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Photo by Policia Nacional

**BREAK IN:** Five girls robbed a woman in Manacor after locking her in her own apartment. (INSET: Recovered jewellery)

By Kat Ashton

Five women, aged between 16 and 25, have been detained for allegedly locking an elderly woman in her apartment in Manacor and stealing €4,000.

Local media sources report the girls entered the woman's apartment after discovering the door was open and took the cash, as well as a large amount of jewellery.

## Bling ring bust! Victim locked up and robbed

The owner of the flat, an elderly woman, was locked in a room during the incident so as not to raise the alarm, a police official said.

The girls are believed to

be part of a larger crime network, with several having previous criminal records for stealing.

The police were able to recover some of the stolen cash and jewellery and

have not ruled out making further arrests. They also recommended that older residents keep their doors locked and not trust any strangers who try to get into their homes.



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### Monster fire

DOZENS of firefighters struggled to extinguish a huge blaze that tore through a Marratxi industrial estate. The fire broke out at noon on Saturday and affected 10 warehouses, with three of them almost completely destroyed.

Among the worst damaged were a t-shirt printing facility, souvenir storage warehouse and an office block. There were no injuries and crowds gathered to watch the firefighters secure the area.

See us on page 26



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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Born in the USA**

AMERICAN expatriates across Spain will today (Thursday) celebrate Thanksgiving, the traditional feast which started as a day of giving for harvest and typically includes roast turkey, sweet potato casserole and winter veg topped off with pumpkin pie.

**Dirty dens**

IN 2017 so far a total of 28 restaurants, bars, markets and school canteens have been closed by food safety inspectors across the Balearic Islands, 23 of them in Mallorca.

**Farm horror**

A FARM labourer, aged 55, was killed on Tuesday when he was run over by a tractor in Campos. The victim died instantly after being caught by the tow without the driver noticing.

**Finest hotel in Europe**

A MALLORCAN business operates what is officially the best hotel in Europe. The Gran Melia Palacio de los Duques in Madrid won the European category at the 2017 International Hotel Awards this week.

The hotel was built by super rich Mallorcan family company, Melia Hotels International.

It is a luxury hotel on a reconverted 19th century site near the Orient Palace and Theatre Real. Not only was it declared best hotel in Europe, Gran Melia Palacio also won Best Hotel Opening. It was taken by Melia in 2016 to great fanfare.

Hotel experts also acclaimed its historical and artistic heritage. It comprises both a palace and an old monastery. There is a Rafael lounge and the hotel possesses dozens of paintings from iconic Spanish artist Velazquez.

It has a 1,000 square metre garden and three ac-



Gran Melia Palacio de los Duques / Facebook

**TOP NOTCH: Gran Melia Madrid finest hotel in Europe.**

claimed restaurants. Rooms begin at €192 a night.

Melia vice-president and CEO Gabriel Escarrer said the awards show the Melia Group's expansion in the luxury hotel industry. "Our products compete with the best in the world," he said. Escarrer, aged 82, is one of Mallorca's richest men, worth billions and in control of more than 300 hotels around the world.

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**Minister under fire**

VICE-PRESIDENT of the Balearic Islands, Biel Barcelo, is fighting for his political life after a series of scandals. Opposition parties in the Balearic parliament are demanding his resignation, but President Francina Armengol continues to offer Barcelo her full support.

The demands comes amid a turbulent week for her administration. Director general for tourism, Pilar Carbonell, was forced to resign after being named in the Cursach investigation. There are allegations that she was 'sympathetic' to the Cursach Group, owned by accused mob boss Tolo Cursach who is on trial for extortion, murder and drug trafficking.

Barcelo, who is minister for tourism, says he is convinced that Carbonell is innocent of any wrongdoing. But the conservative Popular Party (PP) and left-wing Podemos both claim that his position is untenable in the wake of the allegations.

Marga Prohens of the PP says Barcelo has become a liability for the tourism office, which needs a fresh start under new command. She says that Barcelo seems to leave a body in his wake every three months, referring to the number of senior officials allied to him who have been forced to resign over an array of scandals.

No suggestions have been made that Barcelo himself is corrupt, but Prohens says he has been tainted by the allegations and that his competency is now in question.

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**€1.135 trillion** is Spain's current national debt according to the Bank of Spain, with €2.8 billion added in September this year alone.

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**FINANCE**  
Our 5-page spotlight on the business world

**SPECIAL FEATURE**

**IS SPAIN DOING ENOUGH TO TACKLE COCAINE PROBLEM?**

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**HEALTH & BEAUTY**  
ALL THE LATEST NEWS, TIPS AND TRENDS



P38

# Grisly find

A DECOMPOSED body with no head or limbs was found floating near a Son Serra de Marina beach by a German passerby who mistook the corpse for a person drowning. The Guardia Civil suggested it could belong to a migrant who drowned off the Italian coast.

## Deadly drunk

A MAN died on Monday three days after being injured in a car crash. The 26-year-old was a passenger in the car when his friend lost control and smashed into a Palma wall. The female driver was four times over the limit and faces negligent homicide charges.

## Flight focus

TRAVEL company Thomas Cook has confirmed that it will open Thomas Cook Airlines Balearics to add to its British, German and Scandinavian groups. The new airline will be based on Mallorca from spring 2018, offering flyers more flexibility with competitive pricing according to a press release.

## Lock and load

A REPORT from the Guardia Civil says there are more than 100,000 licensed firearms on the Balearic Islands, including hunting rifles, pistols and police-issued weapons. Guns are present in an estimated 40,000 households across the islands with ownership subject to tough regulations.

## Chicken exile

A SENEGALESE man who stole half a chicken from a Palma butcher then threatened the man with an axe has been kicked out of Spain for 10 years. The African immigrant, aged 38, also set his apartment on fire, destroying the entire first floor of a Son

### SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...38

Spain is home to some of Europe's most endangered animals, such as the Iberian Lynx which is now on the brink of extinction.

# Fantastic beasts

THERE are more than 150 animal species in danger of extinction in Spain, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Overdevelopment of rural areas and coastal zones are blamed

for destroying habitats and putting the lives of many species at risk.

The environmental group Ecologists in Action warned that Spain has the most fragile biodiversity in Europe and has urged the govern-

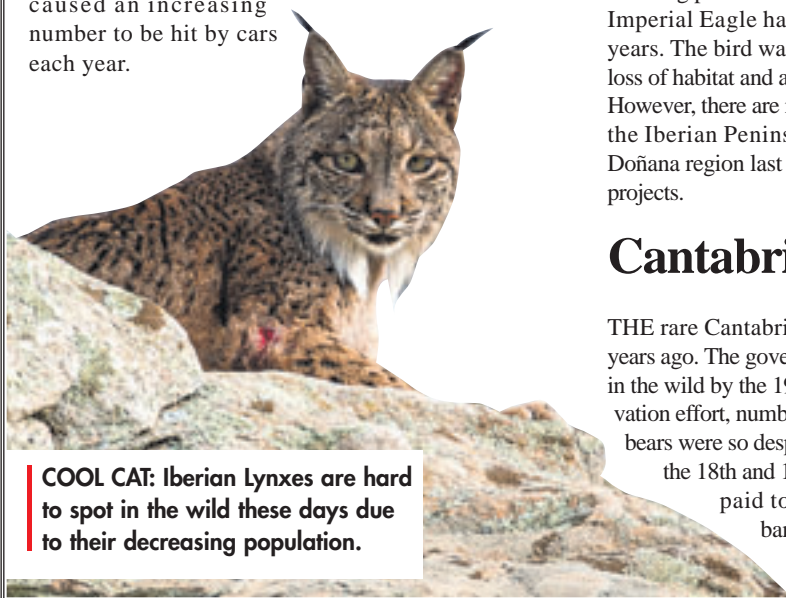
ment to tackle the destruction of habitats and protect the country's creatures.

Some endangered wild animals worth keeping an eye out for include:

## Iberian Lynx

REGARDED as the world's most endangered wild cat, there are fears that the Iberian Lynx may soon disappear for good. Recognised by its heavily spotted coat, long legs and short tail, this species of lynx is under peril because of a number of different threats. The lynx was once regarded as a hunting trophy, and was valued for its fur and meat. Although it became illegal to hunt them in the early 1970s, the cats are still victims of traps and snares set for other animals.

The Iberian Lynx's diet was severely impacted when the rabbit population was struck by a series of epidemics. It has also been affected by the development of roads and motorways, which has caused an increasing number to be hit by cars each year.



**COOL CAT:** Iberian Lynxes are hard to spot in the wild these days due to their decreasing population.



**ON THE RISE:** Spanish Imperial Eagle numbers are soaring once more.

## Spanish Imperial Eagle

ONCE in immediate danger of extinction, with only 30 breeding pairs recorded in Spain in the 1960s, the Spanish Imperial Eagle has grown in population size in recent years. The bird was threatened by the decline in rabbits, loss of habitat and a high number of collisions with pylons. However, there are now an estimated 500 breeding pairs on the Iberian Peninsula, with 15 chicks born in Cadiz's Doñana region last year alone, due to several conservation projects.

## Cantabrian Brown bear

THE rare Cantabrian Brown bear was nearly extinct 40 years ago. The government estimates that only six were left in the wild by the 1980s but, thanks to a significant conservation effort, numbers are now back up to around 200. The bears were so despised by farmers for destroying crops in the 18th and 19th centuries that hunters were actually paid to kill them. Hunting was eventually banned in 1968 and the bears became officially protected in 1973.

Gotleu apartment building.

## Lazy old sun

SEVEN new solar parks have been approved for the Balearic Islands, in-

cluding five on Mallorca. Together they will boost renewable energy production on the islands by 25 per cent. At present just 2 per cent of all Mallorca's energy needs are met using renewable sources.

**153**

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1689 of the Euro Weekly News Mallorca edition, including 37 local stories.

## PLUS THE REGULARS

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  - 2015 Working together with Foreigners Department Mijas Town Hall
  - 2014 Diploma of Honour - Premios AEEPP
  - 2011 Company of the Year - Costa del Sol Business Awards
  - 2010 I Love Marbella - Professionalism award
  - 2005 Working together with Foreigners Department Mijas Town Hall

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## Top 5 stories

From November 13 - 20

- 1 Ryanair announce flight cancellations tomorrow due to air traffic control strike in France - **19,730**
- 2 Flights between UK and Spain likely to be hit as French air traffic controllers strike again - **13,431**
- 3 Ryanair launch new UK to Spain route with cheap flight offers - **6,567**
- 4 Brit issues warning after being robbed in broad daylight in Costa Blanca - **4,981**
- 5 easyJet offers Black Friday deals for thousands of flights from today - **3,774**



**FLIGHT CANCELLATIONS:**  
 More misery for travellers.

## euroweeklynews.com Poll of the week

**Amid air pollution fears in Spain, should cars be banned from city centres?**

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**  
 Should Spain follow Thailand's example and ban smoking on its beaches?

Yes = 74%  
 No = 26%

## Top Social Media comments

**Southern Spain heading to driest November in decades** - It's bad and desperate for farmers. They are the ones who have water restrictions. Stupid stupid. All towns and cities should be... WE do not water 24hrs a day. *Lydia Taylor*  
 When we arrived in 1986 water cuts and we had a restaurant to run. The area wasn't as populated as it is now. *Stan Butt*  
 Wish we could swap weather. Raining in the UK. *Barbara Clements*

**British Airways passengers to board aircraft by ticket price** - Well when I was daft enough to use this airline, the idea was that first class and business class got on last and off first so you spent less time on the plane. However as they are such a rubbish airline anyway they will copy the likes of Ryanair. *Christine Hanslip*  
 Wonder which idiot thought up this PR triumph? *Rod Allcock*

**Off-duty police officer tested positive for cocaine after death crash** - I believe the policeman already had a few previous b4 this accident so I think jail will be right way. *Juan Gomez Banderas*  
 Shocking and shameful... especially if the Guardia Civil knew about him - they are supposed to set a

good example!!!! What a joke. *Moira Palmqvist*  
**Tourists warned of heightened risk of Christmas terror attacks in Europe** - Won't stop me going not worth worrying about... When it's your time it's your time. Until then I'm finding where they do those giant Yorkshire pudding wraps. *Matt Silver*  
 They're probably safer in Europe than in the good ol' 'gun-totin' US of A. *Patrick Murphy*  
**Road to Spain's 'City of Dreams' are a nightmare claim residents** - Loved Ronda. Went there last month. Road wasn't too bad. *Debbie Tobin*  
 Drove it a couple times this summer. Drive wasn't too bad... just those crazy motorcycles who pass on a corner and cause near collisions. *Karen Ganzkow*  
 You should have seen it 30 years ago or more. That was scary! *Sandra Russell*

**Axarquía Council cat cull questioned** - Spay them. They'll keep the rodent population down and if they're all spayed they'll die out naturally etc. If others come into the area spay those as well. *Tracy-Ann Kitching*  
 Get them spayed, some places do this and then take a nick out of their ears to show they have been done. *Julie Clayton*  
 Spayed cat colonies benefit any area. *Lisa Emeny.*

**FOR COMMENTS FROM EWN ONLINE TURN TO LETTERS PAGE**

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## TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD

At the Hotel Charleroi Airport in Belgium you can rent a goldfish for €3.60 a night.



In the United States of America there are three towns named Santa Clause.

Ethiopia still follows the ancient Coptic Calendar that is seven years behind the rest of the world.

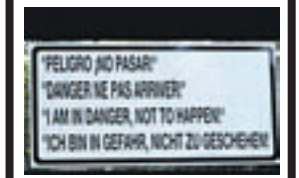
Las Vegas casinos do not have clocks on display as the ploy is believed to make customers lose track of time and gamble for longer.



## Did you know?

An estimated 90 per cent of the world's fresh water is in the Antarctic.

## Lost in translation



"Peligro ¡No pasar!"  
 "Danger ne pas arriver!"  
 "I am in danger, not to happen!"  
 "Ich bin in gefahr, nitch zu geschehen!"

## CORRECTIONS

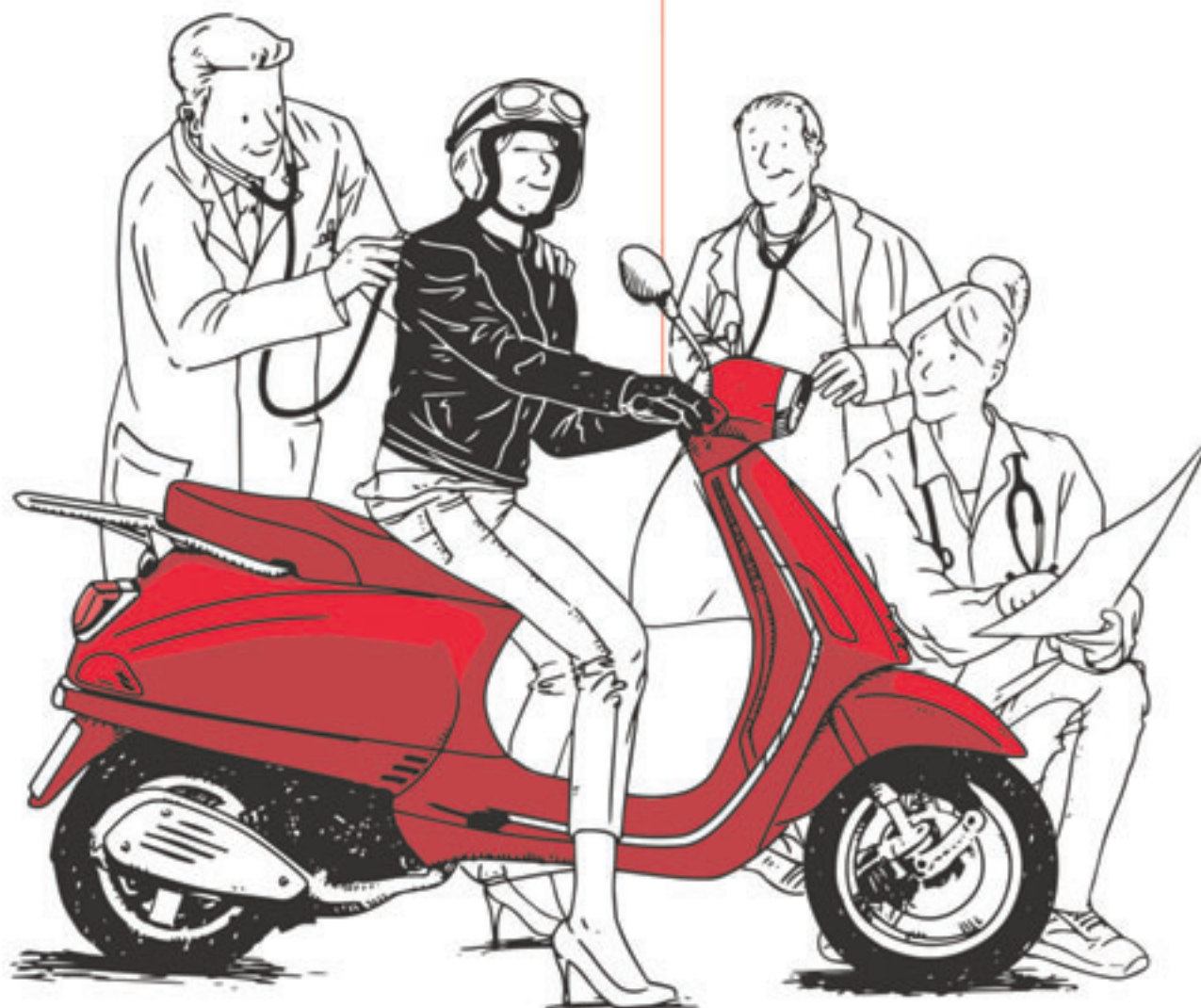
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## Chest a glimpse

SHE was once voted the 63rd sexiest woman alive.

And 33-year-old Spanish TV presenter Adriana Abenia caught the world's attention once again after flashing one of her breasts on the red carpet.

The wardrobe malfunction came as the stunner posed for photographers before the GQ Magazine Man of the Year Awards in Madrid.



Photo by: Adriana Abenia/Instagram

**WHOOOPS!**  
Adriana Abenia.

Rocking a dangerously plunging neckline, the presenter looked horrified as one of the loose-fitting straps fell aside, exposing her chest.

Abenia later proved she has a sense of humour though, taking to Instagram to laugh at the incident. Posting a photo of the embarrassing moment, she captioned the before-and-after photo: "I had another photo ready, but since this one is going to accompany me all my life... here you have it!"

**TOTAL ANGEL:**  
Blanca Padilla.



Photo credit Blanca Padilla/Instagram

## Heavenly creature

SHE'S the first Spanish model to appear in two Victoria's Secret Fashion Shows.

And Blanca Padilla, 22, took to social media to express her delight in the wake of this year's extravaganza in Shanghai, China.

After sporting a giant pair of golden wings on the runway during the lingerie brand's flagship event she wrote: "If you ask me what my dream outfit would look like I can assure you it'd look a lot like this!"

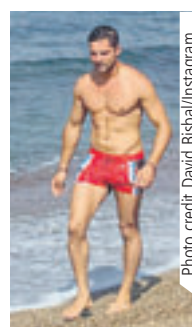


Photo credit David Bisbal/Instagram

**PECS FACTOR:**  
David Bisbal.

## Sun's out, guns out!

HE'S the Spanish singer who rose to fame after finishing second on a reality TV show.

But David Bisbal, 38, really brought his A-game after displaying his rock hard torso on social media.

The platinum-selling artist received around 9,000 likes from swooning followers within hours of posting the raunchy snap.

The shot, taken in his home province of Almeria, was captioned "from the coast of

Almeria to the coast of Acapulco," with the singer currently on a tour of South America.

Since finding fame on the Spanish talent contest Operacion Triunfo in 2002, the crooner has gone on to sell more than five million records worldwide with hits including Esclavo de sus Besos and Oye el Bloom.

His current round of live shows will take him to Santiago de Chile, Uruguay's capital Montevideo, and Buenos Aires in Argentina.

## Strictly pals

SHE'S the former Emmerdale star wowing the Strictly Come Dancing audience with her sultry moves.

And Gemma Atkinson, 33, has hinted romance with Spanish professional dancer Gorka Marquez, 27, might be on the cards "once the series is over."

The Iberian hunk is partnering singer Alexandra Burke, 29, and hit back at claims he and Gemma are dating.



Photo credit BBC

**WAITING GAME:**  
Gemma Atkinson.

## Fine Ale acclaim

SPANISH pop legend Alejandro Sanz basked in the limelight after being honoured as Person of the Year at the Latin Grammy Awards.

A series of stars from the world of Latin music lined up to perform some of the 48-year-old's greatest hits at the glittering ceremony in Las Vegas.



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MIAMI: Sunny winter in Florida up for grabs tomorrow.

# Flight frenzy

BLACK FRIDAY is tomorrow and there are incredibly cheap flight deals available to snatch up online. Mallorca residents who fly from Palma have a terrific range of online options to choose from but will have to act quickly as the websites will be jammed with traffic from around the world.

Black Friday is the world's biggest sales day. Low-cost airlines are expected to flog hundreds of thousands of even cheaper seats in tomorrow's selling frenzy.

Among them are tickets from Palma to Madrid, Barcelona, Malaga and Valencia from just €5 being offered by Ryanair.

Spanish outfit Vueling is offering cheap roundtrips to Paris and Rome starting at €44 and €66 respectively.

