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School shooting shocker

A MAN has been shot dead in broad daylight outside a school in Benijuan, Spanish media said.

According to reports, the victim stopped in his car near Los Granaous school, before a young man approached the vehicle, broke the glass and shot the man three times.

The 36-year-old victim was killed in the El Bojal district at around 11.30am on Tuesday morning, reports say.

One witness reportedly said the alleged killer was wearing a hood and ran away after the shooting.

On Tuesday, Guardia Civil were taking samples and testimonies as they began their investigation.

They were also reportedly trying to ascertain the identity of the victim and whether he owned the car.

However, local reports have suggested that the victim is a Romanian father living in the area.

Pictures of the incident show emergency services at the scene, surrounding a silver estate car - which appears to be a Renault - in a narrow street.

Grainy footage shows forensic investigators entering the cordoned off area on Calle Principe Felipe and significant police activity by the motionless car, which has both doors ajar.

Italian job

Top mafia boss arrested in Spain

by Harrison Jones

An Italian mafia chief on the run for 25 years has been arrested in Alicante, reports say.

Fausto Pellegrinetti is reportedly charged with money laundering and cocaine trafficking to the tune of 550 kilogrammes.

He had escaped Italian house arrest in October 1993, before police tracked him to a luxury penthouse in Alicante and arrested him on Sunday, at around 2pm.

Police suspect him of living under a false identity in the city for several years. They say he is also known as 'Franco' or 'Enrico.'

Believed to be an important figure in Rome's mafia - notably the 'La Magliana' ring - he had already been sentenced to 13 years in prison. He is also reportedly associated with



ARRESTED: The mafia man on Sunday.

the Marsigliesi, Berenguer, Bellicini and Bergamelli clans.

A joint investigation by Spanish and Italian police into the ring led them to Pellegrinetti, who they believe has remained active in the criminal underworld for decades.

Speaking at a press conference on Sunday, police spokesperson Luigi Silipo told reporters: "Fausto Pellegrinetti is a person who represents 50/60 years of criminal history of Rome. He is the first Roman criminal that was declared wanted."

Fleet rocked by short stocks

TORREVIEJA'S fishing industry is on tenterhooks after a dismal start to January saw catches fall by nearly 40 per cent, according to reports in the Spanish media.

Just over 30,000 kilos of anchovies and sardines were reportedly caught and sold in the first half of this month, compared to 120,000

throughout January 2017.

A Patron of the Fishermen's Association, Pedro Carmona Perez, suggested sardine stocks seemed particularly scarce.

Other representatives from the organisation have also reported the virtual disappearance of sardines from the area, media reports say.

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See page 6

NEWS EXTRA

Con caught out

NATIONAL POLICE have reportedly arrested two people on suspicion of swindling a Kazakhstani person living in Alicante out of €20,000. They are both 49, and allegedly failed to provide services promised to the victim.

Spooky fire

SEVEN children have been arrested for allegedly burning 19 objects on Halloween, according to reports. €20,000 worth of damage was caused by lighting three paper mills, a car, electrical transformer and a house.

Gang hoard

FOUR alleged members of a gang of robbers have been arrested by National Police in Alicante, according to reports in the Spanish media. Agents reportedly recovered jewels, money and other valuables from the Georgian group.

River plans

A MOTION to defend the Segura River will be debated by the Orihuela local authority, reports suggest. The talks are planned for today (Thursday).

Council in chaos

Mayor Dolon due in court

TORREVIEJA mayor Jose Manuel Dolon's future is in doubt, ahead of a court date next week.

He is accused of 'administrative prevarication against individual rights,' according to reports in the Spanish media.

He could be disqualified from public office.

The complaint against him was lodged by Popular Party (PP) councillor, Agustina Esteve, last October.

That came after Ms Esteve had reportedly made a request from another local body for information, but was told the information could not be made available 'because it would paralyse the normal functioning of the Council.'

As an opposition councillor, he is entitled to a response, reports say.

Following the complaint, a judge reportedly requested a complete set of files on the case from the relevant authorities, before summoning the official to court.

Mr Dolon told a press conference that he only learned from the media about his court summons, and that, to date, he has not received any notification.

The mayor has reportedly



SUNNIER TIMES: Mayor Dolon last year.

said he "wish(es) to know the content of that citation to request information on the relevant file," claiming that he is willing to answer, resolve or clarify the request.

He added that he had "total peace of mind because under no circumstances, from the

mayor's office or from the government team, has any order been given to limit the right to information of the opposition but quite the opposite."

The PP of Torrevieja's secretary general, Joaquin Albaladejo, said: "Jose Manuel Dolon forced us to go to the justice to collect useful municipal information for all (residents) and we have reached the point where a judge criminally investigates the mayor."

Sueña Torrevieja spokesman, Pablo Samper, said that the presumption of innocence must be respected, but that it was very sad that Torrevieja is known by a former mayor of the PP who was imprisoned, another former popular mayor and current spokesman of the PP that is being investigated, and now, the current mayor who is also cited to testify.

Ciudadanos official Pilar Gomez Magan indicated that her party will wait for the Prosecutor's Office to request a writ for the opening of an oral trial to demand the resignation of the mayor for lack of transparency.

Mayor Dolon is expected to appear in the Court of Instruction No. 3 of Torrevieja on January 30, at 10am.

Drought at root of veg issue

VEGETABLE production in Alicante dropped by 25 per cent last year because of drought, Spanish media says.

Production reportedly fell by some 30,485 tonnes in 2017 compared to 2016. A report by the Association of Young Farmers of Alicante blames 'the ravages of the severe drought' for the fall.

"The situation will be much more serious in 2018," the group warn. Alicante produced around 335,000 tonnes of vegetables in total last year.

A lack of water has decreased the area's available farmland.

However, the production of grapes dropped 20 per cent in 2017, as a result of heavy rain in September.

A summary in the report says: 'the balance of the 2017 agricultural year in the province of Alicante has been marked by the pressing drought, in which we are immersed for four years and that has worsened severely since May closed the Tajo-Segura transfer, according to Spanish media.'

Another factor was the emergence of a bacterium - named Xylella Fastidiosa - which reportedly hit vegetable production.

"The only positive note of 2017 is the economic value of the plantations, thanks to the fact that citrus fruits and vegetables reached reasonable prices in the field for the producer," he said.

According to the organisation's estimates, the economic value of agricultural production increased, from €684.5 million in 2016 to €711 million in 2017, despite the problems. "The great work done by the agricultural entrepreneur has caused that, despite having planted 1 per cent less, agricultural production has increased (+2.5 per cent)," the group commented.

Significant issues also hit fruit trees, with 1,449 hectares being lost, leaving 31,391 hectares remaining, according to the association. Cereals also lost 439 hectares, but there were significant increases in olive cultivation - 480 hectares - and vineyards - up 593 hectares.

Experts have been warning for some time to expect severe drought in the region and major consequences for food production.

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ALL THE LATEST CAR NEWS PLUS OUR WEEKLY TEST DRIVE

**P85**

Police day

TORREVIEJA has celebrated el Dia de la Policia on the 184th anniversary of the formation of the Local Police, according to reports. Officers were presented with awards for long service and exceptional work over the year. Torrevieja's mayor - and councillor of Police - praised the force's performance.

Bone class

VEGA BAJA Hospital's Rheumatology Service is organising health education talks for patients with arthritis, Spanish media said. The initiative aims to improve sufferers' quality of life. The condition is reportedly three times more common in women than men, and tends to hit those aged 40 to 60.

Beach survey

ORIHUELA Town Hall's Beach Satisfaction Report 2017 has shown an improvement in the public views of local beaches, according to reports. However, the responses show significant room for improvement. The most common suggestions include removal of algae, more bins, cleaner sand and better footpaths.

Speaker cast

THE opening speech at Aguilas' annual Eagles' Carnival will be read by Spanish TV presenter and actress Ana Maria Morgade Perez, according to reports in the Spanish media. The 38-year-old will make the speech on Saturday February 10 from the city hall balcony.

Serious crash

A VAN driver, aged 42, was reportedly taken into Intensive Care at Saint Lucia Hospital, Cartagena after an RM-F35 crash with a tractor. The woman's injuries have been described as 'very serious' after she was rescued by firefighters. The tractor driver was unhurt.

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE n°47

There are many lazy stereotypes about Spain, but the siesta - and laziness itself - seems particularly unfair in one of Europe's most hardworking countries. Could the traditional nap really be dying out, asks Harrison Jones.

Time out for siestas?

SUN, sangria and paella: the clichés of Spanish life are numerous and often live up to the hype. Yet one particularly prominent stereotype seems especially tired, since it now barely registers in modern Spain.

The famous siesta is a period in the late afternoon when the country shuts down for hours - at least in theory.

But the idea that Spaniards are lazy is not supported by their working hours, which are far higher on average than other European nations.

And now, it seems their mid-afternoon break is being put to bed.

Traditionally, the business siesta would run between roughly 2pm and 5pm, with restaurants closing later. Spaniards would have a big, long lunch, often with alcohol, followed by a nap.

The original reason for the siesta was supposedly to avoid the mid-afternoon heat, particularly for manual labourers working in the sun, and to allow rest/travel time between morning and afternoon jobs.

But there are also suggestions that the practice has Roman origins, making it Italian - though it is far more widely associated with Spain.

In turn, the Spanish influenced other countries in colonial times to take up the practice.

Spaniards also stay up notoriously late and tend to sleep less than other nations, meaning an afternoon break helped maintain their late-night lifestyle.

But as modern, western culture and - crucially, air conditioning - ar-



DROPPING OFF: The siesta's popularity is declining.

rived, the humble siesta took a hit.

A 2017 poll found that 58 per cent of Spaniards do not take a daytime nap, with the share of those saying they sometimes indulge consistently dropping.

Office-based workers are highly unlikely to go home for lunch and sleep in a globalised, high-pressure country.

Meanwhile, calls to realign Spain with its geographical time zone could impact the practice. The fascist dictator Franco changed Spanish clocks to align with Germany, but there is increasing pressure to return - which would mean the sun goes down earlier and people could go to bed earlier, with less need for afternoon sleep.

Yet, there are some who value the

tradition, particularly the elderly and those living in rural areas. Some towns, including Ador, Valencia, have enshrined the practice into law.

There are other small signs of a modern resurgence.

The health benefits of 'power napping' are widely hailed by health experts. A roughly 25-minute nap boosts memory, alertness, nighttime sleep, heart condition and mental/physical well-being generally.

And in cities, 'siesta hotels' are a rising trend.

The overall outlook for the siesta, though, is ominous. And while it might not be put to bed completely, it is certainly dropping off - just don't expect the stereotype to fade with it.

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Lynx effect!



Photo credit: Richard Campey/Twitter



ON THE PROWL: An Iberian lynx in the Sierra de Andujar where wildlife lovers (bottom left) have been flocking to photograph the elusive cat, of which 31 lost their lives on Spanish roads last year (bottom right).

It is the most endangered wild cat in the world. And this stunning image, captured last month, shows the Iberian lynx in all its predatory beauty.

It comes as wildlife lovers and nature photographers descended on the Sierra de Andújar mountain range in Jaén Province, Andalucía, to catch a glimpse of the elusive feline.

Normally secretive during sunlight hours, sexually mature adults are active throughout the day in December and January as the females come into heat and males compete to breed with them.

And the vast Sierra de Andújar - part of the larger Sierra

Morena chain - is home to the largest and best-preserved population, with around 100 females each commanding a territory of 10-20 square kilometres.

Spanish authorities recently announced that wild numbers of the cat have risen to at least 547 from a historic low of 94 in 2002.

More than 400 inhabit Andalucía, with the remainder split between Castilla-La Mancha, Extremadura and Portugal.

Andalucían environment councillor, José Fiscal and director of the European Commission-funded lynx conservation programme LIFE Iberlince, Miguel Ángel Simón revealed

the encouraging figures during a Sevilla press conference.

But it is not all good news, after 58 lynx were found dead in 2017, a record.

According to reports, 31 of the animals were killed by traffic, leading to widespread criticism from environmental groups, although the main issue continues to be a lack of rabbits, its principal prey.

Native to the Iberian Peninsula but introduced around the world, Spanish rabbits have been devastated by the myxomatosis virus and, more recently, a haemorrhagic disease known as RHDVb.

See Our View on page 8.

POLL OF THE WEEK

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- 5,571 views** Costa del Sol town showcases itself with new tourism video
- 2,579 views** Five Brits could face second court summons over Benidorm balcony death
- 2,131 views** Spain's national and regional holidays for 2018
- 2,130 views** 'Drunk' passenger calls Ryanair crew 'devils' forcing flight diversion

**For week 15 - 22 January*

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Serial robber detained

A SERIAL robber has been arrested in Murcia, according to Spanish media.

An off-duty Guardia Civil officer reportedly forcibly arrested the robber in an El Esparragal-Murcia building which they were trying to rob.

The 44-year-old Spaniard is suspected of some 16 robberies in houses and shops in Las Lumbreras, Santiago, Zairaiche, Cobatillas, El Esparragal and Llano de Brujas-Murcia.

Countless objects have since been recovered. Some have been identified by - and returned to - their original owners, linking the suspect to the robberies, reports say.

Officers requested a court order to enter and search the suspect's home in Las Lumbreras, Murcia. Numerous goods were subsequently



Photo credit: Guardia Civil.

HAUL: Various recovered goods.

found and transferred to police to verify their origin.

Several documents reportedly detail second-hand sales of goods suggesting that the suspect had made a habit of selling stolen items of jewellery and tools in a second-hand Murcia shop.

The accused remains in custody.

The Guardia Civil has ap-

pealed for information about the recovered objects, many of which still remain in the head office of the Civil Guard of Santomera. They hope to identify and return them to their legitimate owners.

