm The Simpsons	5:55pm 5 News	8:00am Total Goals
	8:15pm Strictly Come Dancing	5:00pm Rugby League World Cup Highlights	5:35pm A Very Royal Wedding	4:30pm The Great British Bake Off: The Final	6:00pm Grease	9:00am Total Goals
	9:00pm Blue Planet II	6:30pm Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights	6:50pm Local News and Weather	5:45pm Channel 4 News	8:15pm Grease: Before and After They Were Stars	9:30am Live European Tour Golf
	10:00pm The Last Post	8:00pm Top Gear	7:00pm ITV News and Weather	6:15pm Paddington	9:15pm Rugby on 5: Anglo Welsh Cup Highlights	1:00pm Football
	11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Robot Wars	7:10pm The Chase	8:00pm Escape	10:00pm The Grease Story	2:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	11:20pm Regional News	10:00pm Louis Theroux	8:05pm The X Factor	9:00pm Great Canal Journeys	11:00pm Most Shocking Moments in Pop	5:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	11:25pm Weather	11:35pm Snowfall	10:00pm ITV News and Weather	10:00pm Big Ben	11:30pm The Last Days of Steve McQueen	8:00pm Live NFL: Game
	11:30pm Match of the Day 2	12:20am The Ring	11:20pm Peston on Sunday	11:35pm Gogglebox	2:15am Super Casino	10:00pm Live NFL: Sunday Game
	12:45am Ronny Chieng: International Student		12:15am Caught on Camera	12:35am The Railway Man		2:00am Live NFL: Oakland @ Miami
MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:00pm 5 News	3:00pm SKY Sports News
	8:30pm Inside Out	7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	6:30pm Neighbours	4:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:00pm EastEnders	8:00pm Match of the Day	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	5:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:30pm Would I Lie to You?	8:30pm Coastal Path	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News	6:00pm SKY Sports News
	10:00pm Panorama	9:00pm University Challenge	9:00pm The Harbour	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Car Crash TV	7:00pm SKY Sports News
	11:00pm BBC News	9:30pm Nigella at My Table	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Dispatches	9:00pm All New Traffic Cops	8:00pm SKY Sports Tonight
	11:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Elizabeth I's Secret Agents	10:00pm Truly, Madly, Deeply	9:30pm Tricks of the Restaurant Trade	10:00pm Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railway Journeys	8:30pm La Liga Greatest Games
	11:40pm Weather	11:00pm Live at the Apollo	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm 999: What's Your Emergency?	11:00pm The Last Days of Steve McQueen	8:40pm Football
	11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More News for You	11:30pm Newsnight	11:40pm Ross Kemp Behind Bars: Inside Barlinnie	11:00pm First Dates	12:05am The One	10:45pm My Icon
	12:30am The Graham Norton Show	12:10am Weather	12:40am The Jonathan Ross Show	12:05am Celebrity Hunted		11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER	7:00pm BBC News	5:15pm Hebrides: Islands on the Edge	5:00pm Tipping Point	5:00pm Coast v Country	6:00pm 5 News	11:00am Premier League Daily
	7:30pm Regional News	6:15pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours	12:30pm Sportswomen
	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	7:00pm Home and Away	1:00pm SKY Sports News
	8:30pm EastEnders	7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm 5 News	2:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:00pm Holby City	8:00pm Copacabana Palace	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Yorkshire: A Year in the Wild	2:30pm Cricket
	10:00pm The A Word	9:00pm MasterChef: The Professionals	8:30pm Countrywise	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet	6:00pm SKY Sports News
	11:00pm BBC News	10:00pm Rick Stein's Road to Mexico	9:00pm The Daily Mirror Pride of Britain Awards 2017	9:00pm The Secret Life of 4 Year Olds	10:00pm Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild	7:00pm SKY Sports News
	11:30pm Regional News	11:00pm Motherland	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm Grand Designs	11:00pm Most Shocking Reality Moments	7:30pm Live Next Gen Tennis Finals
	11:40pm Weather	11:30pm Newsnight	11:45pm On Assignment	11:00pm Mosul	1:55am Super Casino	11:30pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	11:45pm Hotel for Refugees	12:10am Weather	12:20am Lethal Weapon	12:05am How to Get a Council House		12:00am SKY Sports News
12:25am Generation Screwed?						
WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER	5:30pm Flog It!	5:15pm Hebrides: Islands on the Edge	7:00pm Local News and Weather	5:00pm Coast v Country	4:15pm The Christmas Note	11:00am Premier League Daily
	6:15pm Pointless	6:15pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:00pm 5 News	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm Eggheads	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	6:30pm Neighbours	1:00pm SKY Sports News
	7:30pm Regional News	7:30pm Strictly it Takes Two	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	2:00pm Live Next Gen Tennis Finals
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Meet the Lords	9:00pm Gino's Italian Coastal Escape	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News	6:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:00pm DIY SOS	9:00pm MasterChef: The Professionals	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Traffic Cops	7:00pm SKY Sports News
	10:00pm The Apprentice	10:00pm BIG LIFE FIX	10:00pm Doc Martin	9:00pm The Supervet	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	7:30pm Live Next Gen Tennis Finals
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm The Apprentice: You're Fired!	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm The Truth About Slim People	10:00pm Big Family Values: More Kids Than Cash	11:30pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	11:30pm Regional News	11:30pm Newsnight	11:45pm Bear's Mission with Rob Brydon	11:00pm Man Down	11:00pm Shannon Matthews: The Mother's Story	12:00am SKY Sports News
	11:40pm Weather	12:10am Louis Theroux	12:45am Road Rage Britain: Caught on Camera	11:35pm Homecoming	12:05am When Kids Kill: Catfish Killer	1:00am SKY Sports News
11:45pm A Question of Sport			12:35am Gogglebox			
12:15am Junior Doctors						



TV Couch Critic

Strictly camera angles plus unripe avocados

STRICTLY COME DANCING (BBC1, Saturday & Sunday) continues to delight with glitz and sparkle even though I wasn't sure that without Sir Bruce and Seven-loving Len it would remain as a weekend favourite.

But it most certainly is. Twitter-using fans of the show will have seen a flood of comments about the camera angles over recent weeks and I agree.

Clearly someone has a new box of tricks and wants to throw them all at the dancers, with cameras spinning around the dance floor, way too many overhead shots and on one occasion a lens so close to the dancing couple there was a real danger of a collision.

All that glitter and hair product to clean up, and that's just from a slight

brush against Bruno!

Maybe Len needs to return and sort it all out, as only he can?

A show that on paper shouldn't work, but on the screen really does, is *James and Jupp* (BBC2 Wales, Sunday).

Maybe a touch of Miss Marple is needed to find this given the channel, but if you want a blast of stunning countryside and two-blokes-in-a-car-humour, seek it out.

The format is simple: comedians Elis James and Miles Jupp take a car trip around

Wales, and while it isn't Top Gear or the sort of comedy normally familiar from these two, the banter is genuine and the trip on the A470 connecting south and north Wales is spectacular.

Meanwhile I am getting increasingly worried by some content panellists on *Loose Women* (ITV, weekdays) are being given to work with.

As daytime telly, viewers expect mixed topics to be discussed from hard hitting to trivial.

But a recent item asked if viewers suffered 'avocado anxiety,' a term used following re-

search that revealed a fear among one in three millennials when their avocados aren't ripe.

This may be about the right level for lovely Stacey Solomon and lets face it Linda Robson will read anything from autocue, but the likes of Janet Street-Porter and Ruth Langford as serious commentators surely deserve something better.

The latest written-by and starring Jack Whitehall offering *Bounty Hunters* (SKY1, Wednesday) pairs Jack with Rosie Perez, while Robert Lindsay and

Charity Wakefield are thrown in for good measure.

As Jack has written this one I am unsure why he has cast himself as a middle class fool; maybe just to reinforce his one-trick pony CV?

His character, Barnaby - why give him such a name Jack? - is trying to save the failing family antiques business and gets involved with looted treasures from the East.

It is unclear how this will play out, but Rosie is gorgeous and Jack looks good with spectacles and trimmed beard, so I'm sticking with it.

Finally, *The Crown* (Netflix) starts a second season on December 8. With the story known inside out, based on season one there will be little if anything new.

Even so the date is already in my viewing diary.

Critique: AWL, Casares, Costa del Sol



GLITTERING: The Strictly Come Dancing 2017 lineup.

Photo by BBC

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For Theresa May 'important progress' was made at the recent EU summit. For Corbyn it was 'Groundhog Day'

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

THERESA MAY 'begged for help' and seemed 'tired' and 'politically weak' at the recent EU summit according to leaks reportedly by the EU side to further weaken the PM.

Regardless of the truth of these leaks, it's clear the UK needs to rapidly progress the negotiations before relationships deteriorate any further. Both sides are jockeying for position. The EU wants as much money as possible to offset the effect of the UK's departure. The UK wants to minimise the amount it pays AND have a trade deal with the EU.

Unquestionably, the EU under both Merkel and Juncker has proved inflexible and unaccommodating. Merkel gave carte blanche to migration into the EU when the so-called Dublin Regulation was suspended, turning a steady flow of migration into a flood. Eastern member states have objected to EU quotas for migrants and been taken to the ECJ in their quest for border controls.



DOUBLE TROUBLE: Juncker and Merkel.

Merkel has proved inflexible regarding making the EU more adaptive to the needs of its members, with David Cameron humiliated in his attempts to achieve some reform of the freedom of movement rules prior to the UK referendum.

In short, it's well past time for countries in the EU other than the UK to say

"enough is enough!" Cracks are appearing - even the Danish finance minister recently stated that the EU's wrangling over Brexit is "a game" and flexibility is required.

Thankfully, the EU is now showing a hint of flexibility, the 'sequencing' of talks having proved a major barrier to progress. All UK political parties should also be getting behind the government as it clearly has a very difficult job ahead. Labour in particular (yes, I'm looking at you, Mr 'Groundhog Day' Corbyn!) needs to stop all the political point-scoring.

Finally, talk of the billions of pounds 'owed' the EU is enough to drive us all crazy. Which reminds me of an old joke. Doctor: "Nurse, how is that little boy doing, the one who accidentally swallowed those old £1 coins?" Nurse: "No change yet."