Perhaps the biggest savings to be made are with Norwegian, which has made a name for itself offering long distance budget flights to the Americas and Asia. A return to Bangkok will cost just €342, returns to Boston in January start at €118, while sunny Miami can be visited for just €147.

All the tickets are for flights on certain dates only. At midnight tonight, consumers can visit the edreams platform where some of the best deals will be listed.



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## Military solution

A FORMER military barracks is set to be converted into public housing. The Son Busquets site in the north side of Palma will be cleared and replaced with 831 apartments.

The move comes as part of an agreement between Palma Council and the Ministry of Defence.

The sprawling site covers 111,000 square metres and has been abandoned for 14 years. Initial plans were to build 1,663 apartments but the number was halved over planning concerns.

Of the 800-odd homes, half will be for social housing to help combat Palma's housing crisis. The other half will be sold by private developers.

## OUR VIEW

# Very many congratulations

IN today's modern world where marriage vows seem to mean so little and divorce is easy, the celebration of a Platinum Jubilee is exceptional.

In November 1947, the then Princess Elizabeth brought a bit of excitement into the lives of the general public in an austere post war Britain by marrying Philip Mountbatten, a member of the Greek and Danish royal families.

Following their marriage which was broadcast over the radio to an estimated 200 million people worldwide, he continued to serve as a naval officer and was accompanied to postings by his new bride.

Much was made of the fact that the then Princess had to save ration coupons in order to purchase the cloth needed for her wedding dress which was designed by Norman Hartnell.

Now with the Queen aged 91 and Prince Philip 96 they have become the longest wed couple in the history of the British royal family.

From time to time, Prince Philip has been known to make the odd gaffe and admits that he knows that he is regarded by many as 'a cantankerous old sod.'

Regardless of his sometimes erratic behaviour, he is regarded as having been a tower of strength in his support of the Queen and we at *Euro Weekly News* congratulate them on the longevity of their union.

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MPH-1758 525.000 € MPH-1743

## Puerto Andratx

Duplex apartment with breathtaking sea views



🏠 84 m<sup>2</sup> 💎 24 m<sup>2</sup>  
MPH-1743 650.000 €

## Santa Ponsa

Modern penthouse in a luxury residence



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MPH-1663 435.000 €  
Rent: 1.750 €

## Son Veri Nou

Impressive sea view villa with a guesthouse



🌊 🏠 17 🛏 6 🏠 452 m<sup>2</sup> 💎 1.253 m<sup>2</sup>  
MPH-1580 1.350.000 €

## Santa Ponsa

Renovated apartment with panoramic sea views



🌊 🏠 1 🛏 1 🏠 55 m<sup>2</sup> 💎 8m<sup>2</sup>  
MPH-1847 210.000 €  
Rent: 800 €

## Nova Santa Ponsa

Classy apartment in a frontline community



🌊 🏠 2 🛏 2 🏠 88 m<sup>2</sup> 💎 80 m<sup>2</sup>  
MPH-1770 269.000 €

## Bendinat

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🌊 🏠 3 🛏 3 🏠 152 m<sup>2</sup> 💎 24 m<sup>2</sup>  
MPH-1786 1.060.000 €

## Santa Ponsa

Beautiful Mediterranean style villa



🌊 🏠 4 🛏 4 🏠 255 m<sup>2</sup> 💎 942 m<sup>2</sup>  
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**NEWS EXTRA****Teen teams**

TEENAGERS on Mallorca fared worse than the Spanish and European averages when tested for their teamwork skills in a comprehensive study of school-children from 36 countries.

**Free trips**

CHILDREN under 14 are once again entitled to free bus travel in Palma with plans to extend the upper age to 16 by 2019, as was the case back in 2011.

**Cool idea**

A 'SOLIDARITY refrigerator' has been set up in Arta as an informal food bank for people or restaurants who don't want to let fresh food rot when others are needy.

# Hotel prices skyrocket

HOTEL prices in Mallorca shot up by almost double the national average in 2017. Guests at Mallorca hotels saw prices soar by more than 31 per cent this year. Across Spain the average increase was just over 18 per cent.

It has been a bumper year for the hotel industry on the island, which has enjoyed a

record number of tourists visiting, and employees have even secured a 17 per cent pay rise to be spread out over the next four seasons.

Much of the extra volume this year was people staying at informal home rentals but while the hotel industry's relative share of the market has fallen, absolute profits are sky high.

# Emissions scandal

A MALLORCA resident won compensation after being sold a rigged Volkswagen in Palma. The Volkswagen Tiguan had a serious flaw with the electronic device used to record pollution emissions.

The case is one of thousands haunting the German car manufacturer, which has come under fire for altering its emissions recorders to ensure its cars pass tough environmental regulations.

In this car the buyer

wanted the sale of contract annulled.

This was rejected by a Palma court, which nevertheless found that he deserved compensation. A new emissions recorder was fitted and he won €500 compensation.

It wasn't the first case dealt with by Palma's courts in relation to the Volkswagen emissions scandal.

It is unlikely to be the last, with thousands of Volkswagens sold on the island each year.

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THE head of the world's largest travel group says Mallorca still has plenty of space for tourism growth in the winter.

Fritz Jousen, CEO of Tui said the island faced a stark choice between becoming a major off-season attraction, or facing huge unemploy-

# Winter wonderland

## Off-season crucial to success

ment levels between November and April.

"In Mallorca there are many undiscovered places in which different tourism models could be implemented", he said in an interview with Spanish news agency

Efe. "The alternative would be unemployment between November and April."

The Tui Group owns six European airlines and nine travel agencies. Headquartered in Germany it is a major player in the Mallorcan travel market.

Jousen's comments come one week after Balearic head of

tourism, Biel Barcelo, said the island had no more space for tourism growth in the summer months. Jousen didn't comment on the pressing controversy of high-season overcrowding or the tourist tax.

But, he said: "If we find people do not want to travel to Turkey, but to Spain, we must provide them with the ability to get to Mallorca, the Canaries, or the mainland, without problems." He also dismissed the idea

that the Catalan crisis might impact tourism to Spain, describing the country as a mature democracy.

**ADVICE: Fritz Jousen reckons Mallorca can be winter gem.**



Caption: Photo credit Facebook

**7,400** The number of asylum requests from Venezuelan citizens received by Spain up to September 30 this year, placing it at the head of the national ranking.

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Advertising Feature

# An easier time for the Euro

## Commentary by Moneycorp

THE pound appears to have had several narrow misses over the last few weeks. Other than an initial dip, there was little lasting response to the Bank of England's change in interest rates from 0.25% to 0.5% and although Theresa May has initiated two cabinet reshuffles in as many weeks, investors have largely ignored the drama and focused on the Brexit talks. Barnstorming speeches in the House of Commons and several Conservative MPs looking set to defy the party line suggest that whatever the outcome, the path to Brexit will not run smooth.

Against this backdrop of debate and discord, there has been nothing in the way of a helping hand for the pound from economic statistics; the BRC measure of UK retail sales showed that shopkeepers had their worst October in either five years or nine years, according to which of the data are used for comparison and an SMMT report demonstrated the seventh consecutive monthly decline in car sales, falling by 12% in October. The only bright spot was the UK services sector purchasing managers' index - in

stead of falling to 53.3, as forecast, it went up to 55.6. It seems, however, that investors are increasingly inured to statistics which fall outside of forecast - even the CPI inflation rate for October coming in at 3% against a forecast 3.1% caused only a brief flutter before the market settled down again.

The euro has been having an easier time. The 1.6% monthly fall in German industrial output was twice as negative as analysts had forecast, dragging annual production growth down from 4.6% to 3.6%. Investors' initial reaction was to mark down the euro initially but it soon mounted a recovery. More recently, the euro has been emerging as the winner from the day's trading.

On Tuesday last week, the euro broke through the support/resistance level at around \$1.1670 that had held since July. It then went on to crack the downtrend that had constrained it in September and October. This was further bolstered by another positive round of stats, third quarter growth was steady at 0.6% and ZEW's survey of investor sentiment jumped four points to 30.9.



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**mallorca@moneycorp.com**

The euro's gains against sterling were less cut and dried but it still took a cent off the pound, bringing its tally for the week to two cents.

The US dollar continues to be a currency that doesn't quite fulfil its potential. Recent statistics have been a mixed bag, jobs data were better than expected, in as much as nonfarm payrolls were 36k above forecast when revisions to earlier months were taken into account. But the monthly figure for October fell 50k short of target and wage growth slowed from 2.8% to 2.4%. The recent elections provided a string of successes for the Democrats, but the markets seemed largely unmoved, perhaps having anticipated a shift in mood as the Mueller investiga-

tion rumbles on. The primary focus for the dollar is on the upcoming release of inflation figures, which are due to be released at the same time as October's retail sales. This is because these will be the last figures to appear before the Fed's rate decision, due on December 13, and as such may provide a clue as to what action the Federal Reserve is likely to take.

It has generally been all quiet on the Canadian front, which continues to perform well and maintains a position in the middle of the pack despite less than stellar statistics. Unemployment ticked up from 6.2% to 6.3% but the net gain of 35k jobs in October was twice as big as expected. A speech from the Bank of Canada's Stephen Poloz had little to no impact and with such dramatic goings-on elsewhere in the world, Canada appears to keep going quietly about its business with much less drama.

Down under, the big news may have been the poll for marriage equality in Australia, but in terms of the dollar, it's been very much more of the same. The Reserve Bank of Australia kept its Cash Rate benchmark steady at 1.5%, which has been in effect since August last year. There was, in the announcement, a nod to the strength of the currency, but later on the Aussie dollar last out due to a shake-up in commodity, equity and energy prices.

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Credit: JoyRon Fundacion/ Facebook

ROCKING: Performers at last year's Christmas Extravaganza Fiesta.

# Time to celebrate

THE JoyRon Foundation Team will be celebrating Christmas at their annual Carols by Candlelight and Christmas Extravaganza Fiesta evening at The Boat House in Palma.

There will be four hours of live entertainment, including carol singing with the children's choir, as well as a children's cinema, bouncy castle,

charity and food stalls and a visit from Father Christmas.

JoyRon Foundation, along with Calvia Rotary, will be distributing the gifts to the children in the Palliative Care unit in Son Espases during the Christmas period, as well as to homeless and orphaned children in the 'Home for Homeless Children,' so why not bring

along a present for a child to place under the Boat House Christmas tree.

Entrance is only €5 per person (children under 12 are free). All the money raised from ticket sales will go to the 'Children in Need in the Balears' foundation. For information visit [www.joyronfoundation.org/christmas-2017](http://www.joyronfoundation.org/christmas-2017).

The event is on Saturday December 2 from 4pm to 8.30pm. The Boat House is on the Paseo Martimo.

**36** The number of Spanish nationals who have left the country to join jihadist militant group Daesh in Middle Eastern conflict zones so far this year.

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# Coming together for charity

REAL ESTATES UNITED will hold their Christmas Gala at the OD Port Portals hotel in Portals, Calvia.

This annual event is organ-

ised by members of Real Estates United, a network of entrepreneurs who specialise in the real estate sector, to help raise money for NGOs that fo-

cus on the needs of minority groups.

This year, Real Estates United have decided to raise money for 'Educaclown,' which

carries out a wide range of activities aimed at helping children who depend on foster homes and youth centres.

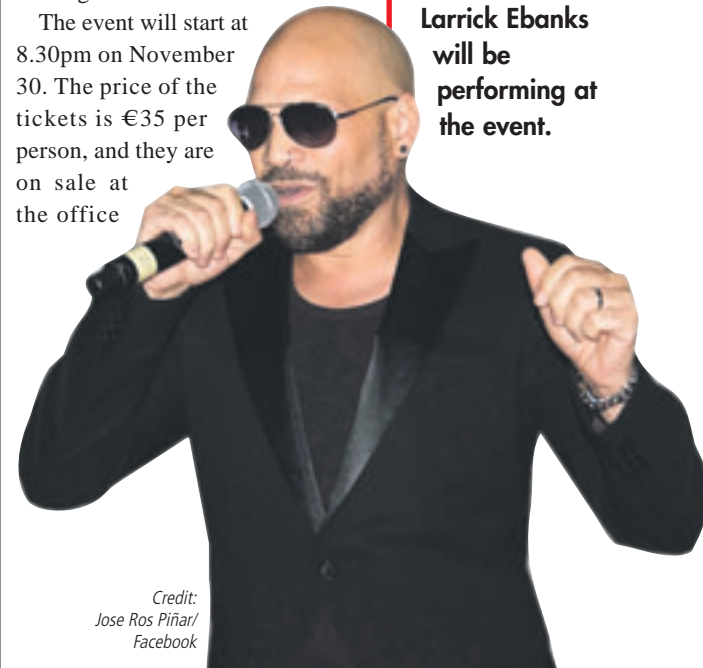
There will be finger food

snacks throughout the event as well as an open bar, show, DJ session, and raffle of gifts donated by various companies established in Mallorca. Larrick Ebanks (who has previously performed at the Miss Spain contest) will also perform a set as part of the evening's entertainment.

The event will start at 8.30pm on November 30. The price of the tickets is €35 per person, and they are on sale at the office

of Calvia Properties, located in the Mercadona shopping centre in Son Caliu (open from 9.30am to 4pm). You can also call 639 047 784 to book tickets by bank transfer.

**SMOOTH SOUNDS:** Singer Larrick Ebanks will be performing at the event.



Credit: Jose Ros Piñar/ Facebook

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Dubbed the 'gateway to Europe' by drug cartels, is Spain doing

# Cocaine nights and days

*With more than 20 tons of cocaine seized in Spain last year, it is time to talk about the white stuff. David Noon takes a deeper look into the nation's coke habit to find out where it is coming from, where it is going and most importantly, what is being done to stop it.*

**I**F in Spain and after cocaine, you shouldn't find it too hard to come by.

While the sea ports in the north and south see more than 20 tons seized each year, a whole lot more slips through the net and seeps into the country and on to the wider continent.

Known as the drug trafficker's gateway to Europe, Spain sees more coke shipped onto its shores than any other country in Europe.

And while not all of it stays in Spain, locals have undoubtedly developed a taste for the drug.

In fact, Spaniards are the second-highest consumers of the white stuff in Europe.

With 9.1 per cent of Spaniards (aged 15 - 65) openly admitting to taking cocaine at one time or another they sit just behind the Brits (9.7 per cent) in terms of consumption, according to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) of fiscal 2017 European Drug Report.

In terms of world consumption, Spaniards are fifth, while the Brits are one place higher, with Albania topping the charts just ahead of the Scots, according to the latest information on the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime website.

Surprisingly Colombians are down in 34th, as while they are the number one manufacturer of cocaine they ship most of what they make.

While Spain ranks high, the country is (slowly) tackling the problem.

Between 2005 and 2013, daily cocaine use in Spain dropped 37 per cent and demand fell for recovering addicts.

Nowadays, only 1 per cent of the nation's population are regular users, however a delegate for the government's drug prevention unit (the GDNPD), Francisco Babín, believes more can still be done. "For a long time, we topped the tables for cocaine use and although we are now in second place [in Europe], we

**Brits held in one of Spain's largest ever cocaine busts  
NOVEMBER 2017**

can't be complacent," he says. "For instance, the EMCDDA's Statistical Bulletin shows Spain still has the highest score for the 'prevalence [of use] in the last month category. It's pretty worrying, although consumption has dropped in the last decade," adds Babín. "Cocaine was in the spotlight for a long time because there was an epidemic," he says.

"However, its prevalence and the consequences of use of the drug have led the GDNPD to suggest we are on the brink of a second epidemic."

When you think of drugs and Spain, you automatically think of happy-go-lucky holidaymakers revelling in haunts renowned as party towns.

The likes of Ibiza, Puerto Banus and Magaluf have a reputation - like it, or not - for being party zones where the good times flow and drugs are available on tap. And while a fair amount of the white stuff may be consumed in Spain's tourist-filled party resorts, that is just the tip of the iceberg. In reality, cocaine is consumed up and down the length and breadth of the country.

And while it may be prevalent on the dance-floors it is at the country's ports where the drug begins its journey across the Iberian peninsula.

Every week, jaw-dropping seizures of amounts of coke are made at ports from Algeciras in the south to Vigo in the Galician heartland.

Earlier this month, more than a ton of cocaine bound for Algeciras was intercepted in Germany on its way from Colombia.

With a street value of €75 million, the interception was just the latest example of the Drug

## Ramsay's cocaine nightmares

IT is hardly the natural follow-on from his successful 'Kitchen Nightmares' show.

Swapping the kitchen for the jungle, foul-mouthed celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay launched into getting to the bottom of Europe's drug problem.

He was driven to take on a topic close to his heart after a 'dear friend' lost his life to cocaine addiction, paying particular attention to the cocaine culture which apparently is rife within the catering trade.

Claiming that he has been offered coke by customers, seen chefs taking it on the job, Ramsay even claimed to have been asked to sprinkle cocaine on top of a soufflé by celebrity clients.



**IN THE JUNGLE:**  
Gordon Ramsay.

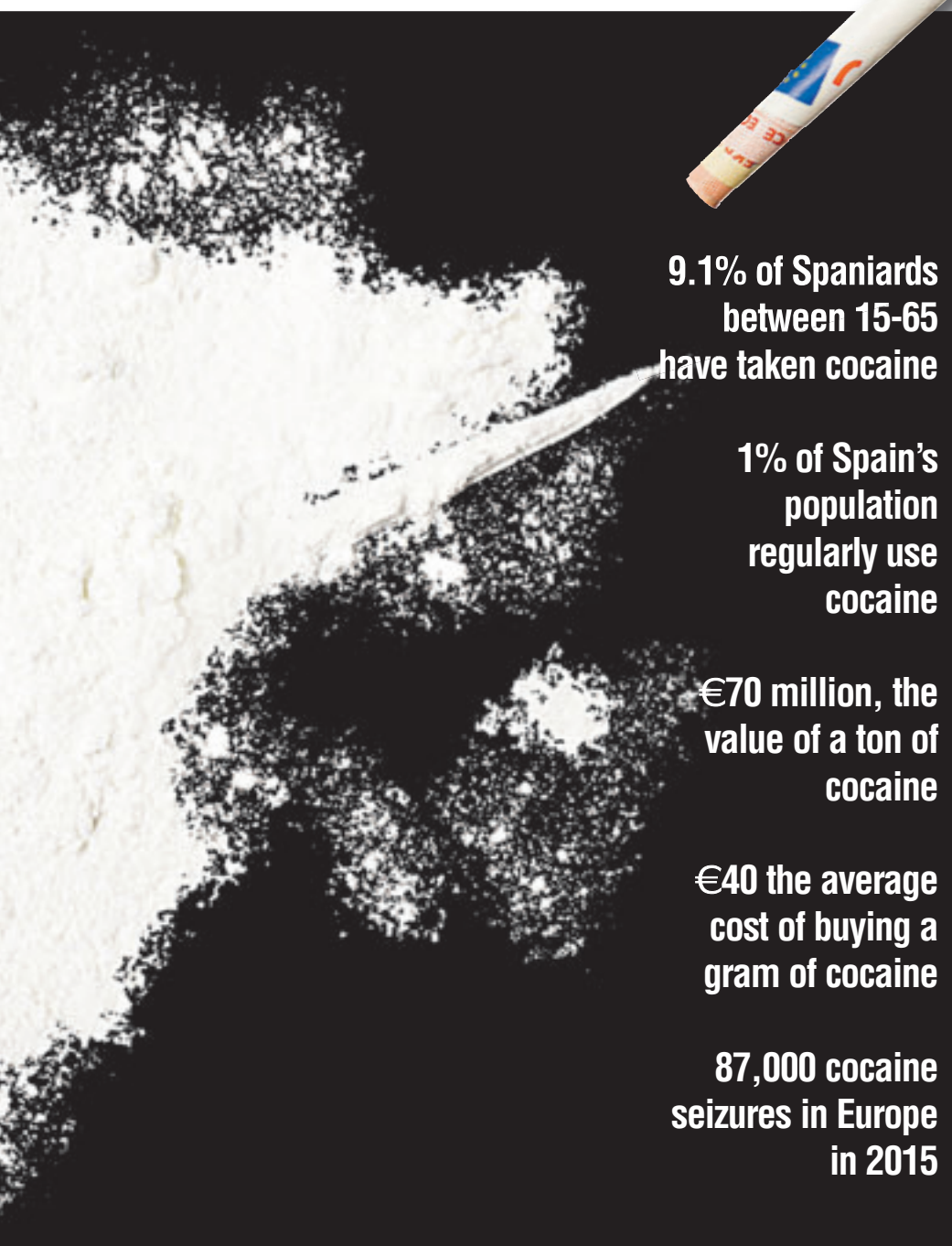


**CORRUPTION:** Galician leader with known drug lord

**Ship loaded with €220 million cocaine haul halted on way to Spain  
OCTOBER 2017**



# enough to tackle its problem?



**9.1% of Spaniards between 15-65 have taken cocaine**

**1% of Spain's population regularly use cocaine**

**€70 million, the value of a ton of cocaine**

**€40 the average cost of buying a gram of cocaine**

**87,000 cocaine seizures in Europe in 2015**

SAY what you will about drug smugglers, their creativity cannot be denied. The days of lining suitcases with cocaine are long gone as gangs come up with ingenious ways to transport their product. Here are some of the most surreal drug busts disguised on Spain's shores.



**FRUIT CASES:** Coke hidden in bananas.

## Surreal smuggles

**GOING BANANAS**  
In March the Guardia Civil intercepted 17 kilos of cocaine inside banana skins. Hidden inside cardboard boxes on their way to Malaga and Valencia, 57 simulated resin bananas containing cocaine were hidden among real bananas. It resulted in the arrest of two men; a Spaniard and an Italian.

