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**SON BANYA:** Home of the El Forrito clan.

# Gypsy plot

## Gang leader and ex-officer jailed

By Matthew Elliott

A retired Guardia Civil officer was jailed for nine years for helping provide a Palma gypsy gang with a kilogram of heroin.

The 51-year-old was living off his pension in La Jonquera, Girona, when he became involved with the gangsters from Palma's notorious Son Banya slum, often dubbed the most dangerous neighbourhood in Spain.

The leader of the 'El Forrito' gang was sentenced to 10 and a half years for drug trafficking. Other gang members were called to testify as witnesses, but all claimed not to know the corrupt lawman.

Four fingerprints of the former officer were found on a package containing a kilogram of

heroin in Palma port six years ago.

Police believe he acted as a middleman between the leader of El Forrito and Barcelona-based traffickers and personally supplied the heroin. The gang leader then shipped the heroin to Palma on a ferry from the Catalan capital, stashed in the boot of a Renault Clio.

He was arrested the next day upon arrival at the port. But it took another two years for police to catch up with him. His fingerprints were checked when he was arrested in a domestic violence case and matched those found on the heroin package.

He tried to argue that he might have touched the package in the course of duty, while stationed in a border town near France. But forensic experts proved that he had already retired when the prints were made.

## Brazen burglar jailed

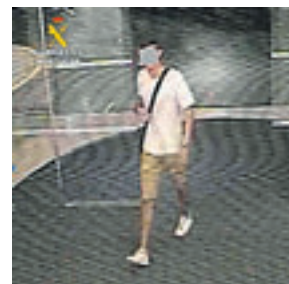
A BURGLAR has been arrested on suspicion of raiding 50 Spanish hotel rooms in the popular tourist hotspots of Ibiza, Mallorca and Barcelona.

The 24-year-old allegedly used a combination of fake home-made key cards and electronic locks to break into rooms to steal laptops, watches and mobile phones whilst holiday-makers were out.

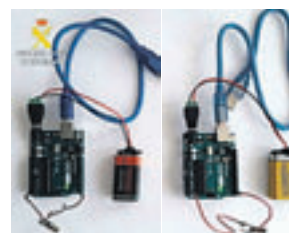
He even escaped capture after being caught red-handed by hotel staff in Magaluf.

But officers later apprehended the suspect, and linked the items he allegedly stole with reported thefts in Palma, Magaluf and Barcelona.

He has been charged with 50 thefts, but the investigation is ongoing.



**BRAZEN:** The thief strolls into a hotel.



**CRAFTY:** The home-made device he used to break into hotel rooms.

## Some-fin fishy

BATHERS in Mallorca were ordered from the sea and the emergency services swung into action to rescue a 'shark' that was spotted near the water's edge. Bystanders could be heard shouting, "Watch its mouth!" as they grappled with it in the water. But onlookers watching the drama broke out in applause when the creature was captured and they realised it was only a plastic dummy being used in a training exercise.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Hush money claims**

A WITNESS in the Tolo Cursach case, who claims the nightclub boss provided cocaine and women to Palma politicians, now says policemen offered to pay her to leave Spain and not testify.

**Pylon anger**

RESIDENTS of Son Puig protested against the construction of 14 electricity pylons. They will replace trees, measure 50 metres tall, and are extremely close to homes and the local school.

**Flat fraud**

POLICE charged a man with fraud over allegations he broke into a Can Pastilla apartment being renovated, changed the locks, forged rental contracts and rented it out to tourists.

# Life's a beach!

## Citizens launch cleanup

By Matthew Elliott

HUNDREDS of people from all nationalities gathered on Palma beach to show their support for the island's beach hygiene.

With surfers in the water and yachts sounding their horns, the beach clean volunteers formed a chain from the Gesa building to the Portixol car park.

The Dos Manos beach cleans form part of the work undertaken by Asociacion Ondine, but this event also attracted other conservation groups from around the island.

According to the Mallorca Blue Facebook site, the intended presence of television cameras led to the deployment of heavy equipment at 11pm on Saturday night to clean up the site before anyone arrived.



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**Volunteers fight for clean beaches and organic living.**

Despite this, volunteers picked up more than 800 kilograms of plastic, cigarette butts, ear bud sticks and straws on Sunday morning.

The greatest volume of pollutants found on Sunday were in the form of wet wipes. In October Emaya admitted it had to spend more than a quarter of a million euros a year on unblocking its sewage plants due to wet wipes and tampons being put down toilets.

"The problem needs a two-pronged approach," Asociacion Ondine president, Brad Robertson explained.

"First, everyone needs to understand that our ecosystem will continue to be damaged every time anyone puts anything down the loo that hasn't first been eaten, or is normal loo paper! Secondly a huge amount of investment needs to be ear-marked to renovate the island's dated sewage system."

**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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SARA CARBONERO AND IKER CASILLAS.

**TECH FOR THE TIMID**

FROM FEARS OVER ONLINE BANKING TO A SIMPLE NEW ADDRESS



P27

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



P54

DAVID RAYA.

# Whisky exile

TWO young Colombians who attacked guards at Palma's Christmas market with whisky bottles and knives were jailed for three years. They will then be banned from Spain for nine years. One guard took five months to recover and suffers from memory loss and sleep disturbance.

## Beach heroes

LIFEGUARDS clocked up 36,960 safety actions in Palma alone between May and September. Five people died at the city's beaches, 32 were rescued from the water. Lifeguards treated seven heart attacks and treated 1,134 people for other health problems.

## Supermarket sweep

A GANG of supermarket thieves are being pursued by the Guardia Civil after breaking into their seventh business this year, a Muller market in Inca. So far they have stolen €40,000 worth of groceries. They dig holes in rooftops and climb in using a rope.

## No apologies

A SLUM drug lord known as 'El Pablo' laughed in court as prosecutors read out drug trafficking charges against 52 members of his Palma gang, amid extremely heavy security. Between them, the El Soledad-based clan are facing more than 200 years in prison for smuggling cocaine.

## Brits attacked

A BRITISH tourist was helped out of the sea after a gang of muggers threw him into the water. Two Brits were attacked during the 5am incident at Playa de Palma. Witnesses came to their rescue after the gang escaped. Police are hunting the assailants.

## 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.

## Hotel hacker

AN Albanian thief used an electronic device to unlock hotel rooms, police believe. Dozens of hotel room bur-

glaries in Magaluf and Palma are being attributed to the 24-year-old. He was caught in a Palma hostel after escaping from a struggle with employees of a Magaluf hotel.

104

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1686 of the Euro Weekly News Mallorca edition, including 29 local stories.

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  - 2005 Working together with Foreigners Department Mijas Town Hall

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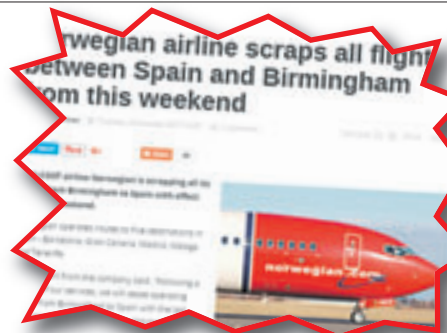
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## Top 5 stories

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.

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Little bits on the side

**NEWS EXTRA****Modern slavery**

TWO bar owners have been accused of treating two Indian employees as modern day slaves. The waitresses at the Palma bar claim they worked 17-hour days and were sexually humiliated.

**Job joy**

IN the third quarter of the year, unemployment in the Balearic Islands plummeted by 12,300 people. The Balearics now boast the lowest unemployment rate in Spain at 9.25 per cent.

**Flat fire**

FORTY people were evacuated from a Santa Ponsa apartment complex when a fire broke out. Two people were treated for smoke inhalation and the blaze extinguished quickly.

**Laser lout**

A YOUNG man who shined a laser pen at a passing police patrol car in Palma was promptly arrested. The 19-year-old could face heavy handed punishment under the tough Citizen Security law.

**Back stab**

A SENEGALESE man who stabbed a rival in the back outside a Can Pastilla nightclub was jailed for five years. The victim would have died if not for urgent medical intervention.

**Horror fall**

A LABOURER sustained serious head injuries when he fell six metres from scaffolding at a Canyamel house. The 56-year-old is in a critical condition in Son Espases hospital.

A TERRORIST managed to unfurl a Daesh flag in Palma prison. Officials are investigating how Karim Abdeselam Mohamed, considered Mallorca's most dangerous prisoner, managed to gain access to pens and paper to create the makeshift flag.

Known as 'Marquitos,' the jihadi is serving a 12-

year sentence for recruiting Islamic terrorists in Spain to travel to Syria to fight for Daesh and commit suicide attacks. The 40-year-old was resident in Ceuta but was transferred to Palma to serve his time.

Despite being subjected to a strict prison regime, Abdeselam managed to scrawl Islamist graffiti and draw a Daesh flag in the prison yard. He has just a few hours of yard time per day, always under surveillance.