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

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Tobias Entwistle, Nerja

Comedy call - just hang up

YOU know what really gets me? Unnecessary voicemail messages. I do understand the need for important voicemails, but I am talking about the ones that go something like: "Oh hi, it's only me. Just wanted to chat, give me a call back, okay bye."

Now, there are a few things about this one, pointless, unnecessary, time-wasting message that wind me up.

Firstly, "It's only me." I know exactly who it was great granddad, the voicemail person has already told me the number in the slowest imaginable way and more importantly WE HAVE CALLER ID NOW, I know who called, when.

Secondly, "just wanted to chat." Of course, my mistake, I only didn't pick up Auntie Mabel because you usually call for your annual insurance quote. Thank you for clarifying though, I'll call you straight back.

Finally, "give me a call back." I don't know if this is just me, but whenever I do call back straight away, why is it that no-one ever picks up? Surely you must be near your phone, is this revenge for me missing your call?

The worst part though is that all those messages add-up and when you actually need a voicemail, you have to wade through hours of messages, what feels like years of your life, listening to them all just in case they were important but knowing you've ALREADY called back.

Save us both time and just hang up, I'll call back.

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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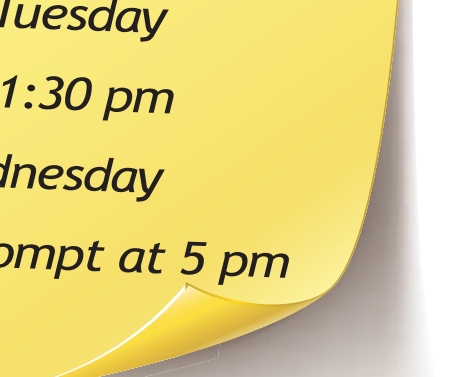
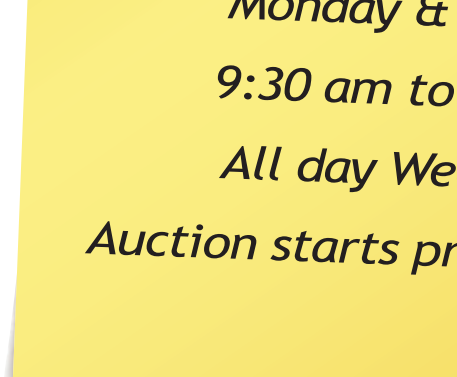
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Life's lessons begin in a new country!



Ric Polansky

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

KAREN'S parents came to visit after we were here a year. I am sure it was suspicions and nothing else. But, the ruse was they had won a free trip to Malaga. I tricked them immediately by not returning with them to Mojacar, but allowing Karen to drive them back. I was too close to Sevilla to not take in a corrida or two.

Their son Steve harboured a secret ambition to become a bullfighter although he had never seen one. So, off we roared down the road leaving Karen the opportunity to drive back to Mojacar with her parents on the most winding road in Spain. Apparently her father whimpered most as he suffered from acute vertigo and the narrow roads with precarious drops didn't do well with his libido.

In the end we all united back in Mojacar and went out for a special reunion meal. But a strange thing



SPANISH CULTURE: 'Tap in and adjust.'

happened. When asked what we wanted to drink Karen's father piped up and ordered a Manhattan cocktail.

Logical, if you're in the states but in Spain, even in Madrid they hadn't heard of it. This then is the subject of today's lesson in learning. When in a foreign country everything around

you is different, especially the social customs and the laws. Tap in and adjust. What we all thought we knew had to be adjusted and severely modified.

Spain has never ceased to amaze me over the years how they arrive at solving problems going about the

procedure in an entirely different course of action than suspected. It's been a large confusing pill to swallow, especially since I presumed I knew it all, how the world should turn and evolve. I grew up watching another system work and produce results but Spain had a different angle

on everything. A nonsensical manner that seemed almost foolish in its application. I serve up another example.

In my first year of being here a wealthy woman visited my brother Paul and had some rings stolen. Two Guardia Civil were posted outside his gate and everyone coming and going had to sign in and out. Their faces were studied, how they signed was scrutinised. That went on for just three days. Then more guards were posted outside the cleaners' houses and signing in and out was essential.

By the end of four more days the culprits pleaded to be arrested. Nothing heavy handed or pushy, just the opposite and it worked.

In the bars you can often hear the constant whining; this isn't right, that isn't justice and in most instances I agree, but I am also willing to sit back and see where it all goes. Justice knows no time limits in Spain. Complicated problems often take generations to solve as tempers need to be soothed, and both sides must not be associated with losing. After all, more fiestas are yet to be shared.

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Follow your dreams

Sally Trotman

www.sallytrotman.com

Sally Trotman is a qualified Counsellor who works with Astrology, Numerology and the Tarot. Each month she will deliver the forecast as an intuitive tool to aid increased self awareness.



ASTROLOGY: ignite your passions

Sun in Scorpio : This month the sun is influenced by the watery symbol of Scorpio. This sign brings the opportunity to get to the truth of the matter, whether concerning relationship issues, health problems or career direction. What makes your heart sing? Is there something you love to do (or someone you love to be with?) but need a little courage to follow your heart?

This is the month to follow your dreams and explore your own hidden depths to find out what really makes you tick. You may also help others to do the same, so take time to listen to friends and family this month, who may be looking for some guidance and reassurance.

Get in tune with the moon : The full moon on November 3 is in the earthy sign of Taurus. This is an excellent time to become clear about your vision for the new year. Whilst heading towards winter, when there is less light in the sky, you will be able to hear your inner voice more clearly. So take time out for yourself to walk,

write or meditate to help you become aware of your inner yearnings.

Putting together a collection of photos and words to represent your vision would be helpful at this time. This will give you something to look at as the year progresses. The new moon on November 18 is in the sign of Scorpio. Spend time with inspiring friends on this day and see what insights come to you. Then begin to take action to bring your desires to fruition, so that by the time spring arrives next year your plans are well under way.

Numerology: master your destiny

Number 11 : This is the number of the inspired healer and creative artist. It is an intuitive and instinctual number, dynamic and focused at its best, indecisive and alone when fearful. Consider where you are following your intuition, and whether you are making the most of your natural talents at this time. Is your energy buoyant or are you in need of a rest? Do you feel decisive about your future direction, or is it a little unclear? There may be a few tests thrown in this month, but don't despair. Everything happens for a reason. So embrace any difficulties you face this month with strength and confidence. Use your inner knowing to navigate through any challenges you may face.

SCORPIO: Get to the truth of the matter.

The Tarot: e m b r a c e change

In the Tarot Deck, the 11th card in the picture deck is the card of Justice. This card deals with the idea of karma, and the law of cause and effect, stating that all events, and all people are connected. This card also indicates that it is perhaps time to make an important decision. Will you continue your life as it is, or will you take real action to change?

This card indicates that now is the time to gain true satisfaction and you must evaluate your outer life using your inner wisdom. In order to assess your life you must be truly honest for this is an act of deep self love. Know that now is the time to begin creating the life you truly desire.

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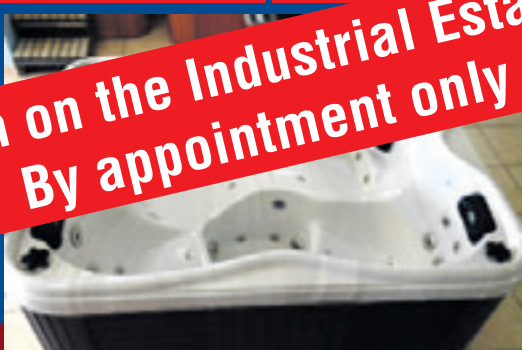
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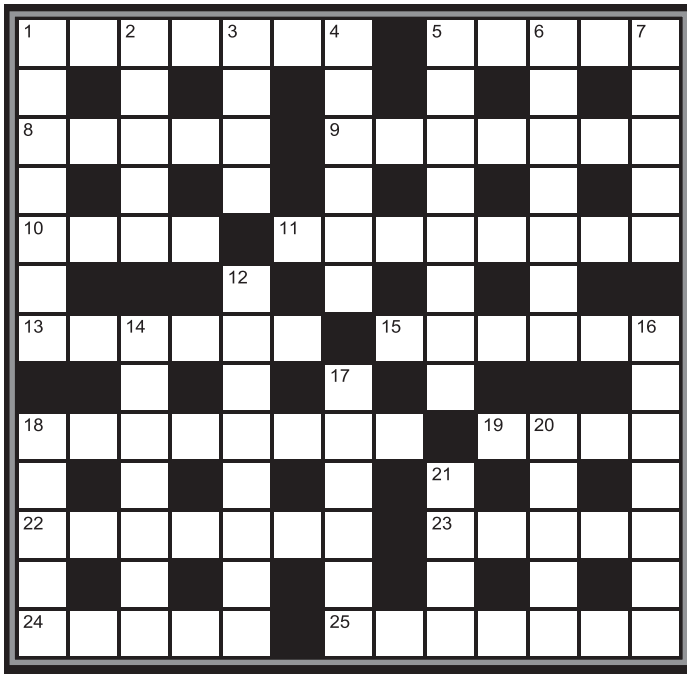
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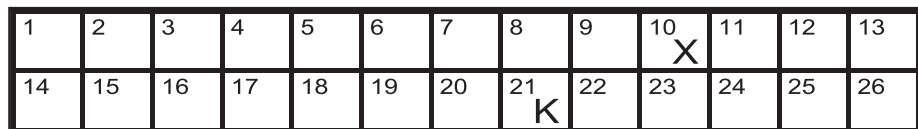
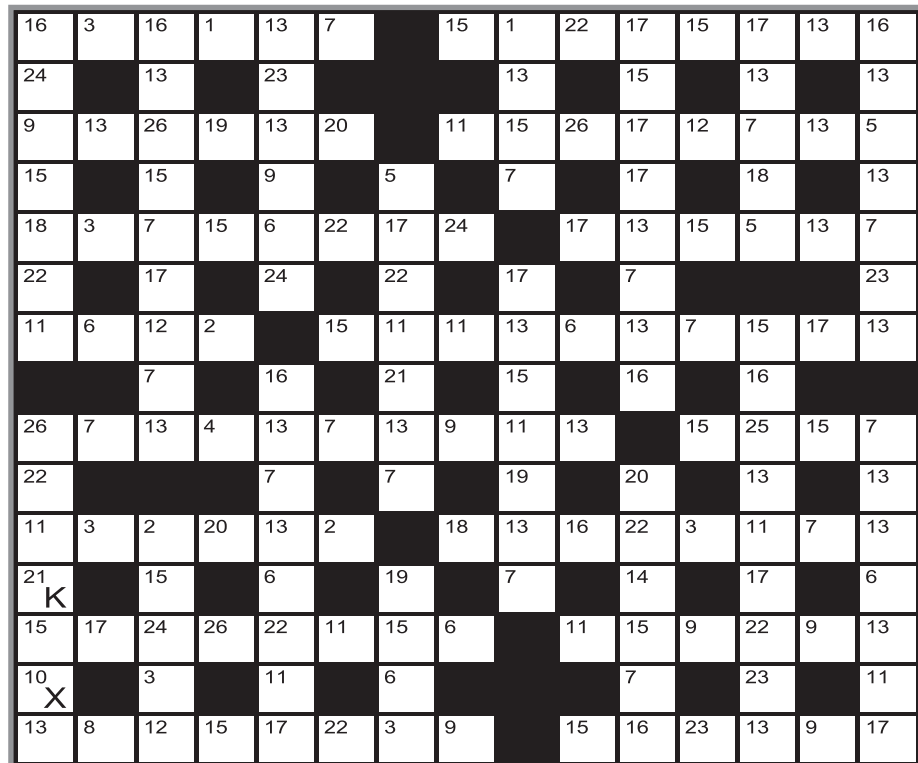
- Across**
 1 Chopper about to take off with revolutionary leader (7)
 5 Follow the path (5)
 8 It concerns Adam's wife and the bailiff (5)
 9 Unconventional start in passage (7)
 10 Occurrence in Monica Seles's day (4)
 11 French boarding houses appreciated by the retired (8)
 13 Public school admitting us, somewhere in London (6)
 15 Sore when I wait on Her Majesty (6)
 18 Old cabinetmaker as throne maker (8)
 19 Temptation found in Cuba, Italy and France (4)
 22 Greek wine, some clarets in Athens (7)
 23 Nothing going right sweetheart (5)
 24 Wheel covers made from pretty resilient stuff (5)
 25 Keeps making chess move (7)