Anyone with information or questions is asked to phone 968 277 135 and speak to the head office of the Guardia Civil of Santomera.

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Celeb focus

Bare it like Beckham

HER career continues to go from strength to strength.

And ex-Geordie Shore star Vicky Pattison showed how high her aspirations run as she recreated Victoria Beckham's Vogue Spain cover on ITV show This Morning.

Slipping into a bright red dress before posing with one leg atop a table, the 30-year-old said of the shoot: "It got me thinking, she's Vicky B, I'm Vicky P why not give it a go?"

To laughs from hosts Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby she added: I've got a little bit more cushion for the pushing than Vicky B, but..."

It comes after her idol, 43, wowed Spain after appearing on the front of Vogue before stepping out in Madrid to attend a dinner hosted by the fashion magazine.

The former Spice Girl sizzled in her own scarlet gown before being snapped leaving her hotel the next morning in a navy roll neck jumper and flowing burgundy-and-white skirt.

NEWLY SINGLE: Bambi Northwood Blyth and (right) her Glamour Spain cover.

Photo by Twitter/YouTube



LADIES IN RED: Victoria Pattison (right) apes her idol's Vogue Spain cover.



Photo by Stacey Solomon/Instagram

CORK BLIMEY: Stacey and Joe knock back the sangria.

Pair jet to Barça for birthday bash

TV presenter Stacey Solomon has been pictured in Barcelona with boyfriend Joe Swash. The Loose Women star and former X Factor finalist, 28, posted a series of snaps to social media as the loved-up pair - who have been dating since January 2016 - took in the delights of the Catalan capital.

And she added a personal message to her 36-year-old ex-Eastenders squeeze as she wrote: "Happy birthday baby... a jug of sangria was not a good idea. Hahahaha I'm

She's got front!

SHE recently split from her fashion designer husband.

But Australian supermodel Bambi Northwood Blyth, 27, showed she is getting over her break with Ksubi jeans founder Dan Single, 37, in style after appearing braless on the cover of Glamour Spain.

She was reportedly left 'mortified' after her spouse of four years set up a Go Fund Me page in the wake of a 2017 hotel fall in Paris.



Photo by Bambi Northwood Blyth/Instagram/Twitter

Beach ready

SHE'S the former Made In Chelsea star whose great-grandfather inventor of Quality Street.

And Millie Mackintosh, 28, certainly appeared to be in sweet heaven after slipping into a skimpy grey bikini and posting a racy snap to social media.

It comes after the fashion entrepreneur jetted to the Hard Rock Hotel Tenerife for a winter break with a group of girlfriends.



SIZZLING: Millie Mackintosh.

Photo by Millie Mackintosh/Instagram

Off the record

RUMOURS that hotel heiress and socialite Paris Hilton is to quit her oft-criticised five-year residency at Ibiza mega-club Amnesia have been scotched.

Having recently become engaged to actor Chris Zylka, the 36-year-old blonde beauty released a statement announcing her departure, but a source later told UK media that it was false.

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Councilman crumbles under pressure

FOLLOWING numerous calls from his peers to step down, Roque Ortiz, the former Murcia city councillor for development has resigned.

Ortiz has been caught up in controversy since last Thursday when several of the comments he made during a meeting with parents and members of the neighbourhood, which was presided over by the mayor himself, were leaked to the press.

In the meeting, the councilman hanged his party, saying that "there are many people who are where they are thanks to the Popular Party" and commented that anyone who forgot that was "a pig."

The former councilman presented his letter of resig-

nation addressed to the Mayor of Murcia, Jose Ballesta, on Tuesday.

In the letter, Ortiz says that "I leave the Murcia Council with a clear conscience, my head high and assured of having fulfilled my mission."

"I leave, recognising that I made a mistake, an unfortunate verbal error - as I have publicly acknowledged - that during the past few days has made me reflect on whether politics is worthwhile, when it shows its worst face."

Ortiz concluded his letter by stating that "I am not a professional politician, I cannot play this game. I have not sought to prove my value by

comparing myself to others, by being who I am, not being better than others."

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€886 million The amount made by the Spanish state selling government-owned homes since 2013.

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Pregnant hit and run victim loses baby

THE pregnant woman run over by her ex in Murcia has movingly told of how she has lost her baby following the incident.

Irena, a 26-year-old Ukrainian, also told local media sources that she is afraid of 56-year-old Joaquin CM's family,

who live near her house.

According to the publication, she said on the first day after she felt able to go out onto the street following what happened, "his relatives began to shout 'bitch' at me. And to tell me that I took all the money from him and I put

him in jail." She told the paper that she had got a restraining order against him after filing "six complaints for hitting me, six for kidnapping and another for rape... Plus many other times that I have not reported."

She also alleges that he burned her documentation.

Joaquin, who is said to be of Romani ethnicity, has since been put in custody.

Irena reportedly sustained minor injuries to her legs in the incident two weeks ago, while Joffre Rolando - her boyfriend - has his leg in plaster.

"I was pregnant with Joffre. My ex came for me and, because of his beating, I lost the baby," she said in her home.

"He (Joaquin) spent 10 years

(in jail) for drug trafficking and two more years for hitting me," she told the paper.

"I always escaped from him," she added.

"He got me into heroin and smoked cocaine," Irena admitted to Spanish media sources, but added that "since I'm with Joffre, I'm fine and I do not want drugs in my life."

She says she intends to denounce Joaquin's relatives who, she says, have threatened her in the neighborhood.

Police are treating the incident as domestic violence and found the car shortly after the incident.

The vehicle was recovered in the La Fama neighbourhood - the same area where the event took place.



INVESTIGATION: Police are looking into the La Fala incident.

OUR VIEW

Are we losing touch with nature?

NEWS that the Iberian lynx population is increasing is cause for good cheer. It is an example of what can be achieved if wildlife conservation efforts are properly coordinated.

Having increased from 94 individuals to almost 550 in the last 15 years, the world's rarest wild cat has made a genuine comeback. And in doing so it has avoided the fate of being the first cat species to go extinct since the sabre-toothed tiger 10,000 years ago.

But how did it come to this?

In just three decades - from the 1960s to the 1990s - the Iberian lynx lost around 80 per cent of its former range, which extended across much of Spain and into southern France. It is a sad indictment of the rapid extension of human development over the last 50 years, and one that is mirrored across the globe.

This surging rate of urbanisation now sees more than 50 per cent of the world's population living in towns and cities, and the majority no longer come into regular contact with nature. As Sir David Attenborough puts it: "So over half is to some degree out of touch with the natural world and don't even see an animal from one day to the next unless it's a rat or a pigeon."

"That means that people are getting out of touch with the realities of the natural world, of which we are in fact a part." So have humans now changed the face of the planet to such an extent that many of us are only aware of what we have created, rather than the natural processes that made it all possible?

And as alcoholism, gambling and other self-destructive practices continue to rise, we must surely examine whether we are, as a species, losing our place in the world.

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NEWS EXTRA**Sex scam**

AN Alicante man has reportedly been arrested for offering money to the 16-year-old son of his friends for sex. National Police say the 30-year-old is also accused of sexually abusing the victim two years ago.

Train death

A PERSON died after being hit by a train in Novelda-Aspe, according to Spanish media. The Alicante to Barcelona service hit the person at 10am on Monday morning. Details are scarce, with investigations continuing.

Decade sick

AN official from the Alicante regional authorities accumulated 4,453 sick days (12 years and two months) between 2001 and 2016, according to company data. They have asked for permanent incapacity status to be granted.

Woman ref

STAFF from Racing Akra Alicante 'B' football team have reportedly been suspended and fined for comments about a female referee. Numerous club representatives were charged with derogatory comments and threatening behaviour, according to translated reports.

Fools' gold

GUARDIA CIVIL have reportedly seized €600,000 worth of fake jewellery from the port of Alicante. The shipment, carrying over 20,000 pieces, is thought to have come from China before heading for Barcelona.

Cycle broken

TWO men have been arrested in the Orihuela Costa on suspicion of being part of a motorcycle fraud ring, according to Spanish media. The bikes were allegedly stolen, dismantled, reassembled and then sold in Poland.

GUARDIA CIVIL officers have arrested two women on suspicion of blackmail and threatening behaviour in Torrevieja, according to Spanish media.

The pair allegedly extracted €90,000 from a San Miguel de la Salinas man.

He is thought to have paid one of the women, a 32-year-old Romanian, for sex over a year ago - and she has been threatening him ever since.

Prostitutes given the red light

She allegedly blackmailed him into handing over two cars and €90,000 in cash to stop her from telling his wife about the affair.

A 36-year-old Bosnian woman was also profiting from the alleged extortion, Guardia Civil said.

The man, who has not been named, met the younger woman in December 2016 in a Torrevieja club, where she was working as a hostess, Spanish media claimed. They apparently had several sexual encounters.

But she soon reportedly asked for

€40,000 to keep her silence. The man agreed but that was not the end of the matter - with the woman then asking for a further €25,000, twice, and then for two cars.

The money was paid by bank transfer, then through a male relative, and finally in cash, according to reports.

Both women are thought to be awaiting trial.

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Show ponies

Expat horse-lovers on UK TV

AN English couple who run Spain's only registered horse rescue foundation will star in Channel 5's Bargain-loving Brits In The Sun programme tonight (Thursday).

Sue and Rod Weeding, who moved to the Costa Blanca to retire, but launched Easy Horse Care Rescue Centre in 2008 after witnessing horse cruelty, are thrilled to be included in the first episode of season three.

"We are very excited to be on English TV. We're

hoping that people will see the programme, enjoy it and maybe understand a little bit of what we're trying to do here," Sue told the Spanish press.

"It's definitely not easy, but we will continue to move forward to create animal welfare in Spain. This is our long-term goal, to continue working with Spanish police to rescue abused, neglected and abandoned equines - and at some point get some sort of recognition from the gov-



Photo by Easy Horse Care Rescue Centre/Facebook

ernment or councils."

Film crews visited their Rojas rescue centre multiple times last year, to document their life caring for more than 100 rescued horses, ponies and donkeys.

The show airs tonight at 9pm (Spanish time) on Channel 5.

Sue continued: "We are on call 24 hours a day now because we are providing a service to Spanish police. But unlike England, where charities enjoy a certain sta-

ON SCREEN: Film crews visit the Rojas rescue centre.

tus and get help, here in Spain we have absolutely nothing. It's just people like Rod and I doing it, using our own money.

"But we are giving it everything we've got. We must move animal welfare forward - and we are doing it with a passion."

The Easy Horse Care Rescue Centre, located just outside Rojas at Partido

Lo Garriga, 59, opens to the public on the first Sunday of every month between 1pm and 4pm.

The centre relies entirely on donations.

Anyone interested in making a donation, becoming a long-term sponsor, or volunteering at the rescue centre or in the charity shops can call the couple on: 652 021 980.

NEWS EXTRA

Seal shrimp

MURCIA is aiming to win the 'sustainable' seal of approval for its shrimp/fishing fleet, according to reports in the Spanish media. The region's local industry needs to meet three criteria to be deemed sustainable.

Justice build

ALICANTE'S mayor, Gabriel Echavarri, has signed an agreement with the Valencia Council to build a new administration of justice building, according to Alicante Town Hall. The plot of land is more than 5,000 metres in size.

Lorca scheme

THE mayor of Lorca has announced 29 training schemes for unemployed young people. The town hall says the scheme will include a €1.8 million investment. Participants will receive a €200 monthly pay.

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Driver pays for bus blunder

€100,000 for family of girl killed after unplanned stop

THE family of a girl killed after a bus conductor allowed her to get off at an unmarked stop will be compensated with over €100,000, according to Spanish media.

The 16-year-old died more than three years ago, when she was hit by a tourist driver near Playa Honda, 30km east of Cartagena and close to La Manga.

The amount of €109,000 must be paid in compensation to the girl's parents by the region of Murcia's Autonomous Community.

The Chamber of Contentious Superior Court of Justice (TSJ) of Murcia ruled that financial responsibility lay with the regional admin-

istration for 'consenting' to the child getting off at an unmarked stop.

The area where she got off did not have a sign or pedestrian crossing.

The ruling also points out that the unofficial stop - located on a service road of the Cartagena-La Manga motorway - lacked the minimum required security measures.

There was no lighting and the road was known for heavy traffic in the summer months - the period when the girl was run over by a tourist travelling in the opposite direction.

While deciding on the value of the compensation, the Chamber reduced the figure

by 10 per cent, because it said the child should have taken more care when crossing the road.

The figure includes the €3,000 claimed by the parents for the funeral expenses.

However, it did not include an additional €70,000 claimed for moral damages.

The TSJ said that the authority's own inspector described the place where the incident occurred as one of "extreme danger," according to translated reports.

The Autonomous Community reportedly proposed a €59,500 payment package, and to split the sum equally with the transport company involved in the incident.

Surprise catch

NATIONAL POLICE have arrested four men on suspicion of robbing several homes in the same building in Alicante.

The four, all of Georgian nationality and aged between 43 and 59, are allegedly members of a gang that specialises in home robberies and were reportedly caught after being surprised by a homeowner in the building.

Police officers descended on the building and were reportedly placed on every floor to find the alleged thieves who were hiding out.

When the four men were found and searched, they were allegedly carrying items including jewellery, money and a large number of valuables believed to be owned by residents of the building.

A bag of tools was also seized.

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PROSECUTORS are calling for an Elche bar owner to be jailed after throwing a lesbian couple out for kissing, reports suggest.

Alongside the one-year prison term, lawyers are calling for the owner to have his licence revoked for two years, according to Spanish media.