**ORANGE ALERT**  
Just last month, two containers of Brazilian oranges were seized at the port of Algeciras. Hidden among the fruit were 250

camouflaged packages of cocaine, died orange to avoid detection. Police recovered 290 kilograms of cocaine and were able to link it to a South American supplier.

**NUTS!**  
They may be dubbed a 'super food' but one batch of almonds had a secret ingredient stashed inside its container. Delivered to a plant in Alicante in September, police seized around 200 kilos of cocaine hidden beneath the nuts. Shipped from California the Guardia Civil are hoping to

use the seizure as part of a wider investigation.

**MORE NUTS!**  
It is not just Spain's ports that receive hidden drug packages, the airports confiscate their fair share of suspect items too. In June, 48 kilos of liquid cocaine was found inside a coconut at Madrid airport, hidden among 65 boxes of coconuts from Colombia. The coconut had been drained and refilled, with the seizure leading to two Colombian men and a Venezuelan woman being arrested.

Enforcement Agency (DEA), in the US, working with respective bodies around Europe to prevent the South American product from entering Europe.

And yet, while seizing a ton of cocaine is not to be sniffed at (excuse the pun), far more is getting into the country than is being intercepted.

In 2015 more than 60 per cent of all drug seizures in the European Union were reported by just three countries; Spain, France and the United Kingdom.

Spain alone accounted for 70 per cent of all cannabis resin coming into Europe, the majority of seizures taking place in the ports along the south coast with the product shipping in from Morocco. And when it comes to cocaine, Spain again tops the charts when it comes to seizures.

In total, around 87,000 seizures of cocaine were reported in the European Union in 2015. Together, Belgium, Spain, France, Italy and Portugal account for 78 per cent of the estimated 69.4 tons seized.

The situation has remained relatively stable for the last 10 years, although both the number of seizures and the quantity held increased between 2014 and 2015 by around 3 per cent.

While Spain continues to be the country seizing the most cocaine (22 tons), Belgium (17 tons) and France (11 tons) also held large amounts in 2015.

So why is Spain such a popular destination for



**LOCKED UP:** Robert Dawes.

**Colombian cocaine cartel smashed by Spanish police MARCH 2017**

smugglers looking for a way into Europe?

Up north in Galicia, the ports are renowned as the gateway to Europe in terms of drugs entering from South America.

The Galician Mafia - a collective term for the numerous clans (mainly Galician, some British) that reside in the area - set up strong connections to the narco-traffickers in Colombia during the 1980s and '90s, as well as establishing strong ties to cannabis smugglers in Morocco. And like anywhere in Spain, where there is crime there is corruption.

Allegations of political corruption arose when pictures were found of Galician leader Alberto Núñez Feijóo on holiday with convicted smuggler Marcial Dorado.

The People's Party of Galicia has also been accused of being financed with narco money.

And some local politicians, including Alfredo Bea Gondar (mayor of O Grove 1983 - 1991) and José Ramón Barral Martínez 'Nene' (mayor of Ribadumia 1983 - 2001) have been sentenced for crimes relating to drug gangs in the past.

Meanwhile, in the south, along the Costa del Sol, the Costa Blanca and Costa de la Luz as well as on Spain's islands the expat gangs - be it Russians, Brits or Irish - have long set up camp.

Barely a week goes by without a report of an expat

drug gang being split up.

In December 2015 it was the turn of British drug lord Robert Dawes, whose multi-million euro cocaine-fuelled empire came crashing down when the Guardia Civil stormed his home in Benalmadena in dramatic fashion. Dubbed 'Europe's biggest drug lord' Dawes, originally from Nottingham, was extradited to France where he faced charges of transporting a ton of cocaine.

He is also wanted by the police in the Netherlands in connection to a number of murders.

Earlier this year, a British drugs gang was again rumbled on Spanish soil. Accused of flooding the Balearic Islands with cocaine and supplying holiday-makers with their fix, 12 Brits from Manchester and Liverpool were arrested in a raid in Mallorca.

The gang reportedly shipped their product around Spain's islands using speedboats to capitalise on the summer surge in demand from young holidaymakers. No doubt there will be more tales of expat - and local - gangs busted for dealing enormous amounts of cocaine.

The unfortunate reality is, that while the demand remains high and the supplies keep coming, dealers will continue to operate.

Where one drug lord falls, another steps into his shoes.



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## Damages awarded

A JUDGE has awarded €1.6 billion in damages to the Spanish state after a probe into the 2002 Prestige oil spill.

The regional court in A Coruña, Galicia, also handed €1.8 million to Galician authorities and €61 million to France, with the captain of the ship and a British insurance firm among those fined.

The disaster saw 63,000 tonnes of oil leak into the sea, causing huge environmental damage across almost 3,000 kilometres of coastline in Spain, Portugal and France affected.

# Hotel mega deal

A MERGER could see Spain's biggest hotel group created.

It comes as Madrid-based NH Hotel Group confirmed a possible multi-billion Euro takeover bid by rival company Grupo Barcelo.

NH, which operates nearly 400 hotels in 31 nations, has an estimated value of €1.75 billion.

Privately owned Barcelo - headquartered in Mallorca and with over 230 hotels in 21 countries on its portfolio - would own a 60 per cent stake and assume a board majority in the merged group, NH said in a statement to the

By Matt Ford

Spanish stock exchange.

And with predicted annual revenues of around €3.7 billion, the new alliance is forecast to become Spain's largest hotel group ahead of Melia Hotels, which at the end of 2016 controlled 375 hotels with 96,369 rooms.

But NH has reportedly received the offer with a degree of scepticism after confirming receipt of 'an unsolicited, preliminary and non-binding interest' from Barcelo.

The firm also said that its board of

directors has recently approved a three-year strategic plan "with an independent, fast-growth project that remains valid today."

The statement added that should this position change, an announcement to the stock market would follow.

NH last year voted to remove a co-chairman and three board members appointed by its largest shareholder, Chinese conglomerate HNA.

The sackings came amid allegations of a conflict of interest after HNA took over the Carlston-Rezidor Hotel Group.

## Bank to pay former chief

SPANISH banking group Santander has agreed to pay a former chief executive more than €590 million.

It comes as Santander Consumer USA (Scusa), the company's sub-prime auto-lending subsidiary, moves to forget its underperforming history.

Thomas Dundon, 46, was a co-founder of Drive Financial, a motoring finance company that Santander acquired in 2006 and later rebranded.

He stepped down as CEO in 2015, with the exit package for severance and his near 10 per cent stake in the firm, stating that he will not compete with or hire anyone from Scusa until 2019.

### Quote of the Week

Neither the business nor the education sector in Spain have collaborated sufficiently." Gas Natural board member Francisco Belil discusses the need for educational reform amid concerns over high youth unemployment.



Photo credit: City Watcher/Twitter/Shutterstock

UP FOR GRABS: Football rights and (inset) Javier Tebas.

## Online giants to stream football?

AMAZON and Facebook are likely to enter the bidding for Spanish football streaming rights.

The tech giants have both expressed an interest in attending the next round of talks for deals, set to be awarded for the 2019-2022 seasons and expected to be worth an eye-watering €2.3 billion per season.

Spanish league president, Javier Tebas confirmed the pair have been in contact at a press conference in which he said: "We will listen to everybody."

The rights are expected to be sold in early 2018 and Tebas added that the league is looking to ramp up the price compared to the last three year deal which covers 2016-2019 and generates €1.6 billion per season.

"I think we're going to reach €2.3 billion... that's the goal I'm proposing.

"There will be TV operators who tell me that I'm like a goat, well they told me that four years ago and I wasn't wrong then," the official added.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

## Air we go

IRISH budget airline, Ryanair has opened a state of the art digital and IT innovation hub in Madrid. It is the carrier's third such centre after Dublin and Wroclaw (Poland) and is expected to create around 250 jobs, with 50 positions already filled.

## On the tiles

SCOTTISH industrial group, Victoria Carpets has acquired Keraben, a tiles manufacturer based in Castellon. The deal is worth €274 million and comes three years after the Spanish company was bought by US investment fund, Tensile Capital Management.

## Out of gas

SPANISH utilities firm Gas Natural Fenosa has sold a 59.1 per cent stake it held in Colombian retail distribution company Gas Natural SA ESP. The shares have been snapped up by Canadian asset management specialist Brookfield Infrastructure for €482 million.



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## Shoe fits for US brand's expansion

US footwear firm, Deckers has big plans for the Spanish market.

The news comes as the company, which also owns UGG, Teva and Sanuk, struck a distribution deal with Dr Martens' Spanish partner Comercial Udra.

The agreement will see its Hoka One One running shoes, which retail at around €150 per pair, sold in 400 stores across the country and effectively doubling the brand's reach.

Deckers closed the 2016 financial year with a turnover of €1.6 billion.



# LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES NOVEMBER 20

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,453.00	19.00	1.32	20,142.09
Associated British Foods	3,096.50	10.50	0.34	24,431.07
Admiral Group	1,885.50	6.50	0.35	5,396.76
Ashtead Group	1,935.50	24.50	1.28	9,540.20
Antofagasta	962.25	11.25	1.18	9,375.50
Aviva	501.25	0.75	0.15	20,076.08
AstraZeneca	4,965.50	-9.50	-0.19	62,980.95
BAE Systems	544.75	9.25	1.73	17,059.09
Babcock International Group	757.75	-1.25	-0.16	3,837.48
Barclays	188.58	3.58	1.94	31,532.23
British American Tobacco	5,001.50	18.00	0.36	114,302.03
Barratt Developments	632.25	5.25	0.84	6,347.55
Berkeley Group Holdings	3,750.50	-3.50	-0.09	5,083.49
British Land Co	619.75	-4.25	-0.68	6,268.46
BHP Billiton	1,360.75	-2.75	-0.20	28,798.10
Bunzl	2,198.00	39.00	1.81	7,252.35
BP	492.98	-0.12	-0.02	97,670.46
Burberry Group	1,753.50	4.50	0.26	7,469.68
BT Group	246.18	0.78	0.32	24,338.23
Coca-Cola HBC	2,448.50	-1.50	-0.06	8,955.50
Carnival	4,958.50	21.50	0.44	10,438.45
Centrica	161.35	-1.85	-1.13	9,132.15
Compass Group	1,596.50	-1.50	-0.09	25,272.91
Croda International	4,307.00	37.00	0.87	5,610.47
CRH	2,733.50	33.50	1.24	22,644.02
ConvaTec Group	200.85	-4.55	-2.22	4,009.10
DCC	7,187.50	67.50	0.95	6,350.83
Diageo	2,592.00	17.00	0.66	64,338.77
Direct Line Insurance Group	355.20	-0.40	-0.11	4,889.50
Experian	1,559.50	1.50	0.10	14,416.27
easyJet	1,277.50	-3.50	-0.27	5,088.24
Ferguson	5,327.50	62.50	1.19	13,212.19
Fresnillo	1,285.50	-10.50	-0.81	9,550.14
G4S	258.85	1.45	0.56	3,993.80
GKN	302.15	-0.35	-0.12	5,195.37
Glencore	358.90	5.45	1.54	50,878.21
GlaxoSmithKline	1,313.50	5.50	0.42	64,336.36
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,595.50	18.50	1.17	7,480.01
Hammerson	526.75	-6.75	-1.27	4,231.86
HSBC Holdings	728.95	-2.65	-0.36	146,127.12
Inter. Consolidated Airlines G.	599.75	1.75	0.29	12,257.10
Inter Continental Hotels G.	4,314.50	48.50	1.14	8,104.98
3i Group	915.25	-8.25	-0.89	8,984.41
Imperial Brands	3,023.25	-25.75	-0.84	29,113.40
Informa	733.75	0.75	0.10	6,039.96
Intertek Group	5,407.50	92.50	1.74	8,577.91
ITV	148.55	-1.95	-1.30	6,058.24
Johnson Matthey	3,275.00	14.00	0.43	6,311.13
Kingfisher	304.45	-2.85	-0.93	6,659.11
Land Securities Group	930.25	-2.25	-0.24	6,913.90

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Legal & General Group	266.95	-1.95	-0.73	16,021.57
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	66.16	0.17	0.26	47,487.55
London Stock Exchange G.	3,808.50	-37.50	-0.98	13,334.92
Micro Focus International	2,700.50	3.50	0.13	11,738.35
Mediclinic International	542.25	-13.25	-2.39	4,095.39
Merlin Entertainments	373.65	-3.35	-0.89	3,843.79
Marks & Spencer Group	301.15	-0.25	-0.08	4,896.97
Mondi	1,752.50	9.50	0.55	8,463.20
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	210.05	0.65	0.31	4,931.80
National Grid	880.35	-2.45	-0.28	29,929.26
NMC Health	2,721.50	21.50	0.80	5,515.71
Next	4,384.50	80.50	1.87	6,291.43
Old Mutual Group	190.85	0.15	0.08	9,406.30
Paddy Power Betfair	8,692.50	-87.50	-1.00	7,411.21
Prudential	1,885.75	-3.75	-0.20	48,860.46
Persimmon	2,679.50	3.50	0.13	8,258.92
Pearson	694.75	-2.75	-0.39	5,655.13
Reckitt Benckiser Group	6,370.50	-22.50	-0.35	44,979.64
Royal Bank of Scotland G.	274.05	-0.35	-0.13	32,824.39
Royal Dutch Shell	2,338.75	1.25	0.05	106,225.69
Royal Dutch Shell	2,382.75	9.75	0.41	88,880.40
RELX	1,763.50	18.50	1.06	18,570.49
Rio Tinto	3,549.00	3.00	0.08	48,187.01
Rolls-Royce Group	898.75	9.75	1.10	16,362.85
Randgold Resources	7,070.00	-5.00	-0.07	6,655.69
RSA Insurance Group	606.75	-2.25	-0.37	6,228.50
Rentokil Initial	326.85	4.05	1.25	5,930.91
Sainsbury (J)	224.85	-2.75	-1.21	4,984.79
Schroders	3,500.50	3.50	0.10	7,904.00
Sage Group	768.75	9.75	1.28	8,206.59
Segro	557.25	-0.75	-0.13	5,596.32
Shire	3,575.50	-103.00	-2.80	33,424.29
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,291.00	-8.00	-0.35	5,445.08
Sky	954.25	14.25	1.52	16,158.76
Standard Life Aberdeen	423.45	0.95	0.22	12,579.42
Smiths Group	1,505.50	10.50	0.70	5,915.61
Scottish Mortgage Inves. Trust	458.05	1.55	0.34	6,371.92
Smith & Nephew	1,323.50	-3.50	-0.26	11,606.58
SSE	1,331.50	-14.50	-1.08	13,720.40
Standard Chartered	724.40	-1.70	-0.23	23,932.51
St James's Place	1,156.50	1.50	0.13	6,110.70
Severn Trent	2,083.50	-8.50	-0.41	4,942.63
Tesco	187.18	2.48	1.34	15,127.13
TUI AG	1,328.50	5.50	0.42	7,766.52
Taylor Wimpey	197.55	0.95	0.48	6,432.72
Unilever	4,208.75	58.75	1.42	51,343.10
United Utilities Group	787.25	-10.75	-1.35	5,441.47
Vodafone Group	229.75	1.05	0.46	61,002.99
Worldpay Group	409.00	1.60	0.39	8,148.00
WPP Group	1,265.50	-1.50	-0.12	16,009.91
Whitbread	3,552.50	-12.50	-0.35	6,539.15

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COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE%	CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	231.49	0.93%	2.13	137,883,28
AMERICAN EXPRESS	93.95	0.28%	0.26	81,582,97
APPLE	169.98	-0.10%	-0.17	872,987,07
BOEING CO	264.63	0.90%	2.37	157,786,62
CATERPILLAR	136.91	0.57%	0.78	81,517,80
CHEVRON	114.72	0.01%	0.01	218,409,01
CISCO SYSTEMS	36.5	1.67%	0.6	182,351,97
COCA-COLA	45.46	-0.55%	-0.25	194,158,61
DOWDUPONT	70.85	0.16%	0.11	166,069,11
EXXON MOBIL	80.55	0.39%	0.31	341,426,01
GENERAL ELECTRIC	17.98	-1.26%	-0.23	156,270,97
GOLDMAN SACHS	238.13	0.05%	0.11	89,887,11
HOME DEPOT	170.45	1.62%	2.71	200,988,40
IBM	150.51	1.03%	1.54	139,896,34
INTEL CORP	44.62	-0.02%	-0.01	209,810,35
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	99.01	0.89%	0.87	343,641,62
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	137.93	-0.05%	-0.07	370,793,50
MC DONALD'S CORP	166.93	0.13%	0.21	133,335,67
MERCK AND CO. NEW	54.1	-1.99%	-1.1	147,243,82
MICROSOFT	82.53	0.16%	0.13	634,934,48
NIKE	59.25	0.10%	0.06	77,016,41
PFIZER	35.35	-0.06%	-0.02	211,038,84
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	88.27	-0.18%	-0.16	224,165,62
TRAVELERS CIES	129.77	-0.12%	-0.15	35,528,46
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	116.38	-0.13%	-0.15	93,073,32
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	210.25	0.17%	0.35	203,208,60
VERIZON COMMS	46.2	1.72%	0.78	188,629,26
VISA	109.95	0.12%	0.13	199,916,37
WAL-MART STORES	97.48	0.01%	0.01	290,370,94
WALT DISNEY CO	102.75	-0.67%	-0.69	159,017,13

M - MILLION DOLLARS

# NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES NOVEMBER 20

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
Diana Containerships Inc.	\$ 10.4454	2.2154 ▲ 26.92%
Xunlei Limited	\$ 18.08	2.88 ▲ 18.95%
Northern Technologies International Corp.	\$ 20.28	2.73 ▲ 15.56%
XOMA Corporation	\$ 25.93	3.03 ▲ 13.23%
Tactile Systems Technology, Inc.	\$ 29.35	3.37 ▲ 12.97%
AXT Inc	\$ 10.45	1.15 ▲ 12.37%
UTStarcom Holdings Corp	\$ 3.67	0.37 ▲ 11.21%
Hibbett Sports, Inc.	\$ 18.95	1.85 ▲ 10.82%
Accuray Incorporated	\$ 5.2438	0.4438 ▲ 9.25%
Avid Technology, Inc.	\$ 6.45	0.53 ▲ 8.95%
Ablynx NV	\$ 23	1.86 ▲ 8.80%
<b>Most Declined</b>		
Bioerativ Inc.	\$ 51.29	4.82 ▼ 8.59%
Enphase Energy, Inc.	\$ 2.5322	0.2378 ▼ 8.58%
Century Aluminum Company	\$ 13.87	1.27 ▼ 8.39%
Prothena Corporation plc	\$ 47.62	4.31 ▼ 8.30%
CarGurus, Inc.	\$ 28.36	2.46 ▼ 7.98%
TRACON Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 2.531	0.219 ▼ 7.96%
Mitcham Industries, Inc.	\$ 3.61	0.30 ▼ 7.67%
Spero Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 13.40	1.09 ▼ 7.52%
Chimerix, Inc.	\$ 4.28	0.31 ▼ 6.75%
Surgery Partners, Inc.	\$ 7.80	0.55 ▼ 6.59%
Forterra, Inc.	\$ 8.36	0.58 ▼ 6.49%

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Price Movement

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

DEALING PRICE

€0.9801 ..... -€0.0002  
 €0.9534 ..... -€0.0006  
 £1.1570 ..... -£0.0089  
 €1.0770 ..... -€0.0086  
 £1.3202 ..... -£0.0154  
 €1.2171 ..... -€0.0145  
 £1.4726 ..... -£0.0209  
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Price Movement

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SP16055EN



# People power success

## THIS LITTLE PIG DIDN'T GO TO MARKET

A CONTROVERSIAL campaign to promote the consumption of pork was suspended in Madrid ahead of schedule according to animal rights activists.

With Jamon being such a staple of the Spanish diet and pork meat still being regularly eaten in different forms, organisers, Interporc thought that the Pork Lovers Tour would be an immediate success encouraging even greater consumption of the meat.

What they had not expected was the fact that cities such as Barcelona and Bilbao refused permission for them to park their tour bus in the centres and Madrid only allowed them at one shopping centre.

Where they did manage to stop, even for a few hours, animal rights activists turned up and picketed the bus, carrying placards decrying the intensive farms which often supply large amounts of meat to the market.

The activists under the banner of AnimaNaturalis clearly caused a great deal of embarrassment to the organisers and whilst the concept of the tour was to promote the pork industry, protestors carrying images of allegedly ill-treated animals didn't help.

In addition, the protestors explained to potential visitors that according to their research, pork meat was potentially one of the most hazardous meats to eat due to the fact that not only were factory farmed pigs fed large amounts of antibiotics but contained parasites which are not always killed during the cooking process.

"We do not know for sure if they have suspended the campaign but the truth is that not even their social networks announce their routes," explained Lucio Kacic, coordinator of AnimaNaturalis in Madrid.

"They give the impression of not being very proud of what they are do-



**PROTESTORS: Is pork meat potentially hazardous?**

ing and it is very controversial to promote the consumption of pork meat when all studies and organisations like the WHO recommend reducing or eliminating their consumption," he added.

The organisation intends to picket any further promotions within Spain although according to Interporc, the tour has ended with stops at 28 different spots in Spain and the United Kingdom, attracting a total of 7,200 visitors.