On this occasion two other prisoners were in the yard. It is unclear whether they played any part in providing him with the contraband tools. The graffiti he wrote on the walls read 'There is no god but Allah,'

and 'Muhammad is the prophet of Allah.'

Abdeselam has spent four years in Palma prison, typically in strict isolation. He was arrested with seven other jihadists in Ceuta, who have been sent to different Spanish prisons.

Recently, he complained about the hygiene conditions in his prison cell.

# Terror flag inquiry

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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.'

## 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.

## 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



Twitter

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.

## 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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**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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**Leaving on  
a jetplane**

AFTER almost four decades of whisking holidaymakers to Mallorca, Air Berlin has flown its last flight. Once Germany's second-largest airline, its maiden flight was from Berlin to Palma in April 1979.

After years of making unsustainable losses, the firm filed for bankruptcy in August. Dozens of office workers in Palma are waiting to hear about their future.

A domestic journey between Berlin and Munich on Friday was the last under the AB flight code.

British carrier easyJet is buying 24 Air Berlin planes and will also absorb some 1,000 jobs as part of a takeover. The sale is yet to be approved, however, by EU competition judges in Brussels.

Lufthansa is also buying aircraft and taking on employees. Air Berlin has said that 80 per cent of its 8,000 employees should keep their jobs.

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## Troubled island



**TROUBLE:** Dragonera's native species under serious threat.

DRAGONERA'S marine reserve must be extended to protect endangered species, urged Balearic environmentalist group GOB.

The activists have requested that the Balearic executive apply pressure on Madrid to secure approval for their proposed expansion.

Rare bird species and fish stocks remain threatened after years of fishing and other human activity before the reserve was created in 2016.

But GOB scientists argue that, without expanding the protected area, the indigenous fauna stand little chance of making a much-needed recovery.

They want more areas to the north and west of the famous island to be granted protection. Any such plan needs the approval of the Spanish national government, which reserves control over coastal policies.

Unfortunately for the environmental group, the Balearic executive and Spanish government are already at loggerheads over Madrid's desire to drill for oil in Mallorca's waters.

# Sacked Catalan leader flees country

By Kat Ashton

EX-CATALAN leader Carles Puigdemont faces up to 45 years in prison if he fails to appear before the Spanish government.

Following a vote by the Spanish Senate backing the decision to impose direct rule on Cataluña, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy sacked the leader of the Catalan Parliament and dismissed the rest of his cabinet.

After declaring Cataluña's independence, Puigdemont fled to Belgium as Spanish prosecutors called for him to show his face in Madrid to face charges of rebellion and sedition, punishable by up to 30 years and 15 years in prison respectively.

He ignored orders to return to Spain and claimed he would not go back until he was guaranteed a fair trial, while his lawyer suggested that he could testify from Brussels.



Parliament Catalunya / Twitter



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

It was initially reported that Puigdemont chose to flee to Belgium with several members of his cabinet to seek political asylum. Theo Francken, Belgium's immigration minister, had previously suggested that it was not "unrealistic" for Puigdemont to be granted protection.

Puigdemont later denied that he had fled to seek asylum, but claimed he had left "for safety purposes." He also declared he would accept the results of the snap regional elections called by Rajoy for December.

However, if he refuses to return to Spain, the court could issue an arrest warrant which would make it impossible for him to run for re-election.

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.

## Tension goes on

FOLLOWING the fallout of the controversial Catalan independence referendum on October 1, Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy and his government voted to invoke article 155 to suspend Cataluña's powers and remove Carles Puigdemont and his cabinet from government.

Rajoy then announced new regional elections will be held on December 21.

Puigdemont refused to call regional elections himself or appear in front of the Spanish parliament to explain his actions and instead declared Cataluña's independence from Spain.

Spain's attorney general then called for charges of rebellion and sedition to be brought against 14 cabinet members accused of coordinating the independence movement, who are due to appear in court on Thursday and Friday.



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TENSE: Airport taxis aren't chuffed with pirates' return.

## Pirate taxis return

By Matthew Elliott

PIRATE taxis have retaken Palma airport, claims the association of independent taxi drivers. Association president Biel Moragues said that the unregulated taxis have returned en masse since September, after being forced out by police over summer.

Balearic transport minister Jaume Mateu has conceded that the pirate problem has returned after tougher attitudes saw 80 per cent of them vanish in May.

Scuffles broke out between taxi drivers and their unlicensed competitors during an airport protest on May 25.

Authorities admit that the airport is a 'weak point' in the battle against pirate taxis. Minister Mateu has pledged to hold a meeting with police and drivers to eradicate the problem during 2018.

But Moragues is sceptical, arguing that collaboration between drivers and Local Police has left a lot to be desired. He wants more on the spot inspections and warned that tensions will be especially high at Easter, unless the problem is resolved.

With record tourist numbers, taxi drivers had nevertheless had a good summer, he said. Most of the drivers he represents earned enough to last them over the low season without much hardship.



## Record busting budget

A BUDGET of more than €5 billion has been approved for the Balearic Islands next year. The regional executive will now put the budget before parliament, expected to pass the bill without delay.

It represents a €340 million increase on 2017's budget, equating to a 7.3 per cent rise, the highest annual

jump in Balearic history. Since the Socialist PSOE and Mes per Mallorca coalition took office in 2016, the budget has already gone up by €768 million.

Regional accountants are predicting that the Balearic economy will grow by a healthy 3.5 per cent next year, above the Spanish aver-

age of 2.5 per cent. This, said finance minister Catalina Cladera, will also help the Balearic begin paying off its debt, estimated at more than €8 billion.

Healthcare is the single biggest projected expenditure with more than €1.5 billion put aside. Almost €1 billion will go to education, while transport, housing, social services and environmental projects make up the bulk of the rest.

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

### NEWS EXTRA

#### Only tricks no treats

POLICE seized more than 30,000 dangerous Halloween products aimed at children during a raid on eight Palma warehouses. They also found 53 illegal fireworks, and some 5,000 fake designer purses.

#### Bus blaze

A SCHOOL bus caught fire on the Inca motorway, forcing four teachers and 52 children aged three to five to evacuate as the vehicle filled with smoke on Friday afternoon.

#### Sea crisis

THE 23rd boat this year carrying illegal immigrants was intercepted by the Guardia Civil off the coast of Mallorca. Thirteen people were arrested. Only three boats arrived throughout 2016.

#### Wild time

THE last weekend of the high season saw more than 330,000 people jet in and out of Palma airport as countries across Europe celebrated different national holidays.

#### Pool perv

A CHAMPION swimmer was jailed for sexually molesting two young girls, aged nine and 11, in the Balearic University pool. The 33-year-old instructor confessed to touching the girls on separate occasions.

#### Fire fiend

A GERMAN man was arrested on suspicion of beating his wife then setting fire to the police car which came to investigate. The 44-year-old is an illegal squatter with a long criminal record.



**REVAMP:** Palma pavements expecting fresh tarmac.

# Road revamp gets serious

ALMOST €10 million will be spent on renovating Palma's pavements and streets. City infrastructure councillor Rodrigo Romero said the investment will be spread over the next two years.

The €9.8 million represents a substantial increase on Palma's typical spending on road repairs. The extra €2 million

per year will be used to asphalt the Playa de Plama promenade and other key streets.

Car parks, pavements, and drainage systems will also be markedly improved with the funding, said Romero. The extra money will provide contractors with more 'agility' to work around unexpected problems, he claimed.

Despite the budget increase, Romero admits that it is likely not enough to meet all the city's road infrastructure needs. A decade ago city administrators calculated that €5 million per year was needed. Since then expenses have grown.

The city is now working on creating a digital map of all of Palma's streets. Those in need of urgent maintenance will be highlighted and a long-term plan drawn up to modernise the city.

**32,106,520** The number of vehicles registered in Spain at present according to traffic sources.

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## Island's melting pot

NEW statistics published by Palma Council provide an insight into the city's demographic make-up. Argentines are now Palma's single largest expatriate group.

There are 11,652 Argentines registered with the town hall. Germans are second with 8,040 nationals on the city books. Colombians, Ecuadorians, Bulgarians, Romanians and Moroccans make up the bulk of the rest of Palma's foreign residents.

The findings show that roughly a quarter of Palma's 434,516 registered citizens are foreign nationals. In Cala Major the figure is almost half, at 45.5 per cent, with residents from more than two dozen countries.

In total there are 182 nationalities in the city. Demographics are constantly shifting with more Africans and South Americans now leaving than arriving, while the numbers of Italians and Romanians rise quickly.

# Horse hurray

## Bylaw says neigh to heatwave pain

By Matthew Elliott

HORSES carting tourists around Palma won't have to suffer through heatwaves. A new bylaw set to be applied in the city will govern the working hours and conditions of 'galeras,' or horse-drawn carriages.

Experts have been consulted to suggest at what point it is too hot for the horses to work safely. They will advise on when the horses should be returned to the stables, and how many hours per week they should work.

The move comes amid a growing swell of opposition to the very existence of the carriages. Complaints from the public and animal rights



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**KARMA POLICE: 'Galeras' to be slowly phased out by electric carriages.**

groups have more than doubled in the past year.