The women were reportedly showing a 'caring attitude' on the afternoon of July 21, when the

Bar owner slammed

owner snapped at them, suggesting they were 'bothering' other clients. He asked them to leave as a result.

One of the woman said she had to have treatment for anxiety following the incident.

Homophobic attacks in the region are reportedly on the rise, according to various experts and LGBTQ+ groups.

According to a 2016 report from the Ministry of the Interior, LGBTQ+ people suffered the second most hate crimes of any group, behind disabled people.

NEWS EXTRA

Candy camera

ALICANTE'S local authority is going to launch an initiative called the 'Costa Blanca Film Commission,' according to reports. The body reportedly aims to bring national and international filming to the area.

Card launch

ELCHE is launching a social 'card' for struggling families, Spanish media said. Replacing food vouchers, the pilot scheme - with 28 families - will reportedly aim to help needy groups without causing social stigmatisation.

Hotel worry

HOTELS across the Costa Blanca region are reportedly concerned their businesses could be hit by tourists returning to Turkey, Tunisia and Egypt this season. Prices are now lower in those countries.

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Three-way crash

A MOPED driver was injured in Guadalupe after colliding with two cars earlier this week, according to reports in the Spanish media.

The accident happened on Monday morning, before the victim was reportedly transferred to Virgen de la Arrixaca University Clinical Hospital.

The moped hit two cars, though there appear to have been no other injuries, according to the Local Police of Murcia, who attended the crash.

Pictures suggest the moped driver hit a black Seat head on.

No further details have been released about the victim's identity or condition.



CRASH SCENE: A car involved in the crash.

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European students welcome

THE mayor of Orihuela, Emilio Bascañana, welcomed a number of foreign Erasmus students to the town hall on Monday, according to reports.

The students reportedly came from schools in Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia. Erasmus is an exchange project for European students.

The mayor reportedly spoke to the children in the Oriol room, where he invited them "to enjoy the city, to know our history, our culture and illustrious personages, and to return whenever they wish."

Also present was the councillor for Education, who thanked the European centres for their participation in such projects, "since working internationally enriches the educational system of any country," Spanish media reported.

"That (is) are always beneficial for the municipality of Orihuela," she reportedly said.

The mayor also reportedly provided copies of children's poetry with the participants of the poetry contest 'Ciudad de Orihuela' of the year 2017.

ONE of the largest campsites in Europe opened to campervans in Santiago de la Ribera last week, reports say.

Located next to the San Blas pine forest and 2km from the Mar Menor, the site is reportedly on a 29,000 square metre plot.

It has the capacity for 210 motorhomes, each with its own shower area, electrical supply, lighting and access to drainage and bins, according to Spanish media.

Campers will have communal facilities to do laundry. An outdoor recreation centre, with Wi-Fi, and a cafe and restaurant, is also reportedly available.

The site's promoter, Antonio Frutuoso, told Spanish media the caravan site would open with offers of €7 per day.

"If the number of users allows us to do so, we will maintain these prices at a flat rate throughout the year, there will be no summer and winter prices," he said, adding he already has reservations for more than 20 caravans this week.

"The strong season for the European caravanners is from September to May, as they seek an area with a climate like that of the Mar Menor. Many of them take up residence in the area, while the bulk of the national caravanners will use the site in the summer."

Speaking at the official opening of the site, the mayor of San Javier,

Happy campers

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HOLIDAY HOME: The original Mar Menor campsite.

José Miguel Luengo, said: "Until today there was no facility in San Javier for these tourists who travel many kilometres to enjoy our climate and environment.

"The arrival into the municipality of a new brand of tourism, where

holidaymakers will enjoy varied cultural and gastronomic services, and whose use will increase when the quality of the available services and the competitive prices become better known."

The General Director of the Mar

Menor, Antonio Luengo, who also attended the official opening of the site, added: "this type of sustainable infrastructure helps to flatten the tourist seasonality throughout the year along the Murcia coastline."

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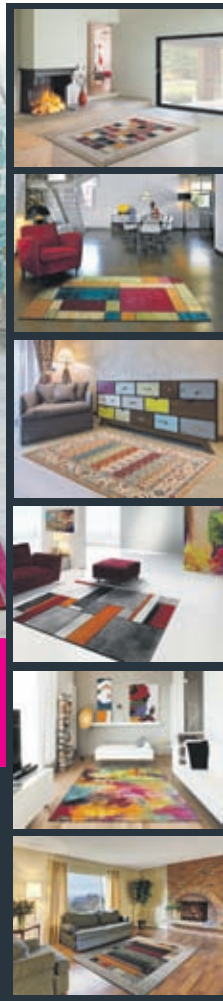
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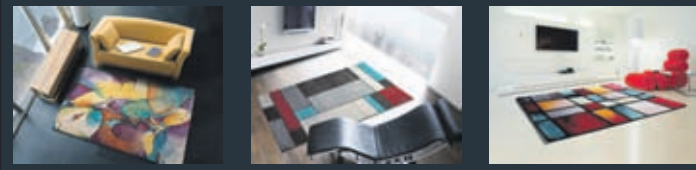
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Do not pass Elche

Costa cities compete for Monopoly birth

SPANIARDS are voting to decide which cities should be included in a limited edition Monopoly for the country, with Costa Blanca venues in contention to be on the board.

At the end of last week, Elda - in Alicante - was in second place - meaning it was set to take the traditional 'Park Lane' slot from the English edition.

Alicante itself was polling in seventh, meaning it could be in the yellow section normally occupied by Leicester

Square, Coventry Street and Piccadilly.

The popular board game sees players compete to buy property and industries in an attempt to bankrupt their opponents and win.

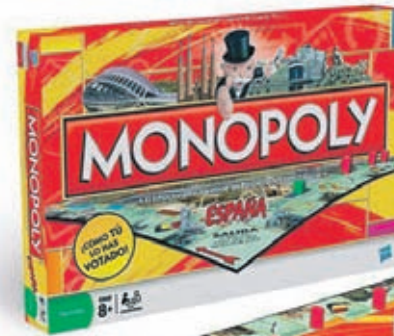
The online 'election' will see 22 cities claim their place in the forthcoming edition.

"Whether the smallest town or the largest city is on the next board of Monopoly Spain depends on you," the competition write.

Elche, meanwhile, was in ninth position, putting it in the Red section which English players associate with Trafalgar Square, Fleet Street and The Strand.

Alcobendas (Madrid) was leading the way by a thousand last Friday.

Further south, Marbella and Malaga were in 13th and 14th, putting them in the Orange zone.



ON THE BOARD: A limited edition of the popular game is coming out.



Credit: Juegos de mesa/Twitter



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If your last wishes are especially complicated or you are worried about the tax implications, then you would consult your lawyer.

However in Spain the Will making process is slightly different as are the tax implications.

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Earthquake system boosted after tremors

SPAIN'S National Geographic Institute has reportedly reinforced the Murcia region's earthquake monitoring network.

Two mobile seismographs - which measure movement of the earth - have been added to the four machines already operating in the area, according to Spanish media.

Spain experiences relatively regular tremors and it is hoped that with better monitoring the region will be able to deal with them more effectively.

One hundred accelerographs, which record ground movement during earthquakes, are also being implemented, translated reports say.

The new seismographs will reportedly be placed in Al-budeite and Yerechar.

The National Geographic Institute has already installed 18 accelerographs, 10 in Lorca.

A number of tremors have been felt in the region in recent weeks.

In 2011, an earthquake measuring 5.1 on the Richter Scale hit Lorca. Two years ago, 26 people were injured in a 6.3 earthquake which hit Andalu-cia.

The director of the Seismic Network, Emilio Carreño, told Spanish media that experts

have not been surprised by recent tremors.

"The region is one of the most seismic and most dan-gerous (in) all of Spain, and citizens should be aware of that," he reportedly said.

"Fieldwork is being done and when we refine the re-search we will have an an-swer."

He added that there was no suggestion that the tremors could be a precursor to a larg-er quake, because "we cannot predict or know if after a se-ries like the last one they will continue producing more."

He said that each year there are about 7,000 earthquakes in Spain and "it is very frequent" that a series of tremors occurs before tectonic movement "then disappears."

NEWS EXTRA

Drunk runner

ELCHE Local Police arrest-ed a man for drink driving early on Sunday morning, despite various escape at-tempts. He reportedly ig-nored a request to pull over, insulted police and then ran away, before being caught.

Fruit nuts

POMEGRANATES from Elche were showcased in a demonstration at the In-ternational Tourism Fair (FITUR). Showcook Josue Sepulcre reportedly roast-ed the fruit with arbe-quina oil and tarragon.

Devious plan

A 55-YEAR-OLD Murcia resident arrested for his al-leged involvement in an al-tercation over city road works, has reportedly been accused of providing fire-crackers to two children.

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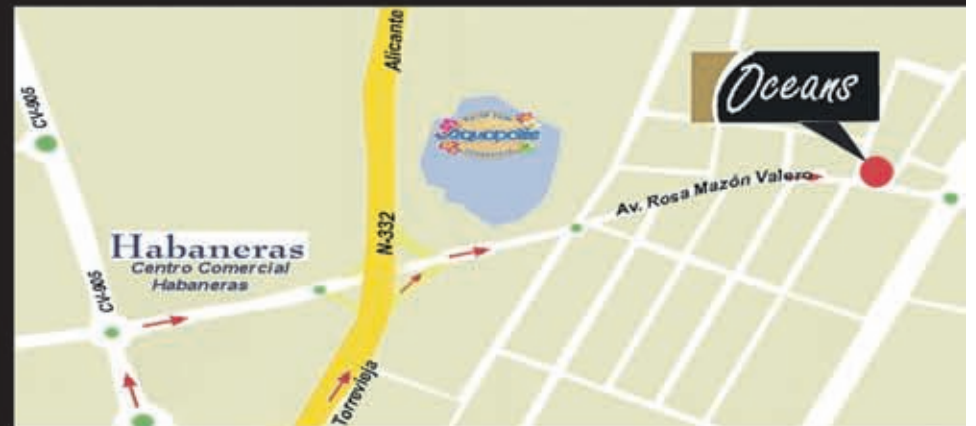
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Baby returns to scene of miracle survival

A PREMATURE baby given less than a 1 per cent chance of survival has visited the hospital where she was born eight months ago, to the delight of staff.

Araceli Gil is thought to be the smallest baby to ever be born at Alicante General Hospital. According to reports, she was born 17 weeks early and weighed just 490 grams.

Eva Garcia, one of the staff who helped Araceli, told Spanish media: "The survival of newborns both in ages less than 24 weeks and with weights less than 500 grams is not usual."

She noted that some extreme cases of survival at 22 weeks have been documented, but said "Most of them have been left with serious consequences."

Araceli, who was born after just 23 weeks, now weighs 4.5 kilos and is healthy.

All the staff at the hospital's Neonatology service were delighted to see the girl, who posed for pictures when she came in for a health review.



Photo by Google maps

MEDICAL MARVEL: Alicante General Hospital where Araceli was born.

Her mother and father - also called Araceli, and Marcos, according to reports - are delighted by their daughter's progress.

"In the first days, the family and acquaintances gave their condolences,"

Marcos recalls.

His partner adds: "They told me that I had gone into labour and that the girl could not be born there because they were not prepared. They took me to an ambulance to move me to the General

Hospital of Alicante, although they told me that it was most likely that I would lose the girl on the way."

Over a period of months of intense care "it was a triumph every hour that passed and my daughter was still alive," she said.

Nurse Eva Garcia and a colleague, Pedro Munoz, said: "These babies are so small they are manipulated by two and three people for a nappy change or to suck the secretions because they are stressed a lot."

Pain awareness in premature babies "is enormous and has repercussions at the brain level," Garcia explains. As such great care was taken over noise and light, "since until the 40th week the stimuli that the child receives are essential for her brain development."

She continued: "(This) insurance contributed to the improvement of immunity as well as maturation and development of the different organs, fundamentally the brain."

NEWS EXTRA

Fraud charge

NATIONAL POLICE have arrested a Ukrainian in Alicante on suspicion of fraud, according to reports in the Spanish media. He could face 10 years in prison.

Tourism fair

ELCHE is aiming to attract LGBTQ+ tourists, according to reports in the Spanish media. The city was aiming to broaden its appeal while promoting its cultural appeal at the International Tourism Fair (Fitur).

Fishy finish

ALICANTE City's fish market closed early last Saturday. The market normally shuts at 10pm but instead shut at 7.30pm, without obvious explanation. 'Sorry for the inconvenience' the local council wrote, mysteriously, ahead of the early finish.

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DODGY: Murcia residents have been warned of a fake tax WhatsApp message, (inset) A screenshot of the WhatsApp.

WhatsApp scam warning

THE Guardia Civil have warned Murcia residents that a fake WhatsApp message claiming to be from tax investigators is a scam.

Users of the instant messaging service are told by fraudsters that a tax advisor needs personal data to provide an income statement.

The Murcia Association of Consumers and Users (Consumur) warned on Tuesday that people receiving the message should be cautious if they receive a similar message. Messages ask for personal information which can then be used to

impersonate someone else.

The image of the tax agency is also included in the message.

Consumur have also reminded consumers to be cautious and that neither the Tax Agency nor any banking entity requests data from personal character through social networks or emails, so "never have to provide personal data in these ways."

Those who have been affected by the scam should contact the organisation, in person or online at: www.consumur.org for more information.



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Former mayor back in court

TORREVIEJA'S former mayor Pedro Hernandez Mateo was in court last week, with the current mayor trying to disqualify him from public office for a further four years, according to reports.

Mr Mateo is reportedly accused of failing to hold 11 monthly council meetings during a period in office between 2003 and 2007. The meetings are mandatory in Spain for all local authorities with populations of over 20,000.