- Down**
 1 Small boat from County Clare, possibly (7)
 2 Vessels taking sheep over river (5)
 3 See six points (4)
 4 On the contrary, her art is moving (6)
 5 US truck driver meets art work (8)
 6 Take off nasty scab on poor Don (7)
 7 Biblical refugee, American flower (5)
 12 Not a sign of legal representatives (8)
 14 Place of refuge lets her wander (7)
 16 Quick replies for lab equipment (7)
 17 Nothing found in reconditioned iMacs but a coloured pattern (6)
 18 Dispute about right to get fish (5)
 20 An incus is part of a Roman villa (5)
 21 It's a positive sign, as well (4)

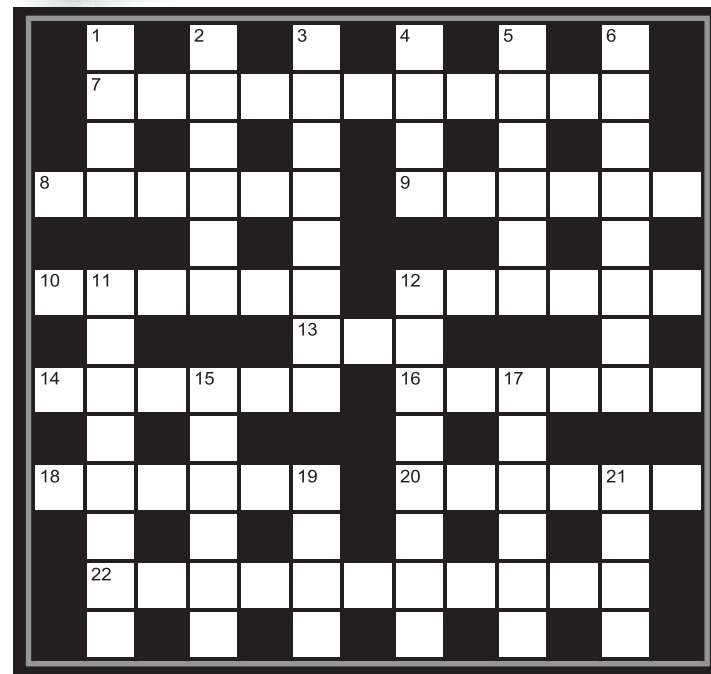
Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 10 represents X and 21 represents K, so fill in X every time the figure 10 appears and K every time the figure 21 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

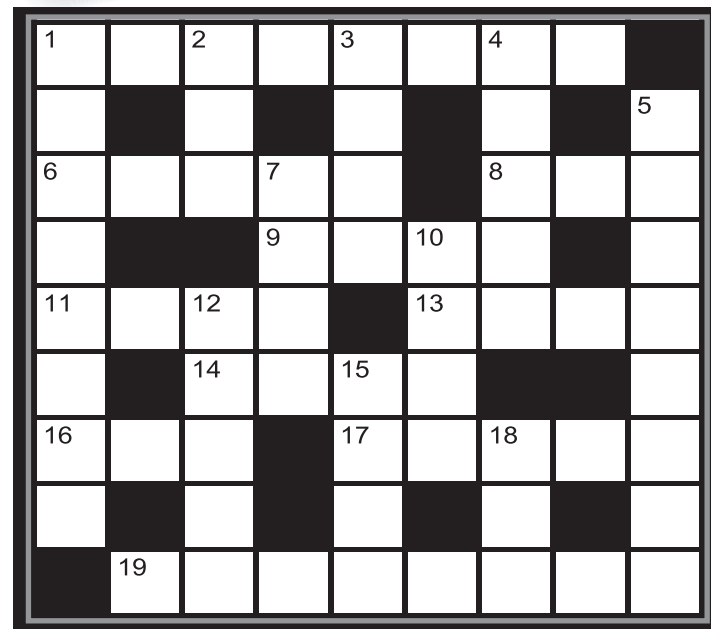
Quick



- Across**
 7 Exclusive right (11)
 8 Fisherman (6)
 9 Full supply (6)
 10 Made afraid (6)
 12 Real (6)
 13 Firearm (3)
 14 Dissimilar (6)
 16 Public building for gambling and entertainment (6)
 18 Capital of Austria (6)
 20 Drink made of beer and lemonade (6)
 22 Wife or widow of a marquis (11)
- Down**
 1 Not shut (4)
 2 Hawker (6)
 3 Slang term for jail sentence (8)
 4 Stinging insect (4)
 5 Turn aside (6)
 6 Hold back (8)
 11 Establishes or strengthens as with new evidence or facts (8)
 12 Forebear (8)
 15 Disregard (6)
 17 Apportions (6)
 19 Feel physical pain (4)
 21 Twilight (4)

English - Spanish

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



- Across**
 1 Remolacha (8)
 6 Swedish (f) (5)
 8 Hielo (3)
 9 Something (4)
 11 Air (4)
 13 Tintas (para escribir) (4)
 14 To pray (say prayers) (4)
 16 Grifo (de agua) (3)
 17 Nail (metal) (5)
 19 Season (period of the year) (8)
- Down**
 1 Enough (8)
 2 Ojo (3)
 3 Royal (4)
 4 Cebolla (5)
 5 Cucharilla (8)
 7 To fall (4)
 10 Chica (4)
 12 Cuerdas (gruesas) (5)
 15 Minutes (of a meeting) (4)
 18 There (near you) (3)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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I'm pleased to hear that

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



WHY does everything have to be so difficult? I mean things start off simple then everything goes downhill. I receive a UK pension which, thanks to Brexit, dropped by 20 per cent-ish just after the announcement. So gawd knows what will happen when the UK actually does leave the EU.

Anyway, somebody told me that, as I'd had my own business here in Spain and had paid into their system, I may be entitled to a small pension here too. Now, as you all know, nothing here is going to go the way you hope. You can't just call an office, give your social security number, and hope that someone says 'Oh yeah, we will sort that for you.'

I had to make an appointment at my local social security office and take a load of completed and duplicated forms. You all know the form filling procedures here so I won't bore you. That done I turn up for my appointment and a very helpful young man tells me yes I am entitled to a Spanish pension. He explained that all they have to do

is write to the UK pension office to confirm a couple of things and 'Roberto es tu tío' (Bob's your uncle!). I'm told it will take a couple of weeks or so.

Well, a couple of weeks came and went and we were well into the 'or so' territory as I originally went in June and it's now November. On Tuesday I went back to the Spanish social security office to see what was going on. I hadn't made an appointment so I had to wait for an hour and a half for them to tell me that they hadn't heard back from the UK pension office.

Next I phone the UK office and after pressing 1 for this, 2 for that, 4 for something else, 5 for losing the will to live, I finally get through and tell them Spain is waiting for a couple of bits of information. They tell me they haven't been sent yet because they are very busy! 'Oh, I'm pleased to hear that. I'd hate for you to be sitting around twiddling your thumbs.'

But, do you not appreciate that some people depend on their pensions to live and waiting six months for two forms to be sent back is not acceptable.' I'm told they will mark it urgent and get them sent as soon as possible. Let's see.

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

Email me: mikesenker@gmail.com.

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Checking your details at the roadside

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.



PDA: An essential tool.

AS they go about their duties patrolling the roads of Spain, the Guardia Civil traffic police have a whole range of tools in their arsenal to both help those in need, and of course deal with those drivers who break the law.

One piece of kit carried by all of the officers, often stored in the panniers of their motorbikes, or inside the patrol cars, is their Personal Digital Assistant, or PDA. The device is linked via Bluetooth to a thermal printer, and so able to issue fines on the spot, and pools its data with the central office of the DGT traffic department.

The PDA can be used to check driver and vehicle details, such as if you are actually qualified to drive, if you've been banned, if you own the vehicle you are driving, and details about that vehicle and its insurance.

The whole process of checking the informa-

tion is almost instantaneous, but it can take a lot longer if the information provided by the driver is either inaccurate, or unknown.

One particular problem facing foreign drivers is when they are not registered as residents in Spain, or have not transferred their licence to a Spanish one.