Snap inspections are also now being carried out on the request of animal rights groups. More than 5,000 signatures have now been gathered by AnimaNaturalis for their #StopGaleras petition to replace horse-drawn carriages with electric coaches.

The town hall has rejected demands to ban the carriages outright. But it has pledged not to issue any new licences so that the practice

can be phased out gradually. Councillors are onboard with the plan to replace carriages with electric vehicles.

AnimaNaturalis have accepted that all 28 city carriages cannot be replaced by electric coaches overnight. But leader Guillem Amengual pointed out that the idea was first floated three years ago and that countless horses had been exploited and injured while new laws were being developed.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Crime spree bungle

A JUNKIE broke into an ice cream shop, pizzeria and caravan in an early morning Palma crime spree.

She was picked up by police hours later having found just €21 and some toiletries.

### Fresh hope

FEMALE victims of domestic violence will be given special tutoring to help them find a job in the private sector. They will be guaranteed at least one year of paid work.

### Moto crash

A MOTORCYCLIST crashed in a ditch in Alaro on Saturday when he skidded off the road.

He was found conscious but injured and unable to get up by a passing Local Police patrol.

### Killer dog

A DOG which killed a lamb and attacked a flock of sheep, after leaping over a two-metre high farm fence near Palma, was captured by Local Police.

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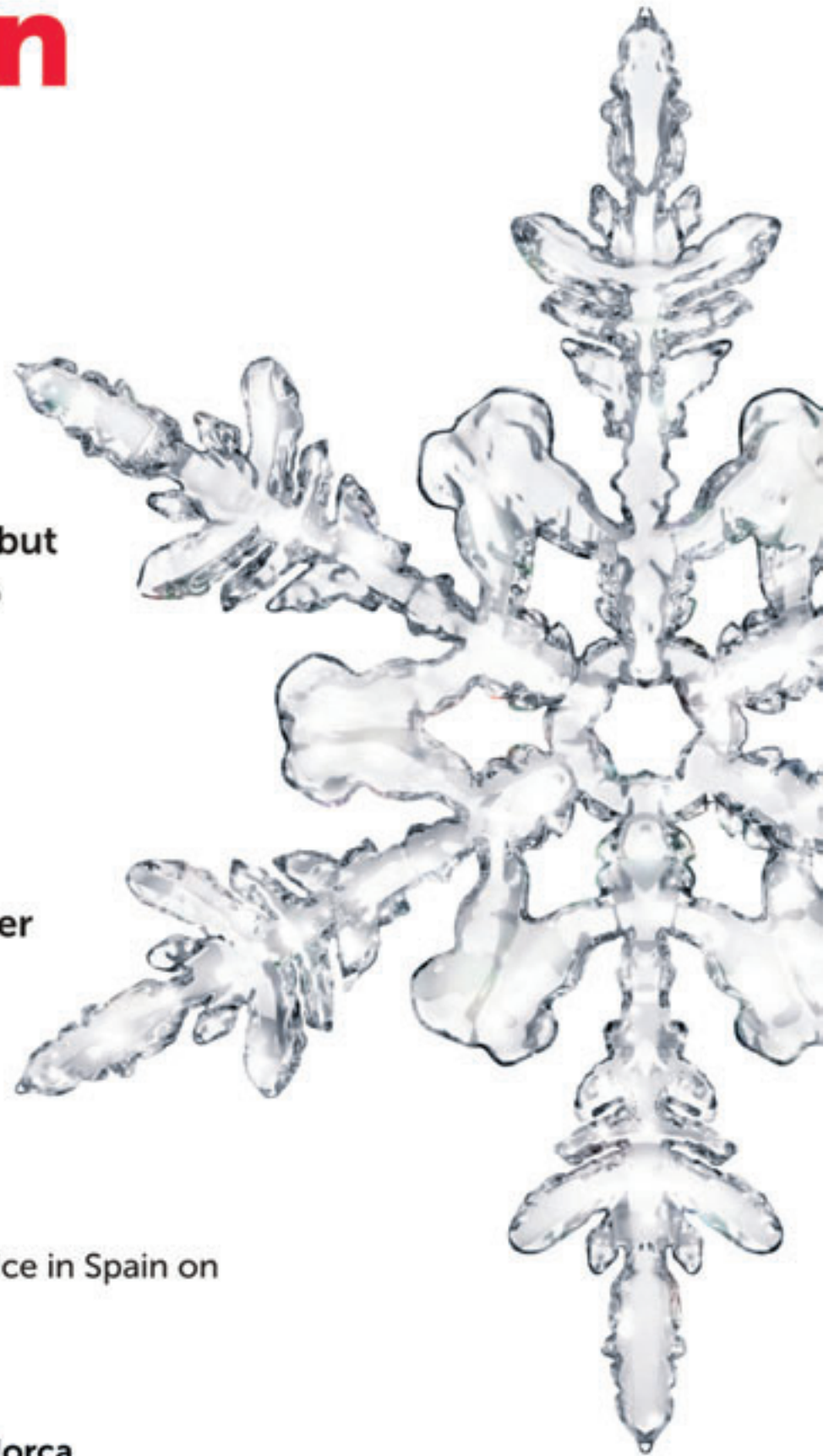
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Photo by Guardia Civil/Twitter

# Horse hobbling ban enforced

GUARDIA CIVIL officers are clamping down on the mistreatment of horses in Spain and horse hobbling in particular.

Horse hobbling is the practice of tethering one of more legs to allow

a horse to graze and move short and slow distances, yet prevent the horse from running off too far. But frequently the tethers can tighten around the limb and cause injury.

Legislation outlawing the practice

in Spain was introduced in 2015 with fines of up to €10,000 for first-time offenders. Repeat offenders face a life-time ban from keeping horses. The Guardia Civil's environmental branch, Seprona, is

now appealing for the public to contact them by calling 062 if they see cases of horses being mistreated.

They say, "To mistreat the animals is a bad and cowardly act. The old traditions must be stopped."

**HORSE HOBBLING:** Police say "The old traditions must be stopped."



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TWO Britons working in Ibiza made the most of finding a fellow countryman's mobile phone by holding it for ransom in exchange for a pizza.

Reiss White and Kelly-Anne Philipp discovered a lost phone in the world's largest nightclub, Privilege Ibiza and were able to get in touch with the owner, Adam Fleming.

In return for giving the phone back, Adam agreed to bring them a meat feast from Pizza Hut.

The pranksters at this stage decide to include a series of warnings, including a picture of the mobile phone tied to a chair, and said the

## Pizza the action!

### Pranksters hold phone to ransom

Samsung would 'lose a button' if he tried to bring a cheaper takeaway.

When Adam tried to bargain - offering onion rings instead - the pair sent a photo of the phone dangling over a toilet to 'show they meant business.'

The phone was spared a gruesome end when Mr Fleming delivered the pizza to the hungry seasonal workers fulfilling his end of the bargain.

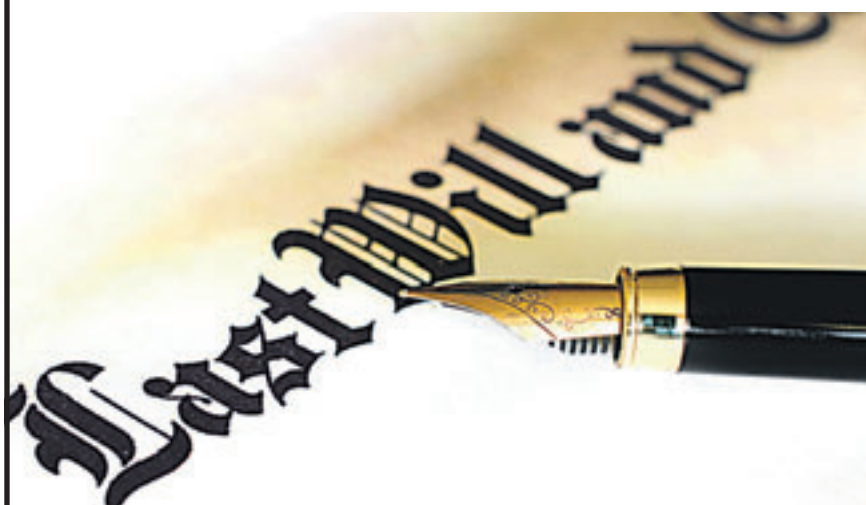


**PHONE RANSOM:** Returned in exchange for a pizza.

**8.5m**

UK residents have so far travelled to Spain this year according to the Office of National Statistics

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A SPANISH museum has made it into the top 10 in the world as voted for by TripAdvisor users.

The Prado Museum in Madrid has been recognised as the best in Spain, the fourth best in Europe and ninth in the world.

New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art was named number one in the Travellers' Choice awards for Museums in the World, securing the position for the third year in a row.

The winners were determined using an algorithm that takes into account the quantity and quality of comments for the world's museums for a year.