Current mayor Jose Manuel Dolon reportedly said that the failure to hold the plenary meetings prevented councillors and citizens from overseeing the government's work and questioning their decisions.

The defence reportedly say that this was merely an administrative irregularity which should have been resolved at the time. They add that missed meetings generally coincided



FADING SMILE: Mayor Mateo (centre) is disqualified from public office.

with the holiday period, often in August, when many public officials were on holiday and business could not be discussed.

Mr Mateo is already serving an 11-year sentence of disqualification from public office, in connection with his involvement in the award of a municipal waste disposal contract.

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Girl, 13, accuses 19-year-old of rape

GUARDIA CIVIL have arrested a 19-year-old man on suspicion of raping a 13-year-old girl in Puerto Lumbreras, according to reports in the Spanish media.

The alleged sexual assault took place on Boxing Day, according to the vic-

tim. Both she and the accused are Spanish.

She apparently did not tell friends or family about the alleged incident for a few days after it had happened.

The girl's relatives then approached the authorities to ask for an investiga-

tion, late last week. By Monday, the man had been identified and arrested, Spanish media said. However, the investigation reportedly remains open.

Local Police in Aguilas are in charge of the case, for the neighbouring town of Puerto Lumbreras.

A forensic specialist will examine the victim, to assess whether she has any injuries as a result of the alleged attack.

In Spanish law, it is not possible for a 13-year-old to give valid consent to a sexual relationship.

NEWS EXTRA

Man found

LOCAL POLICE in El Altet have found a missing man, authorities in Elche said. The 34-year-old went missing last week but was found just after midnight the following day, to the family's relief.

Lorca works

COUNCILLORS and the mayor of Lorca say that the work on Avenida Juan Carlos I will be finished before Easter, Spanish media said. The €5 million investment will widen sidewalks and add greenery and lighting.

Tough route

REGISTRATION for an intense endurance event beginning in Cartagena closes next week. Organisers say applications for Route of the Fortresses close on January 28, though the youth version's registration is from February 1 to 9.

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Explosive team destroy suspect powder

by Harrison Jones

GUARDIA CIVIL say they have seized suspicious packages containing 780 grams of black powder.

The owner of a Yecla house reportedly found the two bags while cleaning in a warehouse next to his property.

He quickly alerted police, and the Guardia Civil patrol who responded requested a specialist explosive team to deal with the packages.

The material was then 'deactivated,' according to police, who say they used



Photo by Guardia Civil

SUSPECT: A police image following the incident.

the appropriate safety measures in an isolated area.

Security officials say the significant quantity of black powder was old and suspect it may have been intended for use in a muz-

zleloader firearm - which is authorised in Murcia - according to reports.

Police have urged the public to dial 062 if faced with a similar find themselves.

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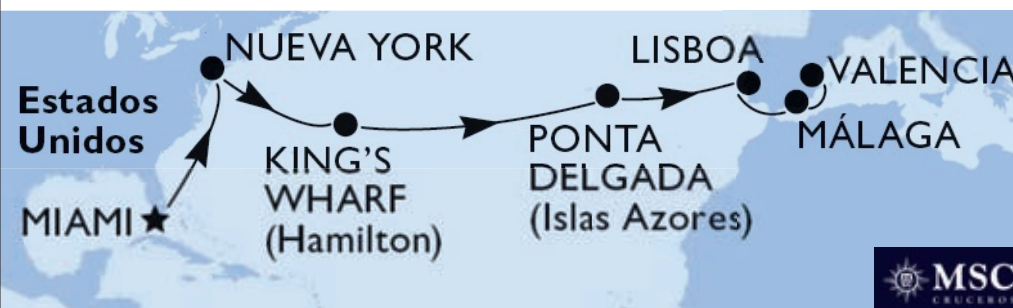


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23.03.2018	Lisbon	09:00	23:59
24.03.2018	Lisbon	00:01	06:00
25.03.2018	Malaga	07:00	14:00
26.03.2018	Valencia	09:00	





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TRANQUIL: Elche's Local Police station.

Criminals are not welcome

ELCHE and Orihuela have the lowest crime rates for municipalities of over 60,000 in the Alicante region, according to Spanish media.

The Ministry of the Interior's annual report suggests there was a rate of just 21 crimes per 1,000 inhabitants in the two areas. The city of Orihuela has a population of around 80,000, while the town of Elche is home to roughly 227,000 people.

In Alicante, with a reported population of over 330,000 people, the crime rate is 27.25

crimes per 1,000 inhabitants. The figure in Torrevieja - which has a reported population of 84,000 - is double that of Elche and Orihuela, at 42.36.

Experts say that the Elche and Orihuela figures are surprising, since both municipalities have a large population area, with many districts and country areas.

This can often lead to more frequent crimes, notably robberies, due to the difficulties police face in covering many of the outlying areas.

But authorities have report-

edly suggested that the coordination of Local Police, National Police, Civil Guard and Autonomous Police has helped reduce criminal activity.

Police sources say that coastal towns normally have higher crime rates because many of the properties lie empty for much of the year.

That provides temptation for criminals who know they will have less chance of being caught.

Scorching records

MURCIA has broken its record temperature for January, Spanish media has said.

On Monday, temperatures in the region hit 26 degrees centigrade - the hottest in January for 33 years - according to the meteorological site *Eltiempo.es*.

The previous record, from January 2014, was reportedly 25.8 degrees.

Luis Bañón, a meteorologist and regional spokesman for the Spanish weather service AEMET, told Spanish media that the unseasonable warmth was "caused by the anticyclonic situation, the winds of Poniente and a strong anticyclone that has been stationed on the coast of Portugal."

Temperatures are expected to remain high for the next couple of days, with no rain forecast until Sunday or Monday, at the time of going to print.

NEWS EXTRA

Hearty raise

EXPATRIATE owners of a Campoverde bar have reportedly raised more than €6,500 to buy three defibrillators for their local area. Jimmy and Clare McGill began fundraising after the death of a client last year.

Missing girl

A GIRL who disappeared on January 10 in Torrevieja is still missing, reports say. Milenka Romina, 17, is roughly 5'3", has dark hair and eyes. She was last seen wearing dark trousers and white trainers.

Funding fail

THE Provincial Council of Alicante rejected calls to modify the way subsidies were granted in an opening session dubbed 'extraordinary' by the Spanish press.

2,000 Tonnes of recycling has been left abandoned in a recycling plant in Benidorm destroyed by a fire in 2011, according to the Environmental Council.

Photo credit: Google maps

NEWS EXTRA

Bin binge

LORCA'S local council has announced that it is installing more than 200 new recycling containers around the municipality. All types of waste have increased in the city in recent years, according to council figures.

Kid culture

ORIHUELA'S Department of Culture says it has scheduled 50 children's activities for the opening months of 2018. The city council says it wants children to have fun, while also being exposed to culture and education.

Cake champs

THE flavour of San Javier was championed once again by its cakes and prawns at the International Tourism Festival, according to the city's council. Prawns from the Mar Menor and pastries were offered to delegates.



Photo by Google Maps

DOCTOR ABSENT: Patients were unimpressed with the mix up.

Patients run out of patience

MORE than a dozen patients were angered after reportedly being kept waiting for an absent doctor at the San Andres Health Centre.

A consultant from the Traumatology Centre, in Murcia, was apparently not at work for several hours because of a mix up with shifts earlier this week.

That meant there was no on duty doctor in the department, according to Spanish media.

More than 12 patients waited for around three hours for someone to cover the missing doctor.

One patient told Spanish media they had waited seven months for the appointment, only to be initially told to go home and arrange another one. The Murcian Health Service has reportedly apologised for the incident, admitting: "it is a situation that should not occur."

Fly-tipping clean up

URGENT action is going to be taken to halt fly-tipping and clean up waste dumps on the Orihuela Costa, according to the local councillor for the Environment. Miguel Angel Fernandez claims he is going to act immediately to remove the unattractive and unhygienic sites.

The clean up operation will reportedly last three to four days, across three locations. The first is a landfill on a PAU 26 plot visible from the AP-7 motorway. The second is on an adjacent plot and the third is a landfill located in a municipal urban plot, according to reports.

"This landfill has generated a significant degradation of the environment which adds to the public health risks of local residents who are directly exposed to the physical and chemical effects of the dump, with the increase of rodents and the proliferation of mosquitoes that breed in this type of environment," the councillor said, according to local media reports.

He added that the cost of the work will be around €6,000.

FMG victims indentified in Elche

THE University Hospital of Vinalopo de Elche says it has detected six cases of female genital mutilation (FGM) since April 2017, according to Spanish media reports. The women, reportedly from Mali and Senegal and between 30 and 38, had all suffered the practice before they were 15.

Three girls in the area have also been identified as at risk, reports say. The practice of FGM is widespread in other cultures, and particularly in Africa. It is also common in Asia and the Middle East.

Over 200 million women and girls are estimated to have undergone FGM - a cultural practice intended to repress female sexuality.

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One dead in border stampede

A MAN has died in a stampede at the Moroccan and Spanish land border, according to media reports.

Several others were injured in the stampede at the Barrio Chino border post near the Spanish enclave of Melilla. At least three of those were injured on the Spanish side of the border.

The man, 39, died of cardiac arrest, according to Moroccan government sources.

The stampede reportedly began after crowds suddenly rushed the turnstiles from the Moroccan side of the border.

The border post, which is used by thousands of people every day to transport goods into Spanish territory, was closed until order was restored.

A total of 11 people were injured on the Moroccan



Photo by Wikimedia Commons

STAMPEDE: One man died in the crush at the border post near Melilla.

side of the border according to the country's human rights association.

The news follows other stampedes which have taken place on the border in recent months.

Two women were killed at the Tarajal II crossing near the Spanish enclave of Ceuta and the Moroccan town of Fnideq last week. Four women porters were

trampled to death in crushes at the same border crossing last year.

The majority of people who use the crossings to transport goods are women. Thousands of female porters travel between Cueta and Morocco daily, according to estimates.

Spanish authorities have imposed a limit of 4,000 per day.

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Teens held on murder charge

TWO 14-year-old boys have been held in connection with the murder of an elderly couple in northern Spain.

It comes after the bodies of two 87-year-olds were found by their son-in-law at their home in the Otxarkoaga neighbourhood of Bilbao, Basque Country.

The well-known pair - who until a decade ago ran a popular home decorating business - had been

stabbed and beaten to death in their ground floor flat during what police believe was an attempted robbery.

A probe launched in the wake of the find led to the arrest of the two children, both of who are from Otxarkoaga and have prior criminal records for robbery and violence.

They were identified after detectives interviewed neighbours who

had seen them 'hanging around' the property, police revealed in a statement.

One of the boys was arrested in the nearby town of Balmaseda before the second turned himself in at a Bilbao petrol station after realising he was being followed.

Residents say that Otxarkoaga has suffered a 'wave of robberies' by 'the usual suspects' in the past year.



PROTESTORS: Focusing on women's rights.

Trump rage goes on

THOUSANDS of Spanish protesters took to the streets to mark the anniversary of last year's Women's March. Worldwide, countless people demonstrated in over 30 countries - and 300 US cities - a year after an event which saw millions show their opposition to President Donald Trump on the day after he was sworn in.

Much of the march's focus was on women's rights, while Trump was the subject of ridicule.

Many suggested 'time's up' for the US President, while others referenced the sexual harassment scandal, #MeToo movement and the need for more women in public roles.

In Madrid and Barcelona, thousands marched through the streets. One social media user wrote: "Everybody is welcome... but today is about women of the world."

There were similar demonstrations in numerous European capitals, including London, Berlin and Paris. Last year,

demonstrations were reported on every continent.

Figures are difficult to clarify, but it is thought significantly more than 120,000 people came onto the streets in the USA.

Trump tweeted, seemingly ironically: 'a perfect day for all Women to March. Get out there now to celebrate the historic milestones and unprecedented economic success and wealth creation that has taken place over the last 12 months. Lowest female unemployment in 18 years!'

Government has officially 'shut down' in the USA, for the first time in five years, after the two main parties - Democrats and Republicans - failed to agree funding deals for agencies. It is hoped that an agreement will be reached shortly.

In London, there were speeches from various women's rights advocates, including the great-granddaughter of Emmeline Pankhurst, a suffragette leader widely credited with helping women win the vote.

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A SPANISH low-cost airline has announced almost 200,000 seats on flights between Wales and four major Spanish destinations this summer.

It will be Vueling's sixth summer of flying passengers from Cardiff airport to Malaga, Alicante, Barcelona and Palma Mallorca.

From April to October,

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188,000 seats are available from Spain's second-largest airline.

The figure represents an increase of 235 per cent more capacity since Vueling started flying from Cardiff

in summer 2012.

There will be weekly services to Malaga and Alicante, three flights a week to Barcelona, while there will be four flights per week to Palma Majorca.

More destinations in southern Spain, the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands and Africa are also accessible via Vueling's connecting flights from its Barcelona's El Prat Airport hub.

New company created every 34 minutes

Business boom

MORE than 1,300 new companies were registered in Andalusia in November last year alone, according to government figures.

Capital for the companies was more than €65 million, with one created every 34 minutes.

More than 99 per cent of new companies created were limited companies. Malaga was the province where most of the new companies were created, with around 35 per cent of companies incorporated there.

Sevilla came second and saw nearly 23 per cent of the total number of companies created in Andalusia established there.

Around 44 per cent of the new companies created were trade and repair firms working for other companies.

More than 24 per cent of the new companies' founding members were women. Their presence was greatest in the business services sector.



IRISH AIRLINE: Dispute over employment rights.

Ryanair pilots in Spain threaten 'legal action' Enough's enough

RYANAIR pilots in Spain have threatened to take 'legal actions' against the Irish low-cost carrier over their employment rights if they do not meet with company representatives by next week.