For those who have, you are likely to be sent on your way a lot quicker than those with no registered details, as a single check of a driver's NIE number links all of the relevant driver and vehicle details together, and so the officers can almost instantly find the information they are looking to confirm.

However, when the information is not linked, such as for drivers who haven't swapped to a Spanish licence, then the process takes a lot longer to complete, and your journey is likely to be increasingly delayed as a result.

Do I need a Spanish driving licence?

After recent confusion over the legality of driving in Spain on a UK licence, the Directorate General of Traffic has now clarified the full letter of the law concerning this complex matter.

Q. I am a British resident in Spain. Do I need a Spanish driving licence by law?

A. If you are the holder of a Group 1 licence (AM, A1, A2, A, B and BE) with a period of validity greater than 15 years - and this includes permanent licences - or a Group 2 licence (BTP, C1, C1E, C, CE D1, D1E, D, DE) with a period of validity greater than five years, then you must exchange the licence for a Spanish equivalent once you have been resident in Spain for two years.

If you are the holder of a

standard UK 10-year photo licence you do NOT need to exchange the licence for a Spanish equivalent until it expires, although you CAN do so voluntarily at any time.

However, if you are resident in Spain and your driving licence expires then you MUST renew it for a Spanish licence.

In a recent Legally Speaking Column article in *EWN Issue 1683* some information given by David Searl on this topic led to social media

users publishing contradictory views, some of those additionally incorrect.

Confusion over a long period according to the Directorate of Traffic has arisen due to various translations into English as to the law as outlined in Spanish.

The *EWN* - as a responsible newspaper - in publishing the above report, believes this to be an accurate translation and interpretation in English of what the law states in Spanish.

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

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Located just minutes from the picturesque village of Bedar, this imposing 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom villa boasts a private pool, wonderful sea vistas and particularly good access for a country property.

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This wonderful country property is located in the sought after area of Vera campo, less than 15 minutes from the historical town of Vera with all its amenities and 20 minutes to the beautiful coastal resorts of Vera playa, Garrucha and Mojacar.

Vera

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Olive



This charming village house dates back over 150 years, located in the picturesque village of Bedar the property boasts 2/3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a wonderful and spacious terrace.

Bedar

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This delightful 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom villa is located in the sought after coastal resort of Mojacar Playa, just minutes from the popular commercial centre. The property boasts a wonderful private pool and stunning views to the Mediterranean.

Mojacar

695,000€

Ref: OLV1288

Olive



This fine looking and imposing 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom villa is located just 5 minutes from the market town of Los Gallardos and under 20 minutes from the wonderful coastal resort of Mojacar.

Los Gallardos

395,000€

Ref: OLV1176

Olive



This wonderful 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom village property is located in the very pretty hamlet of El Pilar, an equal distant from the popular market towns of Uleila del Campo, Lubrin and the historical town of Sorbas.

Sorbas

69,950€

Ref: OLV1184

Olive



This wonderful, larger than average 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom villa is located in the former mining village of El Pinar de Bedar under 15 minutes from the popular coastal resorts of Mojacar and Garrucha.

Bedar

279,950€

Ref: OLV0476

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This immaculate 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom property is situated in one of the most sought after complexes on Valle del Este golf resort. The property has a clever layout giving a feeling of space and is in an excellent condition.

Valle del Este

89,950€

Ref: OLV1333

Olive



This spacious 4 bedroom townhouse is located in the small hamlet of Rambla Aljibe, just 5 minutes from the popular market town of Lubrin. The property boasts patios to the front and rear.

Lubrin

53,950€

Ref: OLV1091

Olive



This luxury detached villa is situated in the now protected area of Bedar and boasts 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, a beautiful pool area and stunning views of the entire coastline.

Bedar

425,000€

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

Letters should be emailed to yoursay@euroweeklynews.com or make your comments on our website: www.euroweeklynews.com

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Liberal views a recipe for confusion?

SIR,

I have never written to a newspaper before.

But after reading the liberal bury your head in the sand - or somewhere else where the sun does not shine - full page (!) article entitled Children are not the confused ones that appeared in *issue 1684* I am compelled to comment.

So Anon (for it was written by an anonymous person), you feel that anyone that has a counter opinion to yours needs to be re-educated? I don't think so!

I agree with you that being LGBT is not a trend, it is a lifestyle chosen by those who make it. Most children are not mature or experienced enough to make choices on this or many other issues until they get into their teens, generally with some guidance from their parents.

If you have educated your children into believing that two men or two women having same sex sexual intercourse is 'normal' I fear that you gloss it over with statements like 'If a girl

Beeb should be ashamed

CASSANDRA NASH definitely hits the nail on the head this week (*issue 1686*) referring to the UK media's inaccurate reporting on the Catalan situation.

I agree with her 100 per cent!

I was shocked and angry at the way the BBC described the attempted Catalan Independence coup. Disgusted at the biased one-sided sensationalist take on the whole sorry affair.

Anyone would think Cataluña is a poor, downtrodden little region subjected to the evil tyranny of Madrid, instead of the wealthy, well-treated, spoiled region that it really is.



UK MEDIA: Inaccurate on Cataluña?

Why did they keep showing the same footage of the same independistas being dragged down a flight of stairs and pushed onto the street? Because that was all they had. These were isolated incidences and not widespread occurrences.

I expected more from a media corporation which has an international reputation for fairness and well-informed, accurate reporting. Can we believe anything the BBC says from now on? I for one certainly won't.

Lynn Hopkins, Fuengirola

feels more like a boy and dresses as such so what' and 'if a boy dresses like a girl so what.'

Recipe for childhood confusion!

Pedro J Elliott, address withheld

Law of the land

A SPANISH friend has explained to me that the Spanish Constitution would need to be changed in order to allow the Spanish government to agree to the secession of Cataluña. UK citizens may find this difficult to understand as - luckily in my opinion - we have no written constitution and thus it was relatively easy for Parliament in Westminster to allow the Scots to have a legal referendum.

Helena McGinty, Alhaurin El Grande

Stamp it out!

I WONDER if there is some official reason why most (or what feels like most) official documentation in Spain still needs to be rubber stamped as in the UK pre-1990s? Or is it because civil offices remain paper-based? If so the government should be urged to sort this dated and environmentally-damaging practice out!!

Bill Turnbull, Orihuela

No red tape

I HAVE recently sold my house in Calpe, and having heard many complaints about telephone and Wi-Fi suppliers would like to recognise some exceptional service. The helpline number at Orange was answered quickly and within seconds connected to an English-speaking operator. I gave the new information and as I was thanking him and saying goodbye he said 'that's all done now.' That's what I call good service!

Peter F Purvey, Calpe

Just chill out

IT was ice, not global warming, that killed and entombed millions of mammoths and woolly rhinos in Siberia and Alaska. It was unrelenting cold and then ice, not global warming, that forced the Vikings out of Greenland. It was bitter winters, not heat waves, that finally defeated the armies of Napoleon and Hitler in Russia. It is lethal global cooling we need to fear, not life-sustaining global warming.

Viv Forbe, Australia

HAVE YOUR SAY

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Readers who have missed correspondence can see all letters - which can be edited before publication - posted on: www.euroweeklynews.com.

Catalan parliament declares independence

Irresponsible and tragic figures... this will only hurt their mislead supporters on the streets.

Most surely these immature cowards will not stand in the front line with their crowd against National Police. Ghandi was a great leader of peaceful disobedience, these guys are not.

I guess the vast majority of the people living in Cataluña thinks like us in this thread today. They never asked for any of this...

Let's keep our fingers crossed that no-one gets seriously injured the next days or worse... *Peter Redrin* Wait till it hits the pocket of the average person in the street. Trouble ahead. *Catriona Ni Bhucalla*

More than one million protest a unified Spain

They have got to be better together as a nation, than apart and fractured, out on a limb, Spain has come so far since the passing of Franco's fascist ruling, let's hope they work things out, and not listening to people that are only thinking of themselves. *George R Carman*

Society's poison (Leapy Lee)

Typically one-sided, simplistic argument Lee. It's much more complex than you would like to pretend. Just

Comments from EWN online

for starters, many same sex parents are kind and caring. Some opposite sex parents get convicted of child cruelty etc. Your articles need more balance. *Sam B* Praying for a peaceful conclusion, love Spain. *Maggie Champion*

Ryanair £5 UK to Spain flight deal

I would not use them even if the flight were for free ...Arrogant MD ...I'm happy to pay anything rather than fly with this company, if no other airline I'd rather drive to Europe... *Jane Duckworth*

Wild boar cull ordered

If they have to have a cull of the wild boar, then it should be done responsibly, or take as many of them back into the hills and forests, as is possible, and review the problem in a year's time. If the problem re-occurs then round up a said amount and send them to an abattoir, and the meat sold off. Which I am sure will be sold very quickly. *George R Carman*

My dog is currently seriously ill after being attacked by wild boar near our home. I'm going to report it to the police to try to get some action. *Sue Cook*

Costa del Sol port cruises to record year

Malaga Port may have a record 2017 but I just arrived back yesterday on the Pullmantur Horizon cruise ship and it was confirmed on board that they will NOT be using Malaga to board or disembark passengers in 2018 due to a massive increase in port costs!

If we want to do a similar cruise next year then we have no choice other than to board in either Alicante or Barcelona...

Talk about biting the hand that feeds you! *Lorraine Enriquez Murphy*

Man who raided 50 hotel rooms arrested

It's funny how people on holiday suddenly forget about taking care care of their valuables, money, and sometimes, their own safety, rogues, thieves, and vagabonds, even when they are on holiday, can't stop themselves from going about their profession. *George R Carman*

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Pamper yourself for peanuts

AS well as making sure you use enough moisturiser over the autumn and winter, you can also give your skin a quick hydration boost using a face mask.

While there are plenty of varieties available for sale, ranging from the cheap and cheerful to the bank-breaking, what could be better than making something fresh and natural yourself for almost nothing?

Home-made face masks can be extremely easy to make and offer many of the same benefits of store-bought options. Below are three straightforward recipes you can make in the comfort of your kitchen using ingredients you may already have.

The instant moisture boost. Rich in vegetable oils, avocados contain vitamins E and K, as well as zinc, potassium and iron, offering the skin an instant moisture hit. Mix the scooped out contents of one avocado with

one teaspoon of olive oil and one egg white. This creamy concoction can be left on the skin for 15 minutes before being rinsed off with warm water.