In the latest edition of the awards, the Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York was declared best in the world, and the Museum of Orsay in Paris, as the best in Europe according to users.

In total 10 Spanish museums have received awards, three of them at European level and one among the 10 best in the world.

The Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum in Madrid has been awarded the 18th in Europe and second at the national level.

While the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao has been awarded the 22nd position in Europe and third in Spain.

# One of the best!

## Spanish museum makes global Top 10



TOP TEN: The Prado Museum, Madrid.

### Top 10 Museums in the World

1. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
2. The National WWII Museum, New Orleans, USA
3. Musée d'Orsay, Paris, France
4. The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
5. State Hermitage Museum and Winter Palace, St Petersburg, Russia
6. The National 9/11 Memorial and Museum, New York, USA
7. National Museum of Anthropology, Mexico City, Mexico
8. Acropolis Museum, Athens, Greece
9. Prado National Museum, Madrid, Spain
10. Victoria and Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom

### Top 10 Museums in Spain

1. Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid
2. Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid
3. Museo Guggenheim, Bilbao
4. Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias, Valencia
5. Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid
6. Museo Sorolla, Madrid
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# Holiday horror

Insect bite sparks two-year battle for life of British dad



Photo by Mark Russell/Facebook

**'I ALMOST DIED':** Mark and wife Yvette.

By Matt Ford

A HOLIDAYMAKER from Liverpool who almost died after being bitten by sandflies on the Costa del Sol is on the road to recovery.

It comes in the wake of a two-year battle during which doctors were unable to diagnose what was causing 46-year-old Mark Russell's muscles to waste away, with kidney stones blamed at one point.

But the father-of-one had in fact contracted a blood disease normally confined to the tropics during a 2014 Malaga break with wife Yvette and their 16-year-old son.

In an interview with local media he said: "Everyday, I didn't know what was going on and neither did the consultants.

"I had to be so strong - sometimes I thought I was going to die. I was weeing into a pot as I couldn't get out of bed, I was that weak.

"It's the worst nightmare imaginable, I wouldn't wish this on my biggest enemy."

Having lost more than three stone in weight and being forced to spend months off work, he was cured after being transferred from Arrowe Park Hospital near his home on the Wirral, Merseyside, to the Royal Liverpool University Hospital.

Once there, experts from Liverpool Universi-

ty's School of Tropical Medicine were able to identify the cause of the funeral care worker's illness as visceral leishmaniasis, a potentially life-threatening condition caused by a parasite.

Nick Beeching, a senior lecturer at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, said: "Mark developed a prolonged fever and became very anaemic.

"Eventually, he was diagnosed and we looked at it under the microscope and could see the parasites causing the fever.

"We started Mark on a toxic treatment. He tolerated that okay but, soon after, he had a relapse - so we gave him a longer course of treatment which was very successful.

"He now looks a different man, he's put the weight back on and has regained his energy."

The affliction is mainly confined to the tropics but there are occasional cases in the Mediterranean, and if untreated can be lethal.

Mark added: "I was off work for six months and it took two years to get me back to full fitness.

"I suffered a lot of muscle wastage and looked like someone with cancer.

"And the emotional side was very tough - I didn't know what was going to happen to me.

"It's been a long road to get that parasitic disease out of my system."

LOCAL POLICE in Granada are investigating a porn film shoot in their city after footage emerged on the internet.

It comes after a similar incident on the streets of Sevilla when two naked actresses cavorted in the back of a horse-drawn carriage in broad daylight in a public

## Porn again

Police probe second shoot

place, as previously reported in the *Euro Weekly News*.

Having looked at the footage the Granada police are now deciding if a crime has been committed.

The film revolves around a young woman from Granada and the visit of two Catalan friends

to the Andalucian city.

Local Police have confirmed that no permit was issued to film in the city and they are considering public order and exhibitionism offences.

Advertising feature



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

*If you would like to contact Línea Directa please call 902 123 309  
More information about Línea Directa online at [www.lineadirecta.com](http://www.lineadirecta.com)*



## NEWS EXTRA

Derby draw  
for Real

IN the Balearic Islands' other derby, Real Mallorca drew 1-1 with the home team on the island of Formentera. A total of 1,550 fans crammed into the tiny stadium.

## Air con

MORE than €40 million will be spent on improving Palma airport. Better air conditioning, a third VIP lounge and 80 electronic passport points are among the top plans.

## Flu jabs

VACCINATION campaigns against the winter flu begin today. A total of 155,000 doses have been prepared. Those aged over 65, pregnant women, police, nurses and firemen will have priority.

## 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,



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

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 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.

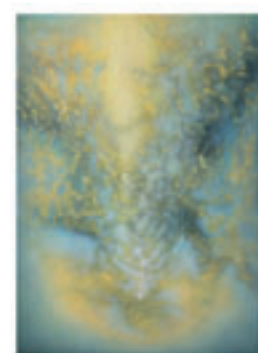
Princess Elena in her role as project Director of the Mapfre Foundation has been collaborating with the charity via the 'Donate a Euro' campaign involving more than 4,600 employees of Mapfre to help raise much-needed funds.

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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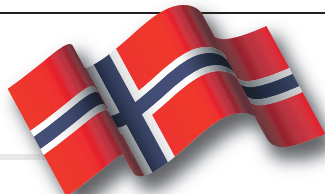


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## NORWAY



### 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

### 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

**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.

### 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.

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

### Full bottle

A GERMAN motorway near Frankfurt was brought to a stand-

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

## 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

## vMore 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](mailto: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 swop 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](mailto:international@stoneking.co.uk)



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

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

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



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

**What is an LPA?**

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

**Why should you get an LPA?**

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

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

**Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?**

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

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



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# 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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*Love Leapy leapylee2002@gmail.com*

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

## 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



## TECH FOR THE TIMID

### 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.

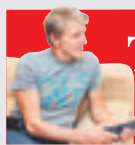
The bad news for our reluctant buddy is that it's unstoppable and that, inevitably, even he is going to have to bite the bullet (also available online). Within his lifetime only those enterprises which cannot easily sell through what he calls the 'Interweb' will be left standing, like convenience stores,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

GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



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	9:00pm Louis Theroux	8:05pm The X Factor	8:00pm Great Canal Journeys	11:00pm Most Shocking Moments in Pop	5:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	11:25pm Weather	10:00pm Snowfall	10:00pm ITV News and Weather	9:00pm 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	10:00pm Gogglebox	2:15am Super Casino	10:00pm Live NFL: Sunday Game
	12:45am Ronny Chieng: International Student		12:15am Caught on Camera	11:35pm 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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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

Letters should be emailed to [yoursay@euroweeklynews.com](mailto:yoursay@euroweeklynews.com) or make your comments on our website: [www.euroweeklynews.com](http://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

All letters by email or post should carry the writer's address, NIE and contact number though only the name and town will be published.

Readers who have missed correspondence can see all letters - which can be edited before publication - posted on: [www.euroweeklynews.com](http://www.euroweeklynews.com).

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

Email me: [mikesenker@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.n332.es) or search N332 on Facebook.

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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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:columnists@euroweeklynews.com)

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

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## Letter from the Canaries

By Barbara Belt

THE small, green western Canary Islands of La Gomera, El Hierro and La Palma are quiet at the moment. You can hear a collective sigh of relief that the late summer visitors have all gone.

There's time to relax, play dominoes and cards and enjoy the all-important tertulia, or social chat. Stories of the noisy, demanding, rubbish-tossing summer tourists from the other islands, and comparisons with the quieter visitors from northern countries, including the UK, who'll arrive soon abound. This annual conversation is traditional, after our short dose of mass tourism. Small island Canarians prefer nature-loving Northern European visitors because the local, summer visitors' mass tourism attitudes and habits impact negatively, while the winter visitors' don't.

Locals from the bigger islands of Tenerife, Lanzarote, Fuerteventura and Gran Canaria wouldn't agree that Northern Europeans are lower impact, because their northern tourists are different and

often of the dreaded shag and vomit sector. Puce-coloured drunks in 'Good Boys Go to Heaven, Bad Boys Go to Tenerife' t-shirts, bottle in hand, screaming obscenities as local families hurry past, spring to mind. On these nature tourism western islands, we get reasonable people, staying in a tourist complex, apartment block and shopping mall-free zone. In fact, apart from sub-tropical coastal climate and vegetation, good beaches, myriad micro-climates, stunning natural beauty, good walking, teeming sea life, prehistoric forests and constant benign weather, there's not much here at all.

Small island winter tourists have come to explore, relax and walk. They magically achieve this whilst sober and aren't liable to fight or even mumble obscenities to passing families. They aren't noticeably vomiters and all shagging's conducted discreetly. This is different tourism and is the Way To Go.

There's a mass tourism mantra, foisted upon (and submissively adopted by) Europe's post war,

never-had-it-so-good workers. Here it is in all its glory: Consuming As much as you can as Cheaply As possible (CACA) equals Happy Holidays.