SEPLA, the Spanish pilots' union has written to Ryanair accusing management of failing to negotiate in good faith since formally recognising unions before Christmas.

The union warns that if a meeting has not been held by tomorrow (Friday) they

will proceed to initiate 'All legal actions that Spanish labour law grants us in defence of our legitimate rights.'

SEPLA says it is surprised and disappointed at documentation received from management, which continues to link payment of a 20 per cent pay rise to conditions which pilots find unacceptable.

Ryanair said it does not comment on 'rumour or speculation, or on discussions with their people in Spain or elsewhere.'

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Expats and Brexit

Formal study might inform government policy

INTERVIEW

by John Smith

DUE to all of the uncertainty surrounding Brexit, the UK government funded Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) has initiated 25 independent projects to study the entire situation.

Just one of those is aimed at expatriates in Europe to record their views and feelings in the lead up to the eventual divorce from the European Union.

Entitled 'Brexit Brits Abroad,' it is undertaking research in France and Spain and Professor Karen O'Reilly, an ethnologist with many years of experience in examining the British in Spain is the lead interviewer for the Spanish study.

She first spent 15 months as a PHD student in 1993 and 94 living in Fuengirola with her husband

and two children then aged nine and 11 before returning to the UK where the results of her studies were eventually published as a scholastic book in 2000, which has been in print ever since.

After becoming a full Professor of Sociology at Loughborough University, she recently retired and was appointed to her current role by Goldsmiths University of London, although as Professor Emerita at Loughborough she also teaches research methods to students on a part time basis.

Speaking to *Euro Weekly News*, Karen explained that she was impressed by the speed at which the ESRC reacted to the Referendum vote and rather than spend months on discussing minute details, the Council has worked very quickly to get all of the research up and running.

She has made a number of visits to the Costa del Sol engaging with

different expatriates living here and trying to gauge their reaction to the result of the vote and their hopes, fears and opinions for the future.

There has been a very positive response from expatriates ready to share their thoughts with Karen and her perception is that the bulk of those she has spoken to have been opposed to the results of the vote, although there is a significant minority in favour.

The findings appear on <https://brexitbritsabroad.com/> and are updated on a regular basis, but when Karen was undertaking her work last year, her overall impression was that Brits in Spain were most worried about the fact that there was so little information available and that many believed that the British government simply didn't care about them.

They recognised that the British Consuls and the Ambassador in



PROJECT LEADER: Professor Karen O'Reilly.

Spain were regularly trying to calm people's fears but believed that they were only promulgating government policy which really wasn't much help.

Now back in Spain again, she feels that people are much more comfortable and whilst recognising that there isn't any formal agreements between Britain and the EU, those she has interviewed seem more confident that the situ-

ation will be resolved without them being simply forgotten about.

The project is still being funded until December of this year and with the possible interim period after March 2019, it may even continue with the information gathered hopefully helping the British government to understand better the views of expatriates in France and Spain.



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Rebecca Holt, one of the most experienced young professionals up and down the coast, will perform both Barbra Streisand and Whitney Houston numbers as only she can, and the two shows (2pm and 8pm) are nearing a sell-out!

With nearly 80 singers on stage, conductor Nigel Hopkins promises a most diverse programme which will be the most entertaining yet.

Tickets are still available from La Ponderosa Gift Shop (next to Consum supermarket at La Zenia). Tickets may also be obtained from the Card Place at both Punta Prima and Benimar. The shows are supporting the children's charity, Debra - The Butterfly Children - and tickets are available from their charity shops at Urb La Marina, San Fulgencio and Pueblo Bravo, Rojales.

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March 2: Women's World Day of Prayer

4pm: La Siesta

March 11: Mothering Sunday

Church's normal service times.

March 21: Stations of the Cross (sponsored by the Mothers Union)

11am for 11.30am: Rojales - 'Way of the Cross' (via Calles Algorfa & Daya Nueva)

March 25 - Palm Sunday Church's normal Service

times with Blessing of Palms, Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem and Holy Eucharist

March 29: Maundy Thursday

11am - 'Cristo Resucitado (Centro Ecumenico) (La Regia),' Holy Eucharist with Reception of Holy Oils from Diocesan Chrism Mass and Recommitment to Priestly and Lay Ministry

7pm - La Siesta, 'Eucharist of the Lord's Supper' and 'Watch of the Passion'

March 30: Good Friday

11am - Cristo Resucitado (Centro Ecumenico) (La Regia/La Zenia). Ecumenical 'Stations of the Cross'

3pm - Los Balcones, 'Celebration of the Passion of the Lord'

March 31: Holy Saturday

7pm - Los Balcones, 'The Easter Vigil' (followed by Resurrection Party). Please note this lasts around 1.5 hours.

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GOOD EFFORT: Members of the branch with social worker Doña Librada Mira Iñesta.

RBL lends a hand

MEMBERS of the Hondon Valley branch of The Royal British Legion were concerned about the plight of some of the families in their area and have for several years now, donated presents and supplies to needy families.

So each year presents are wrapped and then handed to the

local Social Worker and Christmas 2017 was no exception.

Members of the branch handed over the presents to local social worker Doña Librada Mira Iñesta. They were delighted to hear the children were pleased with all their gifts!

The Branch starts the New Year with a full social calendar

and anyone who would like to go along to any events, please contact the secretary on *secretary.hondonvalley3577@gmail.com* or ring 648 860 251.

They are delighted to welcome new members and it is not necessary to have an Armed Forces background to join in all Legion events.



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Aiming high

NORWAY is aiming to make all short-haul flights electric by 2040, according to the chief executive of state-owned Avinor airline Dag Falk-Petersen who believes that 1.5 hour flights can be flown by entirely electric planes.



Credit: Chatupong Lertsichirada/Facebook

Fur away

THE Norwegian government has promised to close all fox and mink fur farms by 2025, becoming the 14th European country to phase out fur farming.

Snow fun

A 21-YEAR-OLD man in Bergen

was sentenced to 30 days in prison for throwing snowballs at police after they were called to close down an unruly house party.

Chief suspect

POLICE in Norway have arrested the husband of a woman, who is a mother-of-two, and has been

GREEN FLIERS: Norway has high ambitions for electric flights.

missing from her home since December 29, on suspicion of her murder.

GERMANY



Snail mail

COMPLAINTS against the German postal service increased by 50 per cent in 2017 as over 6,000 complaints were registered according to German media sources, with half of these related to the processing and delivery of letters.

a falling tree at a camping site in Mors during a storm that battered western Germany and left 100,000 people in the region without electricity.

around €500 on the cheapest annual ticket.

Red-carded

MPs have excluded a far-right lawmaker from a parliamentary football team because he was convicted for hooligan violence, with the man in question claiming he had been ostracised by mainstream parties.

Sneaky savers

ADIDAS have released 500 pairs of limited edition that double as Berlin public transport passes, and at just €180 will save their lucky owners

Tree tragedy

A 59-YEAR-OLD man was killed by

FRANCE



Top spot

FRANCE has managed to retain its title as the most visited country in the world after 89 million tourists took a trip there last year, an increase of 8 per cent from 2016.

Cyber charity

CHURCHGOERS in an upmarket Parisian neighbourhood don't have to worry about carrying any loose change any more as the priest at the Saint-Francois de Molitor church has installed contactless bank card terminals for donations.

Grounded

A NEW project to build an airport near the city of Nantes has been scrapped after it was opposed by several environmental groups, although local politicians declared it would have bad consequences for the economy.

Milk scare

A GOVERNMENT report revealed food safety inspectors failed to detect an outbreak of salmonella at a French factory run by dairy group Lactalis, causing 12 million boxes of powdered baby milk to be recalled.

BELGIUM



Gas blast

A BLAST believed to be caused by a gas explosion which caused a residential building in Antwerp to collapse has left at least two people dead, with 14 people being injured, one critically.

Helping hand

BELGIUM has donated nearly €19 million to a United Nations agency that provides aid to Palestinian refugees after the US slashed their aid to the country as a form of blackmail.

Student ordeal

A 19-YEAR-OLD student who claims she was abducted and repeatedly raped by five men in Brussels was found after she located herself using Google Maps and sent the address to her brother.

Dire straits

AROUND one in five Belgians revealed they struggled to make ends meet last year, according to a survey by the Belgian statistics office Statbel, with 5 per cent saying they were severely deprived of material possessions.

NETHERLANDS



Storm scare

FLIGHTS to and from Amsterdam's Schiphol airport and train services were delayed while winds with speeds of up to 120kph were recorded across the country, causing the weather bureau to issue a code red weather warning.

About abuse

A NEW survey has revealed that nearly one in three Dutch people consider domestic violence to be justifiable in some circumstances, with young people more likely to accept it than the over 55s.

On a roll

DUTCH bike maker Gazelle has produced its 15 millionth bike since it began operations 125 years ago, and 19 years since it rolled out the 10-millionth bike in 1999.

Taking credit

THE use of credit cards in the Netherlands grew by 10.3 per cent in 2017, and the number of contactless payments rose by 49 per cent, but still only 55 per cent of Dutch consumers actually own a credit card.

SWEDEN



Snowed under

POLICE have confirmed a Swedish skier was killed when an avalanche ravaged an Indian ski resort in the Himalayas, but rescuers managed to find his companion alive in the snow.

Speaking up

THE number of reported rapes in Sweden increased by 10 per cent in 2017, according to figures from the National Council on Crime Prevention, reaching a total of 7,230.

Revenge blast

POLICE have blamed an explosion that happened outside a Rosengard police station - which damaged the building and officers' private cars, though no one was injured - on the pressure authorities are putting on criminals.

War scare

SWEDEN is preparing to send out 4.7 million leaflets that urge citizens to prepare for 'crisis and catastrophes in peacetime' to households across the country due to fears of an impending Russian act of war.

NORWAY



What a find

A CORNUCOPIA of 5,000-year-old 'sun' stones was dug up by archaeologists during an excavation on the island of Bornholm, which could allegedly give new insight into life in the Stone Age.

On the move

THE Danish government has announced several of its agencies will be moved out of Copenhagen to other parts of the country - a relocation of up to 1,800 jobs - in an effort to boost local economies.

Crack down

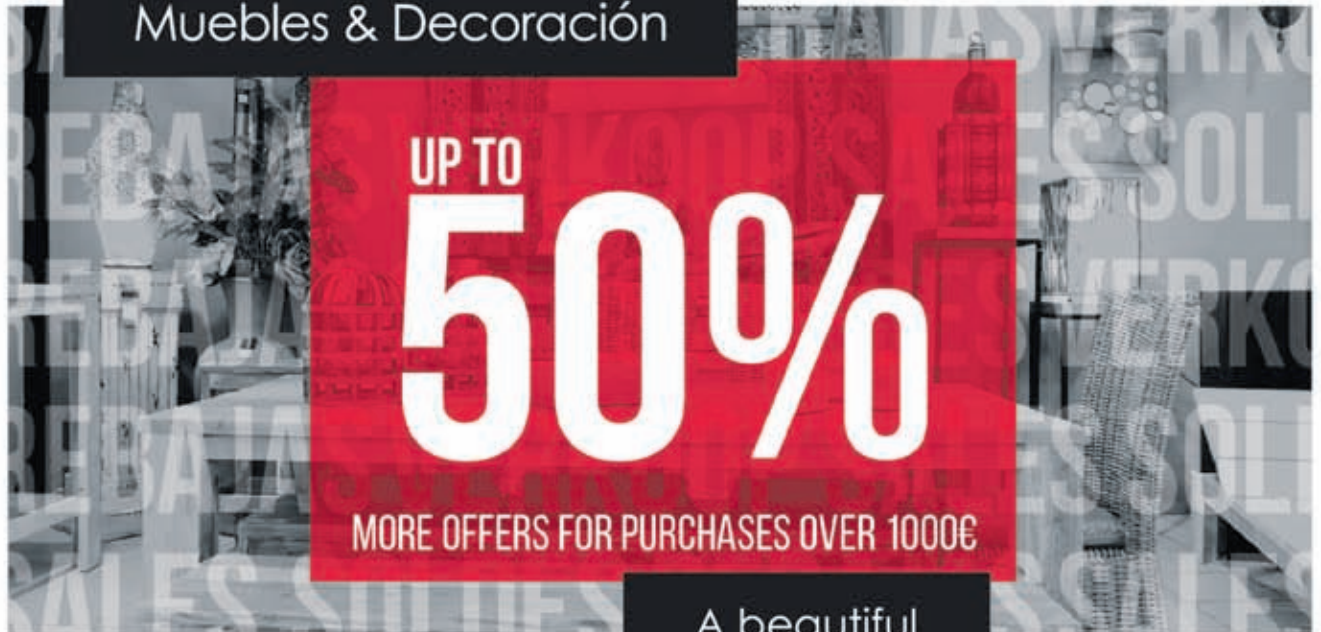
DANISH police have charged more than 1,000 teenagers with distribution of child pornography after they shared a video on Facebook messenger which showed two 15-year-olds having sex.

Caught on film

COPENHAGEN plans to install 100 new security cameras in around 50 new locations which regularly see episodes of violence in an effort to combat gang crime.

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4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
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TOUGH RESPONSE: Putin at a meeting with Viktor Zolotov (right) in 2016.

Election response

■ **DISTURBANCES** during the Russian presidential election will receive a tough response from the country's National Guard, security officials have said.

The guard, founded by President Putin in 2016 to perform public order functions, will provide security at more than 93,000 precincts. Putin is expected to win the vote.

Nuclear deal

■ **RUSSIA** has refused to join a deal on nuclear disarmament, the country's foreign minister has said. Speaking at the UN Security Council, Sergei Lavrov said unilateral disarmament encouraged by the deal should be avoided but added Russia wanted a nuclear weapons-free world.