Get the glow. Winter skin can become dull and grey and a good moisturising and exfoliat-



ing mask will help tackle this problem. Some fruits like papaya or citrus fruits contain enzymes which naturally dissolve dead skin cells exfoliating your face without use abrasive scrubs. Once again using avocado as a base, add half a mashed up papaya and two tablespoons of orange to the concoction. This mask can be left on for 10 minutes before being rinsed off with warm water.

Oh so soothing. If your skin becomes irritated over autumn and winter you can create a comforting mask to relieve redness. Dissolve two tablespoons of honey with two tablespoons each of olive oil and milk. Blend the mixture with oatmeal and leave the resulting paste on your skin for up to 20 minutes.

AVOCADO:
A good base for
a face mask.

ALONGSIDE a healthy autumn diet, it is also important to keep active even when the weather is cooler.

When the sun is shining and the temperature moderate it is easy to find ways to keep moving but when it is cold and grey outside not many of us feel like going for a run or a swim. There are plenty of ways to stay fit in your home

though, and lots of small changes you can integrate into your domestic routine to fit in some exercise. The housework-workout. Cleaning your home can burn hundreds of calories an hour and has the

added benefit of keeping your home hygienic. Mopping and sweeping are big energy burners, using up around 290 calories an hour, while cleaning windows will burn a whopping 334 calories an hour.

Vacuuming will also help get your heart going, using up around 190 calories per hour. Jumping for joy. If you really want a good cardiovascular workout, why not go back to your playground days and in-

vest in a skipping rope? This high energy yet simple exercise can burn an enormous 170 calories in just 15 minutes and can be done while watching TV.

Hula girls: Similarly, hula

hooping is another cheap and easy childhood activity you can do at home. As well as being fun, this simple workout can burn 150 calories in 15 minutes as well as helping to tone your waist and stomach.

As with any exercise, make sure to consult a doctor before embarking on a new workout, particularly if you have any pre-existing health conditions.

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Immune boosters

AUTUMN can be one of the best parts of the year, offering up Halloween and fireworks parties as well as the exciting build-up to Christmas and some fantastic Saturday night TV.

This festive season can bring with it some unwanted bugs, however, and it is important to keep our immune systems as strong as possible to ward off illnesses.

While your immune system is largely dictated by your genetic make-up, there are certainly things you can still do to boost yours.

According to Harvard University, the best thing you can do is improve your general lifestyle by avoiding smoking, eating more fruit and vegetables, exercising regularly and maintaining a healthy weight.

The university also advises controlling your blood pressure, drinking alcohol only in moderation, getting enough sleep and washing your hands thoroughly and frequently, especially after contact with others. It is also important to maintain regular health screening if you suffer from any conditions.

While Harvard explains taking high doses of single vitamins will not boost immunity, taking a daily multi-vitamin may. Eating diets rich in zinc, selenium, iron, copper, folic acid and vitamin A have also been shown to increase immune responses in animals, according to the university, although the effects on humans are less clear.

The university concludes by saying there may be a link between high stress levels and lowered immunity. While the phenomenon is still being studied, it will certainly help your blood pressure to take more time to relax, perhaps by adding a hobby to your routine and you might even ward off that winter cold in the process!



AUTUMN: A good time to boost the immune system with exercise.

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SPRING IF YOU'RE WINNING: Skip at home.

Fitness from home

ALONGSIDE a healthy autumn diet, it is also important to keep active even when the weather is cooler.

When the sun is shining and the temperature moderate it is easy to find ways to keep moving but when it is cold and grey outside not many of us feel like going for a run or a swim. There are plenty of ways to stay fit in your home though, and lots of small changes you can integrate into your domestic routine to fit in some exercise.

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As with any exercise, make sure to consult a doctor before embarking on a new workout, particularly if you have any pre-existing health conditions.

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Flu



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

WHAT are the symptoms of flu?

The flu is an infection in the respiratory system caused by a virus that can bring about several symptoms that do not necessarily appear at the same time.

In general a person suffering from the flu will have a cough, fever, pains in their muscles and extremities, feel run down, tiredness, loss of appetite and lack of energy. These symptoms can last several days.

A person usually recovers gradually over a few days, however for some it can take several weeks before they are fully recovered.

How can you treat it?

Usually the best course of treatment is to take medication to manage the symptoms along with rest and plenty of hydration. In more severe cases antiviral or antibiotic medication may be required to deal with the virus.

Should I seek medical

help?

It is recommended that you see your doctor for an initial evaluation so they can refer you to specialists or to take further tests if they are necessary.

When would it be advisable to get a flu jab?

The vaccination campaigns tend to start in autumn and it is recommended that you get the jab especially if you have a high risk of catching the flu. The elderly and those suffering from chronic illnesses are also advised to get vaccinated.

Are there people who are vulnerable to the virus?

People over the age of 65 are more likely to get the flu, and to suffer more seriously from it. Anyone with respiratory illnesses such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease or asthma, or other chronic illnesses such as diabetes and those suffering from cancer are the most vulnerable to the virus.

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

Sexual healing

By Matthew Elliott

SEX workshops were attended by thousands of women at Almeria's first Erotic Fair. FERAL 2017 was lauded as a huge success by organisers, with nearly 6,000 people visiting the Aguadulce Convention Centre over the weekend.

Event director Conrad Son said that it was the first time he'd seen more women than men attend an erotic fair. Interestingly no single women showed up, he said, but rather they attended in large groups of friends.

Son said the most popular workshops among female attendees were fellatio and erotic massage classes. Masturbation techniques and painting classes were also very much in demand.

Women and men from as far afield as Sevilla, Alicante and Jaen traveled to Almeria for the fair. It was the first of its kind in southern Spain and saw dozens of sex gurus and relationship advisors travel from Madrid and Barcelona to conduct the workshops.

A second edition is already being planned for 2018.

Food, film and fun

CINEMA will once again combine with gastronomy this year as the fifth edition of the Film Tapas Festival returns to Almeria.

Beginning on November 9 until Sunday, November 19, participating restaurants will pay homage to the world of cinema by creating an exclusive tapa dish bearing the name of a chosen film.

All of the 34 participating restaurants taking part in the Festival Tapas de Película will have a booklet so that visitors can vote for the best film cover in the categories of gold, silver and bronze.

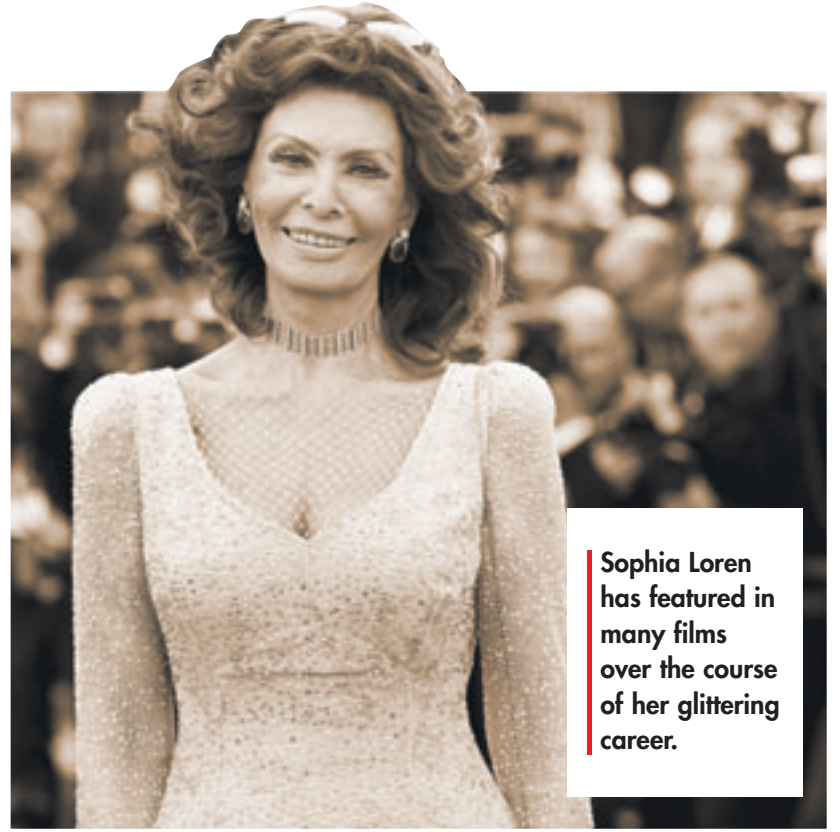
Almeria International Film Festival returns

THE FICAL Almeria International Film Festival returns for its 16th edition this November.

Taking place from November 12-18, the festival will have a large number of events, including the fourth international photography competition 'Almeria, Land of Film,' the presentation of feature film 'En Zona Hostil' (In a Hostile Zone), a guided visit to the House of Cinema and many more.

The event, which will be the festival's 16th edition, will also play host to global film star Sophia Loran, with the actress set to receive the 'Almeria Tierra de Cine' award.

The 'Two women' and 'El Cid' star will also receive a star on the Walk of Fame in the capital during the Festival, joining the likes of Omar Sharif, Ridley Scott, Denis Dell, Max Von Sidow, Patrick Wayne, Catherine Deneuve and Arnold Schwarzenegger to receive the accolade.



Sophia Loren has featured in many films over the course of her glittering career.

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- Nov 25th** Zodiac duo
- Dec 1st** Charity Murder mystery Night

- Dec 2nd** Reggae with Kiev Moore
- Dec 8th** All American night themed food & fancy dress
- Dec 9th** Marilyn Shippley
- Dec 16th** Disco + Karaoke

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TANGO FANDANGO: Crowds enjoyed being immersed in Argentine culture.

1 night in Mojacar

MOJACAR Council's Culture Department recently arranged a performance of 'One night in Buenos Aires' by the 'Arcos de Buenos Aires Tango Show' at the town's Centro de Usos Múltiples (Multipurpose Centre).

The interpretation of the highly popular Argentine tango was put together by Walter O Tejada, the Artistic and Musical Director.

The show combined the different tango techniques throughout the years, with milongas and waltzes in various styles accompanied by violinists, Walter Tejada and Laura Sanchez. The dancers and choreographers, Jupa Arias and Esther Medina, are top performers from Argentina's National Ballet and spectacularly combined their movements to the classic string sounds.