This untruth leads to frustration at all levels, but more importantly, CACA tourism's responsible for accelerating the deterioration of local environments, both natural and cultural, nearly everywhere it exists. The tourism boom on the Spanish mainland and islands over the last few years has bolstered bank accounts, but exacerbated already glaring infrastructure-overload problems, which need addressing now. If the vast Atlantic's suffering, imagine the state of the Med.

A summer of scandals, political ostriching, infighting and lying about the effects of pumping uncontrolled toxic residues into the sea around the Canaries, together with an invasion of strange, residue-feasting microalgae which closed beaches at a sensitive time, raise important questions, not only about our disregard for the planet, but also about the ethos of tourism and how we can change it for the better.

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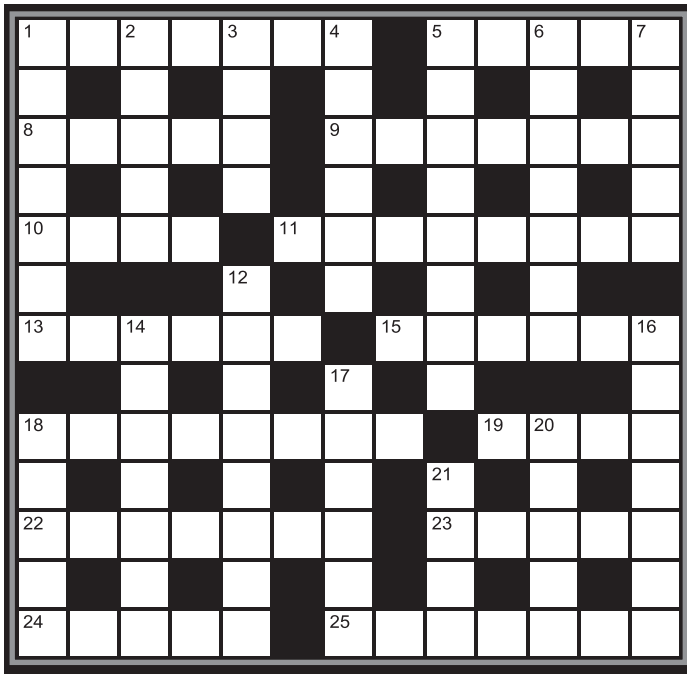
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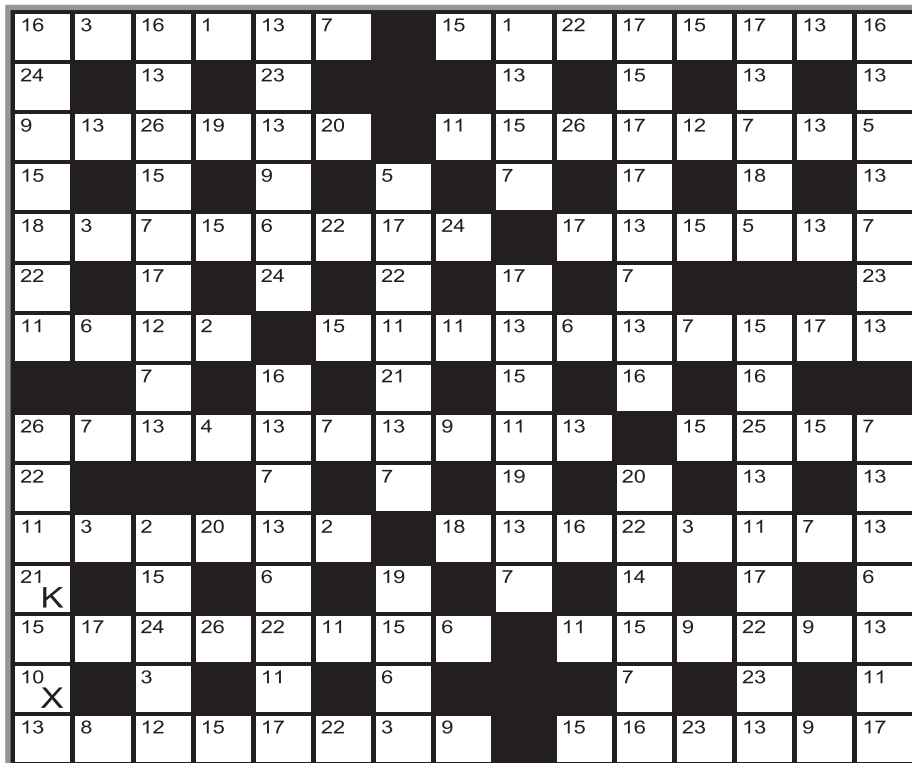
- Across**  
 1 Chopper about to take off with revolutionary leader (7)  
 5 Follow the path (5)  
 8 It concerns Adam's wife and the bailiff (5)  
 9 Unconventional start in passage (7)  
 10 Occurrence in Monica Seles's day (4)  
 11 French boarding houses appreciated by the retired (8)  
 13 Public 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

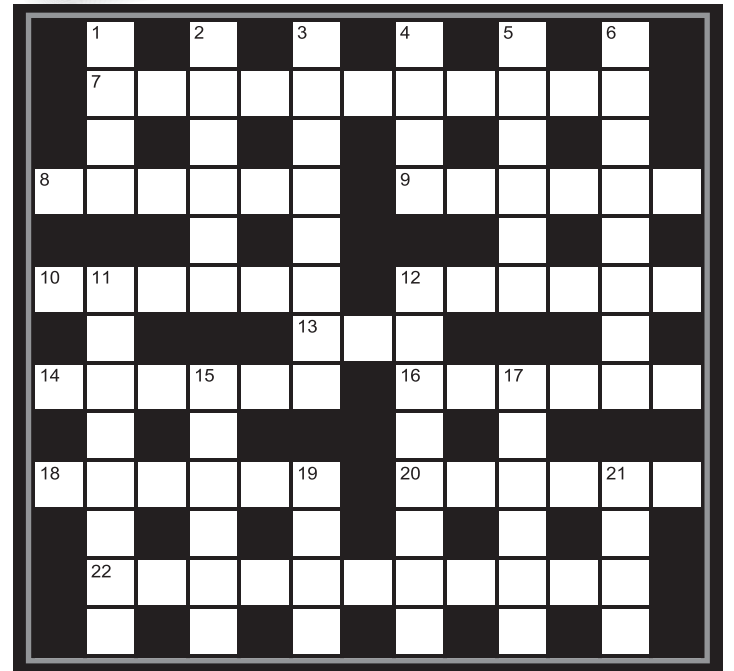
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 10 represents X and 21 represents K, so fill in X every time the figure 10 appears and K every time the figure 21 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters 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.



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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

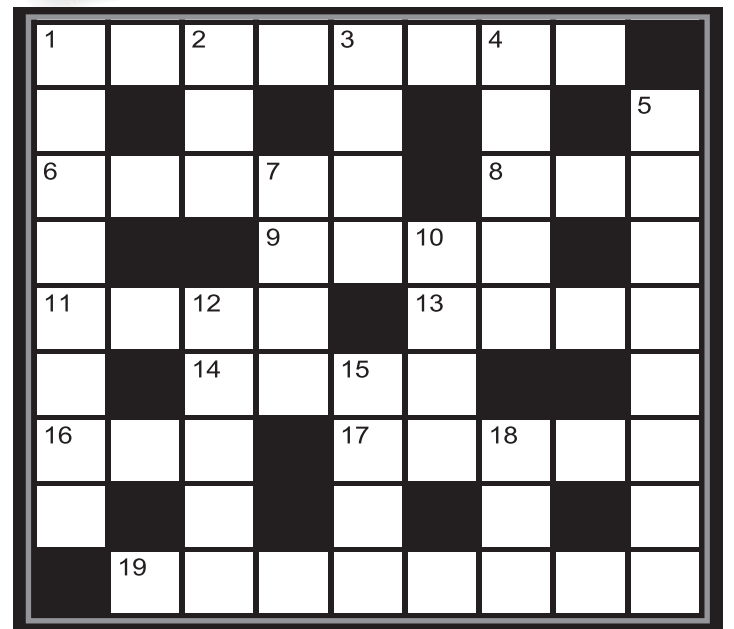
Quick



- 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)

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MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



' ON MY LEFT BREXIT AND EUROPE - ON MY RIGHT CATALAN AND SPAIN - AND STILL THE SUN CONTINUES TO SHINE! '

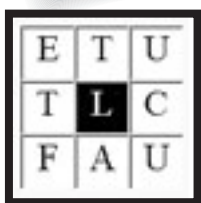
Kakuro

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



Nonagram

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



TARGET:

- Average: 7, Good: 9, Very good: 13, Excellent: 17

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

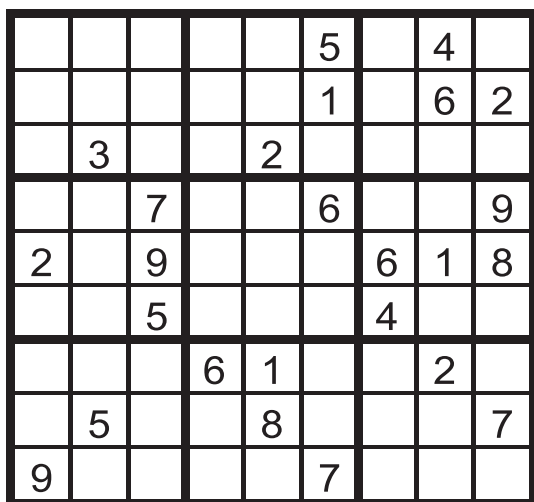
cent cere cert cite coin coir cone core corn cote icon nice once otic rice torc cento citer conte crone eject erect nicer niece recon recti recto terce tonic trice center centre citron coiner cornet cretin encore entice erotic inject noetic notice recent recite reject tenrec tierce coterie ejector enteric enticer rejoice ejection erection injector neoteric REJECTION

Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

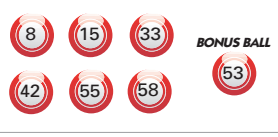
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

Grid of numbers representing the solution to last week's Sudoku puzzle.