## BANKIA PROBLEMS CONTINUE TO HAUNT THE ECONOMY

# Rodrigo Rato fraud charge

THE former head of Bankia, Rodrigo Rato who was previously found guilty for misuse of company credit cards is now to be tried for fraud.

A massive case has been approved by the courts in Madrid which will see Rato together with 30 former Bankia executives alongside Bankia itself and its parent company as well as international accountants, Deloitte and one of its employees, all being charged.

The case will hinge on alleged investor fraud as well as falsification of Bankia's 2010 and 2011 accounts which was undertaken in order to ensure that the newly formed bank could obtain a stock market listing.

Bankia was formed by the merger of seven regional savings banks and was headed by former government minister and head of the IMF, Rodrigo Rato but within one year of being launched on the stock exchange, the bank had to be rescued.

So devastating was the impending failure of Bankia that the entire Spanish banking sector was in danger of crashing leading to the government



**FRAUD CHARGES: Rodrigo Rato.**

having to raise €41 billion from foreign loans in order to support all of those banks caught up in what had become a major financial crisis.

Bankia is today the fourth largest bank in Spain but is effectively owned by the Spanish government. It is in the process of repaying tens of thousands of small, private investors who were persuaded to buy shares when they were launched due to the fake accounts and reports of prosperity.

The prosecutors in this case have

argued that as CEO of Bankia, Rato had to have known the true state of affairs of its finances and have called for a five year jail sentence if he is found guilty as charged.

He has already been sentenced to four years and six months imprisonment for his improper use of credit cards and personal expenses during his roles at Caja Madrid and then Bankia.

When he was questioned about the Bankia flotation during this first trial, he declared that all of the decisions concerning the placing of shares were made by the Spanish government which should accept all responsibility for the date of the launch and the subsequent need to support the bank.

The former IMF chairman who was expelled from the ruling Partido Popular in 2014 was found guilty in February 2017, immediately put in an appeal and has spent very little time in prison although he had to lodge large amounts of his personal fortune with the courts.

## Decision day over EMA base

THE race to take over the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and its 700 jobs from London originally saw Barcelona the clear favourite but not any more.

Recent events in Cataluña have meant that its capital was not awarded the prize of one of the current 38 European Union agencies scattered around Europe although Spain with five agencies, employing 1,400 is currently the EU leader.

The other loss for Britain following Brexit will be the European Banking Agency, although no Spanish city entered a bid to take over that operation, which currently employs 160 members of staff.

## Ministerial meeting to strengthen ties

A VISIT to Spain by Saudi Foreign Minister, Adel Al-Jubeir led to a meeting with his Spanish counterpart, Alfonso Dastis.

The pair confirmed that the visit was intended to deepen bilateral cooperative relations and they exchanged views on increasing bilateral cooperative relations in various areas.

At the meeting, the two ministers agreed to strengthen political dialogue and economic and trade relations.

Saudi Arabia is Spain's leading trading partner in the Near East, the second leading Arab investor in Spain and the second leading destination for Spanish investments in the Arab world.

Whilst there was agreement over financial matters, Spain was not happy with the Saudi backing of the civil war in Yemen. There was, however, accord over the fight against terrorism.







Photo by Nathan Rupert flickr

**DEAD BUSINESS: Is your company one?**

## Beware of the Walking Dead

**EWN online**  
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THE production departments in film and TV companies have been promoting entertainment based on Zombies, however, less recognised but more important are eurozone zombie companies.

There are a number of definitions of such companies but they have generally been established for 10 years or more and have large debts on which they can pay the interest but are unlikely to ever be able to clear their indebtedness.

The number of such companies is growing thanks to low

interest rates and European Central Bank (ECB) financial support for countries such as Italy and Spain where it is estimated that as many as 10 per cent of all companies can be classified as Zombies.

There is a major fear now that as the ECB cuts back on support and interest rates increase, those technically dead but still animate companies run the risk of finally failing which in turn could increase unemployment and restrict economic growth.

## Plastic brick business sees profits breakdown

WHILST Lego has enjoyed regular profit increases over the years, the first half of 2017 has seen a downturn to just €455 million, a drop of 3 per cent.

Although not likely to make a major dent in the profit reduction, the Danish company has just opened its first dedicated store in Spain, in the La Vaguada Shopping Centre, Madrid.

The word Lego itself came from the Danish words 'leg godt' which means 'play well' but in a perfect example of happy coincidence, it was later discovered that in Latin the word Lego comes from the words 'to gather' and the owners had taken it to mean 'put together'.

Originally founded as a producer of

wooden duck toys, it wasn't until 1949 that the company came up with the concept of producing plastic bricks and from this simple concept, a complex empire was created which has earned a fortune for the family which owns it.

Some astute decisions including the creation of theme parks, purchases of licences for movies like Star Wars and Harry Potter and most recently the launch of Lego-based films has seen it become the most financially successful toy company in the world.

Sales are down for the first time in a decade but time will tell whether this is a short term hiccup or if popularity of the plastic bricks is on the wane.

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# If it ain't broke, it don't need fixing...OK?

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT

OTHERS THINK IT



THE problem with the female 'libber' brigade is that their aspirations and 'causes' are almost exclusively in the hands of women who are in the public eye.

These women, by the very nature of their chosen paths and careers have more access to public pedestals and media outlets than the majority of the fair sex can ever, or often even want to become involved with. Consequently, we only ever hear the views of women who are, in the main, just as about as far removed from the normal female homemakers and domestic Mums as it is possible to be.

This creates the misapprehension that the majority of women are not happy with their lot and are all lusting after rebellion and change. I believe this is quite simply not the case. In my opinion the vast silent majority of ladies are perfectly happy and indeed extremely proud in their homespun, often sexy wife roles, and indeed why shouldn't they be?

As a single parent, I am totally aware of the responsibilities and sheer hard work it takes to organise a household and keep a happy loving family life running as smoothly as possible.



WOMEN'S LIB: Not speaking for all.

Ladies who choose this homelier and utterly commendable path are widely talented, needing to have the stamina of an athlete, the negotiating talents of a politician and be basically competent at everything from psychiatry to plumbing.

Quite frankly I consider the career orientated female libber of the species, are actually taking

the easy way out! (And don't tell me some do both. That precarious path NEVER works satisfactorily!) Many of the wives I have spoken to are a bit bewildered and often quite angry at the presumptuous few who take it on themselves to arrogantly give the impression that they speak for such large numbers of the fair sex.

The problem with libbers is that many simply want to take over the roles of men. Some of them would actually rather be men. Well, my message to them is that the creator of the human race made men and women physically and mentally different for a vast cross section of reasons. To encourage changing homo sapiens' life roles to a point when we see women working building sites and wielding sledgehammers and men rushing home from the shops to get the dinner and feed the baby, is arrogant, presumptuous and brainwashing to a point of criminality. So, my message to the often insecure, indecisive minority, who seek to change the nature of men and women, do wherever you think fit, and the best of luck.

But don't presume the majority of ladies are of the same mind, because they are not. Leave those who prefer a more conventional way of life to simply be happy in their chosen existence. After all it has kept the human race ticking over since the stone ages. If it ain't broke, it don't need fixing. OK? So, with my reinforced jock strap firmly in place and my eyes firmly placed in the back of my head, I bid you all a fond farewell for another seven.

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.

## The 3-2-1 diet

3-2-1 is bulletproof: three backups of your data, on two different types of media, one of them off-site.

Too much trouble? Then download a free backup program, from simple file duplicators like SyncFolders, to full hard-disk copiers like Easus ToDo, Macrium Reflect or the horribly-named Aomei Backupper. Or just use the backup program which came free with your system.

Some are even 'just set and forget': tell it where to backup your data and when, click and hasta la vista baby: automatic backups daily, weekly, monthly into infinity and beyond.

Or you can be thoroughly modern and backup to the 'cloud' - but beyond a certain volume of data you'll pay, and you need seriously good broadband come the day you need it all back again.

## Every hard disk is guaranteed... to crash

Blessed are those who backup, for their data will be safe on the day of failure, says intrepid backer-upper TERENCE KENNEDY.

A MACHO colleague always insisted with a smirk that 'Real men don't backup.' Then he got hacked. Oops.

Sadder was the fate of two friends who lost their family photos forever, simply because their computer crashed.

Whether through exhaustion, a virus or an unplanned act of gravity, devices fail. They even have an official 'MTBF' (Mean Time Before Failure) which used to be advertised but now isn't because it might scare us.

Human MTBF is about 600,000 hours. You're doing well if your hard-disk manages even a 10th of that.

I'm constantly astonished at how many people never even think about

backing up their data. Probably because watching YouTube cat videos is more fun. But safe storage really is a doddle.

Step 1: Choose it so you don't lose it: 'consolidate' your documents, e-mails, photos, music and those priceless kitten videos somewhere you can easily locate them on your computer, eg a Documents folder (the default in most systems), E-mails, Photos, Music. Or Cats.

Step 2: Find something to backup to - a physical device like a USB memory stick, an old SD card or an external hard-drive. Not just somewhere else on your existing hard-drive or computer. That's like keeping your spare front-door key on your



TECH FOR THE TIMID

BACKUPS: Practising safe storage.

keyring with the existing one.

These days you can pick up an external hard drive for €100 or so, or loads less for a USB flash drive if your needs are more modest.

Step 3: Backup, then backup your backup. Well, okay, that's only for the real pessimists, or the true professionals who insist that you can never have enough backups, with three as the absolute minimum.

It's the work of minutes, with any of the dozens of (free) back-up programs available online, or those built into your device's operating system.

Step 4: Store your backup somewhere safe. Not on or in your desk.

Not even, if you are truly anal, on the same premises.

Bitter techno-trauma and tears have moulded my own backup regime: my laptop data gets copied to an SD card as I create it, to a USB stick at the end of every working day, to an external hard drive at the end of every week, and to a second hard-drive kept off-premises every month.

Sadly, there's more. I also clone my entire hard-drive to an identical copy of itself every week so when the wotsit hits the ventilator I can be up and running again in the flash of a screwdriver. But the rest of you probably have lives to live.



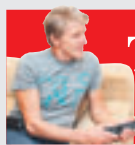
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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event
23 NOVEMBER	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:30pm Strictly - It Takes Two	9:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours	1:00pm Sky Sports Today
	7:30pm BBC London News	8:00pm Celebrity Antiques	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away	2:00pm Sky Sports Today
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm MasterChef: The Professionals	10:00pm I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	9:00pm Ugly House to Lovely House with George Clarke Ep6	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	3:00pm SKY Sports News
	8:30pm EastEnders	10:00pm Blitz	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm Trump: An American Dream	8:00pm UK's Strongest Man 2017	4:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:00pm DIY SOS The Big Build	11:00pm Match of the Day	11:30pm ITV News London	11:00pm The Search for a Miracle Cure	9:00pm Bargain Loving Brits in Blackpool	5:00pm SKY Sports News
	10:00pm Love, Lies and Records	11:30pm Newsnight	11:45pm UEFA Europa League Highlights	12:00pm Gogglebox	10:00pm Wild Card	6:00pm Live NFL: Minnesota @ Detroit
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	12:15am David Gilmour	1:00am The Jonathan Ross Show		11:00pm 5 News	10:00pm Live NFL: La Chargers @ Dallas
	11:30pm BBC London News	1:15am Exodus: Our Journey Continues			11:05pm Wild Card	2:00pm Live NFL: NY Giants @ Washington
	11:45pm Question Time				12:05am Safe	
	12:45am This Week					
FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER	8:00pm The One Show	5:15pm Wartime Farm	7:00pm ITV News London	5:00pm Coast v Country	6:30pm Neighbours	1:00pm SKY Sports News
	8:30pm Sounds Like Friday Night	6:15pm Put Your Money	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away	1:30pm Paddock Uncut: Abu Dhabi
	9:00pm EastEnders	7:00pm Strictly - It Takes Two	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	1:45pm Live Abu Dhabi GP: Practice
	9:30pm Still Open All Hours	7:55pm Match of the Day Live	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm The Gadget Show	4:00pm SKY Sports News
	10:00pm Have I Got News for You	10:00pm Extreme Wives with Kate Humble	9:00pm Australian Wilderness with Ray Mears	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm The World's Greatest Bridges	5:00pm Csa T20 Challenge
	10:30pm Mrs Brown's Boys	11:00pm QI	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Eight Days That Made Rome	8:30pm Football
	11:00pm Christmas Special 2016	11:30pm Newsnight	10:00pm I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	9:00pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast	11:00pm the Garden of Eden: Revealed	11:30pm Carling in Off the Bar
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	12:05am Snowfall	11:00pm ITV News	10:00pm Gogglebox	12:05am Area 51	12:00pm SKY Sports News
	11:25pm BBC London News		11:30pm ITV News	11:00pm The Last Leg		
	11:35pm The Graham Norton Show		12:00am ITV News London	12:05am First Dates		
12:25am Would I Lie to You?						
SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER	6:45pm BBC News	2:00pm Coast	6:55pm You've Been Framed!	5:30pm Best Laid Plans	7:15pm 5 News	12:15pm My Icon
	6:55pm BBC London News	2:20pm Talking Pictures	7:20pm ITV News London	6:30pm Grand Designs	7:20pm Love You Like Christmas	12:30pm Soccer Saturday Pre-Match
	7:00pm Pointless	3:10pm Daddy Long Legs	7:25pm ITV News	7:25pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	1:00pm Football
	7:50pm Strictly Come Dancing	5:15pm Britain Afloat	7:35pm Ninja Warrior UK	7:45pm The Day After Tomorrow	9:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	3:45pm Rugby Union
	9:10pm Michael McIntyre's Big Show	5:45pm Rugby Union	8:30pm I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	10:00pm Ex Machina	9:55pm 5 News Weekend	6:15pm Rugby Union
	10:10pm Casualty	8:30pm Dad's Army	10:00pm ITV News	12:05am Lone Survivor	10:00pm Football on 5	8:40pm Live La Liga 2017/18
	11:00pm BBC News	10:00pm Joe Orton Laid Bare	11:10pm ITV News	2:15am The Last Leg	11:00pm Football on 5	10:45pm La Liga Icons
	11:20pm Match of the Day	11:20pm QI XL	11:30pm Rambo: First Blood Part II	3:10am Hollyoaks Omnibus	11:30pm NCIS: New Orleans	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	12:45am The NFL Show	12:05am Albert Nobbs	1:20am Jackpot247	5:20am Location, Location, Location	12:25am NCIS: New Orleans	12:00pm SKY Sports News
	1:15am Obsessed					
SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER	7:10pm BBC London News	5:45pm Flog It!	7:05pm ITV News London	6:35pm Channel 4 News	6:55pm 5 News	1:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	7:20pm Countryfile	6:45pm Turkey with Simon Reeve	7:15pm ITV News	7:05pm Men in Black 3	7:00pm Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest	4:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	8:20pm Strictly Come Dancing	7:45pm Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	7:30pm The Chase Celebrity Special	9:00pm Coastal Railways with Julie Walters	8:55pm 5 News Weekend	7:30pm Live NFL: Game A match from week 12 of the NFL.
	9:00pm Blue Planet II	9:00pm Robot Wars	8:30pm The X Factor	10:00pm Guy Martin v the Robot Car	9:00pm Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	10:00pm Live NFL: Sunday Game
	10:00pm Howards End	10:00pm Expedition Volcano	10:00pm I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	11:00pm RoboCop	10:00pm Fury	2:00pm Live NFL: Green Bay @ Pittsburgh
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm Snowfall	11:30pm ITV News	1:10am Good Kill	11:00pm 5 News	
	11:20pm BBC London News	11:40pm John Carter	11:45pm Peston on Sunday	3:00am The Supervet	11:05pm Fury	
	11:30pm Match of the Day 2	1:40am Question Time	12:45am The Day Kennedy Died	4:00am Trump: An American Dream	12:35am Flight of the Phoenix	
	12:30am Ronny Chieng: International Student					
MONDAY 27 NOVEMBER	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	4:00pm Dickinson's Real Deal	12:00pm Undercover Boss USA	7:00pm Neighbours	6:00pm SKY Sports News
	8:30pm Panorama	7:30pm Strictly - It Takes Two	5:00pm Tipping Point	1:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	7:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:00pm EastEnders	8:00pm Celebrity Antiques	6:00pm The Chase	1:05pm Come Dine with Me	8:00pm Weather Terror	8:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	9:30pm Would I Lie to You?	9:00pm University Challenge	7:00pm ITV News London	2:05pm Kirstie's Handmade Christmas	9:00pm Sinkholes	8:30pm Football
	10:00pm New Tricks	9:30pm Nigella: At My Table	7:30pm ITV Evening News	3:10pm Countdown	10:00pm Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railway Journeys	11:00pm The Debate - Live SKY Sports News
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	10:00pm Employable Me	8:00pm Emmerdale	4:00pm Lost and Found Ep1	11:00pm Secrets of the Tube: Going Underground	1:00am SKY Sports News
	11:30pm BBC London News	11:00pm Insert Name Here	8:30pm Coronation Street	5:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	12:05am Inside the Mega Twister	2:00am NFL Masterclass
	11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More News for You	12:15am Blitz	9:00pm The Martin Lewis Money Show	6:00pm Four in a Bed		2:15am Live NFL: Houston @ Baltimore
	12:30am Michael McIntyre's Big Show	1:15am Countryfile	9:30pm Coronation Street			5:45am Cricket
TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER	8:30pm EastEnders	5:15pm Wartime Farm	9:00pm How to Spend it Well at Christmas with Phillip Schofield	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Neighbours	4:00pm SKY Sports News
	9:00pm Holby City	6:15pm Put Your Money	10:00pm I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	5:00pm SKY Sports News
	10:00pm The A Word	7:00pm Eggheads	11:05pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm Yorkshire: A Year in the Wild	6:00pm SKY Sports News
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	7:30pm Strictly - It Takes Two	11:35pm ITV News London	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm Jo Brand's Cats and Kittens	7:00pm SKY Sports News
	11:30pm BBC London News	7:55pm Match of the Day Live	11:45pm On Assignment	8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild	8:00pm Soccer Special Pre-Match
	11:45pm Drugsland	10:00pm MasterChef: The Professionals	12:20am Lethal Weapon	9:00pm The Secret Life of 5 Year Olds	11:00pm The 90s: Most Shocking Celebrity Moments	8:30pm Gillette Soccer Special
	12:45am Life and Death Row	11:00pm Motherland		10:00pm Grand Designs		11:00pm Info not available
	1:45am Weather for the Week Ahead	11:30pm Newsnight		11:00pm The Robot Will See You Now		12:30am Revista de la Liga
	1:50am BBC News	12:15am NFL		12:05am Gogglebox		1:00am SKY Sports News
						2:00am SKY Sports News
WEDNESDAY 29 NOVEMBER	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:00pm Eggheads	9:00pm Gino's Italian	6:00pm Four in a Bed	2:30pm Neighbours	7:00am Total Goals
	7:30pm BBC London News	7:30pm Strictly - It Takes Two	9:30pm Coastal Escape	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	3:00pm Last Chance Holiday	8:00am Total Goals
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Celebrity Antiques	10:00pm I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	7:00pm The Simpsons	4:40pm My Christmas Love	9:00am Total Goals
	9:00pm Mary Berry's Country House Secrets	9:00pm MasterChef: The Professionals	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm 5 News at 5	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	10:00pm The Apprentice	10:00pm Peaky Blinders	11:30pm ITV News London	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Neighbours	11:00am Premier League Daily
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm The Apprentice: You're Fired!	11:45pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	9:00pm The Secret Life of the Zoo	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	11:30pm BBC London News	11:30pm Newsnight	12:45am Play to the Whistle	10:00pm The Channel	8:00pm Traffic Cops Special	1:00pm SKY Sports News
	11:45pm Match of the Day	12:15am Employable Me	1:25am Jackpot247	11:00pm Man Down	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	5:00pm Csa T20 Challenge
	1:25am Junior Doctors			11:35pm How to Build a Robot	10:00pm Wallis: The Queen That Never Was	8:30pm Football
	1:55am Weather for the Week Ahead			12:40am 999: What's Your Emergency?	12:00am Mobo Awards 2017	11:00pm Info not available
			1:40am Pokerstars Championship		2:00am SKY Sports News	

The schedules for the television programme pages are provided by an external company: we regret that any changes or errors are not the responsibility of Euro Weekly News.





**TV Couch Critic**

# Celebs (perhaps), real bugs plus start to festive season

IT'S back!

I'm *A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here* (ITV 1) swept in from the Australian jungle last Sunday with an eclectic group of celebrities, in the widest possible interpretation of celebs.

Living in the jungle and eating bugs, with Ant and Dec at the sharp end of watching over them all, if such an idea was pitched to a TV executive today, would it fly?

I'm not sure, but the format clearly works given the viewing figures.

If you are among the millions of fans, don't forget to also catch *Get Me Out of Here Extra Camp* (ITV2) that follows each main Celebrity episode.

In the Extra show, Scarlett Moffatt is the rose between two thorns in the guise of Joe Walsh and Joel Dommett.

Tune in and expect lively debate and an opportunity to put questions direct to campmates via social media and the App.

For me and one friend, the first note of Christmas used to be the beginning of *Once in Royal David's City via Carols from Kings* (expected on BBC2, Christmas Eve).

With that said, now the first festive note seems to be various retailers' seasonal adverts. Keeping it brief, but that carrot again, seriously!