It is not the group's first visit to Mojacar and it marks the start of the council's season of theatrical, musical and other concerts that are planned for the forthcoming weekends.

The theatre season will begin on November 3 with 'Boda, Noviazgo, Divorcio,' based on the work of the brothers Alvarez Quintero, following the theme of relationships and emotion. This will be followed by 'Pareja abierta,' Polvorones y 'Buffet de Bufonadas,' all at Mojacar's Multipurpose Centre, near La Fuente.



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Songs with style



SWEET MUSIC: The Incognito Singers on stage.

THE Incognito Singers performed two magnificent autumn concerts entitled 'Songs with Style,' at the Teatro Municipal in Zurgena, all for the benefit of FACE (Fundraising in Arboleas, Caring for Everyone).

The 27-strong group of mixed-voice singers, under the musical guidance of David Murphy performed an array of musical numbers

ranging from light classical numbers to music from musicals and films such as 'The Sound of Music' and 'Oklahoma,' as well as popular songs by Nat King Cole and Whitney Houston.

FACE provided a bar which served pre-show and interval refreshment. There was also a raffle at each performance. The total amount raised by the two performances was € 1,154 includ-

ing all ticket sales, bar sales and raffle ticket sales.

For further information about FACE and the work it undertakes, or if you are interested in joining this dedicated group of fundraisers, please contact FACE by ringing 634 306 727. FACE can also be contacted on Twitter at @FACECharity, at www.face-charity.com and through Facebook.

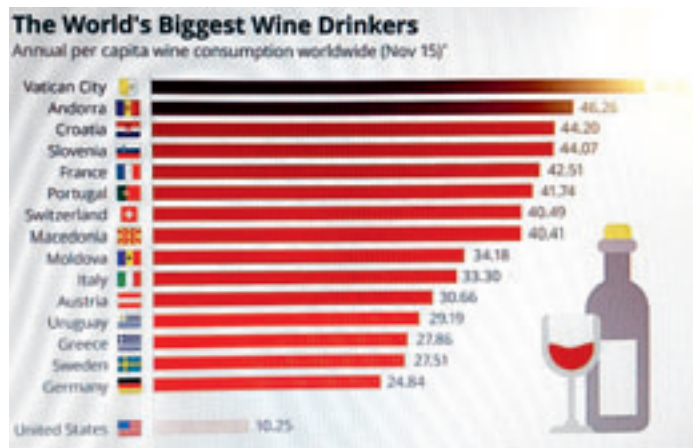
SPAIN leads the world as a wine exporting nation, which is worth an impressive €2.64 billion a year.

But when it comes to wine consumption per capita then Spain - perhaps surprisingly to many - lags behind 17 other nations in global rankings.

These sobering facts are spelled out in data from the California Wine Institute, whose most recently published findings put the Vatican at the head of world wine consumption with almost 55 litres per capita.

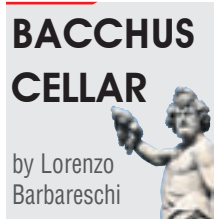
Spain with just 21 litres per capita trailed behind many fellow European countries including the UK with 22.1 litres per capita.

For Bacchus readers who may want to contribute to a



Export cheer

higher consumption in Spain, I can recommend a full-bodied Monastrell,



The second most popular grape grown in Spain, Monastrell has deeper plum and liquorice notes than its French counterpart Mourvedre and is used primarily for blending although it can also stand alone as a delicious red.

Full bodied and high in al-

cohol, Monastrell - cultivated in Spain since 500BC - has a deep colour and is high in tannin with the scent of blackberries and fresh herbs.

A perfect pairing for game and grilled meats, it should be avoided with dishes with too much spice.

Interesting labels include Palomar Monastrell 2014 by Juan Gil; Monastrell Roble 2014 by Romeo and a young Peñarrubia Monastrell by Bodegas BSI.

Happy tasting.

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It's Lights, Camera, Jackson in Almeria

A TRIBUTE show dedicated to the 'King of Pop' Michael Jackson is coming to the Teatro Cervantes de Almería on Saturday, November 25.

Created by The Jackson Dance Company, Michael's Legacy is a tribute to Michael Jackson that manages to revive a similar concept of shows performed by the late star on his tours.

Suitable for all ages, Michael's Legacy features the favourite Jackson songs and all are performed with a personal touch by the company alongside excellent scenography.

The show has a 14-strong cast of performers who have performed on both the main national and international stages.

The main protagonist, who portrays the King of Pop, has great physical resemblance to Michael Jackson himself, and



KING OF POP: The show has a 14-strong cast of performers.

impresses with the loyalty and dominance in each of the movements and gesture he

makes.

Tickets are available at <https://almeriaentradas.com/es>

[/entradas/michaels-legacy-almeria](https://almeriaentradas.com/es/entradas/michaels-legacy-almeria) and range from €15 to €20.

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Mojácar Half Marathon returns

THE Mojácar City 7k and Half Marathon will return for its sixth edition on November 5.

Entries are still open until November 4, with prices of tickets at €15, with €1 of the registration going towards helping Sergio Borrego, an Almerían child with Cerebral Paralysis.

The race will begin at 10am at Orbitalia, CA Nogalte with the route running along the coastline of Mojácar along the Paseo del Mediterráneo. Half marathon runners will go round the circuit three times, while 7k runners will only go around the circuit once.

The finish will take place in the vicinity of the official hotel of the race, the Best Tropical Oasis of Mojácar.

Participants for the half marathon must be 18 years old, although those under the age of 16 can participate in the 7k with a parent or guardian's permission.

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OPEN-AIR COMPLEX: Has a new Astroturf football pitch.

New sports centre unveiled

A BRAND new open-air sports complex has been opened in Purchena.

The sports centre, which has a new Astroturf football pitch at its epicentre, reportedly cost €368,000

Javier A García, Vice-President of the Provincial Council of Almería and Mayor Juan Miguel Tortosa, helped open the new complex.

The opening ceremony consisted of a tour of the new facilities, accompanied by the unveiling of a commemorative plaque that will become a meeting point.

Alongside the football pitch, there is a park for younger children, an adventure park for older children, a bike area, a walking track area, a Bio-healthy park, a

tent and kiosk area, a Skate and BMX track, a Petanque field, a playground and a multisport track

Vice president, Javier A García, told local Spanish media: "Today is a very important day because we are equipping the residents of Purchena with first class quality facilities that will become a meeting point for sports and leisure."



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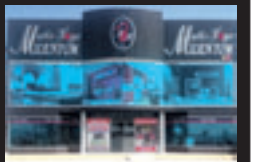
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Ruta de la Tapa returns



RUTA DE LA TAPA: Twenty-four restaurants have signed up to be part of this year's route.

THE seventh Ruta de la Tapa Huerca-Overa will return to the region from November 3 to 12.

Twenty-four restaurants have signed up to be part of this year's route, with 42 different tapas, innovative and traditional, available throughout the festival.

Participating restaurants are placed in four different coloured zones, with mayor of Commerce and Tourism, Monica Navarro, announcing that a train will run during weekends that will tour the areas

the restaurants are located in.

Prizes are available to those who have a minimum of 10 stamps from restaurants, of which there must be a minimum of two of the four zones.

Thanks to the collaborators, there are more than 25 prizes available, among which a trip valued at €400, cash prizes to be consumed at participating bars, product lots and weekend breaks.

The raffles and the awards ceremony

for prizes will take place on Sunday, November 19 at the Mercado Degustho Sabores de Almería.

Last year saw the Ruta de la Tapa serve more than 50,000 tapas, a figure that organisers will undoubtedly look to increase this time around.

During the Ruta de la Tapa, there will also be a number of other activities taking place, including the Titanitos Cup de Fútbol 3 on November 5 at the Plaza Mayor.



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All Areas Covered

Positively Petanque

MEMBERS of the 'Los Carriles' and 'San Marcos' Sports Clubs have competed in the Petanque Andalusian Championship for people with intellectual disabilities in the town of Dos Hermanas.

In their respected categories, Los Carriles pair Carmen Sanchez and Isabel Martinez came first, while fellow club members Jesus Martinez and Maria del Mar Fenandez claimed third place. For San Marcos, Jose David Sanchez and Kika Carrasco secured second place in their category.

MORE than 300 people have come together to form a pink chain on the Greenway bridge linking Fines and Olula del Rio to show their support for Breast Cancer awareness month.

The Local Boards of Olula del Río and Fines helped carry out the chain, with separate groups departing from either side of the bridge with ribbons and pink shirts, until joining on the bridge.

Once they had met in the middle, the presidents of both boards embraced as a gesture of unity in the face of cancer, before honouring those diagnosed with cancer by releasing pink balloons, along with the tying of pink ribbons which had messages, names, drawings and feelings

Powerful in pink

Crowds turn out for breast cancer awareness event



Photo by Twitter

HUMAN CHAIN: A snap from the event.

on onto the railing of the new bridge.

The pink chain was one of a number of events organised by the Spanish Association throughout the month of October, to not only help raise awareness among the public, but also in the hope of gaining more investment in fighting the disease

Residents of Olula del Rio, Fines, Macael, Purchena, Tíjola, and Bacares came together to take part in the event in the Almanzora Valley.

They were joined by mayor of Olula del Río, Antonio Martínez Pascual, Councilors M^a Dolores Pozo Garre and Paqui Mari Tapia as well as deputy mayor of Fines, Paqui Trinidad at the event.



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Sales boom for Spain

THE total number of property transactions could soar over the half million mark. An optimistic report from Anticipa Real Estate estimates that 526,000 residential home sales will be made in 2018.

If that figure is achieved it would represent a healthy 9.3 per cent increase on the 481,000 sales expected to be finalised by the end of 2017. This year has already seen an impressive 10 per cent rise in sales as the market bounces back strongly from the crisis years.

In 2013 there was a meagre 285,000 sales, a

figure which will be nearly doubled next year. The market is still some way off the record highs of 2006 when 900,000 sales were registered. But experts agree that today Spanish real estate is in a far more sustainable and secure position.

The report predicts that 63,400 new homes will be built next year. That represents a substantial increase over the 42,700 completed in 2016.

Projected home prices increases are in line with broader opinion. Homeowners can expect properties to increase in value by around 3 per cent annually until 2020.



POSH: Grosvenor family have owned swathes of London for centuries.