Epiphany Day

■ **PRESIDENT PUTIN** took to the icy waters of Lake Seliger near Moscow to mark Epiphany Day on the night of January 18-19. The holiday, which commemorates the

baptism of Jesus Christ, is celebrated by thousands of Russian Christians who bathe in rivers across the country.

Axe attack

■ **THREE** students and a teacher were injured in an axe attack in their school in Buryatia on Friday morning.

The attacker, himself a student, slashed the victims in the Sosnovy Bor village school before setting off a Molotov cocktail in an attempted suicide, according to reports.

Buzzfeed accused

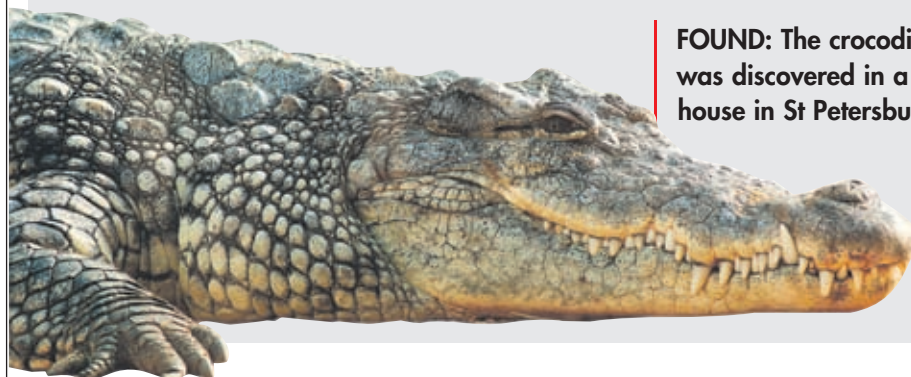
■ **BUZZFEED** has been accused of working with American intelligence services by the Russian Foreign Ministry after publishing an article based on reportedly leaked diplomatic documents.

The ministry said BuzzFeed could not have had access to the documents, which allegedly record Russian Embassy bank transfers, with US intelligence knowledge.

Crocodile found

■ **A PROBE** has been launched by prosecutors in St Petersburg over reports a crocodile was found in the basement of a house in the south west of the city. The reptile was discovered in the Petrodvorets district by police who were investigating illegal arms smuggling in the city.

FOUND: The crocodile was discovered in a house in St Petersburg.



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Green energy boost

MADRID-BASED renewable energy provider Acciona Energy has signed a deal to supply Unilever with electricity.

The contract covers all the British-Dutch consumer goods firm's facilities in Spain.

Acciona Green Energy director Santiago Gómez Ramos said: "We are very pleased that such an important company as Unilever has entrusted its electricity supply to Acciona, and we are delighted to work with them to reduce their carbon footprint."

Fizzing with pleasure

By Matt Ford

SPANISH soft drinks consumers are on red alert.

It comes after soft drinks brand Coca Cola announced it has chosen Spain as the first European country to feature its new packaging.

The new look features more red and clearer nutritional information on the can, and continues a rebranding process which started in 2015.

A new, smaller 250 millilitre can has also been introduced to the range.

Carolina Aransay, head of marketing in Spain, said that the company

is "constantly searching for innovations that respond to the needs of customers.

"As part of our business strategy, we have innovated in the design of our packaging by offering simple and clear information so that consumers can make informed and responsible decisions," she added.

"Coca Cola is 131 years old but has remained young and fresh thanks to its adaptation to change, and one of the keys to its 2015 success was a

unique brand strategy in which we chose to reinforce iconic elements such as red.

"We are pioneers, since we will be the first country in Europe and globally to feature this new packaging, and this revamp looks set to be permanent in Spain," she concluded.

Senior brand manager of Coca Cola Iberica, Cesar Ruiz, confirmed that he expects 3.2 billion cans with the updated branding to be sold by the end of the year, with all production lines to make the switch by February.

Firm just doing it

A SPANISH electric utility firm is boosting links with sportswear behemoth Nike.

Avangrid, a subsidiary of Iberdrola, has signed a contract with the United States brand to supply electricity generated by wind power. It is the second such deal agreed between the pair and set to be worth around €100 million, according to reports.

Long-term supply contracts are swiftly becoming Iberdrola's main commercial asset stateside, after the company last year signed a €200 million agreement with Google.

Quote of the Week

"Pensioners' loss of purchasing power is practically irrelevant." Spain's Social Security chief, Tomas Burgos, responds to criticism as pensions are to rise by 0.25 per cent in 2018 while inflation remains above 1 per cent.



MOVISTAR BILLS: Customers forced to fork out.

Mobile giant hikes prices

SPANISH mobile phone operator Movistar has announced its latest price hike.

All of the company's Fusion packages will be affected by the increase, and the new rates will be applied to both new and existing contracts.

Although the rise is enforced, customers will however benefit from more internet data on their existing deals.

The updated tariffs are as follows:

Rate #2 - Up from €15 for

two gigabytes (GB) to €17 for three GB.

Rate #6 - Up from €27 for six GB to €30 for eight GB. The 200-minute bonus remains.

Rate #10 - Up from €37 for 10 GB to €40 for 15 GB plus unlimited calls.

Rate #20 - Up from €47 for 20 GB to €50 for 25 GB with unlimited calls.

Movistar is also pushing up the cost of deals which offer an additional line for half price, with similar increases in internet data.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Popping the cork

CAVA producer Freixenet has revealed that it will pay €5.87 million-worth of dividends to shareholders after a two-year lull. The sparkling wine firm made €8.4 million net profit in 2017, quadrupling its 2016 figures.

Tokyo drift

NISSAN is to pull the plug on production of two unpopular models in Spain. Sales of the compact Pulsar and Evalia van have been so poor that they will no longer be built at the Japanese carmaker's Barcelona plant from midyear.

Room gloom

MELIA HOTELS INTERNATIONAL - based in Mallorca - has lost €3 million due to the Catalan independence crisis, its CEO Gabriel Escarrer has claimed, going on to describe October as "poisonous and disastrous" for the chain.

Toll roads set for privatisation

THE Spanish Ministry of Development will ask the central bank for €420 million to rescue bankrupt toll roads.

In February it plans to bail out the R-4 Madrid-Ocaña motorway, followed by the R-2, R-3, and R-5 (all Madrid), and the M-12 which connects the capital to Barajas Airport, plus stretches connecting Ocaña-La Roda,

Cartagena-Vera and the Alicante ring road.

The AP-41 between Madrid and Toledo is also set for a cash boost later in the year.

Once the debt has been cleared, the government aims to put management of them out to tender in a privatisation process it claims will rake in between €700 million and €1 billion.

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LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 22

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,772.10	16.10	0.92	24,732.43
Associated British Foods	2,764.50	14.50	0.53	21,810.62
Admiral Group	1,872.75	-5.25	-0.28	5,386.70
Ashtead Group	2,127.00	-9.00	-0.42	10,622.96
Antofagasta	997.20	3.40	0.34	9,842.79
Aviva	533.90	-0.90	-0.17	21,355.46
AstraZeneca	5,055.00	12.00	0.24	63,064.17
BAE Systems	585.90	-1.70	-0.29	18,677.55
Barclays	203.90	3.40	1.70	34,001.37
British American Tobacco	5,070.50	8.50	0.17	113,534.83
Barratt Developments	611.60	-3.60	-0.59	6,206.59
Berkeley Group Holdings	4,192.00	-29.00	-0.69	5,618.38
British Land Co	679.80	-0.20	-0.03	6,767.48
BHP Billiton	1,609.40	-4.40	-0.27	33,704.44
Bunzl	2,015.50	-12.50	-0.62	6,809.33
BP	514.40	4.50	0.88	102,566.67
Burberry Group	1,603.75	7.25	0.45	6,723.78
BT Group	266.08	1.98	0.75	26,491.28
Coca-Cola HBC	2,432.00	8.00	0.33	8,859.71
Carnival	4,913.00	-62.00	-1.25	10,345.76
Centrica	139.20	0.15	0.11	7,896.40
Compass Group	1,535.25	8.25	0.54	23,900.49
Croda International	4,513.00	-21.00	-0.46	5,846.98
CRH	2,696.50	13.50	0.50	22,012.86
DCC	7,542.50	-2.50	-0.03	6,810.49
Diageo	2,616.75	-4.75	-0.18	65,073.38
Direct Line Insurance Group	374.40	1.00	0.27	5,132.88
Evrax	393.35	0.55	0.14	5,562.10
Experian	1,666.50	-1.50	-0.09	15,135.38
easyJet	1,574.50	-10.00	-0.63	6,009.76
Ferguson	5,604.00	-20.00	-0.36	13,990.02
Fresnillo	1,398.50	-5.00	-0.36	10,132.29
G4S	290.70	-0.60	-0.21	4,468.59
GKN	434.95	-4.45	-1.01	7,642.78
Glencore	406.28	-0.87	-0.21	58,622.58
GlaxoSmithKline	1,356.00	-2.00	-0.15	67,090.95
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,920.00	-8.00	-0.41	9,104.55
Halma	1,328.50	-1.50	-0.11	4,992.28
Hammerson	498.25	-0.75	-0.15	3,975.90
HSBC Holdings	783.85	-4.55	-0.58	157,624.08
Int Consolidated Airlines	652.60	-5.80	-0.88	13,267.26
InterContinental Hotels Gr	4,912.00	-16.00	-0.32	9,127.13
3i Group	926.80	-7.20	-0.77	9,158.66
Imperial Brands	3,016.50	0.50	0.02	28,779.01
Informa	703.00	1.20	0.17	5,855.38
Intertek Group	5,261.00	-13.00	-0.25	8,431.04
ITV	165.45	0.50	0.30	6,658.03
Just Eat	794.90	-6.90	-0.86	5,405.64
Johnson Matthey	3,223.00	-29.00	-0.89	6,299.51
Kingfisher	337.40	1.30	0.39	7,435.96

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Land Securities Group	994.35	4.15	0.42	7,362.60
Legal & General Group	275.70	-0.50	-0.18	16,528.71
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	71.50	0.02	0.03	51,050.41
London Stock Exchange Gr	3,734.00	-17.00	-0.45	12,811.92
Micro Focus International	2,130.00	-24.00	-1.11	9,397.79
Mediclinic International	604.00	-3.00	-0.49	4,469.17
Marks & Spencer Group	306.10	2.10	0.69	4,974.96
Mondi	1,955.25	-16.25	-0.82	9,414.89
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	229.10	0.10	0.04	5,389.87
National Grid	836.00	5.50	0.66	28,058.17
NMC Health	3,371.00	91.00	2.77	6,537.48
Next	4,902.50	4.50	0.09	7,250.62
Old Mutual Group	237.25	-0.25	-0.11	11,665.87
Paddy Power Betfair	8,327.50	-122.50	-1.45	7,112.70
Prudential	1,973.00	-8.00	-0.40	51,213.14
Persimmon	2,637.00	3.00	0.11	8,095.13
Pearson	690.50	2.50	0.36	5,424.79
Reckitt Benckiser Group	6,928.00	15.00	0.22	47,809.45
Royal Bank of Scotland Gr (The)	295.10	-2.20	-0.74	35,570.65
Royal Dutch Shell	2,529.75	12.75	0.51	115,847.83
Royal Dutch Shell	2,576.50	16.50	0.64	96,240.28
RELX	1,606.25	-40.25	-2.44	17,247.98
Rio Tinto	4,010.50	-6.00	-0.15	54,123.79
Rolls-Royce Group	883.60	-9.20	-1.03	16,344.78
Randgold Resources	7,142.00	-30.00	-0.42	6,656.86
RSA Insurance Gr	624.40	-1.80	-0.29	6,384.54
Rentokil Initial	312.60	-3.50	-1.11	5,673.68
Sainsbury (J)	257.85	-0.15	-0.06	5,644.20
Schroders	3,691.00	-32.00	-0.86	8,374.13
Sage Group (The)	817.30	-1.30	-0.16	8,754.55
Segro	578.60	-0.60	-0.10	5,776.86
Shire	3,562.25	101.25	2.93	31,410.25
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,590.00	-10.00	-0.38	6,077.59
Sky	1,003.75	1.75	0.17	17,190.17
Standard Life Aberdeen	437.20	-0.50	-0.11	13,053.70
Smith (DS)	510.00	-0.60	-0.12	5,495.43
Smiths Group	1,669.75	-3.75	-0.22	6,610.79
Scottish Mortgage Inv Trst	470.60	0.40	0.09	6,545.76
Smith & Nephew	1,244.25	-0.75	-0.06	10,769.57
SSE	1,297.25	6.25	0.48	13,187.93
Standard Chartered	818.10	-0.90	-0.11	27,000.03
St James's Place	1,263.25	-7.25	-0.57	6,647.86
Severn Trent	2,028.50	4.50	0.22	4,774.98
Tesco	207.55	-0.25	-0.12	17,177.81
TUI AG	1,645.50	14.00	0.86	9,415.81
Taylor Wimpey	198.05	0.10	0.05	6,441.11
Unilever	4,088.00	-20.00	-0.49	49,517.04
United Utilities Group	768.50	0.30	0.04	5,258.72
Vodafone Group	225.85	0.05	0.02	60,283.99
WPP Group	1,386.50	3.00	0.22	17,436.18
Whitbread	3,975.00	-30.00	-0.75	7,315.07