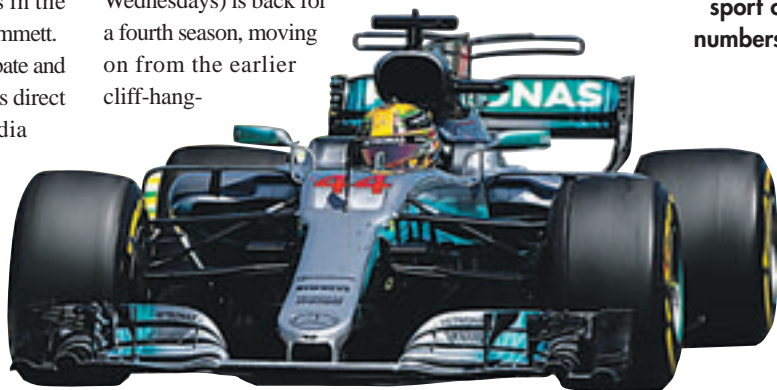
Enough to say I'm disappointed by most, don't really understand a certain bear in the snow but I love the interpretation of Cinderella (although why aren't the key players wearing warm clothes in the snow?)

The monster under the bed must also get a mention, despite for me having no bearing on the glass slipper story.

*Peaky Builders* (BBC2, Wednesdays) is back for a fourth season, moving on from the earlier cliff-hang-



**F1 ACTION: A sport of numbers!**



er ending.

If the start of the latest series is anything to go by, with the story back to Birmingham and more problems for the Shelby family to deal with, some good viewing ahead.

Cilian Murphy continues to delight as Thomas Shelby and the return of Tom Hardy as Alfie Solomons can only be a good thing.

And now to close, have you ever wondered what TV Must-See you might be missing simply because you do not think a show or series

will appeal?

That was me with *Formula One*, with the final 2017 race in Abu Dhabi due this Sunday live on *Sky Sports F1 and Channel 4*.

Friends on the coast regularly hold Grand Prix parties and a great hit, so I checked out ever-keen not to skip a good party due to TV ignorance!

I cut my teeth on the Brazilian Grand Prix; to summarise, billed as a sporting event covering at least 305km not exceeding two hours in length. I was near exhausted just getting my head around the numbers.

Imagining F1 cars roaring up the A7 from Malaga and screeching to a halt somewhere south of Cartagena, no such luck.

The super cars circled around a track like an overpowered Scalextric set, I had a siesta and someone seemed to win (in fact Sebastian Vettel, just to show I watched the end).

F1 has a massive following, and while this TV offering simply isn't me, for those watching on Sunday, enjoy and don't forget to check out the Teams' Tyre Choices before viewing.

But I am left wondering just how many F1 fans also tune in most nights to catch the latest in *I'm a Celebrity*?

**Critique: AWL, Casares, Costa del Sol.**



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## Let's get on with life

**Mike Senker**

*In my opinion*

*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*



I LIKE to keep my eye on what's going on in the USA because, to be honest, at the moment, in my opinion, the place is currently coming across on TV like a bad soap opera.

This week I've been following a couple of news items in particular. One was about an American comedian and politician called Al Franken who was on a tour to entertain the US troops overseas.

There was a young lady in the show with him and during a rehearsal he kissed her and also a photo appeared of him looking at the camera laughing and appearing to touch her boobs through body armour whilst she was asleep. Now this is wrong and totally out of order - end of - no excuses.

The other story was about a baseball player called Yulieski Gurriel who was born in Cuba and who made a gesture to a Japanese pitcher after hitting a home run off one of his pitches. As he ran round he looked at him and used his fingers to stretch his eyes toward his ears and appeared to say a word in Spanish usually used to mock Asian people.

Now here's the thing. In both cases these gentlemen apologised unreservedly to the offended parties. The baseball player got a five game suspension and the comedian / politician may have a senate investigation.

Both injured parties have said 'apology accepted, now let's get on with life' and this is where things go a bit wonky. It has all become very political with groups calling for the baseball player to be sacked and banned.

Here's the deal folks - nobody is allowed to be more offended than the person that was the subject of the original offensive remark or action. If they say it's sorted then let it go.

They are adults and they have decided how to react to the comment or action directed at them. Donald Trump is tweeting and calling Al Franken Al Frankenstein demanding he be hung, drawn and quartered because he's a Democrat.

Meanwhile he's not saying a word about the Republican preacher politician, Roy Moore, who has been accused by at least 10 women of sexual assault. But what would you expect from the man that has over 20 accusations of sexual assault against him and a recording from 2005 telling Billy Bush how he treats women. How this man is still POTUS is beyond me.

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

## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### Alcohol limits and penalties

**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.



**STAY SAFE: The best option is not to drink at all.**

IT is often not realised that the maximum permitted alcohol limit in Spain is considerably lower than many other European countries, including the UK.

It is also worth noting that these limits are precisely that, a maximum that is permitted. Alcohol affects people differently and the only real safe limit is zero.

That said, in Spain the maximum legally

permitted alcohol limit is in general 0.25 mg/l (or 0.15 mg/l if you are a learner driver / professional drivers). If the amount of alcohol exceeds this limit, the driver will be heavily fined and lose several points from their licence.

In the event such amount of the breathalyzer exceeds 0.60 mg/l, the driver becomes subject to a criminal proceeding and will be arrested.

CONDUCTORES	LÍMITE EN SANGRE	LÍMITE EN AIRE ESPIRADO
(1) GENERAL	0'3 gr/l	0'25 mg/l
(2) PROFESIONALES	0'3 gr/l	0'15 mg/l
(3) NOVATAS	0'3 gr/l	0'15 mg/l

### The fines

Professional / novice drivers - 0,15-0,30mg/l - €500 + 4 points, from 0,30mg/l - €1,000 + 6 points. Other drivers - 0,25-0,50mg/l - €500 + 4 points, from 0,50mg/l - €1,000 + 6 points.

A blood test is only available when you have finished the alcohol test and you disagree with the result. Refusal to co-operate is also considered a criminal offence.

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

### Can only Agenda items be voted?

**Q.** Is it correct that Spanish community AGMs do not have an official section for Any Other Business, that they have instead a sort of Questions period at the end of the meeting? Is it correct that anything in this section is not an Agenda item, and so cannot be the subject of a proposal, resolution or vote? Items must be on the Agenda to be voted in the meeting? Can items not on the Agenda be put in the Minutes?

*R M (email)*

**A.** Article 19 of the Law of Horizontal Property regulates the official Book of Minutes. The minutes must give the time and place of the AGM. They should list the names of all in attendance or by proxy, with

**David Searl**

*You and the Law in Spain*



their quotas, and it must contain the Agenda. The book must record the results of the

votes on Agenda items and it may need to list the names and quotas of those who voted for or against a proposal. Any other matters can certainly be recorded in the Minutes, but it is not a legal requirement.

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



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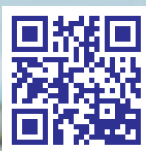
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## Let's not forget our Christmas past

IN response to an article in UK media saying scripture union are taking out any reference to the Bible in this year's nativity, I would like to say this.

I have lived in Spain for 27 years and when I first came Father Christmas was unknown. Christmas was a celebration of the Bible story with the Three Kings bringing the presents. Since then I have seen Santa arrive and slowly take over.

He now rides with the Three Kings, it is he that is promoted in shops where children visit him, and the Nativity story is slowly disappearing. In a few years' time it will no doubt just be a secular, commercial holiday with no mention of Jesus.

We have had Father Christmas in the UK for so long that we are not aware of the damage he has done to the truth of Jesus. If the church promotes fictional characters to children, when they find out we lied to them how will they believe in Jesus? This year, let's be aware of who we are promoting in our Christmas celebrations.

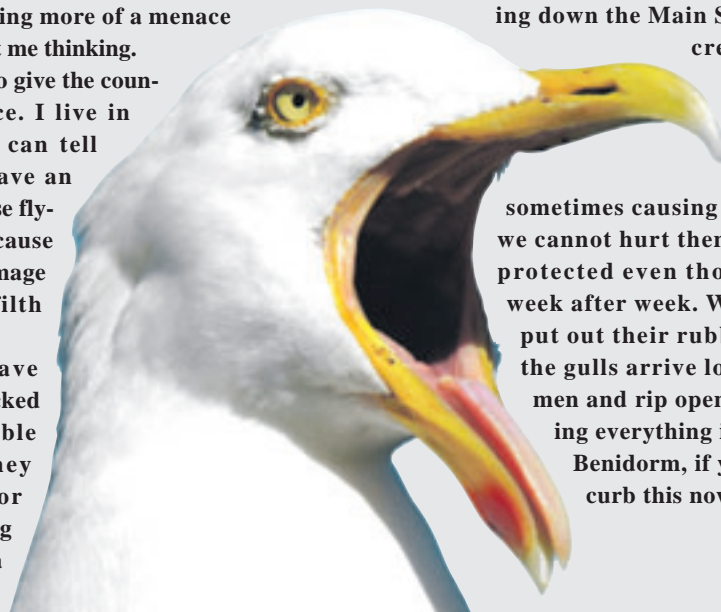
*Rev Howard Coley, Iglesia Evangelical Elim Pentecostal*

### Aggressive seagulls can peck off

I WAS reading last week's issue earlier today outside a bar in Javea, and your article about seagulls becoming more of a menace in Benidorm got me thinking.

I would like to give the council some advice. I live in Newquay and can tell you that we have an epidemic of these flying rats. They cause trouble and damage and leave filth everywhere.

People have even been attacked by these horrible birds when they are nesting or have young chicks on a



roof, and it is documented that they have killed small dogs in private gardens. Families walking down the Main Street eating an ice cream, pasty, or fish 'n' chips will be swooped upon and all food torn from their hands, sometimes causing nasty injuries, yet we cannot hurt them because they are protected even though it gets worse week after week. When householders put out their rubbish for collection the gulls arrive long before the binmen and rip open bags before scoffing everything in sight. Be warned Benidorm, if you do not stop and curb this now you will be sorry!

*Paul, Cornwall, UK*

### Yes, Leapy

LEAPY LEE is right. There I've said it. His piece on the ludicrous situation of a Somali convicted criminal receiving almost 80 grand of public money after being put inside over a dozen times in 15 years only highlights that the world has gone absolutely stark staring mad.

You have to think there is more to this surely. How can something be so obviously wrong!?

*Philip, San Fulgencio*

### No, Leapy

SO Leapy Lee thinks a good reason for the UK leaving the EU is because they have ruled someone has to be given money for being wrongly imprisoned? This is only a drop in the ocean compared to the billions the Spanish tax man would have pocketed from inheritance tax had not the EU intervened and ruled it illegal!

There are a lot more positive rulings from the European courts than the silly cherry picking oddments that Leapy seems to relish in.

*Ray Osborne, Los Alcazares*

### 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).

## Ryanair cancel flights due to French air traffic strike

F... French. Always too few for them. Always on strike... ALWAYS. They have such high salaries. So much protection.. and it is always TOO FEW.. *Kasia*

They cancel for the slightest reason - what's next: someone sneezed and they took down half the timetable! *Geoff Kerr*

Having been caught up in the chaos on October 10, I feel for people affected by this!!

*Mandy Cooke*

### Police investigate biker for reckless driving

I recently saw a biker drive straight through a line of pedestrians on a zebra crossing, also been overtaken on zebra crossings many times by bikers. It's as though the laws don't apply to some bikers here! *S D*

There should be more of this action taken especially when motor cyclists drive with their feet off the pedals and using them as a balancing act. The police could have a field day. *Trisha Rodgers*

If you want to ride like that go to the Isle of Man during the TT on mad Sunday. *Michael Hearne*

### Comments from EWN online

#### French air traffic control strike likely to affect UK-Spain flights

And this is the country that won the bid to host an Olympic Games - athletes and spectators could find themselves in a pickle because they're sure to take advantage of this! *Tina Sexton*

Never fail do they. Ought to make these dates national holidays. *Richard Taylor*

#### 12-year-old girl pregnant by boy same age

How sad as she is only a baby herself. *Kath Dickman*  
Babies having babies, not good. *Carol Garrington*

#### British Airways passengers to board by ticket price

No point to booking early at the lesser fares then! I used BA last June from LHR to Murcia. Reserved seat wasn't honoured (paid extra and didn't get any form or priority in the queue). This new system has reinforced my view that they are no better than Ryanair. Are BA thinking it ok to provide punitive boarding priorities simply because a few others do it? A race to the bottom begins! That's two airlines off my list now that may force me to put my carry on bag in the hold. Why risk laptop, cameras and lenses, and other dear personal effects down there? *Dave Arnold*

BA has gone to pot! Try and get a drink when you sit at the back of the plane! Had four trips didn't get a drink. easyJet is far better. *Peter Urquhart*

Who's the mug? The one that got on first. They paid more for their flight, last on got the cheapest deal, I'll take that every time. *Stephen Jordan*

### Puzzle plea

NOT A complaint because I enjoy your paper, but if you want to make it even better please publish the answers to the puzzles the same week. We all try but if the puzzles are beyond us no one can retain an interest in the answers until the next issue. I know loads of people who can't be bothered having a go because of this.

*Norman, address withheld*

**Editor's note: Many thanks for the feedback. Is this something others would like to see? Please write in with your views.**

### Just shocking

THE recent hysteria over a series of small earthquakes and their potential to generate a mile-high tsunami in Tenerife beggars belief. People should spend less time reading nonsense 'shock' journalism and more time worrying about real issues like the drought here in Spain.

*Alan Smith, Canary Islands*



Advertising feature

# Taking away the stress of a funeral

L Musgrove - Almeria

SOME years ago, my father sadly passed away in Spain. At the time my mother and I had no plans in place for his funeral and had to rely upon the people around us to get everything organised. Whilst things went perfectly, my mum sometime later felt she did not want me to have to deal with all of this on my own.

**“Golden Leaves are efficient, professional and most importantly very caring.**

So my mum called a very helpful young agent called Emma, at Golden Leaves to come and talk her through their plans. It was a very easy process, they offered ‘a pay in full option,’ which my mum took or you could pay over a period of time, I was skeptical at the time but understood it was my mum’s decision.

A few months ago we had a very

sad event take place, my mum had always been a fun loving bubbly person, threw many parties and had lots of friends. She had a sensitive side and was always happy to help anybody if they needed it. My mum took things in her stride and lived life to the full.

Unfortunately, she was advised that she needed to be admitted into hospital for a small operation, things took a turn for the worse and she became critically ill. Fortunately, I had flown over to Spain to stay with her whilst she was in hospital, which should have been a couple of weeks.

However, mum ended up staying in intensive care for nine weeks and after a courageous battle, we were advised by the medical team that there was no longer any hope of her surviving. I made the dreaded phone call to Emma at Golden Leaves to update them with the circumstances, Emma gave me her mobile number and advised me to call her directly.

After some heart-breaking hours, I made the call to Emma who immediately took over. Having Emma as my



**| SERVICE AND FLOWERS:** Exactly what mum would have wanted.

contact took the stress and worry out of what needed to happen next. This was invaluable at this incredibly upsetting time for both my family and myself.

Emma held my hand throughout. She came with the funeral director, Maria, to where I was staying. She organised extra days so that family members could fly out, the flowers and of course,

helped with the service itself.

The entire process was efficient, professional and most importantly very caring. Emma and her team at Golden Leaves were exceptional throughout. I would also like to mention Maria from the funeral directors in Mojacar, who was compassionate and an enormous help at this very distressing time. I cannot thank them both enough for their expertise,

which was greatly appreciated by myself and my family.

The service and the flowers were exactly what my mum would have wanted. I was amazed and overwhelmed at the amount of people who attended my mum’s funeral.

Everybody said that they would miss her so much, but they would especially miss her laugh. She had been a very important part of the community and seeing how much she was loved and had touched so many people’s lives.

Mum taking out the Golden Leaves plan totally took away the stress of having to organise everything.

I cannot thank Emma and her team enough for being there for me at this most distressing time. They took away all the organisational worries for myself and my family. I would recommend anybody to contact them and take out a plan.

Thank you once again Emma.

*Call Emma or her team for advice or a chat on 966 493 082.*



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Advertising feature

# Shake off those November blues! It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

**Christina Sharp**

**GLOBELINK INTERNATIONAL**

christina@globelink.co.uk



THIS is a glorious time of year to take a break; kids are back at school, prices are lower; and if you are lucky, depending on where travel, you might still catch a spectacular autumnal riot of colour as you venture outdoors.

If you're hankering for a mini holiday to fortify yourself for the festive season, why not meet two needs with one deed and head for a Christmas Market?

Europe has the best selection of Christmas Markets, where you can wrap up warm, indulge in steaming hot drinks (mulled wine, or hot chocolate anyone?), find original

gifts, whilst taking in the sights and sounds of some of the most beautiful places in Europe.

Here are some of our favourites for you to combine festive fun with some unforgettable historic hotspots. Let us know if we've missed your favourite and we will tell readers about the most popular ones next month.

**Rothenburg ob de Tauber** is our favourite of the spectacular German Christmas Markets, because whether it's Christmas or not, this town is straight out of Hansel and Gretel.

It's the most impeccably preserved Bavarian medieval town in Europe and is picture-perfect for this Christmas Market, which dates back 500 years. Robust stone town walls that surround the town with their creaking wooden walkways offer uniquely outstanding roof top vistas of the town's half-timbered houses and red-tiled roofs.



**GERMAN MARKET: The spectacular Rothenburg ob de Tauber.**

Runs from December 1 to 23.

**Strasbourg** boasts the oldest Christmas Market in France, first held in 1570. With 300 stalls, across 12 locations, this is one of Europe's most popular Christmas markets. Strasbourg's spectacular Gothic Cathedral nestles at the heart of this fabulously festive location.

Market runs from November 25

to December 31.

**Bath** city centre with its Roman Baths and glorious Abbey becomes home to 170 Christmas stalls from the end of November. This year is bigger than ever with over 200 wooden chalets. The market offers ceramics, toys, gifts, decorations and food with over 80 per cent of produce sourced locally.

There's an ice rink and glow-in-the-dark crazy golf course at nearby Royal Victoria Park. Market runs from November 23 to December 10.

**Winchester's** beautiful medieval centre offers a slightly more modest, but equally delightful Christmas Market with around 100 wooden chalets offering decorations, jewellery, artwork, gifts, and all the usual irresistible food fayre. Visit the open air ice-rink and Winchester Cathedral.

There are lots more to choose from, including Vienna, Prague, Dresden, Verona, Leipzig, Budapest.

Whichever you opt for, stay safe, be aware of your surroundings and remember your travel insurance in case of mishaps or emergencies.