By Matthew Elliott

ONE of Britain's wealthiest men, Hugh Grosvenor, is set to make a major splash in the Spanish property market. The seventh Duke of Westminster is flush with hereditary cash and, at only 26, is one of the world's youngest billionaires.

He was bequeathed one of the UK's most powerful property firms, the aptly-named Grosvenor. Through it he controls extremely valuable properties in London's plush Mayfair and Belgravia neighbourhoods.

Now the firm has snapped up

British family fortunes Aristocrat places faith in Spain

three prestigious properties in Madrid. The most recent was in the wealthy Chamberi area and is a large former commercial headquarters that Grosvenor plans to convert into 'exclusive' flats.

"We want to have a bigger presence in Spain", said Fatima Saez del Cano, director of Grosvenor Europe in Spain, so

"we have decided to invest in the residential sector to develop exclusive housing projects.

"We love the neighbourhood of Chamberi. We believe it is the one with the most future," she added. "They are not luxury homes, we are looking for exclusive and special houses."

Similar projects are expected to crop up across the Spanish

capital in the near future. The Grosvenor group has at least €70 million worth of funds ready to invest in Spain.

Hugh Grosvenor, whose family fortune stretches back to 1677, personally owns the La Garganta estate in Ciudad Real, a sprawling 15,000 hectare site often used for hunting by British aristocrats.

Leticia Moreno-Torres
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Luxury housing bubble bursts

A LUXURY housing crisis has added to Cataluña's political woes. A report from real estate company Barnes International argues that the wealthy region's luxury housing market experienced a bubble in the past two years.

But concerning for owners of €1 million plus properties in Barcelona and other areas, that bubble has burst and it is now a buyers' market.

The report concludes that although 'the Catalan luxury real estate sector was performing at its best level since the economic crisis, prices have seen a strong downwards trend in recent months.'

Founding partner of Barnes Spain, Emmanuel Virgoulay, said "In the past two years Cataluña's luxury housing market was experiencing a bubble, the steady rise in prices led many sellers to ask for prices similar to those in the elite



BURST: Barcelona's luxury apartments going for cheap.

neighbourhoods of Paris."

He said that in the short-term future only buyers with liquidity will be able to dictate prices.

The news isn't all bad. If Cataluña can recover from the current political turmoil then there is no reason why the luxury market won't soon rebound.

"There will always be investors interested in Cataluña, so the market will not collapse in the way businesses can, such as Lehman Brothers in 2008," Virgoulay said.

He also noted that the rental sector is continuing to witness sharp price increases despite the political crisis.

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ATTRACTING birds to your garden is easy if you have the right plants that will provide water, food, shelter and protection from predators.

Birds do best in gardens with multiple storeys of plants from ground covers, shrubs as under storeys to taller tree canopies as an upper storey.

Providing water in the dry months in safe places for birds to drink is the sure way to have birds attracted to your garden. A steady, reliable source of water is a primary need, even more than food, if other sources of water are not nearby.

If you provide water, birds will visit regularly, if you provide food plants, they will stay longer and if you provide safe shelter as well, native birds may start to nest in your garden. Migratory birds will only visit but are more likely to visit if you have a food source as well as water.

There are many plants that can provide food for the birds. As different bird species have different requirements of seed, nectar or insects, a variety of different plants are needed to attract the bird species you wish to support in your garden.

The best way to provide food is to use a lot of native plants and have a wild zone for allowing naturally occurring non-invasive native plants - even the plants considered weeds in the ornamental and vegetable garden -

Bird lovers paradise, a garden for the birds



ATTRACTING BIRDS: Each species have different needs.

to go through their full life cycle. Many plants considered weeds are useful plants for birds to feed on for the flowers nectar and seeds.

Birds usually prefer to arrive onto the upper storey to survey a garden for food and dangers before entering and different species build their nests in the upper storey for safety from ground based

predators.

Each bird species have different needs, however, so many smaller birds will look for nesting places in the under storey that have dense thick-

ets that prevent larger predators to enter. So to attract a wide range of birds having a wide range of plants that give good protection is important for diversity.

Plants that provide nectar include Sages (Salvia species), Grevillea species, Torch lilies (Kniphofia species), Lobelia species, Penstemon species, Verbena

species, Sunflowers (Helianthus), Thyme (Thymus species), Lavender (Lavandula species), Honeysuckle (Lonicera species), Ice Plant (Sedum species), Firethorn (Pyracantha species) and Barberry (Berberis species).

Seed plants include Sunflower (Helianthus species), Coneflower (Echinacea species), Aster species, Zinnia species, Cumin (Cuminum species), Calendula species and many others.

Attracting birds can just be a matter of widening the range of plants that you normally grow which may provide even more interest to your garden as many bird food plants are very attractive.

Hedges and thickets of plants will provide safe nesting places for smaller birds and tall trees can have nesting boxes installed to make trees a ready made nesting place. Applying natural mulches around your garden will help birds find materials to build the nests.

There is a wide variety of birds that live in the Mediterranean zone and if you make your garden more attractive for them, you can enjoy their presence in your garden.

Good neighbours

WHILE many people arrange their garden on what they think looks best, it is actually more beneficial to put plants that actually help each other out beside one another.

In the gardening community, this is known as 'companion planting' and it can have a big impact on the health and vitality of your garden.

Companion planting is all about achieving a good balance, and it can even help reduce the amount of pest or disease control spray you need to use.

By introducing more plants that repel unwanted bugs, or attract larger insects to eat the pests, this can help protect your garden without overloading it with chemicals.

It is even possible to create plant 'communities.' Certain species enhance each other's growth rate by distributing extra nutrients into the soil or by offering protection from the sun or wind.

If you have limited space in your garden, adding plants that grow at



BEST BUDS: Planting garlic near roses can protect them from unwanted pests.

different rates can also help you to maximise potential.

One of the most popular 'companion planting' combinations is rose and garlic, as garlic is believed to repel

aphids and other pests.

Nasturtium and cabbage also work well together as nasturtiums attracts caterpillars so they won't ravage the cabbage leaves.

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CHOCOLATE: Toxic to dogs.

CHOCOLATE made for human consumption can cause death in dogs. Dogs are sensitive to a class of chemicals called methylxanthines. Caffeine and theobromine are members of that family. Dogs simply cannot metabolise and excrete methylxanthines as efficiently as humans. The half-life of those compounds in the human body is in the order of two to three hours, in a dog it is more like 18 hours.

In a dog the compounds are taken up by the liver and transmitted via the bile into the intestine. They are then converted back into the original methylxanthines for another circuit through the animal. This repeats itself a number of

times and instead of getting rid of the substances a dog keeps re-poisoning itself.

There are many formulations of chocolate with varying amounts of caffeine and theobromine. The lethal dose of sweet milk chocolate for a dog is 2oz per kilogram of bodyweight. For a five

kilogram dog this would be about 280 grams. A lethal dose of milk chocolate for a 25 kilogram, would be about 1.4 kilograms.

Dark chocolate is at least 10 times as lethal. A 25 kilograms dog could die from the methylxanthines in five ounces.

Symptoms include vomiting, hyperactivity, restlessness, hypersensitivity to touch (a dog will jump when touched), very rapid heartbeat and rapid breathing rate. A loss of control of leg muscles, muscle tremor seizures, general weakness, coma and finally death follow.

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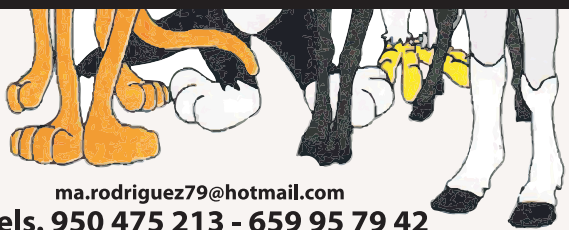
David the Dogman and most other recognised industry professionals recommend the Baskerville Muzzle originally designed by Roger Mugford.

A photograph accompanying this column in issue 1685 of the *Euro Weekly News* featured a dog wearing an unsuitable metal muzzle, for which we apologise.



RECOMMENDED: A good dog muzzle.

Miguel Angel Rodriguez Reyes - Vet. COL. 435

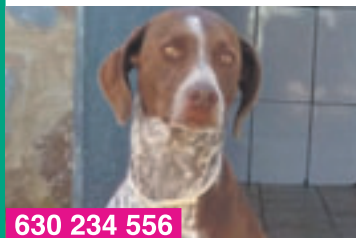


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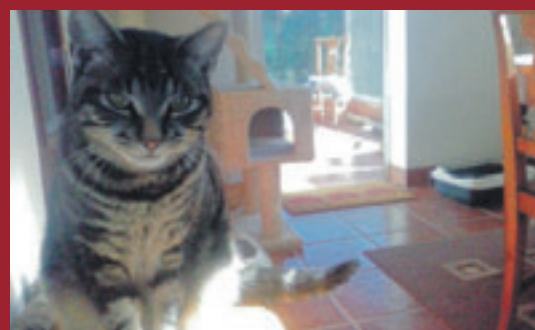
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Clarkson Quote of the Week

“On the Corvette Z06: “As something to live with every day, I’d rather have bird flu.”

Some might say...



Motoring shorts

Cool customer

THE 150 millionth Volkswagen rolled off the production line into the arms of a happy customer last week. The car is a plug-in hybrid Golf GTE. Built in Wolfsburg it was dispatched to Norway, one of the world’s top green car destinations.

Volkswagen is planning to have built one million electric cars within the next decade. CEO Matthias Muller launched a scathing attack on American tech company Tesla, which is pioneering new electric and autonomous vehicles.

“There are companies which sell 80,000 cars a year,” he said, “then there are companies like Volkswagen, selling 11 million a year,” Muller mused as he announced VW’s determination to dominate the electric market.

Toyota’s show-stopping robot

Hopes and fears for UK’s niche motors

by Matthew Elliott

TOYOTA pulled out all the stops to woo motoring enthusiasts at the Tokyo Motor Show, one of the wackiest spectacles in the business.

The Japanese firm used its home country to launch its sleek new concept car, the FT-1, and its futuristic new taxi.

The aptly named ‘Japan Taxi’ is slated for release ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. It is a hybrid fuelled by an electric motor and liquified petroleum gas which has been developed for at least four years by the firm’s top engineers.