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COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE%	CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	248,18	0,92%	2,27	147.430,87
AMERICAN EXPRESS	98,03	-1,83%	-1,83	84.699,07
APPLE	178,46	-0,45%	-0,8	907.327,31
BOEING CO	337,73	-0,71%	-2,43	201.281,72
CATERPILLAR	170,41	0,94%	1,58	101.132,76
CHEVRON	131,3	-0,22%	-0,29	248.628,05
CISCO SYSTEMS	41,29	-0,02%	-0,01	203.751,38
COCA-COLA	47,16	0,60%	0,28	200.911,77
DOWDUPONT	76,01	-0,03%	-0,02	177.956,26
EXXON MOBIL	87,15	-0,32%	-0,28	368.289,26
GENERAL ELECTRIC	16,26	-3,04%	-0,51	141.181,54
GOLDMAN SACHS	256,12	2,05%	5,15	96.171,29
HOME DEPOT	201,33	1,51%	3	234.501,44
IBM	162,37	-3,99%	-6,75	150.413,33
INTEL CORP	44,82	0,76%	0,34	208.749,06
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	113,01	-0,22%	-0,25	386.527,98
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	147,36	0,30%	0,44	394.166,22
MC DONALD'S CORP	176,12	0,89%	1,55	140.392,35
MERCK AND CO. NEW	61,28	0,25%	0,15	166.027,18
MICROSOFT	90	-0,11%	-0,1	693.001,62
NIKE	67,21	4,84%	3,1	87.054,83
PFIZER	36,94	-0,14%	-0,05	218.698,35
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	91,07	0,99%	0,89	230.660,23
TRAVELERS CIES	137,85	0,37%	0,51	37.608,55
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	135,9	0,96%	1,29	108.078,45
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	243,35	0,08%	0,19	235.153,91
VERIZON COMMS	51,91	0,70%	0,36	210.150,35
VISA	122,7	-0,33%	-0,41	222.010,57
WAL-MART STORES	104,59	0,28%	0,29	309.420,74
WALT DISNEY CO	110,59	0,15%	0,17	166.148,02

M - MILLION DOLLARS

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 22

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
NuCan plc	\$ 20.51	6.02 ▲ 41.55%
Xcel Brands, Inc	\$ 2.80	0.40 ▲ 16.67%
Collegium Pharmaceutical, Inc.	\$ 23.38	3.17 ▲ 15.69%
Sientra, Inc.	\$ 11.66	1.33 ▲ 12.88%
Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.	\$ 6.23	0.69 ▲ 12.45%
Jounce Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 21.76	2.29 ▲ 11.76%
lovance Biotherapeutics, Inc.	\$ 10.70	1.075 ▲ 11.17%
Fossil Group, Inc.	\$ 10.03	0.92 ▲ 10.10%
Tocagen Inc.	\$ 14.12	1.29 ▲ 10.05%
Mitcham Industries, Inc.	\$ 3.96	0.36 ▲ 10%
Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 6.29	0.57 ▲ 9.97%
Most Declined		
Obalon Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 5.24	0.90 ▼ 14.66%
TRACON Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 2.80	0.25 ▼ 8.20%
Compugen Ltd.	\$ 3	0.25 ▼ 7.69%
Coherus BioSciences, Inc.	\$ 10.75	0.65 ▼ 5.70%
Tintri, Inc.	\$ 6.45	0.39 ▼ 5.70%
Lumentum Holdings Inc.	\$ 48.85	2.85 ▼ 5.51%
Surgery Partners, Inc.	\$ 14.90	0.80 ▼ 5.10%
Medallion Financial Corp.	\$ 5.08	0.27 ▼ 5.05%
Juno Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 67.81	3.56 ▼ 4.99%
Zealand Pharma A/S	\$ 15.05	0.78 ▼ 4.93%
Bel Fuse Inc.	\$ 22.90	1.10 ▼ 4.58%

Kleinwort Hambros Elite PCC Limited

Distributing Funds

Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

£0.9293

PRICE MOVEMENT

-£0.0006

Accumulating Funds

Multi Asset Conservative B GBP

Multi Asset Conservative B EUR

Multi Asset Balanced B GBP

Multi Asset Balanced B EUR

Multi Asset Growth B GBP

Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

£1.1675

PRICE MOVEMENT

-£0.0019

£1.0832

-£0.0020

£1.3470

-£0.0039

£1.2377

-£0.0038

£1.5149

-£0.0051

£1.3991

-£0.0052

Remaining Elite Fund prices available on request

Prices correct as at 17/01/2018



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SP16015EN

Fashion forges ahead

SPANISH BRAND ECLIPSES TRADITIONAL LEADER

CLOTHING retailer Zara has outstripped telecommunications giant Movistar to become the best-performing Spanish brand.

The bombshell comes after global consultancy Interbrand published its latest report.

It is the first time that Movistar has failed to top the national ranking in a decade, after the company lost 12 per cent of its brand value as it plummeted to €19.65 billion.

And the clothing manufacturer, owned by tycoon Amancio Ortega, is now estimated to be worth €15.45 billion, up 45 per cent from 2015.

Bosco Torres, technical director of the report, claims that the drop can be attributed to 'financial analysts' forecasts, which project a flatter growth, with revenues set to grow by just 1 per cent due to increased prices driving a potential loss of customers, plus competition from the new wave of platforms including HBO and Netflix."

Banking group Santander - valued at €5.6 billion - was placed third, having grown by 20 per cent in the last two years, thanks to a stable business model with predictable results, since it is working in mature economies including the UK and Germany and in growth regions in Central and South America.

Basque country-based bank BBVA and clothing brand Bershka, also owned by Ortega, make up the top five.

Supermarket chain Mercadona, in eighth place, is the second-fastest growing brand after Zara, after its value increased by 31 per cent in the last two years, while fashion chain Mango is the biggest loser, with its value having plunged by 39 per cent.

New entries in the top 20 include beer brewer Estrella Galicia and private medical firm Sanitas, while British-owned telecommunications com-



ON THE UP: The rise and rise of Zara has put Movistar (inset) under the magnifying glass.

pany Jazztel, and banking group Banco Popular drop out, the latter in the wake of its takeover by Santander.

Spain's two biggest football clubs, Real Madrid and FC Barcelona, appear in positions 17 and 20, with respective values of €530 million and €470 million.

By sectors, banking is the most-represented with eight entries on the list, whereas fashion is the most valuable despite only appearing five times, with the worth of Zara, Bershka, Massimo Dutti, Mango and Desigual estimated at €18.8 billion, 35 per cent of the overall total.

Debt grows but leaders count on 2018 boost

PUBLIC debt in Spain has broken all records.

After rising by more than €9 billion in November, the total of €1.14 billion is the highest ever registered, according to the Bank of Spain.

The figure is equivalent to more than 98.8 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), well above the country's European Union target of 98.1 per cent by the close of 2017.

But the Spanish government said it expects the figure to fall to 96.8 per cent this year.

The increase is being blamed on higher indebtedness registered by the State, which increased by €11.1 million to an unparalleled €987.2 million.

Spain's public debt before the global financial crisis hit in 2007 was €384 million, or 35 per cent of GDP.

DEFENCE BUDGET SET TO GROW

Bottom line of fire

SPAIN'S annual military spending has risen to €835 million.

The figure represents an 8.2 per cent increase on the €771.1 million splashed out in 2016, after the Ministry of Defence took part in 17 missions during 2017.

According to official figures, the most expensive operation was conducted in Lebanon, after 618 Spanish soldiers were deployed on a peace-keeping mission, at a cost of €138 million.

The forces joined a campaign, started 12 years ago, by the United Nations (UN) in the wake of a violent confrontation between Israel and militants from the Shia Islamist political party.

This was followed by a €123.1 million operation in Iraq as 541 troops, including 71 from the Army Engineer Corps, joined the international coalition fighting Muslim fundamentalist group Daesh in the war-torn country.

And €84.3 million was spent on the European Union (EU) Operation Sophia, combatting human trafficking and illegal migration in the Mediterranean Sea, an ongoing campaign based mostly in Libyan waters.



EXPENDITURE UP: Defence Minister María Dolores de Cospedal poses with troops during a visit to Kabul, Afghanistan.

Spain currently deploys 2,469 soldiers on five continents, and national Defence Minister, María Dolores de Cospedal, is due to appear in the Congress of Deputies, the lower house of Spain's legislative branch, to request an increase in spending for 2018.

In particular, the official wants to send an additional 152 troops to Mali, with Spanish General Enrique Millán set to assume command of the EU mission based there.

Spain's military spending in 2017

1. Lebanon (UN): €138 million
2. Iraq (Global Coalition Against Daesh): €123.1 million
3. Mediterranean - Operation Sophia (EU): €84.3 million
4. Atlantic and Mediterranean naval groups (NATO): €84.1 million
5. Indian Ocean - Operation Atalanta (EU): €74.2 million
6. Mali - Training mission (EU): €72.9 million
7. Latvia - Enhanced Forward Presence (NATO): €63.4 million
8. Estonia - Baltic Air Policing (NATO): €48.7 million
9. Turkey - Patriot Missile Battery Support (NATO): €38.3 million
10. Senegal - Air detachment (France support): €36.4 million
11. Mediterranean - Sea Guardian (NATO): €27.1 million
12. Gabon - Air detachment (France support): €22.1 million
13. Central African Republic (EU): €8.3 million
14. Afghanistan - Resolute Support (NATO): €6.7 million
15. Colombia - Observation mission (UN): €3.5 million
16. Somalia - Training mission (EU): €3.4 million
17. Bosnia Herzegovina (UE): €0.4 million

UK losing out in space race

INFRASTRUCTURE for the Galileo satellite system will be moved from the UK to Spain over Brexit fears.

It comes after a committee of representatives from European Union member states voted in favour of the move from London to Madrid.

The back-up security centre for Galileo - an advanced version of GPS - is not yet fully operational in London, but was expected to employ 30 people.

It was originally awarded to London in 2010, and controls access to the system with 24-hour monitoring when the main security headquarters near Paris is offline.

It is the latest Brexit blow to the UK's space industry, and follows a November announcement by aerospace companies and the Royal Aeronautical Society, in which they claimed they were being overlooked for contracts.



GOVERNMENT DEFENDS COST OF EXTRA POLICE €87m Cataluña spend

THE Catalan independence crisis cost the Spanish state €87 million in police spending.

Interior Minister Juan Ignacio Zoido was forced to defend the eye-popping figure, after thousands of Guardia Civil and National Police officers were deployed to the troubled region last autumn.

They were tasked with preventing an illegal independence referendum on October 1, and many remained in place until after the snap election, called by Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, eventually withdrawing on December 30.

Clashes between police and pro-independence supporters, during the referendum saw hundreds injured, as the Spanish forces closed 113 polling stations and stopped a further 100 from opening.

Images of the violence - including footage of armed police



Photo credit: Juan Ignacio Zoido/Twitter/YouTube

CONTROVERSIAL: Police beat pro-independence protesters and (inset) Minister Zoido, left, appears before the Senate of Spain.

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beating elderly people, women and peaceful protesters - were condemned across the globe.

But Mr Zoido, who was appearing before the Spanish Senate voluntarily, strongly defended the offensive, which he said took place against "the absolute passivity and minimal collaboration" of the Mossos d'Esquadra

Catalan police.

"The operation was legitimate, professional, and proportional," he said. "I regret as much as anyone that people were hurt, but those responsible generated a climate of disobedience with their reckless and illegal behaviour."

He went on to justify the cost of the exercise, with the money used for accommodation, food, travel and day-to-day living.

"It is a high price that all Spaniards have to pay due to the irresponsibility and stubbornness of the pro-independence government," he said.

The official also pointed out that damages to police stations and vehicles cost €135,000.

An average of 4,500 officers were based in Cataluña throughout the crisis, with 6,000 in place on the day of the referendum.

Opposition groups criticised Mr Zoido, with Xavier Castel-

ana, of the pro-independence Esquerra Republicana party, accusing the government of "applying the political will of Franco to maintain the unity of Spain."

Others quizzed the minister over the use of rubber bullets and pepper spray.

Following the referendum, the regional government declared independence, prompting the Spanish government to dissolve Catalan parliament and call snap elections.

A number of pro-independence politicians were subsequently arrested, and some - including ousted leader Carles Puigdemont - had warrants issued for their arrest. Puigdemont has since fled to Belgium.

December's snap election failed to provide a decisive result, with separatists retaining a slim majority, but not taking over 50 per cent of the vote.

Chinese seek to sell hotels

A CHINESE conglomerate is seeking to sell its stake in a Spanish hotel chain.

HNA Group, which has investments across the globe and ranked number 179 on the Fortune Global 500 list, is reportedly trying to offload its majority stake in the NH Hotel Group.

The move comes days after NH - headquartered in Madrid - turned down a takeover bid from Mallorca-based rival Barceló Group.

HNA revealed it has hired banking firms JP Morgan and Benedetto, Gartland and Company to find a buyer for its 29.5 per cent stake in NH, valued at around €632 million.

Spain's hotel industry is booming, as the country last year became the second-most visited country in the world after France, having outstripped the United States.

Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

by Stone King

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at international@stoneking.co.uk



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

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

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



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

What is an LPA?

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

Why should you get an LPA?

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

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

Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

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

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



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I have nothing against immigration

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT

OTHERS THINK IT



WASN'T too sure how to scribble this week; light or heavy?

Do I attract the 'slings and arrows' or go for a few laughs? The hell with it, I'm opting for heavy (surprise, surprise)!

The main reason is, that I am utterly sick of people reminding me that I am 'also an immigrant.'

They sneeringly remark 'Has the irony escaped you?' after I have written some depreciating piece or commented on Europe and its immigrant problems. Well of course it hasn't. I'm not a moron. I am an immigrant, and one with no regrets whatsoever. All those years ago, disillusioned and broke, with a career in ruins and a young family to support, in 1975 I left my beloved UK and made tracks for Saudi Arabia.

There I worked my proverbials off for some eight years. When I had saved what I considered enough, and with nothing to attract me back to the UK, I looked around and with some encouragement from a good friend, decided to settle in Spain.