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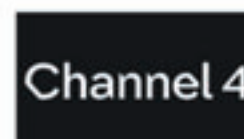
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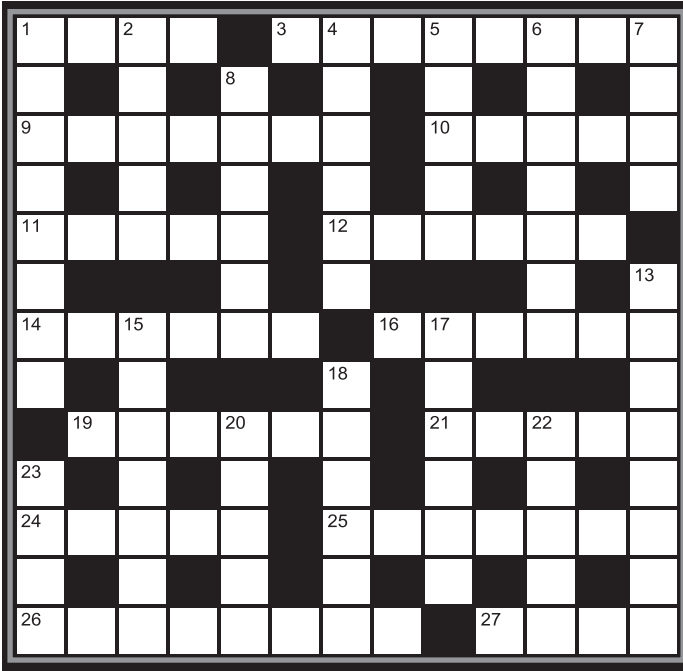
**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Luxuriant drinker (4)
- 3 Plant organised my appeal (3,5)
- 9 The root vegetable's a standard crop (7)
- 10 Publication for children (5)
- 11 Forbidden love in abandoned boat (5)
- 12 Wears down queen with poems (6)
- 14 Could start card game, it's cheap (6)
- 16 Withhold food from pop star vegetarian's diet (6)
- 19 Repeated words from Brahman tradition (6)
- 21 Al meets Jack at the table (5)
- 24 Fear some Territorial Army recruits (5)
- 25 For a change, respect the royal staff (7)
- 26 Dotty, Sue, Pearl, Joy (8)
- 27 Soundly study the plant (4)

**Down**

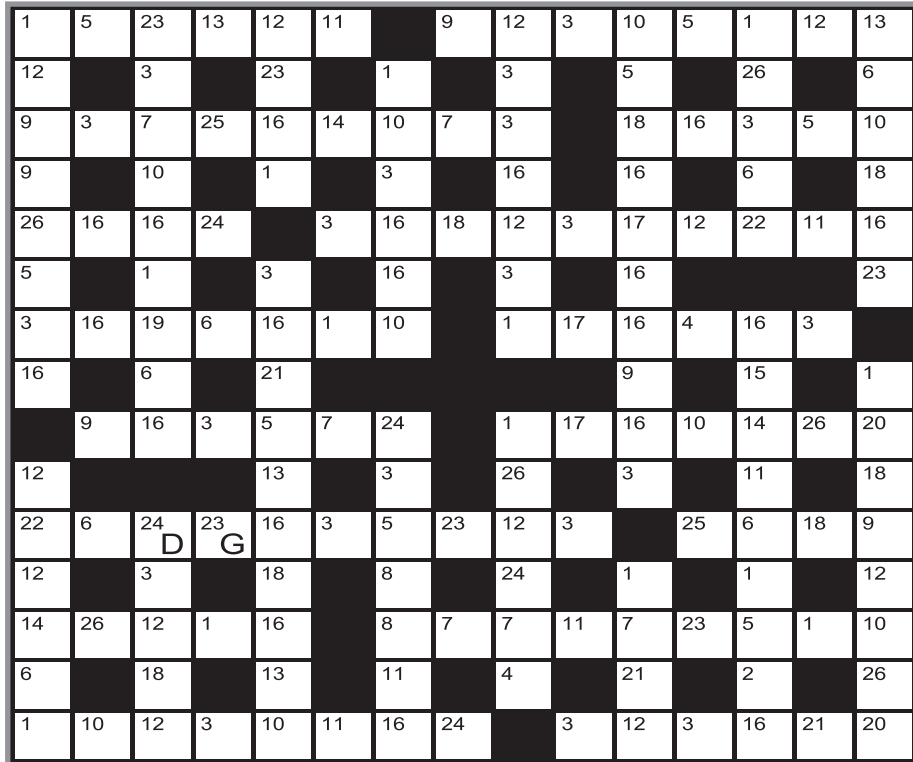
- 1 Make up building pick list (8)
- 2 Wash thoroughly inside disc rubber (5)
- 4 Fruit is the result of an afterthought plea (6)
- 5 Written about in blog, I'm another Spanish friend (5)
- 6 French chemist tears up design (7)
- 7 Good lookers get the favourable votes it's said (4)



- 8 Teach where the pupils are? (6)
- 13 Take care of confused brief at the end (8)
- 15 Unsuspecting, a French female hides a conflict (7)
- 17 Isle that includes central Kent, oddly enough (6)
- 18 Was confused in her cable (6)
- 20 The newspaper items are poorly written (5)
- 22 Bird with the French name (5)
- 23 Insect that used to be quiet (4)

**Code Breaker**

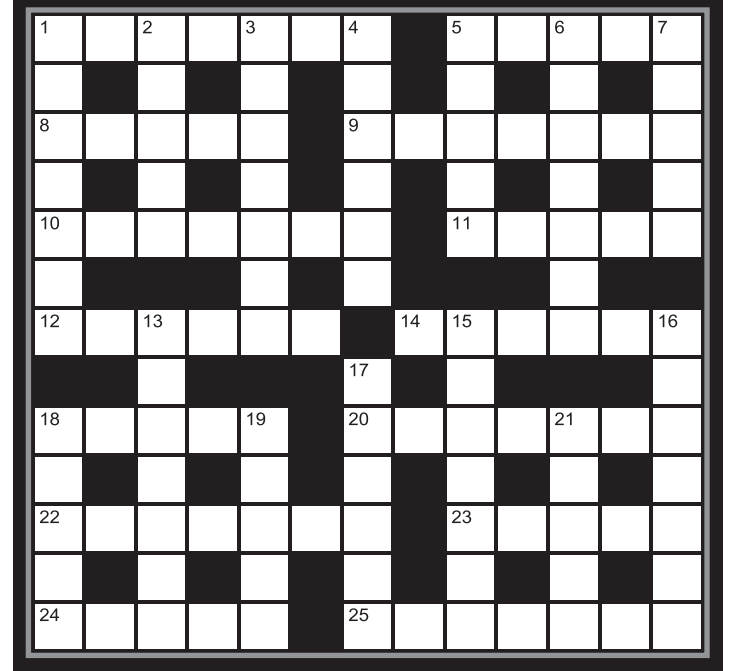
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 23 represents G and 24 represents D, so fill in G every time the figure 23 appears and D every time the figure 24 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

**Quick**



**Across**

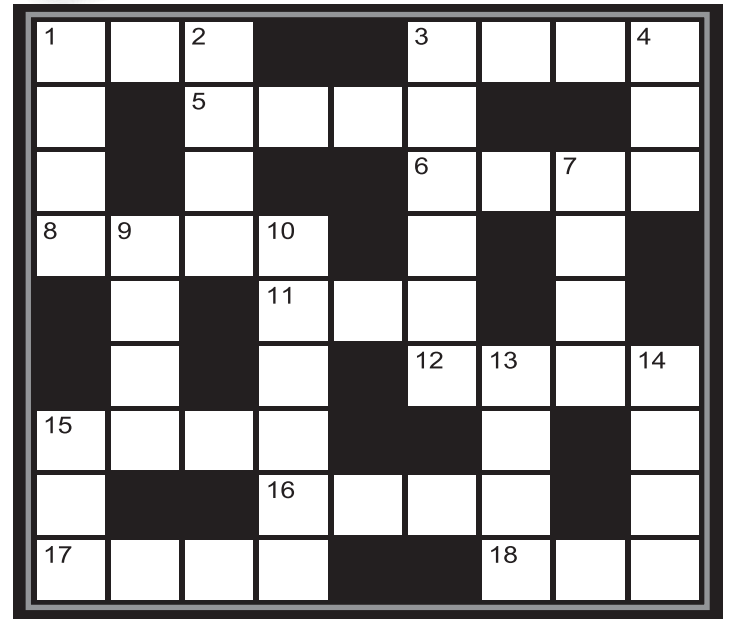
- 1 Hobby (7)
- 5 Flashy, ostentatious jewellery (5)
- 8 Devoutly religious (5)
- 9 Traveller's luggage (7)
- 10 Lean back (7)
- 11 Appears (5)
- 12 Feel pain (6)
- 14 Deep gorge or ravine (6)
- 18 Small carnivorous mammal of the weasel family (5)
- 20 Break into many pieces (7)
- 22 Building (7)
- 23 Be in accord (5)
- 24 Garment worn around the head, neck or shoulders for warmth or decoration (5)
- 25 Meet the requirements or expectations of (7)

**Down**

- 1 Ancient writing material (7)
- 2 Unemotional person (5)
- 3 Heighten or intensify (7)
- 4 Symbol device or badge (6)
- 5 Fraudulent (5)
- 6 Mental pictures (7)
- 7 Expect to be true (5)
- 13 State in southeastern US between the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico (7)
- 15 Refusing to be persuaded or to change one's mind (7)
- 16 Room in a house for children (7)
- 17 Evaluate (6)
- 18 Garden buildings (5)
- 19 Stealer (5)
- 21 Revolves (5)

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1/4 Borrar (3,3)
- 3 Tail (of dog, bull, ox) (4)
- 5 This (4)
- 6 Blando (madera, droga, agua) (4)
- 8 Laugh (4)
- 11 Cama (3)
- 12 Classroom (4)

**Down**

- 15 Una vez (4)
- 16 Loyal (4)
- 17 Wave (4)
- 18 Sí (3)
- 1 To gnaw (4)
- 2 Abejas (4)
- 3 Pink (6)

**4 See 1 Across**

- 7 Caída (4)
- 9 Plancha (utensilio) (4)
- 10 Grandmother (6)
- 13 Feo (4)
- 14 Brazos (4)
- 15 Gold (metal, commodity, currency) (3)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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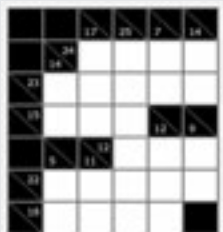
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' ANTONIO - WOULD YOU RECOGNISE A CRASHED CHINESE SPACE STATION? '

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



**TARGET:**

- Average: 9
- Very good: 17
- Good: 12
- Excellent: 22

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**

alit dale deal deli dial evil idle lade laid late lava lave lead leva lied lite live tael tail tala tale teal tile vail veal veil vela veld vial vile vildle viled viled alate alive avail dealt delta devil ideal idled laded lated laved lived tidal tilde tiled valet valid veldt vital alated detail dialed dilate laddie tailed alidade availed dilated validate VALIDATED

**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**

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

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

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

**CRYPTIC**

**Across:**

- 1 Casks, 4 Exploit, 8 Raiment, 9 Troll, 10 Indicate, 11 Grin, 13 Spells, 14 Padres, 17 Rest, 19 Decrepit, 22 Adage, 23 Entwine, 24 Suggest, 25 Exact.

**Down:**

- 1 Corgi, 2 Swindle, 3 Stencils, 4 Estate, 5 Path, 6 Odour, 7 Talents, 12 Magritte, 13 Streams, 15 Replica, 16 Bereft, 18 Slang, 20 Treat, 21 Bede.

**QUICK**

**Across:**

- 1/23 Pipe down, 3 Solution, 9 Stipend, 10 Sushi, 11 Obese, 12 Attain, 14 Elope, 16 Eczema, 19 Bistro, 21 Scare, 24 Otter, 25 Spaniel, 26 Narcotic, 27 Zero.

**Down:**

- 1 Pushover, 2 Poise, 4 Ordeal, 5 Upset, 6 Inspire, 7 Nail, 8 Recess, 13 Waterloo, 15 Aviator, 17 Casual, 18 Bonsai, 20 Torso, 22 Alike.

**ENGLISH-SPANISH**

**Across:**

- 1 Escarcha, 6 Egg, 7 Mayor, 9 Esos, 11 Caro, 12 Neat, 14 Foot, 16 Spots, 18 Ave, 19 Crystals.

**Down:**

- 1 Exercise, 2 Cogger, 3 Remo, 4 Hoy, 5 Brothers, 8 Asno, 10 Soft, 13 Etapa, 15 Osos, 17 Oir.

**CODE BREAKER**

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

**KAKURO**



**LOTTERY**

**UK NATIONAL LOTTERY**  
 Saturday November 18



**IRISH LOTTO**  
 Saturday November 18



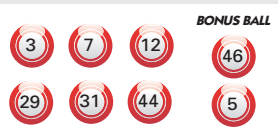
**EURO MILLIONS**  
 Tuesday November 14



Friday November 17



**LA PRIMITIVA**  
 Saturday November 18



**EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA**  
 Sunday November 19



**YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS**

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

The pleasure you will get from helping in the home this week should not be underestimated. What you have been thinking of as a chore turns out to be a great ball of fun. Youngsters may be involved at the weekend, so plan ahead to give them a festive surprise.

Keep energy levels high by being at the hub of any social activities. Accept all invitations, however dull you feel that they may turn out and allow yourself to be surprised. Continue with any check-ups on your health, eating sensibly if you overindulged during the holiday. There is no better time to make that special effort.

**PISCES** (February 20 - March 20)  
**VIRGO** (August 24 - September 23)

Your relationships to others linked to the home environment are going well. Aim to build on that this week because the chance to make a real change to your surroundings opens up. Comfort is top of your agenda and the continuing sales give scope. Restlessness can be channelled into an energetic response when others seek help. Taking on a small charitable task makes you smile and brings satisfaction.

As you have decided to rearrange both your business and home life, it is a busy time, indeed. You enjoy a challenge so it will not worry you that other people have different ideas. Although you are not inclined to listen to silly whims, some things crop up time and again and have to be dealt with at some point.

**ARIES** (March 21 - April 20)  
**LIBRA** (September 24 - October 23)

Your mind is as sharp as a razor this week, so woe betide anyone who tries to trick you. It's a great time to use your talents fully, particularly in regard to a business venture. It is possible that your strengths are a little unrecognised so don't be afraid to try something entirely new. A strong urge to take control keeps others on their toes.

Concentrating on hearth and home gives you great satisfaction. As a born home-maker, you relish the idea of making something beautiful. This week it may be possible to show more of your skills when someone seeks your advice. You could end up helping with appearances.

**TAURUS** (April 21 - May 21)  
**SCORPIO** (October 24 - November 22)

This week is mainly concerned with financial matters, and it is easy to both save and make extra money. Keep your energy levels high by making the most of chances to exercise and get out in the fresh air.

Making a new start is not always the exciting thing that people imagine. When there are still old matters to be resolved, it takes the edge off the pleasure. It may be worth cooling off a new relationship until your social life is more settled. An urge to move around could be caused by your not facing a problem straight on.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21)  
**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23 - December 21)

The repayment of a favour should see you with extra money in your pocket. Holding on to it is your best bet. Trying to change someone close is so obviously not going to work that it is surprising you tried for so long.

Get both business and personal plans sorted out in the coming week. Thereafter, changes to your routine may be necessary, which is disruptive. The best-laid plans can need adjustment, so don't beat yourself up over that.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 23)  
**CAPRICORN** (December 22 - January 20)

A social gathering turns up an old friend who makes an offer. Although you may feel unworthy, please be reminded of the times in the past when you have given them support. It will be through others that real progress will be made.

Someone close has ideas about how things should be at home this Christmas. Although you wish to show an interest, and should, they may be more 'hands on' than you. Do whatever your talents allow to help because this will not be forgotten.

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**LUSCIOUS LOCKS:** Having a system for drying your hair can cut down on damage.

IT happens so easily. It's cold and wet outside and you just want to enjoy an evening in but you remember you've got plans to see friends that can't be put off.

Getting dressed up becomes a hassle when you're chilled through and the thought of blow drying your hair to perfection an unnecessary irritation.

Luckily, website, *Buzzfeed* has come up with ingenious life hacks for getting the locks of a goddess (or god) in no time.

The site suggests using kitchen roll to absorb the majority of the moisture from

# The blow out

your hair before you even begin drying it. According to *Buzzfeed*, this surprisingly effective tip will reduce the amount of time you need with your hairdryer.

The website also advises cutting down on the number of sections you dry your hair in, suggesting just four. Simply divide your hair into one section at the front, one at the back, one at each side and clip

it off. This will make hair easier to manage and take some of the hassle out of drying.

There are also several products available which will help reduce drying time. Why not try a roller brush which incorporates small amounts of microfibre cloth which draws water away from the hair?

Or how about investing in an Ionic dryer, which uses

negative ions to break water molecules down, allowing them to evaporate faster?

Finally, there are several blow dry accelerator sprays on the market which claim to wick water away from hair, reducing the time you dry your hair.

So why not give some of these tips a go and reap the benefits of glossy, bouncy hair all winter?

Ask The

Doctor

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## Hernias



**SPECIALIST:** Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

### WHAT is a hernia?

A hernia is nothing more than a weakening of the muscles in an area in the body which allows an internal part to pass through. Most typically these occur in the groin and abdominal area.

### How do hernias occur?

The weakening of muscle walls or physical strain can force internal parts to move from one place to another. For example, an inguinal hernia can occur when fatty tissue or a part of your bowel pokes through into your groin at the top of your inner thigh.

### What are its symptoms?

The main symptom is the appearance of a lump in the groin or abdominal area. This lump tends to be soft and can sometimes be simply pushed back in. Sometimes they can be painful and in certain cases they can cut off the circulation to the intestine which will require surgery.

### How do you treat them?

In general hernias need to be operated on to avoid complications. If you decide not to undergo surgery, compressive straps and avoiding physical strains can prevent them from appearing, or growing larger.

### Should you seek medical help?

You should always go see your doctor if a hernia appears so they can refer you to a surgeon.

### Do they tend to come back after the first time?

After a hernia has been operated on it is difficult for it to appear in the same place, however they can appear elsewhere.

### Are there ways of preventing them?

Avoiding heavy lifting and other strenuous activities, as well as core muscle exercises which can prevent them from appearing, however they can still form despite these measures.

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



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## What a pain

AS the weather cools we increasingly tend to cover up our feet more with socks or closed-toe shoes. While this change helps keep us warmer it can also increase the risk of suffering an ingrown toenail.

This painful condition can also be exacerbated by high-heeled or tight shoes we wear at parties during the festive season. Other risk factors include improperly trimmed toenails which cause the nail to dig in to the surrounding skin, trauma to the nail or a fungal infection.

Symptoms include a reddened, warm and painful toe end, extra skin growing around the corners of your nail or occasionally a white or yellow discharge. In serious cases, the skin around the nail may become infected.

So what can you do to avoid or treat an ingrown toenail?

Luckily, there are plenty of things you can do to help prevent one developing in the first place. The most important one is to clip or trim toenails well in the first place ensuring they are cut in a straight line, not a curve.

Also take care not to over file the corner of your nails as the curved shaped is more likely to dig into surrounding skin. It is also important to keep feet clean and dry and wear shoes with enough room for your toes.

If you are unlucky enough to suffer from one, there are several home remedies which might help. The Mayo Clinic advises soaking your feet in warm water for 15 to 20 minutes three or four times a day to reduce pain and swelling. It also recommends putting dental floss or clean cotton under the affected nail, after soaking, to separate it from the skin. Finally, apply an antibiotic cream to prevent infection.

If all else fails, though, a doctor will be able to give you the best advice or treatment to have you on your feet again in no time.

OUR heart is arguably our most important organ, ensuring oxygen is pumped around our bodies, keeping everything functioning as it should.

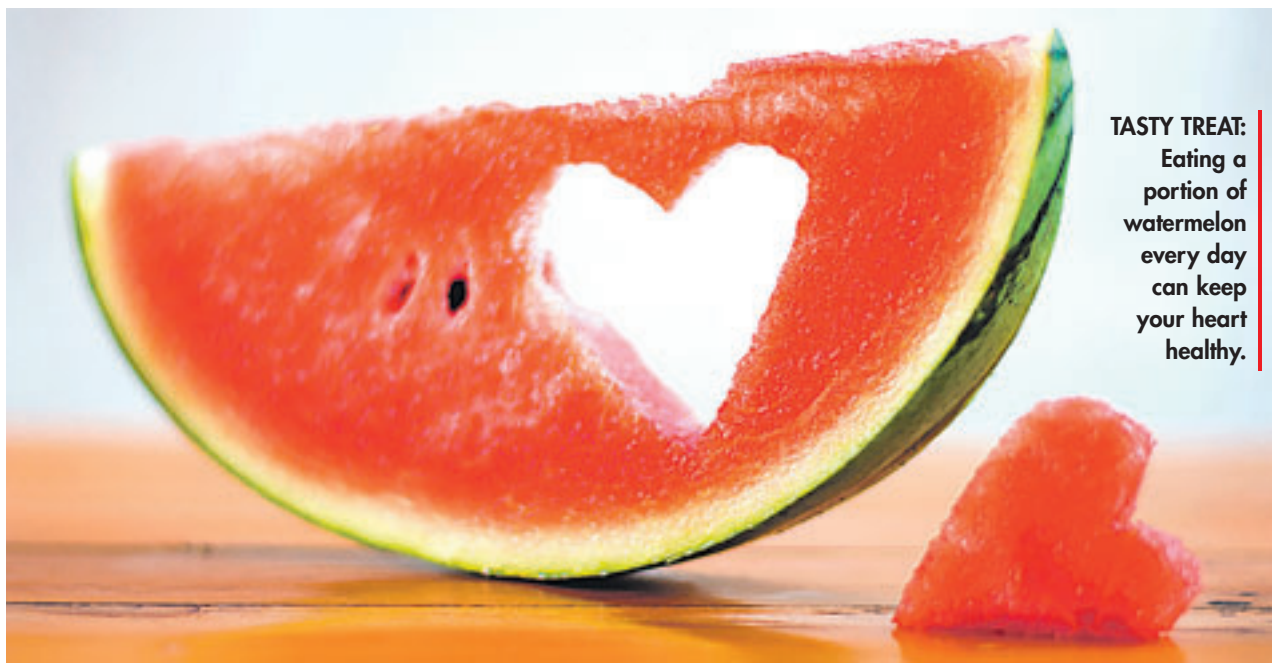
Increasingly though, a modern lifestyle means we don't look after our hearts as much as we may want. Fast food, smoking, drinking and sedentary habits prevent this organ from working at its best.

In turn this can lead to anything from reduced energy to heart diseases like angina or even a heart attack or stroke. According to charity, Live-Strong, however, "the food choices you make can drastically affect your heart health, energy and appetite control."

So what are the best foods to look after your heart?

One of Spain's easiest fruits to grow is watermelon which provides an array of benefits for your heart. Containing lycopene which has been shown to lower the risk of heart disease and cancer, as well as citrulline which is believed to improve blood vessels, the fruit also contains antioxidants which help fight cancer causing free radicals.

# Heart-healthy eating



**TASTY TREAT:**  
Eating a portion of watermelon every day can keep your heart healthy.

Another of Spain's best-selling fruits is avocado which offers potassium, a mineral which regulates blood pressure, and carotenoids, which have been shown to reduce the risk of death from cardiovascular diseases, according to

Bridget Swinney, an American dietician.

Berries also give us an abundance of heart improving benefits. These fruits lower blood pressure while increasing levels of good cholesterol and lowering levels of bad

cholesterol. They also contain an abundance of antioxidants and polyphenols, chemicals which help blood vessels to relax.

And finally, several types of beans provide the fibre we need to bind to cholesterol, re-

moving it from our bodies before it reaches our arteries. They also contain Omega 3 fatty acids which are essential for good heart health. Try lima, kidney, black or white beans for a dose of those important nutrients.

## Pearly whites

TOOTH damage happens to us all at one point, either through injury, natural wear and tear or occasionally tooth decay.

While it is always best to see a dentist, if you are struggling to get an appointment or don't have the time, there are some things you can do to treat a tooth before you see a professional.

If the tooth just has a minor chip and no nerves are exposed, it may just be that you need to cover a jagged edge before you see a dentist. You can fill a chip temporarily yourself to avoid lacerating your tongue on the broken edge.