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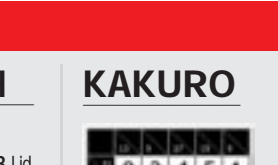
Friday October 27



LA PRIMITIVA Saturday October 28



EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA Sunday October 29



YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19), LEO (July 24 - August 23)

Your lot is to be optimistic and positive. Perhaps in the last few months there was the need to take on the problems of others. However, you absolutely must get a balance here. Concentrate this week on getting your body and mind in good shape. That means being a little self-centred to start with. A good routine is essential and the will to stick with it.

Clearly there have been times that you felt crestfallen. Sometimes circumstances bring us down. Avoid believing in the myth of 'what should have been'. What you are is not what others see but what you feel inside.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

Your very nature can lead to internal struggles. In the coming months, however, the truth becomes clear. What is outside of your experience now will become a part of your make-up. Any fear that you had of the unknown gradually diminishes.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

There has been a very strong feeling through these last few weeks. This feeling has been one of spirituality. Your thoughts have been deeper than usual and the sense that there is more to life is acute. This, therefore, gives an impetus to everything that you do this week. The need to progress both on the home and business front has rarely been stronger.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)

It becomes clear to you that some friends are drifting away. We all have to make changes as life itself is a constantly shifting event.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

In the last few weeks there may have been a sense of being not quite in control. That is something to deal with this week. Real progress will only be made when you have faced what is not wanted. You will rid yourself of any negative emotions quickly by facing them.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

With a lot of pent-up energy and not a little determination the month is off to a strong start with you. Be aware, however, that treading on the toes of influential people is not to be advised. Your feeling that you are right is admirable, but be tactful.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You are a great charmer but it is possible to have too much of a good thing. Is there the possibility that your romantic life needs tidying up? Perhaps the number of irons that you have in the fire is causing problems? This week, make it a priority to simplify your life. Be strong and straight with others. A clean slate for the future means not letting small matters run away with you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

You of all people understand the importance of the spiritual side of life. Despite being successful in your own right there is the need to bring this to other people. In sharing your experiences this year you come to a better understanding yourself.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The ever-inquisitive part of your brain is in high spirits. Clearly there is much to be known and enjoyed over the coming months. Begin at the beginning though. Before you throw yourself into a spiritual or business endeavour, get the facts. I don't mean what people tell you they think. What you need right now is proof that your interest in a certain area is justified.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

Your practical streak is in full force. Over the next months you will bring much benefit to those around you, in financial terms perhaps, but also spiritually. This week, in itself, shows you how others value your presence and advice.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 7 Carapace, 8 Seat, 9 Gentle, 10 Images, 11 Eager, 12 Relents, 15 Dentist, 17 Nasty, 20 Reveal, 22 Agates, 23 Kind, 24 Specimen.

Down:

- 1 Lacerate, 2 Rattle, 3 Races, 4 Decided, 5 Escape, 6 Lame, 13 Tottered, 14 Useless, 16 Trendy, 18 Aramis, 19 Cateer, 21 Enid.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Last, 3 Official, 9 Burglar, 10 Enjoy, 11 Loses, 12 Salary, 14 Errors, 16 Prison, 19 Scrape, 21 Pupil, 24 Extra, 25 Statues, 26 Basement, 27 Lead.

Down:

- 1 Labelled, 2 Sorts, 4 Forest, 5 Ideal, 6 Injures, 7 Lays, 8 Closer, 13 Enclosed, 15 Recites, 17 Repeat, 18 Reason, 20 Alarm, 22 Pause, 23 Verb.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 2 Poison, 5 Ceja, 6 Perder, 7 Same, 8 Lid, 11 Envy, 13 Almond, 14 Odio, 15 Screws.

Down:

- 1 Vela, 2 Papel, 3 Seda, 4 Norway, 7 Salads, 9 Dedos, 10 Amar, 12 Vein.

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TO READ MORE



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

# 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!

Ask The

Doctor

Brought to you by

## 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:  
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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. 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 invest 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.

# 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 exfoliating 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.

## Ask the Optician: What are the most common problems with eyesight?

**Andrés Román Romero, Store Director, Specsavers Opticas Santa Ponsa**

**THE most common vision problems are refractive errors, more commonly known as nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism and presbyopia. Most people have one or more of these conditions. In this column we wanted to explain what they mean and how can they be corrected.**

### ■ What is myopia/short sight and how can it be corrected?

A person with myopia or short sight can see objects close to them clearly, but not far away. Myopia is caused by the shape of the eye; either the eyeball is slightly too long or the cornea is too steeply curved. Myopia is corrected by spectacles or contact lenses with lenses which are 'minus' or concave in shape.

### ■ What is hyperopia/hypermopia/long sight and how can it be corrected?

A person with long sight can see objects far away from them clearly, but not those close by. This is caused by the shape of the eye - the eyeball is slightly too short. It is corrected by spectacles or contact lenses with lenses which are 'plus' or convex in shape.

### ■ What is astigmatism and how can it be corrected?

You should seek professional advice if you are concerned about your eye health and have regular eye tests. Specsavers Opticas are raising money for the ONCE Foundation for the Deaf and Blind until the end of the year and asking for a donation of just €1 for a comprehensive eye test. Visit [www.specsavers.es](http://www.specsavers.es) to find your nearest store and book your eye test.

People with astigmatism have an unevenly curved cornea or an unevenly curved lens inside their eye, shaped more like a rugby ball than a football. It is corrected by spectacles with a cylinder shape built into the lenses at a certain angle. Contact lenses can also correct astigmatism - mild astigmatism can be corrected by an ordinary gas-permeable lens. Those who prefer a soft lens or have higher amounts of astigmatism can use specially designed, 'toric' soft lenses.

### ■ What is presbyopia?

As a person ages, so do their eyes. The crystalline lenses become thicker and less flexible, resulting in a condition called presbyopia. People often begin to notice its effects during their 40's - as a result of these changes, objects closer to them become blurred and the point of closest focus gradually moves further away from the eyes.

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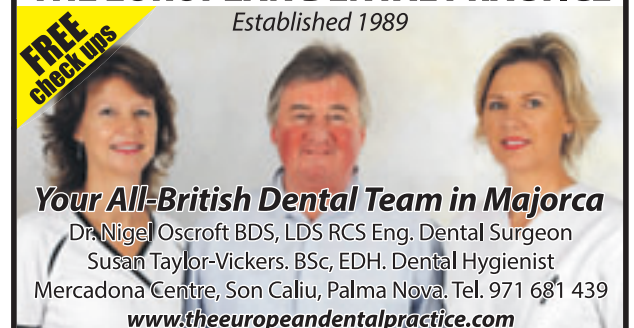
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Advertising feature

# Quality care at home

ESTABLISHED in 2003 Angels Nursing and Babysitting Agency is the leading provider of care and nursing services to clients in their own homes, delivering a range of high quality and reasonably-priced care-at-home services

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- Getting client ready for bed.
- Laundry and household chores.
- Advice on disabled living aids.
- Escorting client to the doctor's office. *(We can send a bilingual Angel carer to accompany you, to translate not just what is said, but the meaning and consequences of what the doctor says, helping you ask the questions that you want answers to.)*
- Assistance with pet care.
- Changing of incontinence pads, catheters and stoma bags.

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sores.

- Infusions.
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- Blood extraction.

For families of disabled individuals, home care may be an important part of successful household management; and more importantly, critical to the health and well-being of the disabled family member. For that reason, Angels is proud to offer compassionate home care for the physically or cognitively disabled - adults and children alike, whether it be someone with limited mobility or a wheelchair user.

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Angels believe that travel for disabled people should involve less work and more play. We can help you with all aspects of care to suit your individual needs, from pop in visits, notably reducing the cost of taking a carer with you on holiday, to full care: whatever you need...

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## Caring for the needs of the over 50s

AGE CONCERN in Mallorca has a lot going on during November and early December.