Extremely accessible with a low door and huge windows, it is

wheelchair friendly and resembles a futuristic London Black Cab. It will be expected to dramatically cut pollution in the mega-city.

It pales in comparison to the Toyota Century, the third generation of the limousine originally invented for the Imperial Family. The latest version has a V8 hybrid drivetrain, is 5.3 metres long, costs more than €100,000, and is relatively hard to find, with just 600 to be built a year.

It wouldn’t be a Japanese motor show without at least some element of robotics. Toyota didn’t



CONCEPTS: Toyota’s Taxi and FT-1 debuted in Tokyo.

fail to disappoint with its introduction of ‘The Agent.’

Formerly known as ‘Yui,’ The Agent was described by Toyota as “more than a machine, a partner.” The Agent is an in-car com-

puter system guided by artificial intelligence which can analyse facial expressions and voice tones to better ‘understand’ the driver. It will even study Facebook and Twitter feeds to build a picture of its driver’s personality.

The Agent will understand when drivers are tired, perhaps even before they do via body language analysis, and make suggestions accordingly. It will also help with directions, music, calls and other standard tools.

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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

MITSUBISHI began developing cars 100 years ago and has a long-proven reputation for producing tough vehicles - none more so than its L200 pick up.

There are several body styles available and the double-cab is popular because it overlaps the trendy SUV market, combining family transport with rugged workhorse capability.

The pick-up sector is surprisingly crowded, with rival models from Toyota, Ford and Nissan among others in the mix, yet Mitsubishi's robust brand image and competitive pricing ensure it maintains a loyal following. Prices start at €20,476 (£18,300) excluding VAT though high-spec double-cab versions can top €33,500 (£30,000).

My test model was an L200 double-cab in high-spec SVP Barbarian trim and priced at €32,197 (£28,775) For that you get a lot of features including black alloy wheels with all-terrain tyres, leather seats, roof rails, wheel-arch extensions, side-steps, premium HD navigation and audio system, dual zone climate control, keyless operation, rear view camera, selectable 4WD, and even front and rear mood-lighting.

The modern efficient 2.4 litre 178 hp diesel engine is mated to a six-speed manual gearbox (auto transmission is an option) and the acceleration fig-

Mitsubishi L200 Barbarian

ure is very good by class standards, 0-100 kph in 10.4 seconds, similar to many cars. Fuel economy is also good for such a large vehicle - 14.1 kpl (39.8 mpg). The L200 has a payload of just over one tonne and a 3,100kg towing weight (3,000kg for single cab).

More sleekly styled than most rivals, the L200 has stable handling characteristics, with less 'bounce' than you get on some pick-ups. The engine is chattery on start-up but quiet on

the move and the overall driving experience is smooth and easy, with a slick-shifting manual gearbox and precise steering.

The cabin, with leather upholstery and large central touchscreen, looks impressive and there is plenty of room for five adults. Only downside is minimal stowage space. While there is a big bin between the front seats, the doorbins are slim and the glovebox tiny.

There are various optional secure canopies for the rear load deck, including a retractable and lockable roller-blind style cover.

With eye-catching styling, good all-round performance, five-year warranty and robust reliability record, the L200 double-cab pick-up is an attractive alternative to more conventional commercial vehicles.

Stats panel

Model: Mitsubishi L200 Barbarian
Engine: 2.4 litre diesel
Transmission: 6-speed manual
Performance: 0-100 kph 10.4 seconds
Economy: 14.1 kpl (39.8 mpg)
Emissions: 186 g/km



Model tested is UK-specification and equipment levels and prices may vary in other markets.

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Knockout blow 60 years before Rio's sucker punch

RIO FERDINAND'S decision to step into the boxing ring brought back memories of retired footballer octogenarian Peter Higham - who recalls scoring a goal - while wearing a boxing glove!

Ex-Nottingham Forest striker Higham, 86, found himself on the canvas in a derby clash against arch rivals Notts County in 1956, when he clattered a post, sustaining injuries.

"I got barged into the goalpost, sustaining a broken and dislocation of a finger, in a local derby against Notts County at Meadow Lane," said Higham.

"Trainer Tommy Graham got a boxing glove - God knows where from - and got permission from the referee for me to wear it, to protect my finger," said Higham.

"I remember the pain was excruciating. To this day, I can't straighten my little finger," said Higham.

Ex-Manchester United and England defender Ferdinand is bidding to become a professional at Cruiserweight after signing up to a lucrative deal with a bookmaker.



UK SPORTSCENE

with Andrew Atkinson

That led to criticism from boxers, including Tony Bellew, set for a December rematch with heavyweight David Haye, hitting out at Ferdinand: "He's making a mockery. It's not a game - it's a serious sport - and can be very dangerous.

"It's attention seeking of the highest order. Why does he need to go into a boxing ring? It stinks of desperation, not being able to let go out of the spotlight," punched Bellew.

But Ferdinand hit back: "This is not a joke. Hopefully, I will get a licence, become a professional and fight someone."

Ferdinand, awaiting a licence from the British Boxing Board of Control, said: "Boxing can't be a gimmick. If I take it lightly, I will get hurt."

Ferdinand, 38, plans one fight, having initially spoken about ambitions of challenging for a belt: "I want to see if I can get a licence - become a professional - and have one fight," said Ferdinand.

Higham, who delivered a knock-out blow with a boxing glove in Forest's top of the bill match against County 60 years ago, said: "I scored the third goal - I have the picture - with the boxing glove over my left hand!"

Conte or Mourinho to sparkle on Bonfire night

JOSE MOURINHO and Antonio Conte are set to light up Bonfire night on November 5 - as Chelsea host Manchester United - in the Premier League at Stamford Bridge.

Mourinho, in charge at Chelsea during 2004-07 and 2013-15, departed in September 2007, following reports of a rift with owner Roman Abramovich.

After leaving Real Madrid in 2013 Mourinho returned to Chelsea, winning the Premier League, only to be axed in December 2015, after a poor run of results.

Mourinho, appointed manager at Manchester United in May

2016, fired a rocket at his players after the shock defeat against newly-promoted Huddersfield Town in October.

Premier League leaders Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola believes the Blues will not repeat Arsenal's 'Invincibles' tag - The Gunners were unbeaten in 38 Premier League games - in the 2003-04 season.

City host Arsenal at The Etihad, in another Bonfire night spectacular, and Guardiola said: "We are going to lose games. Any team can beat us."

Golf: Rose to bloom in Turkey

JUSTIN ROSE is hoping for a podium finish at the 2017 Turkish Airlines Open that takes

place during November 2-5 at the Regnum Carya.

"I'm sure we'll have another good tournament and hopefully another podium finish," said 2013 US Open winner Rose.

Antalya hosts the Turkish Airlines Open for a fifth time in the first of three consecutive Rolex Series events which conclude the season-long Race to Dubai on the European Tour.

The 2014 US Open winner and former world number one Martin Kaymer will also feature in the Turkish Airlines Open, alongside Olympic medallists Rose, Henrik Stenson and Matt Kuchar.

The Turkish Airlines Open is part of the European Tour's Rolex Series - the premium category of eight events on the European Tour - each with a minimum prize fund of US \$7 million.



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LEWIS HAMILTON has secured his fourth F1 World Title at the Mexican Grand Prix, despite only finishing ninth. Sebastian Vettel could only finish fourth, with the win making Hamilton the most successful British driver of all-time.

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

BARCELONA-born goalkeeper David Raya is set to return to FA Cup action as Blackburn Rovers host Barnet at Ewood Park on November 4.

"I've been here since I was 16 and it feels like home," said Raya, who signed a new extended contract at Lancashire League One club Rovers this year.

Raya, who has featured in five FA Cup ties since arriving in England as a teenager, joined Rovers Academy from Barcelona outfit UE Cornellà in 2012.

"It feels great," said Raya, 22, who signed professional forms in 2014, and has worked his way up to claim the number one jersey.

"It's a chance to carry on at this great club," said Raya, under former Celtic manager Tony Mowbray.

After four months' loan at Southport in 2014, where Raya made 15 appearances in the Conference Premier, he returned, making his Rovers first team debut against Leeds United in 2015.

"Leeds was where I made my full debut and it couldn't have gone any better, we won 3-0," said Raya, whose previous three year deal was set to end in 2018.

Former Rovers Academy starlet Raya, who has agreed a one-year extension to his contract until 2019, said: "I've been here for five years.

"It's given me a chance to grow up further as a footballer - and as a person - and I'm really pleased."

SPORTSCENE *SPAIN*

with Andrew Atkinson



DAVID RAYA: Is set to return to FA cup action. |

From Barcelona to Blackburn

It has been a hard grind for Raya, who was a cameo player in the first team in the 2015-16 season, having only been called upon after injury to first choice Jason Steele, at the tab end of last season.

"I hadn't played as much as I would have liked, but football is like that. When I got my chance, I just needed to take it," said Raya.

Rovers first team coach Mowbray, formerly

in charge at Ipswich, Hibernian, West Brom, Celtic, Middlesbrough and Coventry, who was appointed in February, has given Raya his big chance this season.

"David Raya finished the 2016-17 season extremely strongly. He's a very talented young guy - needed an opportunity - and we gave him one," said Mowbray.

"I waited for my chance to show the new

manager what I can do," said Raya, called upon after Steele sustained an injury, after 82 consecutive league games.

"It was tough, but you get through it. Then, when you get your chance, you have to take it," said Raya.

Raya remained unfazed during that spell, saying: "You have to keep yourself motivated - keep working hard - and do your best."

Three years ago Raya was shipped out on loan to Southport and was a key figure in The Sandgrounders FA Cup run - progressing to the third round - before being knocked out by Derby County.

Rovers enter the first round of the FA Cup this weekend against Barnet, with a fixture in the EFL Trophy Northern Group C on November 7, prior to returning to a League One action against Walsall on November 11.

Blackburn, relegated from the Championship last season, are leading candidates to return to England's second tier at the first attempt, a task in the hands of Raya.

"I'm still young, I've got a lot of years ahead of me. Hopefully I can repay all the support I've had from the club," said Raya.

"I looked forward to this season after the summer holidays with my family, who I had not seen a lot of," said Raya.

Ex-UE Cornellà youth Raya said: "Blackburn gave me the chance to start my career. I want to stay for as long as possible. I'm very happy here."



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