According to Sarasota Dentistry, ask your pharmacist for temporary filling material to cover the gap for a short time or alternatively use wax. If your tooth is in a lot of pain, however, you may have a more serious chip and should see your dentist immediately to avoid damaging the dental pulp and potentially losing the tooth.

If you have knocked your tooth and it is now loose, see a dentist as soon as possible.



**TOOTHY TRUTH:** Always visit your dentist if you have pain in your tooth.

Your dentist may be able to put it back in its original position. According to Mamaroneck Oral Surgery, the longer you leave it, the higher your chance of needing root canal.

If your tooth comes out completely, you may be able to save it if you respond quickly. Make an immediate appointment at your dentist and pick up your tooth by the crown without touching the roots. Clean it with saliva or cold water and place it back in its socket, holding it in place with a clean cloth until you get to the dentist.

If you are unable to place it

back in position, put it in a glass of milk or saliva. If you get to a dentist within 30 minutes you have a good chance of saving the tooth.

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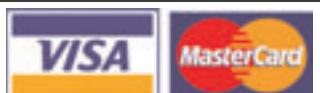


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## Revolution is televised

FILM buffs can enjoy the wintry nights ahead, and avoid the Christmas crush, with a mini Russian film festival. Organised in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution, the festival began last week and concludes in mid-December.

Films will be screened in different cinemas across Palma, rather than concentrating the festival in just one area. There will also be conferences where aficionados can gather and discuss the finer points of Russian cinema in more detail.

The next screening takes place on Wednesday night at the Catalina Valls theatre. Leviathan from acclaimed director Andrei Zviagintsev will be shown at 7.30pm. The 2014 drama tackles some of the country's most acute social problems and is considered a masterpiece of modern Russian cinema.

The next film to be shown is more than 90 years old. Mat is a 1926 film from Vsevolod Pudovkin. The silent film will be shown at the Ramon Llull library at 5.30pm on Friday December 15.

Details about other festival highlights can be found online.

## Waves of Change returns

THE next beach clean organised by Asociacion Ondine takes place tomorrow between 2pm and 5pm.

Volunteers will be scouring the Playa de S'arenal south of the stream next to the marina.

The clean is part of the ongoing Waves of Change initiative. This has gained huge support from local residents in the past month, with one recent clean on Palma beach attracting hundreds of volunteers.

The conservation group is keen to see as many people as possible there and make it as much of a fun event as their last beach clean proved to be.

A Waves of Change board will be present for anyone who wants to make a New Year's Resolution to help save the oceans. Asociacion Ondine also invites any volunteers to present ideas on how to save Mallorca's beaches.

They request that anyone who comes along brings reusable gloves and bags. For more information see the Facebook page of Asociacion Ondine, or contact them direct-



Photo credit: Asociacion Ondine/Facebook

### GREEN PLANET: Make a New Year's resolution to keep Mallorca clean.

ly through their website.

Hard but fun and rewarding work can be expected. One recent clean saw volunteers

pick up more than 800 kilos of plastic, cigarette butts, ear bud sticks and straws. This was after a municipal clean.

## Broadway musical

CATCH Chicago this weekend at the Alcudia Auditorium. The classic musical is on Saturday morning and late on Sunday afternoon.

It is a production from Fundacio Escola de Musica d'Alcudia and will feature music from the town's municipal band.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for as little as €8, or for €10 on the door. Saturday's performance is at 10am and Sunday's at 6pm.

It is a terrific opportunity for musical lovers across Mallorca to catch one of the all-time classics of the genre.

Based on a play written in the early 1920s, Chicago is set in prohibition-era America. It is the longest running Broadway show after The Phantom of the Opera.

## A very Nordic Christmas

A SCANDINAVIAN Christmas bazaar is being held this weekend. Organised by the Swedish Church of Mallorca, it takes place from Friday to Sunday in Palma.

The Christmas market has been entertaining and feeding Mallorcans for three decades. Similar events are held across the world, organised by the large Swedish diaspora.

Mallorca's bazaar is one of the very best in Spain. This is thanks to the large Scandinavian expatriate community who have made the island home over the past 30 years.

Visitors will find delicious food, including bread and sausage specialities, and also the famous Scandinavian mulled wine, known as Glogg. There will be dozens of gift

stands and stalls offering hand crafted goods, music performances and a wintry Christmas atmosphere.

The Scandinavian Christmas bazaar is just one of many Christmas markets set to make the season magical in Mallorca. German markets will sprout up across the island, also offering hot food and warm wine to festive fam-

ilies and travellers from abroad.

Tomorrow the Scandinavian market opens at 3pm and continues until 8pm. On Saturday the doors open a little earlier, at 11am, still closing at 8pm. Finally on Sunday the hours are from 12pm until 6pm.

There will be live music and other special activities for children.

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## Christmas has finally arrived

CHRISTMAS is here. Palma's Christmas lights switch on tonight on the Passeig del Born. The festive fun begins at 5.30pm with live music and children's activities creating a Christmassy atmosphere for all the family.

Though concentrated on the Passeig del Born, Christmas lights will be turned on right across the city, including at the port. There will be circus performers, including acrobats, putting on a real show for children and adults alike.

This year Palma Council has chosen to turn on the lights just before Black Friday. Tomorrow the world's biggest shopping frenzy gets underway with high street shops and websites offering huge discounts for early Christmas shoppers.

Residents and visitors can expect Palma to be mobbed with shoppers and festive cheer from tonight, right through until Sunday. Some shops are offering sales early to take advantage of the huge numbers expected to watch the lights being turned on.

It is an earlier date than last year, when the council came under fire for delaying the lights until December 3. But the format will stay the same. The main show gets underway at 5.30pm, the lights officially turn on at 6.30pm, and the circus and visual effect show takes place in Plaça de la Reina.



TOP TREAT: Port Adriano on the menu for foodies.

## Food and wine extravaganza

FOODIES are in for a treat right across Mallorca this weekend. There is a variety of events taking place to cater to all tastes.

In Port Adriano it is the last weekend of the Passion Food Festival. Having taken place on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays throughout November, this weekend is the last for the year.

There are seven participating restaurants who are offering affordable tasting menus prepared by top chefs from just €16 per person. Details on participating establishments can be found on-

line. It is the last major festival in Port Adriano until the Christmas celebrations and ice skating get underway from December 22.

Meanwhile on Saturday a two-day wine festival begins in Santa Maria del Cami. Tours will be offered of selected vineyards for early birds unafraid of a bright start. Later, at around 7pm, there will be tasting sessions in Plaça Nova. Local restaurants will be taking part, offering cheap and delicious tapas to go with the flowing wine.

The weekend also sees a different kind of food festival take place in Alaro. It is mushroom collecting season and some of the tastiest fungal treats on the island will be on display at the Mushroom Gastronomic Festival.

The festival gets underway today and will last until the middle of next month. Local restaurants are offering mushroom-themed menus for the duration of the autumn harvest.

It's a rare opportunity to sample newly plucked and expertly prepared truffles.



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MY recent comments on Tempranillo led to requests from readers for additional information which I am happy to provide.

It is useful when buying Tempranillo to understand the four legal ageing terms listed on most Spanish wine bottles as they affect quality and flavour.

- Vin Joven: rarely aged in oak, they are released young, intended for immediate consumption, and are not very common outside Spain.

- Crianza: reds aged for two years with six months in oak, traditionally American which is stronger than other types (ie French).

- Reserva: reds aged three years, with one year in oak, resulting in a higher quality with richer, round flavours.

- Gran Reserva: exceptional vintage wines, aged a minimum of five years with 18 months of oak ageing.

## Tempranillo: What's in a label...



### AGEING TERMS: Affect quality and flavour.

Depending on the region, Tempranillo is known under various names: Tinta del País in Ribera del Duero, Tinta de Toro in Toro, Ull de Llebre in Catalonia, Cencibel in Valdepenas where it is the predominant red grape and Tinto Fino in other regions.

Tempranillo is most commonly blended with Garnacha, Mazuela, Merlot, Monastrell and Cabernet Sauvignon; is the major component of the typical Ri-

oja blends and constitutes 90-100 per cent of Ribera del Duero wines.

Reasonably-priced labels of Tempranillo 'vin Joven' include Rioja 2016 Pagos del Rey by Castillo de Albai; Crin Rioja; and Senorio de Los Llanos by Garcia de Carrion.

Recommended to serve at 15°C, this can be achieved by putting the open bottle into the fridge 15 minutes before pouring.

Happy tasting.





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Advertising feature

# Spending income to the benefit of all

NOW that we enter an AGM free period, Stephen Lewis, Managing Director of LPL Commercial Services takes a breath to look back on what it all means in his world of Community Management Fees Debt Collection.

For most residential communities in Spain we have just come out of perhaps the busiest time for Management Committees and their appointed Administrators - the AGM. Dreaded by many, relished by some, stressful for most.

For expats and holiday owners alike it is an opportunity to air grievances, discuss the poor quality of gardens, litter, decoration, should we pay for security gates and on and on it goes. But nearly everything discussed at any AGM always comes down to one question - How much money does the Community have to spend?

Then the real discussion and arguments start. Who owes what, how much and for how long and more importantly: Why are those residents that pay their management fees subsidising those that do not? It is a sad fact that for years many communities suffer this problem, shout about it at the AGM and discuss the very same subject at the next AGM and often about the same debtors at the next AGM and the next and the next...



## THE AGM: Who owes what?

It has always been a strange paradox that with most worldwide accounting systems we carry over 'Debtors' as an asset. We kid ourselves that the balance sheet is very healthy, as soon as all the overdue monies come in. Whether communi-

ties in Spain or businesses elsewhere it's the same story. Unfortunately we have seen in our lifetimes what can happen when we get too

complacent about monies owed on the balance sheet, as was proven through the European and almost world wide banking crisis of 2008

One of the biggest problems besetting communities is not the fact the money does not always come in on time, it's the fact that many are actually too hesitant to do anything about it. By the time a decision is made the property owner, living outside of Spain, may have moved or incurred other circumstances making it far more difficult to contact them and collect. Worse still some debts are so old that they then become uncollectible because of the Statute of Limitations, which in Scotland is five years and England and Wales in particular six years, as an example.

There is no good reason to delay strong collection action on debts of one year, or even sooner. After all why should the well intentioned prompt payers suffer for the misdeeds of those that really don't care about their Community or worse still are deriving income from renting out their property and are still shirking their payment responsibilities.

Wouldn't it be great to discuss how we can spend Community income to the benefit of all as we have the money in the bank... or better still reduce next year's charges for a change!

For more information, visit [www.lplgroup.com](http://www.lplgroup.com) or speak with the head of Spanish operations, Greg Bryan, who is based in Spain and can be contacted on +34 689 408 412. Tel: UK +44 (0) 208 551 4019.

## Should TV reboots be given the boot?

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)



WE'RE living in an age of endless TV reboots with news that the comedy classic *Four Weddings and a Funeral* is being remade, as is the 1980's series *Magnum PI*.

But reboots are invariably disappointing because the original was part of its time that can't be recreated second time round. Everyone's moved on and the world's a completely different place today. Alternatively, they weren't brilliant shows even back then.

In theory, I've nothing against remaking movies or TV shows. It's not unlike a Shake-



Photo by Atlanta's CW/Twitter

## IT'S BACK: Iconic TV show *Dynasty* was given the reboot treatment this year.

speare play - if there is a point, of course, and something new and different is added to the production. In practice, though, the major problem with reviving 80's TV is that our tastes have fundamentally altered as have our TV viewing habits.

In the 80's, there were very few channels so shows like *Dallas* and *Dynasty* (likewise rebooted) became popular because there wasn't much else -

and provocative, challenging, creative TV's moved on from the predictability of the hourly slot where the same thing happens every week. And in *Magnum PI* the same thing did happen every week.

Most of these revivals are just the result of creative laziness, because either nobody can dream up any fresh ideas, or the bean counters in charge won't take the plunge with new ones. They'd rather just

rely on re-writes and hope that enough people have been born who can't remember the old series and will be presented with something 'different.'

Basically, recycling old themes rarely works; shows that were popular by default not merit then, rarely 'ignite' now. There are plenty of new concepts to exploit, but everyone's too frightened of 'offending' the easily offended, so nobody takes chances anymore.

Which reminds me, the arctic blasts currently hitting the UK must be due to Global Warming, right? Or possibly Brexit? (Though my money's on Putin!) But it's not all bad - it should suit the snowflakes, provided they've some safe spaces where the temperature's mild and nobody's allowed a platform to talk about this, umm, 'offensive' weather.

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](http://www.nora-johnson.net)) from Amazon. All profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity.

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

## THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Graham Braben, Albox

## No goodies at the top

WE were in Ikea last week, just for a coffee and those cinnamon rolls. No shopping. No self-assembly nightmares. Or that's what I thought. It turns out we were on a mission to find curtain rails. Now in my world, you go in and choose the first set you come to and that's it!

But according to my wife and daughter, I know nothing. The first thing we had to do was measure them, taking into account drop, width and some other things that I'd never heard of, so we picked up one of those paper tape things and that's when I perked up!

It's funny the way our minds work. Apparently, the Nepalese government aren't sure how tall Everest is now after recent earthquakes, so they've commissioned professional measurers to produce a definitive figure.

It got me thinking, well the curtain rails did. We had to measure one of them and my job was to hold the measure at one end. Unfortunately, every time it was pulled tight, I let go.

Okay I admit it, I'm not a fully qualified rail measurer and to make things worse, I wasn't paying the slightest bit of attention either! All I got for my incompetence was a very hard stare and the threat of no cinnamon roll. Imagine what would happen if the same thing happened on Everest.

Which brings me to the point of this. If you have to go to Ikea against your will this weekend, take comfort, you could be over 20,000 feet up in the freezing snow, measuring a mountain rather than curtain rails, and there are no drinks and goodies at the top!

[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).



# Best ways to heat your casa

By Matthew Elliott

HOMEOWNERS across Spain are turning to new techniques to help warm their houses in winter. Home reform platform, Habitissimo reports more and more Spaniards are seeking help in bringing down the bills and staving off the chilly weather.

More than 15,000 homeowners requested information on heating their home last year, suggesting a huge appetite for sound advice.

The average family in Spain spends €1,454 per year heating their home. Those using natural gas average between €760 and €928, while those using electricity stump up around €2,000. Most people can easily cut their expenses by 20 per cent by being smarter in their choice of heating system.

Habitissimo offer advice on the smartest ways for homeowners to keep warm. Programmable thermostats can slash electric bills by 10 per cent. Paying an engineer to adjust the boiler is a sound investment, which can reduce costs by 15 per cent in the long run.

The most in-demand heating system among Spaniards is gas. More than one in three prefer gas, compared to the 19 per cent who favour the sim-



## TOASTY: Spaniards are sick and tired of cold casasa.

licity of electric.

A trend growing in popularity is for heated floors. These provide uniform heat throughout the house and don't create a dry or stuffy environment. Heated floors offer long term savings of between 10 and 30 per cent. Installation costs around €6,500 on average, but can rise to as much as €15,000 if the floors have to be raised.

One in five who ask for help from Habitissimo end up choosing heated pellets.

This is a biofuel formed from compressed sawdust that offers a greener way of heating the home.

It can be expensive though, with heating a big house possibly demanding a kilo of pellets be burned every hour.

# Rented homes on the rise

PROPERTY rental prices in Spain are rising because young people are finding themselves frozen out of the housing market.

Iñigo de la Serna, the Minister for Development, noted that rental prices in Spain were growing 'notably' and that the property sector as a whole was performing well.

Although Spain has traditionally been a country of owners, not tenants, the number of people now living in rented accommodation is now reaching the levels of other EU countries.

According to Adolfo Ramirez-Escudero, chief executive of property services company, CBRE Spain, roughly one million new apartments have been added to the rental market in the past decade.

According to de la Serna, the average cost of renting a home is still 17 per cent less than it was in 2007 when the financial crisis struck and prices are rising faster in certain areas, such as Madrid and Barcelona.

A report published by Casaktua concluded that more Spaniards are renting a place to live, particularly in the 25 to 35 age group, because they can't afford to



## FLAT MATES: More people are renting in Spain than ever before.

take out a mortgage. Fifty seven per cent of the people who rented their homes revealed they did so because they could not afford to buy.

Others revealed that they were worried they would not be able to keep up with the repayments if they committed

themselves to a mortgage.

The trend of renting homes instead of buying looks set to continue as rising house prices are also causing rents to soar in popular areas; making it harder for tenants to save money towards a deposit so they can buy their own place.

# Communal living comforts

THE number of housing complexes which cater to the needs of smaller families has risen in Spain in recent years.

While it used to be more common in Spain to have one big house with many generations living under the same roof, families are now choosing to live in smaller houses, preferably in complexes where they have everything they need under one roof.

These cohousing communities often have shared facilities such as a pool, garden and tennis court. They tend to be built outside cities with access to good transport links.

According to a recent study by Casaktua, most families consider a swimming pool essential when looking for a new house.

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### Ref 3115, Son Bielo, 268,000€

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### Ref 3021, Vallgornera, 585,000€

Lovely semi-detached luxury villa. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, guest toilet, very large living room with American kitchen, garage, large terraces, community pool and garden (4,000m2). aircon and central heating. Living area 220m2





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# Autumn leaves are falling down

## A perfect time to remake your garden

GRAEME TYRRELL

THE onset of the colder weather brings a lot of changes to the garden.

It is much easier to work in the glorious autumn sun to clean up the garden by pruning the summer flowering shrubs and preparing the soil for winter herbs, flowering annuals, new shrubs and trees.

It is the perfect time to plant new additions to the garden and start off new plants in pots so they can be well established before the next summer's heat.

If you are plagued by autumn leaves falling, it is useful to know that you can take

advantage of this natural annual event to improve your garden with richer soil from the autumn leaves which are a free source of organic material.

The simplest way to manage autumn leaves is to rake or blow them into natural soil garden beds to act as a mulch. It can look attractive and breaks down quickly over winter to add humus and other nutrients to the soil.

I also gather the leaves to surround newly planted trees and shrubs to provide insulation from the cold in winter while they are getting established. It works well even though it has usually broken down by the next summer and I have to use additional mulch for summer water conservation and heat insulation of the roots.

If you have stone mulches on your garden beds this method of mulching does not work as the stone mulches are better left without buildup of organic material as it will encourage weeds.

Instead you can make a simple pen in a corner of the

garden to pile the collected leaves and allow them to break down naturally over winter or add them to your compost as fresh layers with additional organic material between each collection of the leaves over autumn. The composted material can be added where it is needed later.

If you are preparing new garden beds that require cultivation, the leaves can be added to the soil and dug in. Leaves decompose very rapidly in the soil so they will improve the texture and organic content quickly to make the soil better for establishing new plants.

The leaves help to keep the soil aerated, with better drainage over winter and gives the soil greater water holding capacity in summer after they have broken down into humus.

So for the gardener, the autumn leaves are a blessing in the annual cycles of the seasons to prepare for the changes to come. Gathering the autumn leaves up from the terraces and paths, to add



**AUTUMN LEAVES: Don't waste them.**

to the soil and protect the plants, makes them an asset rather than a burden.

I love to see the fresh autumn leaves as they fall and

decorate the ground so I usually only collect them weekly. The warm autumn sun on the coloured leaves in the brisk autumn breezes, provides a

different aspect of the garden from other seasons that can be enjoyed and worked with to improve the quality of the garden year round.



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## Growing in pots

IF you have limited space in your garden or want to protect some of your plants when temperatures drop, it's worth investing in some stylish pots.

Potted plants really brighten up a space and allow you to have a garden that blooms all year round. You can use them to grow anything from climbing and flowering plants to vegetables and herbs.

They also allow you to have a portable garden, as they allow you to bring plants which are susceptible to frost inside during colder months.

Generally speaking, the bigger the plant, the bigger the pot but you need to make sure that it drains well and won't overheat your plant. You can also get cre-

ative, by using anything from old teapots and welly boots to wooden barrels.

Also make sure you keep in mind what the downsides might be of using pots made from certain containers. Although ceramic pots drain well, they also dry out quickly, especially under the hot sun, and require constant watering.

The soil you use in pots is also very important. You should avoid using soil from your garden as it is often too heavy and could contain diseases or insect pests.

However, because specialised potting soil tends to be lighter, you will also need to check your plant's moisture levels more often and make sure they are receiving enough nutrients.



# Winter garden

SPAIN has one of the best winter climates of Europe. So why not take advantage of this fact to get some winter gardening in?

According to *Permaculturenews.org*, winter can be the best time to grow some crops because of the natural rainfall.

While fruits including tomatoes and peppers should still be saved for summer as they need to ripen in the sun, many vegetables can be grown at this time of year.

Carrots can easily be planted in winter in mild Mediterranean climates and can be harvested in early spring, just in time for all those soups and roast dinners.

Other crops you can plant now include rhubarb, artichoke, chayote, lemon balm, currants, fennel and gooseberries. Or why not try broad beans and snap peas?



**CARROT GOLD:** Plant your carrot crop now to harvest in time for spring.

A longer term project will be garlic and shallots which will be ready in the summer in time to make a chilled gazpacho soup. Bulbing onions, green onions, chives and leeks will also fare well if planted now, as well as asparagus.

*Permaculturenews.org* recommends sowing your seeds as soon as possible to make the most of the warmer weather and planti-

ng some less hardy crops indoors in a window sill planter. Brussels sprouts, cabbage and lettuce will all thrive indoors at this time of year, as will fava beans, lentils, cauliflower and celery.