On Saturday, volunteers will be present at the Bonfire Night celebration in Magaluf when they will be manning their mulled wine stall with what they believe will be the best you ever tasted and will be an enjoyable accompaniment to a fantastic fireworks display.

Just two days later on Monday, they will be hosting afternoon tea and a fun quiz in the Coleman Hall underneath the Anglican Church in Palma at 3pm.

Traditional Christmas lunch is a little early as it is being held on Saturday November 25 at the Restaurant Es Reco Genova also in Palma with good food and entertainment, but bookings are essential.

Just a few days later on December 3, the mulled wine will be making a return appearance when Age Concern takes a stall at the Santa Ponsa Christmas Fair where the charity will also be offering a selection of marmalades and



**ENJOYING** some tasty mulled wine.

chutneys.

Age Concern España is a fully registered not for profit Spanish organisation which has been providing support and promoting the well-being of the over 50's in Spain since 1994.

Through a band of dedicated volunteers they provide a range of services

to help with integration into Spanish life and to provide information, advice and support for common issues that affect those who are 50+.

To find out more, contact Age Concern at Apartado 7, 07180 Santa Ponsa call them on 971 231 520 or email [acmallorca@ageconcern-espana.org](mailto:acmallorca@ageconcern-espana.org).



## Olive Fair returns

THE village of Caimari will host its annual two-day autumn Olive Fair this month, beginning on November 18.

The small village of Caimari is best known for its olive oil production and visitors will be able to see active displays of how olive oil is made at the old village olive press, as well as a host of other activities.

The village square will play host to a number of stalls, filled with typical Mallorcan products, many of which derive from olive trees.

There will also be folk performances, art and livestock exhibitions, pony rides, and tastings at any restaurants and bars in the town which have been created especially for the show, all typical of the Mediterranean and Mallorcan tradition.

## Winter Wonderland

PALMA'S annual Christmas Fair will return to the region on Saturday, November 18. Open daily from 10am until 9pm there will be a number of food, handicraft and decoration stalls located around Plaça Espana, Via Roma and along the Rambla.

This year will also see the return of the Parc de Ses Estaciós ice rink, which will be open from 10am until 10pm. The price for 25 minutes skating will be €5, which includes skate hire but skaters must bring their own gloves.

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SOURDOUGH SAUERTEIG SURDEG ZUURDESEM LIEVITO MADRE SAURTEIG MASA FERMENTADA

# Pumpkin party

THIS year's Muro Autumn Pumpkin Fair will be held from Friday November 10 until Sunday November 12.

Since 2007, the fair has been theme based focusing on the pumpkin, with the area known for growing the fruit.

Also known as the Fira de sa Carabassa, many of the local restaurants produce dishes featuring pumpkins, plus special priced tapas.

Activities begin on the Friday, with a variety of cultural and gastronomic events including a mini-train route to taste the skewers made with pumpkin in different bars of the town.

There will also be the wine tasting taking place at the Cloister of the Convent on the

Sunday, with funfair rides and a market also on during the festival.

The 'biggest pumpkin' competition will be held at the City Hall on the Sunday, with registrations still open to compete in the largest local pumpkin and non-local Pumpkin categories.

In recent years, winning pumpkins in the separate categories have weighed up to 140 and 334 kilograms.



**PUMPKIN FAIR:** Try the skewers made with pumpkin in local bars.

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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.

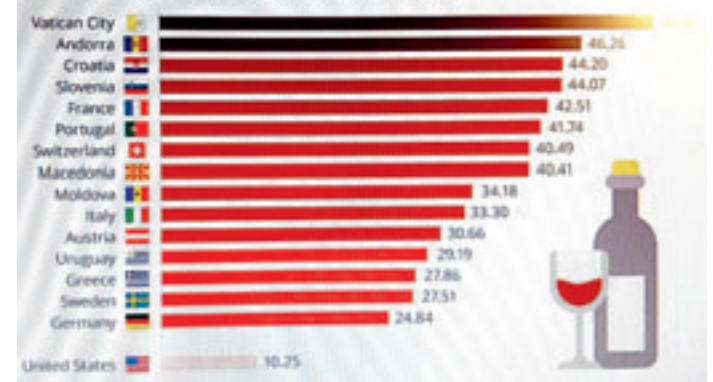
These sobering facts are spelled out in data from the California Wine Institute, whose most recently published findings put the Vatican at the head of world wine consumption with almost 55 litres per capita.

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

### The World's Biggest Wine Drinkers

Annual per capita wine consumption worldwide (Nov 15)



## 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.

### BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi





THE heroes in Disneyland.

# Mickey and friends in Palma

THE wonderful world of Walt Disney visits the Mozart Room at the Auditorium in Palma in time for Three Kings from December 27 to January 4.

Ilusions Teatra will present the colourful fun of Mickey In Search Of Lost Magica travelling children's musical which visits the wonderful world of imagination and fairy tales as well as some of the most popular Disney cartoons.

In this magical children's musical, the audience will help Mickey, Minnie, Donald and Goofy to save the Kingdom of Fantasy before Maleficent and other Disney villains can seize power.

The heroes of the piece will travel in search of the magic lost through a series of the famous different worlds of Aladdin, Peter Pan, Beauty and the Beast, Frozen and The Little Mermaid.

This is a musical journey for the whole family that will delight parents and children alike as no matter how old we are, the inner child always want to emerge and enjoy the realm of fantasy.

With an earlier than usual starting time of 6pm to take into account the little ones, tickets are just €20 per person (including children over the age of three) and are available from the Auditorium or its website.

## Bonfire Night 2017

SATURDAY night sees a special bonfire night organised by the Calvià International Community which will be held in the Aqualand car park in Magaluf.

There will be a large bonfire, food and drink, music and dance, free children's attractions and culminating in a fireworks display.

Entry is free and the fun is due to last from 6pm to 11pm.

## An exhibition of friendship

AN exhibition celebrating the works of both Pablo Picasso and Joan Miro has opened at the Can Prunera Museum, Soller.

Pablo Picasso (Málaga, 1881 - Mougins, France, 1973) and Joan Miró (Barcelona, 1893 - Palma, 1983) first met in Paris in 1920, when a 27-year-old Miro visited Picasso's studio at the Rue La Boétie in Paris.

In spite of their age difference and having opposing personalities, their friendship continued until Picasso's death in 1973.

The exhibition, curated by Joan Punyet, the grandson of Joan Miró, displays works by both artists, accompanying photographs, ceramics and artist books, as well as an unpublished tape recorded in Picasso's studio in France, where the two artists appear together.

The exhibition will be available until November 26.

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Paseo Del Mar 32, Palma Nova  
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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 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.

## British family fortunes Aristocrat places faith in Spain



**POSH:** Grosvenor family have owned swatches of London for centuries.

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

#### Ref 3117, Vallgornera, 170,000€

Apartment with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living room, kitchen, laundry room, large balcony, garage, community pool, aircon  
Living area 73m<sup>2</sup>.



#### Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€

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



#### Ref 3115, Son Bielo, 268,000€

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



#### Ref 3112, Campos, 1,060,000€

Large finca perfect for keeping horses: main house 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, kitchen/diner, garage. Guest house for total reform, large stables, own well, mains electricity. Totally constructed 750m<sup>2</sup>, plot 70,500m<sup>2</sup>



#### Ref 3105, Llucmajor, 260,000€

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



#### Ref 3021, Vallgornera, 585,000€

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



## Luxury 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 concerningly 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 mar-



**BURST:** Barcelona's luxury apartments going for cheap.

ket was experiencing a bubble, the steady rise in prices led many sellers to ask for prices similar to those in the elite 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.

## Buyers want to choose

A PERSONAL touch is the most sought-after quality in Spain's thriving real estate sector, according to property developer Gestilar.

The firm reckons that smart real estate agents are now competing with others to personalise properties for ever more demanding buyers.

General manager Marta Garcia-Valcárcel believes that a dynamic consumer market when it comes to material goods, including phones and clothing, is influ-

encing choices in the property sector too.

This means that buyers, increasingly seen as clients and consumers, expect more than just the standard two-bed apartment. They want something different, whether it's an open-plan kitchen or quirky loft space.

Real estate agents are expected to provide them with a wide range of innovative homes with different designs and architectures. Their ultimate choice will then be more personally tailored to their tastes.

Developers too are being asked to provide more choice. In one residential complex in Vallecas, the promoter gives buyers the option of removing partitions between rooms to create the illusion of more space.

While it doesn't make much difference to the promoter, it's the thought that counts. Buyers are increasingly aware of the power they wield and are growing more confident in their right to make demands.



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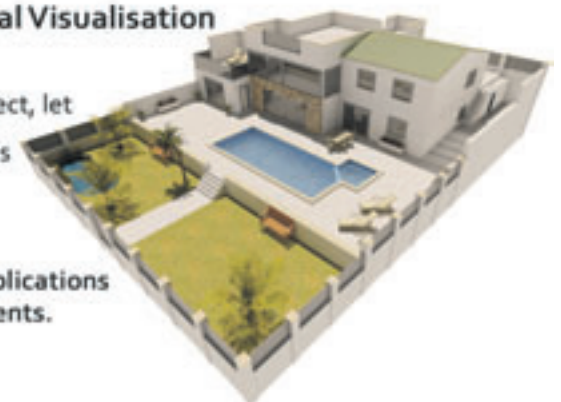
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# Follow your dreams

**Sally Trotman**

[www.sallytrotman.com](http://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: embrace 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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GRAEME TYRRELL

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

# Bird lovers paradise, a garden for the birds



**ATTRACTING BIRDS:** Each species have different needs.

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 - 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 thickets 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 (*Lavendula* 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

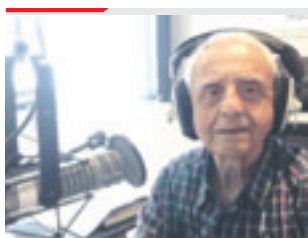
aphids and other pests.

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



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# Chocolate a danger to dogs



**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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A GOOD dog muzzle should provide reassurance while ensuring the animal's comfort and well-being, thus guaranteeing dog welfare and human safety.

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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.



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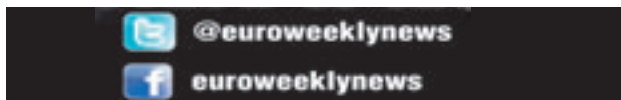
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## Balearic yacht destination in Florida

HAVING blossomed into one of the leading superyacht hubs of the Mediterranean, the islands of Mallorca, Menorca, Ibiza and Formentera will be spreading word of their success on the other side of the Atlantic.

They are attending the 58th Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show (FLIBS) running from yesterday (Wednesday) to Sunday thanks to a public-private initiative between the Balearic Yacht Destination (BYD), the Balearic government and the Balearic Port Authority manning a fully branded stand.

BYD is a professional association of 17 of the leading Balearic-based superyacht marinas, refit shipyards, management and service companies. The organisation was formed in 2014 with the objective of using its resources to promote the Balearics to an international audience as a leading destination for superyacht cruising, berthing and refit.

Representatives will tell American visitors about the beautiful Balearic Islands which are blessed with all the attributes necessary for an enjoyable cruise with Michelin-star-quality food, championship golf courses and culturally-rich towns and cities.

They also tick every box for refit and repair for boats of every size up to 160



Photo by FLIBS © 2016 Forest Johnson

SCENE from FLIBS 2016.

metres. The Islands boast some of the best technical areas in Europe with cutting-edge facilities and around 3,000 skilled professionals from 500 companies specialising in every conceivable nautical field of expertise.

BYD's first exhibition foray was to the Monaco Yacht Show in 2016, and such was the success of the event that the experience was repeated this year which encouraged them to exhibit at the largest in-water boat show in the world in Florida.

With more than 1,200 boats on display across seven locations covering three million square feet, the show regularly

attracts a diverse crowd of 100,000 boating enthusiasts and is the ideal platform for flaunting the Balearics' many qualities in terms of superyacht cruising and refit to US-based owners and crew.

The BYD stand will be manned by professional hostesses supported by senior executives from its 17 member companies representing some of the Balearic's leading superyacht brands.

Representing the Balearic government will be four members of the ministry for employment accompanied by the president of the Balearic Port Authority and the secretary general of the Mallorcan chamber of commerce.



Photo by @bybosch/www.vicentbosch.com

ANNOUNCING the opening

## Valencia Boat Show open

THE Valencia Boat Show finally opened yesterday (Wednesday) taking advantage of the National Holiday to present a wide range of Spanish and internationally produced vessels to a large audience.

The official opening confirmed the commitment that the city council has to promoting both the hobby and business of boating and visitors will have the opportunity to take advantage of a large number of displays connected with the sea until Sunday.

There is also still time to make a virtual visit by clicking on [www.valenciaboat.com](http://www.valenciaboat.com).



Adrian Pingstone Wikimedia

MOORINGS at Puerto Soller.

## Permanent moorings may be lost

A DECISION by the Balearic Ports Authority means that 667 moorings in Mallorca have to be renewed by the end of the year or holders run the risk of losing them.

The reason for this is that the Authority wants to identify the number of permanent moorings that are actually required before deciding whether to increase the number of moorings allowed island-wide and if they are not needed then that may make mooring waiting lists

shorter.

Whilst this applies to the majority of permanent title holders in Mallorca, owners in Puerto Soller are most affected as all 335 owners have to confirm their intention to remain or risk having to take their chance of a mooring on a visitors or temporary basis.

This means that even those with several years left on the leases will still have to apply to renew or will automatically lose their existing rights.

## Spanish Cup attracts Mallorcan sailors

SIX crews from the Club Nautic s'Arenal will be competing in the 2017 Spanish Cup for class 420 boats from today (Thursday) until Sunday.

The national championships for 420, Laser and 2.4mR sail craft has attracted more than 200 participants from all of the major Spanish sailing cities who will be involved in 10 different races assuming that the weather conditions allow.

Ten national titles will be decided and sailors will be fighting to become champion male, champion female and best youth and amongst those representing CNA is Clara Llabrés, runner up in the European Championships.

The Spanish Cup is a regatta organised by the Andalusian Sailing Federation in collaboration with the



Photo by CNA

CLARA LLABRÉS on left battling on the water.

RFEV, the national secretaries of classes 420 and Laser, Puerto Sherry and the city of El Puerto de Santa María close to the city of Cadiz through the municipal programme 'El Puerto con sailing.'

Entry has exceeded all

expectations with sailors from throughout Spain and although they can't compete for the titles, others have come from Canada, Germany, Italy, Portugal and Switzerland just to take part and enjoy the whole atmosphere.

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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.

**Drive another day for Bond**

CLASSIC cars driven by Bond girls in almost all the 007 films were on display at the London Film Museum. The Bond in Motion exhibition featured some of the fastest, loudest and sleekest motors seen in films from The Spy Who Loved Me to Skyfall.

Naturally there was the quintessential Bond car, an Aston Martin DB5, on display. The car featured in Goldfinger, but the one on display in London was the one Pierce Brosnan used to race a seductive Russian assassin around the winding Monte Carlo roads in Goldeneye.

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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



## UK SPORTSCENE

with Andrew Atkinson

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.

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."

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."

It has been a hard grind for Raya, who was a cameo player in the first team in the 2015-16 season, having only

## SPORTSCENE SPAIN

with Andrew Atkinson



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

# From Barcelona to Blackburn

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, Hibern-

ian, 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."

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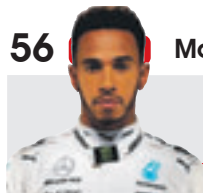
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LEWIS HAMILTON has secured his fourth F1 World Title at the Mexican Grand Prix, despite only finishing ninth. Sebastian Vettel could only finish fourth, with the win making Hamilton the most successful British driver of all-time.

TO READ MORE

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

## Winners of Elche 7's event

ENGLAND and Wales have been crowned winners of the women's and men's tournaments at the third Elche International Rugby tournament, held at the Martinez Valero stadium.

Twelve teams representing 10 countries turned out across both the men's and women's categories for a rugby filled weekend.

After dominating the group stages, England's women left it until the last minute in the final, narrowly beating Ireland 19-14.

It was just as close in the final of the men's tournament as Wales narrowly edged out Ireland 14-10.

Spain finished third and fourth in the male and female events respectively.

ENGLAND'S U17 stars secured the U17 World Cup in India in emphatic style as they came from two goals down to beat European Champions Spain 5-2 in the final.

A brace from Manchester City's Phil Foden as well as goals from Chelsea's Marc Cuehi, Wolves youngster Morgan Gibbs-White and Liverpool's Rhian Brewster, secured a famous comeback win for the Young Lions.

England came into the match having not lost a game all tournament but found themselves with everything to do after just 28 minutes in the final.

England left themselves open on the counter attack in the early stages and an early double from Barcelona's Sergio Gomez left England needing to show their tenacity and spirit to get back into the game.

Eventual Golden-boot

# England come from behind to beat Spain to U17 World Cup glory



UNDER 17 STARS: Won the World Cup in India in emphatic style.

winner Rhian Brewster got the Young Lions on their way just before half-time with his eight goals of the

tournament and England were deservedly level through Gibbs-White in the 56th minute.

After the equaliser, England continued to take the game to Spain and took the lead in the 68th minute

when Chelsea's Callum Hudson-Odoi squared for Phil Foden to finish.

Hudson-Odoi was a menace to the Spanish defence the whole evening and had a hand in the fourth goal as well.

After the Chelsea winger was fouled, he got back up and took the free-kick himself, whipping a fantastic ball into the back post which was nodded down by Captain Joel Latibeaudaire and finished by defender Marc Cuehi.

A memorable comeback victory was settled in the 87th minute as Hudson-Odoi was again involved, teeing up Player of the Tournament Phil Foden for his second of the game and England's fifth.

The World Cup win adds to an already emphatic year for Young Lions' teams, with England winning the U20 World Cup in South Korea and the U19 European Championships in July.



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