So why not make extra time this winter and make the most of Spain's great weather and grow your own? They'll be ready to harvest in the spring.



**TIPS:** There are a number of things that can help fruit and veg plants survive.

## Top tips for growing your own fruit and vegetables

EVERYONE has thought about growing their own fruit and vegetables at some point in their lives but may not necessarily have succeeded. When contemplating whether to start a fruit or vegetable garden, here are a few tips that may help on the road to home-grown fruit and vegetables.

Firstly, it is important to have a good, neutral, freely-drained loam soil that is light and airy. This will make it easier to feed the plants and is essential for producing healthy fruit and vegetables.

Make sure to choose the best varieties of plants available, which have been tried and test-

ed to ensure that the fruit or vegetable not only has fantastic flavour, but will also grow pest and disease resistant.

When growing crops, they need to be protected from insects and animals, especially in Spain. There are a number of options to consider in order to accomplish this, including companion planting or using a natural pest control method such as beer, copper tape or even egg shells.

A final way to ensure growth is to make sure that plenty of organic matter is mixed into the soil and use as mulch on top as it will provide the fruit and vegetables with more nutrients and give them a better chance at survival.

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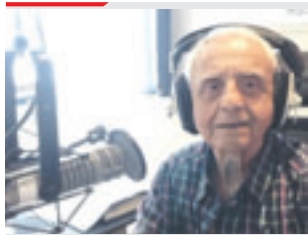
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# Rescue dogs make great companions



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**PET PALS:** Rescue dogs provide great company and make great additions to the family.

FOR years it has been medically documented that companion animals, like dogs, cats, rabbits and birds, help people live longer and healthier lives.

Being responsible for caring for an animal often gives new meaning to someone who is living alone or who is far from loved ones. Pets can help elderly people keep an active lifestyle and may help fill a

void left by living alone or away from family.

Working families thinking of adopting a rescue animal should take into consideration if they have time for the new family pet. Children should be encouraged to help

and go to dog training classes which are educational, social and really a lot of fun.

Seniors may want to consider adopting an older, adult animal instead of a puppy, kitten or rambunctious 'teenage' pet. Older pets are

more likely to be calm, already house trained and less susceptible to unpredictable behaviour.

Animal shelter staff can help potential adopters find the most suitable animal for their lifestyle.

Seniors should not be encouraged

to take on a large dog, as many take on a dog far too powerful for them, which becomes unmanageable. Obviously if you live in an apartment then you should have a small dog.

Dog's lives revolve around odour; I always recommend bathing a rescue pet as soon as possible. By doing this you wash away the old identity and allow the dog to get his new identity. Most dogs will roll in the ground to get their new identity.

Take your new pet for a walk around the area of your street near your home as soon as you are able. This allows your pet to learn the new smells of the area.

Ensure that all doors, gates etc. to the home are secure and that you have a microchip and a tab on the collar with your telephone number.

Emotionally you will feel very sorry for the little fellow and often new owners can overdo the attention.

Best not to smother the dog and keep in mind that now is the time to set the rules of your home.

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# Volvo Ocean Race update

THE various teams taking part in the Volvo Ocean Race are nearing the end of the second leg which will see them arrive in Cape Town.

The navigators and skippers have been faced with a number of choices that may largely determine their fate as they race towards South Africa.

Team Brunel defied expectations and turned back to the southwest in an effort to get closer to the stronger winds of a weather system that is expected to deliver the leading group towards their destination.

Before the gybe, Brunel skipper Bouwe Bekking explained the trade-offs in play.

"One more very important decision to make is

to get the timing right for the most likely final gybe into Cape Town," he wrote.

Adding "You go too early, you sail a shorter distance, but with a chance to have less breeze. You go too late and you sail too many miles. So this is a crucial one to set us up. But even after that it is far from over. If you look long term, there are some very tricky passages still to come on this leg."

The Dongfeng Race Team, who had been leading for much of the second leg appeared to cut the corner too close, sailing too far to the east, and were punished immediately for getting too close to the light wind area.

## On board MAPFRE.

Vestas 11th Hour Racing heads the table, just marginally ahead of MAPFRE. But as watch captain and team director Mark Towill explained, the Spanish boat to the south is going to be hard to beat.

"MAPFRE has made a big play to the south and it looks like they've got more pressure down there so it will be interesting to see how that plays out over the next couple of days. They look like the boat to beat right now."



Photo Credit: Ugo Fonolla/Volvo Ocean Race

With nine more legs after Cape Town and a likely finish in June 2018, there is still plenty of time for any team to win.



Photo Credit: Sculati and Partners

**STUNNING:** The Azimut 55 Fly - speed combined with extreme comfort.

## Another luxurious dream from Azimut

ITALIAN boat manufacturer Azimut has launched its new 55 Fly which promises to deliver speed combined with extreme comfort.

The exterior is designed by Stefano Righini with warm, cosy and refined interiors showing the creative flair of Achille Salvagni.

The decor is based on the combination of five different materials and layout of the lower deck features three double cabins.

With a design featuring the distinctive vertical bow, this model has been created for people who want to spend

the entire day in the open air, without compromising on absolute comfort in the interiors too.

That is why the main deck is like a big open air lounge area. In addition to the spacious sun lounging areas both fore and aft, the deck is designed and furnished to create a sophisticated living area to relax in, which can be quickly converted into a dinette for lunch.

Turning to the interiors, Azimut has managed to keep a proper dinette in addition to three cabins, which are the defining feature of this best-

in-class model in its segment.

The owner's suite in the bow features a big full-height space, is flooded with natural light entering through the double ceiling and side windows.

The VIP cabin in the centre of the boat has been designed as a second owner's suite, offering the option of a double bed that can be converted into twin beds with the help of practical sliding guide tracks.

This cabin too has a vanity area, plus plenty of storage space.

The third and final cabin has bunk beds and is extremely generously sized, while the big side window provides lots of natural light.

The engine room plays host to two engines Volvo 800 (600 HP), with IPS transmissions: the top speed of 35 knots speeds up trips while the transmission delivers great manoeuvrability and makes the yacht easy to steer.

## Busy regatta for all at Llucmajor

THE Nova Beach Park regatta organised by the Club Nàutic s'Arenal (ANC) saw a large number of sailors of different ages take part.

One hundred and fifty five boys and girls aged under 15 took part in the optimist class which saw world champion Maria Perelló take first place followed by Pau Mesquida and Aina Garau both of whom sail with the ANC.

Of the six races planned for the weekend, due to weather conditions it was possible for four to take place in the optimist group, three for laser 4.7, four for radial laser, five for Musto Skiff and 420 classes and, finally, six for windsurfing.

The Musto Skiff winner



Photo Credit: Bernarñ Biblióni/ANC

**Triumphant optimist winner Maria Perelló.**

was the Arenal sailor, Justo Martínez. In 420, the team consisting of Giuletta Lang and Tess Provenzal, of the RCNP, took the first place.

In the Laser Radial class the first classified participants were Aina Bauzá of the CV Port d'Andratx while in the

master's class the winner was Miguel Vilanova of the ANC.

The optimist competition was great practice for the Balearic Championship due to be competed for in Ibiza.

## Success in Amsterdam

AT the DAME Design Award 2017 ceremony, held in Amsterdam, the Besenzone P400 Matrix helm seat won the marine industry's most prestigious prize.

The company won the award in the interior equipment, furnishings, materials and electrical fittings used in cabins category, in recognition of its innovative P400 Matrix helm seat.

The jury examined 122 entries from 22 countries, nominating 66 products for the second round of judging. Only these products were eligible to win the DAME Design Award prize.



Photo Credit: Besenzone

**The P400 Matrix helm seat.**

When choosing the winners of seven categories, as well as the overall winner, the jury considered a number of factors, including the design, construction quality, impact on the marine industry, cost effectiveness and environmental impact.

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**Clarkson  
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“Having a twin turbo V12 diesel is like turning off your central heating at home, then keeping warm... by burning Rembrandts.”  
*Some might say...*



**Motoring shorts**

## Cheap cruising

RESEARCHERS have shown that cruising at 55mph is optimal for emissions and wallets. In a lifetime of driving, the average motorist could save more than 3,000 in fuel costs by doing 60mph rather than 80mph.

The figures come from Click Mechanic. They show that drivers who typically cruise at 80mph emit more than five tonnes extra over 20 odd years than those who cruise at 60mph do.

The average British driver travels 7,800 miles a year. Around 1,600 miles are notched up on motorways. Click Mechanic researchers took a Fiat 500 as their test model and found that, on the motorway, it cost 500 more over a lifetime to drive at 65mph compared to 60mph.

The cheapest speed to drive on the motorway is 55mph, though other road users probably won't appreciate the cost cutting.

By Matthew Elliott

WOMEN love the Hyundai Ioniq. The hybrid was declared Supreme Winner of the Women's World Car of the Year awards.

The first car to boast three electrified powertrains was selected by an all female cast of 25 motoring journalists. The Supreme Winner is the car that 'really stands out' according to Sandy Myhre, who is in charge of the awards process.

"The Women's World Car of the Year award once again proves that the world's first car offering hybrid, plug-in hybrid and all-electric powertrains in a single body type is a real champion," said Andreas-Christoph Hofmann of Hyundai Motor Europe.

Judges voted on six categories: budget, family car, SUV, luxury, performance, and green. The green category was also won by the Ioniq.

The sleek and mobile Hyundai Ioniq could hardly be more different to the car declared World Car of the Year last month. The Jaguar F-Pace SUV won what could be called the 'men's awards.'

The Mazda CX-5 won the family car award, the Ford Fiesta was the best bud-

# Femme fatale

## Women's top car revealed



**SLEEK: Hyundai Ioniq a hit with the ladies.**

get, and the Peugeot 3008 won best SUV. The BMW 5 Series easily won best luxury car and the Honda Civic Type R scooped the performance award.

There was also a special award for the best 'Dream Machine' for women. For the second year running McLaren won the dream car award. The 720 S edged out tight competition from the Maserati Levante and Aston Martin DB11. On the rear view mirror is etched a quote from McLaren founder Bruce McLaren and reads: "Life is measured in achievement, not in years alone."

**ROAD TEST** by Nick Fletcher

THE Q2 is Audi's smallest SUV yet offers cool styling and badge kudos that most rivals cannot match. The Q2 maintains the distinctive Audi look, a sculptured shape hallmarked by a deep front grille and the unmistakable four-circle badge which all combine to present potent kerb appeal.

Q2 models start at €23,884 (£21,360) for versions with basic kit, but for features such as connectivity, larger alloy wheels and more sporty looks, you have to move up the range, and most buyers do just that.

My test model was the Q2 2.0 litre diesel Quattro S Tronic and laden with options including LED lighting, technology and comfort packs, leather sports seats and much more, boosting the price to €39,113 (£34,990).

The 2.0 litre engine offers 148 hp and pushes the car to

# Audi Q2

100 kph in just 8.1 seconds, with a top speed of 210 kph (131 mph). Fuel consumption is a very respectable 20.8 kpl (58.9 mpg). Good figures, which underpin a car which drives beautifully - smooth, remarkably agile and superbly composed.

Its Quattro all-wheel-drive system keep the car well-planted on the corners and despite stiffer sports suspension, still delivers a very comfortable ride. And the S Tronic gearbox is very re-

sponsive, with quick yet smooth shifts.

The interior accommodates four adults with ease, with even six-footers getting enough headroom in the rear. There are plenty of oddment stowage spaces and boot space is 355 litres, boosted to 1,000 litres with the rear seats folded.

Standard features on the test model include power windows, remote locking, climate control, virtual cockpit (virtual instruments instead of actual dials),

Audi Q2. |



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

sports steering wheel with paddle-shifters and a dash-top screen for sat-nav, infotainment and connectivity.

There are plenty of safety features too, including Audi's Pre Sense safety kit which is standard across the range, with Autonomous Emergency Braking which will put the brakes on if the sensors detect a pedestrian stepping out in front of the car.

The SUV sector is jam-packed with worthy contenders, including Mercedes GLA, BMW X1 and Mazda CX-3 but Audi has over the years cultivated an unmatched ultra-cool brand image with immense appeal to discerning drivers, and that helps gives the Q2 a real cutting edge in its class.

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# Other managers cry - I don't cry - Jose

MANCHESTER UNITED gaffer, Jose Mourinho, who host Brighton in the Premier League at Old Trafford on Saturday, says other managers 'cry' when hit by player injuries.

"Other managers cry when players are injured - I don't cry -" said Mourinho, who has had a plethora of injuries this season.

United suffered another injury scare when Phil Jones pulled out of the England squad to face Brazil after a thigh injury sustained in the international friendly against Germany.

Mourinho could turn to summer signing, Victor Lindelof to replace Jones, should the defender suffer a recurrence that could keep him on the sidelines this weekend.

Liverpool, who host champions Chelsea on Saturday, are in the hunt to sign Barcelona star, Javier Mascherano in the January transfer window.

Argentine midfielder, Mascher-



## UK SPORTSCENE

with Andrew Atkinson

ano, 33, who departed Anfield for the Nou Camp in 2010, sees his contract at Barcelona end in less than two years.

Liverpool full back, Nathaniel Clyne will be sidelined for another three months after surgery in the wake of the England international where he picked up a back injury.

Dominic Solanke's England surprise call-up for the international friendly against Brazil could cost Liverpool £10 million: "It came as a surprise, really but anything can happen as a footballer," said Liverpool striker, Solanke.

Solanke, 20, who left Chelsea in a move to An-

field in the summer, will have his value decided by tribunal. Liverpool offered £3m, which was rejected.

Liverpool star, Sadio Mane, dogged with a hamstring, is set to head to the 2018 World Cup following Senegal's first qualification since 2002.



**JOSE MOURINHO:**  
Doesn't cry.

## SPORTSCENE SPAIN

with Andrew Atkinson

# My parents have always believed in me. I couldn't ask for better role models

*Euro Weekly News* sports correspondent, Andrew Atkinson talks in-depth in Part two of an Exclusive interview with British born teenage swimming sensation, twice-Junior World Oceanman Female World Champion, Club Natacion Elche star, Zoe Connolly.

ZOE CONNOLLY'S quest is to meet Spanish Olympic, world and European champion swimmer, Mireia Belmonte - the first female Olympic champion in the history of Spanish swimming - considered to be the greatest Spanish swimmer ever. "The person I would like to meet the most is Mireia Belmonte - she is an excellent swimmer - who swims so many different races and very good at long-distance," said Zoe.

Dedicated teenage ace, Zoe has achieved successes in her fledgling career, that has lead her to becoming the Open Water Junior World Oceanman Female World Champion, in 2016 and 2017: "I am grateful to my parents who pay to stay in hotels," said Zoe.

"Competition swimming costumes are expensive - up to €400 a suit - wetsuits for open water run into hundreds of euros," said Zoe.

"It also costs money for entries into competi-

**NERVOUS:**  
Zoe at the  
start of the  
2017 World  
Half  
Oceanman.



tions, along with training with the swimming club each month," said

Zoe, whose entrance fees for travesias - sea swims - were over €200 in 2017.

"My parents have always supported me - given me everything I needed - to achieve what I have achieved. They have always believed in me and helped me through the hard times," said Zoe.

"No matter what happens they are always there for me - helping me through school - and swimming. I couldn't ask for better role models," said Zoe. Away from the water, Zoe is busy studying: "I am studying my first year of 'Bachillerato' in 'Almoradi Antonio Sequeros'," said Zoe.



**DREAM MEETING:** Mireia Belmonte - Spain's No.1.



**CHAMPION:** Zoe finishing the 2017 World Half Oceanman.

"I intend to continue studying by attending University to study physics and mathematics," said Zoe, studying to take the entrance exam next November, for either Oxford or Cambridge Universities.

Despite her huge success, Zoe has had disappointments: "My biggest disappointment was being one place short of achieving Elite Athlete Status in 2017 in the open water Spanish Cup," said Zoe.

Zoe, who has a coach, for both Fin Swimming and normal swimming, as part of her local swimming club, Club Natacion Elche, says swimming in open waters has its dangers and injury woes.

"I have sustained various injuries throughout the years, due to my tendons that did not grow at the same rate as my bones," said Zoe. "The biggest danger in sea swimming is the jellyfish. I have been lucky - only been stung a few times - and it has never been serious," said Zoe.

Zoe, whose favourite meal is pasta with chicken, listens to music and reads books to relax: "I listen to the top hits, although I do like Shawn

Mendes, Ed Sheeran and Arianna Grande," said Zoe. "I find swimming quite relaxing - it helps get rid of stress - especially throughout exam weeks. I also find reading quite relaxing too," said Zoe, who dreams of an exotic holiday.

"I would love to visit somewhere exotic - Thailand or Tahiti - it would be nice to learn about different cultures," said Zoe. "But, honestly, I would go anywhere with nice beaches. I love the sea and it would be great to swim and scuba dive, to see all the different wildlife," said Zoe. "Swimming is amazing, such a big part of my life. It's good for stress relief and very good for your health and it has helped my education, concentration and time management," said Zoe.

"Sometimes training sessions can be hard, but nothing beats the feeling of accomplishment when you've finished. Overall it improves your mood," said Zoe.

"In 2018, I am thinking about becoming a swimming coach/trainer, in which I will have to take another course, with more exams," said Zoe, who worked as a lifeguard in the summer.

## Spain Europe Global World of SPORT

with Andrew Atkinson

### Cricket: Ashes Tests

Bring it on! Joe rooting for Ashes

THE first of five Ashes Tests between Australia and England gets underway today in Brisbane with England captain, Joe Root saying: Bring it on!

"I've heard chat about targeting me, in particular. We'll be targeting every single one of them. Bring it on," said Root.

Aussie spinner, Nathan Lyon has singled out Root after Australian opener David Warner labelled the series as 'war'.

"There's been a lot of talk - some of it is a load of rubbish - especially from some of the Aussie players. The more you say, the more it can backfire on you," said Root.

Alastair Cook, England's all-time leading Test run scorer, vice-captain, James Anderson, England's highest Test wicket-taker and Stuart Broad are among key figures.

"The great thing about Ashes cricket is that you have to get in a battle, so I tend to be a better bowler,"

said Broad.

England all-rounder, Moeen Ali will be fit for the Ashes after a scare when he suffered a side strain. Fast bowler, Steven Finn, who misses the Ashes after sustaining a torn knee cartilage, is replaced by Tom Curran. Jake Ball is a doubt for the first Test, with strained ankle tendons.

Ben Stokes is absent due to an ongoing police investigation after his alleged altercation in Bristol during the one-day series against West Indies in the summer.

England haven't won the opening Test of an Ashes series in Australia since 1986. Australia are 4-5 favourites to win the Ashes, with England 5-2, with odds of 9-2 for a draw.

"It is a great part of the

Ashes series, a great part of the rivalry," said Broad, in his third Test Series.

"We're not going to blast the Australians out. We have to do what we do, adjust our length a bit. If you bowl that slightly fuller length, you get belted," said Broad.

"I've done some good work leading into the first Test. I feel like my time is coming," said Broad.

Is the Ashes Tests series a war?: "It's a game of cricket - not war - one I believe we can win," said Broad.

Ashes Tests: November 23-27, 1st Test, Brisbane; December 2-6, 2nd Test, Adelaide; December 14-18, 3rd Test, Perth (Waca); December 26-30, 4th Test, Melbourne; January 4-8, 5th Test, Sydney.



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MADRID rivals Real and Atletico played out the first 0-0 draw between the two sides in La Liga since 2005 at the weekend, leaving both sides 10 points behind Barcelona in the title race.

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

23 - 29 November 2017

# SPORT

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TO READ MORE

## El Toro RC and RC Ponent continue unbeaten

### Baleares Senior League

IN the game between Bahia RC and El Toro RC played in S'Arraco on Saturday, both teams made an explosive start in an effort to catch their opposition on the hop.

The home team played a very organised game to be 7-3 up by half time.

El Toro RC brought in reinforcements for the second half and kept Bahia RC away from the try line, even though they continued to keep the pressure on.

With tries from Agustin Di Santo (2) and Curtis Fox

they were able to take the win by 22 points to 10, maintaining their unbeaten record. RC Ponent continued their unbeaten run with a win by 17 points to 71 against Dimonis RC. They currently lie second in the

league table behind El Toro RC who have played an extra match.

The Truc Menorca against Capdepera RC match on home ground finished at three points to 23.

### U16 and U18 League

RC Ponent won both of their matches in Son Caliu on Saturday.

**Coming up next week**  
Babarians XV Calvia have a home match in Son Caliu against Tecnidex from Alicante. Kick off at 4pm.

The Baleares Senior League teams have a rest weekend.

Shamrock RC host the Rugby Day and U14 league and also the girls training session for the Baleares team.

### RCD Mallorca look to remain unbeaten

RCD Mallorca will aim to continue their unbeaten run this season as they travel to Olot for their next Segunda B match.

Mallorca, who have taken 39 points from their first 45 league matches this season, currently sit top of Segunda B, Group 3, 13 points clear of second placed Villarreal B.

The Mallorcan side have only conceded five times this season and will look to take all three points against Saturday's opponents, Olot.

Olot, who currently sit 18th after their first 15 games, haven't won since a 2-0 win over Atl Saguntino in early October and are six points adrift from At. Balearics in 15th.

Kick-off is scheduled for midday on Saturday.



El Toro RC forwards tackle Bahia RC.



Agustin Di Santo plays a pass.



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