I brought in some 40K (no small sum in '83!) became a resident and invested in a (failed!) busi-



BORDERS: Must be made secure.

ness. I've had four children here and all have been educated in the Spanish system. I speak the language (could be better!), have always paid my dues, and have integrated pretty well into the Spanish community.

What I did not do, was to enter the country ille-

gally, expect to be housed and paid benefits for doing nothing, insist that their schools fly the British flag or change their menu to suit my taste. I did not, create 'no go' areas, consider myself to be above local laws, mow down or slaughter innocent civilians while screaming 'Jesus is great'

or scream racism when decisions didn't go my way.

I have nothing whatsoever against immigration. I truly believe diversity to be both healthy and progressive. I do not however condone millions of ungrateful layabouts and fanatics, hell bent on screwing as much as they can from their host countries and trying to overthrow and change the culture by sheer weight of numbers and social upheaval.

I do of course realise that many immigrants are not of this ilk and do contribute invaluable input to the societies they have adopted. But far too many do not. Until we cap the numbers of those wanting to enter the more successful democracies of Europe, vet them all far more carefully, strengthen our borders and insist on much higher standards, I'm afraid Europe is doomed to a future beset with conflict and problems that will result in chaos, misery and ultimate capitulation.

Unfortunately I feel it is already far too late.

Sorry to select 'heavy' again this week. Promise a measure of light next, ok? Thanks for all the mail and encouraging comments 'on the street.'

Sorry also, that I can't reply to most missives, but I do read 'em all - promise.

Keep the faith.

Love Leapy leapylee@gmail.com

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

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

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BBC one

10:15am	Rip Off Britain
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under
12:45pm	A1: Britain's Longest Road
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News at One
2:30pm	BBC London News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	Father Brown
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	The Farmers' Country Showdown
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News at Six
7:30pm	BBC London News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	EastEnders
9:00pm	Big Cats
10:00pm	Death in Paradise
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten
11:30pm	BBC London News
11:45pm	Question Time
12:45am	This Week

BBC TWO

7:00am	Flog it! Trade Secrets
7:30am	The Farmers' Country Showdown
8:15am	Antiques Road Trip
9:00am	MasterChef: The Professionals
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
	<i>Jo Coburn presents the latest political news, interviews and debate.</i>
2:00pm	Bowls
6:00pm	Tennis
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm	Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby
9:00pm	Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure
10:00pm	A House Through Time
11:00pm	The Mash Report
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:15am	Stealing Van Gogh

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	Beyond 100 Days
8:30pm	Top of the Pops
9:00pm	How We Got to Now with Steve Johnson
10:00pm	Forces of Nature with Brian Cox
11:00pm	Prehistoric Autopsy
12:00am	Lost Land of the Volcano
	<i>Documentary series that combines remarkable wildlife discoveries with high action adventure.</i>
1:00am	Top of the Pops
	<i>Peter Powell and Janice Long present the pop chart programme, first broadcast on 31 January 1985.</i>
1:30am	How to Build a Dinosaur
2:30am	How We Got to Now with Steve Johnson
3:30am	Forces of Nature with Brian Cox
4:30am	This is BBC Four.

CHANNEL 4

9:30am	Frasier
11:05am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:00pm	Sun, Sea and Selling Houses
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Couples Come Dine with Me
2:05pm	Posh Pawn
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	Village of the Year
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
6:00pm	Four in a Bed
6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	George Clarke's Amazing Spaces
10:00pm	Hunted
11:00pm	Derry Girls
11:30pm	The Undateables
12:30am	The Super Orgasm
1:30am	Obsessive
	Compulsive Cleaners

CHANNEL 5

9:05am	Digby Dragon
9:20am	Rusty Rivets
9:35am	Shimmer and Shine
9:55am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
10:05am	Mofy
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Cowboy Builders
1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
1:15pm	The Hotel Inspector
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS
4:15pm	Driven Underground
6:00pm	5 News at 5
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News Tonight
8:00pm	The Wonderful World of Puppies
9:00pm	Bargain Loving Brits in the Sun
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm	Celebrity 100% Hotter
12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

4

8:30am	All Star Driving School
9:00am	Charmed
10:00am	Melissa and Joey
10:30am	Melissa and Joey
11:00am	Baby Daddy
11:30am	Baby Daddy
12:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
1:00pm	The Goldbergs
1:30pm	The Goldbergs
2:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:00pm	Melissa and Joey
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
5:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm	The Goldbergs
6:30pm	The Goldbergs
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
10:00pm	2 Broke Girls
11:00pm	The Inbetweeners
11:30pm	The Inbetweeners
12:05am	The Big Bang Theory
12:35am	The Big Bang Theory

sky sports main event

7:00am	Live European Tour Golf
	<i>Day one of the Omega Dubai Desert Classic on the European Tour from the Emirates Golf Club in Dubai.</i>
10:00am	My Icon
10:15am	Cricket
	<i>Day two of the third Test between South Africa and India at the Wanderers Stadium in Johannesburg.</i>
4:15pm	My Icon
4:30pm	SKY Sports News
	<i>All the news from the Premier League and beyond.</i>
5:00pm	SKY Sports News
	<i>All the news from the Premier League and beyond.</i>
6:00pm	Live PGA Tour
	Featured Groups
9:00pm	Live PGA Tour Golf

itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
2:55pm	ITV News London
3:00pm	Judge Rinder
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	ITV News London
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Bargain Holidays: What's the Truth? Tonight
9:00pm	Emmerdale
9:30pm	The Cruise
10:00pm	Transformation Street
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:30pm	ITV News London
11:45pm	Great Art
12:45am	Joanna Lumley's Postcards

itv2

7:25am	Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records
7:55am	Dress to Impress
8:45am	Emmerdale
9:20am	Coronation Street
9:50am	Coronation Street
10:25am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
11:10am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
12:10pm	Dress to Impress
1:10pm	Emmerdale
1:45pm	Coronation Street
2:15pm	Coronation Street
2:45pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:35pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:40pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
5:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:50pm	Take Me Out
8:00pm	You've Been Framed!
8:30pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Superstore
10:00pm	Release the Hounds
11:00pm	Celebrity Juice
11:50pm	Family Guy
12:20am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	Classic Coronation Street
7:25am	Classic Coronation Street
7:55am	Heartbeat
8:55am	The Royal
10:00am	Judge Judy
10:25am	Judge Judy
10:50am	Judge Judy
11:20am	The Darling Buds of May
12:25pm	The Darling Buds of May
1:35pm	The Royal
2:40pm	Heartbeat
3:40pm	Classic Coronation Street
4:15pm	Classic Coronation Street
4:50pm	On the Buses
5:20pm	On the Buses
5:55pm	Rising Damp
6:25pm	George and Mildred
7:00pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Agatha Christie's Marple
11:00pm	Foyle's War
1:05am	Inspector Morse

itv4

7:00am	The Chase
7:50am	Pawn Stars
8:10am	Pawn Stars
8:30am	Ironsides
9:30am	Quincy, M.E.
10:35am	Minder
11:45am	The Sweeney
12:50pm	The Professionals
1:50pm	Ironsides
	Police drama series.
2:50pm	Quincy, M.E.
3:55pm	Minder
5:00pm	The Sweeney
6:05pm	The Professionals
7:05pm	The Car Chasers
7:35pm	The Car Chasers
8:05pm	Pawn Stars
	Reality series.
8:35pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	The Chase: Celebrity Special
10:00pm	The Shawshank Redemption
11:15pm	FYI Daily
	<i>Latest news from the world of entertainment.</i>
11:20pm	The Shawshank Redemption
12:55am	Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

12:35pm	The LEGO Batman Movie
2:30pm	Assassin's Creed
4:35pm	Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief
6:35pm	Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2
9:00pm	The LEGO Batman Movie
11:00pm	Assassin's Creed

sky CINEMA COMEDY

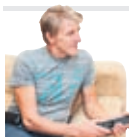
6:35am	Three Amigos!
8:30am	Sadie's Last Days on Earth
10:15am	The Nutty Professor
12:00pm	The House Bunny
1:45pm	Bridesmaids
3:50pm	Ride Along 2
5:40pm	Airplane II: The Sequel
7:10pm	Big
9:00pm	Bridesmaids
11:10pm	Ride Along 2
1:00am	Brüno
2:30am	Don Verdean

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am	Kicks
8:40am	The Transfiguration
10:20am	Let Me Go
12:05pm	Nina
1:45pm	First Kill
3:30pm	Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge
	<i>Swashbuckling high-seas adventure pitting Johnny Depp's Captain Jack Sparrow</i>
5:45pm	Kicks
7:20pm	Nina
9:00pm	Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge
	<i>Swashbuckling high-seas adventure pitting Johnny Depp's Captain Jack Sparrow</i>
11:10pm	First Kill
1:00am	A Cure for Wellness

sky sports football

7:30am	SPFL Greatest Games
8:00am	Football Years
8:30am	Football Countdowns
9:00am	Carabao Cup Highlights
9:30am	Football's Greatest Teams
10:00am	Scottish Cup Greatest Games
10:30am	La Liga Greatest Games
11:00am	Football
2:00pm	La Liga Icons
3:00pm	Eredivisie
4:00pm	Carabao Cup Highlights
5:00pm	Scottish Cup Greatest Games
5:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
6:00pm	Football Years
6:30pm	Football Countdowns
7:00pm	Eredivisie
8:00pm	EFL Matters
8:30pm	Carabao Cup Highlights
9:30pm	EFL Matters
10:00pm	The Best La Liga Goals 2016/17
11:00pm	La Liga Show
11:30pm	EFL Matters
12:00am	La Liga Icons



TV COUCH CRITIC

THOUGHT I would give *Vera* a try on Sunday *ITV*. Sorry to say it doesn't work for me. Brenda Blethyn dressed as a cast-off from the old lady in the long gone *Heartbeat* series in a dodgy hat, blue scarf and coat that's seen better days.

Her P reg Land Rover tops it off. It's an easy watch but I just didn't feel it somehow. Just one last thing, do they address people as 'love' in Northumberland?

Sometimes having a zap round the channels away from the mainstream brings up some watchable or repeated TV, and *Dave on Demand's American Pickers* is always worth a half hour of your time. Two clued-up buyers scour the country searching for antiques or collectables to buy and sell. These guys don't settle just for small items, they will buy anything that looks like there's a profit in it.

In one programme set in upstate New York they met up with First Officer John Skiles, famed for manning the aeroplane that landed in the Hudson River, who had barns full of flying memorabilia.

They went away from there laden with an aeroplane engine, rare air show posters and magazines, and wheels, allowing them to make a sizeable profit. Take a look, no thinking required.

Hard Sun, a BBC six-part drama for Saturday

Vera plods, Mellor triumphs and repeats appeal

nights kicked off last week and went straight in to the action. Agyness Deyn the ex-model turned actress, made an unusual but creditable cop who can verbally and physically mix it with her peers. There's skulduggery everywhere you turn in this pre-apocalyptic thriller, which starts after a computer document saying the world has five years to doomsday is leaked.

The intelligence services are on her trail and they have all her hangout covered. Looks like a hit from the Beeb, but it's still early days.

Homes Under the Hammer (BBC 1) should be axed immediately as this tired old format has reached its end point. Buy cheap, renovate cheap, make money, and move on. As if two presenters aren't enough they have now roped in a third! Come on Beeb, don't waste licence payers' money any longer, put us out of our misery, get shut, it's had its day.

Girlfriends (ITV) is another Kay Mellor hit (she can do no wrong in my book) that focuses on three lifelong friends played by Miranda Richardson, Zoe Wanamaker and Phyllis Logan. All have some form of crisis and they together solve them as only girlfriends do. The storyline



HIT: From left, Zoë Wanamaker, Phyllis Logan and Miranda Richardson in *Girlfriends*.

MISS: Brenda Blethyn in *Vera*.

is quite simple as most of Mellor's tales are, but the script is crisp, understandable and most of all plausible.

Still going strong on Sundays is *Dragons' Den (BBC 2)*. The series has gone through its fair share of multi-millionaires over the years but it's still a really good watch. There's something more than a bit satisfying watching suc-

cessful candidates sealing a deal with these astute business giants.

Death in Paradise (BBC1) has finally bagged the man for the part at the third time of asking as British cop Jack Mooney is now played by Ardal O'Hanlon. He has the right amount of clumsiness mixed with a thorough detective's brain to nail the villain.

Critique: P M San Fulgencio, Costa Blanca

Advertising Feature

Christina Sharp

GLOBELINK INTERNATIONAL
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Why winter is the best time to buy annual travel insurance

CHRISTMAS and New Year celebrations seem a lifetime ago, so how better to shake off winter blues than planning your next break? Kick start your journey with our travel savvy tips on why now is the best time to buy your essential annual travel insurance cover.

If you love travelling more than twice a year, and don't want the hassle of buying travel insurance each time you go, or worse still, the risk of forgetting to buy it, then Annual Multi Trip insurance is your best option.

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January and February, are traditionally the busiest months for ad-

vanced holiday bookings as we get lured by the blitz of holiday promotions. Buying your Annual policy now and opting for an immediate 'start date' means you are covered straightaway for holidays you book, or have already booked.

Buying now ensures that any winter sun or winter sports breaks are covered under one policy. But check before you buy, as most annual policies won't offer Cruise, or Winter Sports as standard. Globelink include cruise cover on all policies and Winter Sports on our Annual Multi Trip policies with a 45+ trip duration.

Don't leave purchasing your travel insurance to the last minute, and don't opt for a future 'start date' on your Annual policy under the misapprehension that you're not travelling for a while. Otherwise you won't benefit from your policy pre-departure elements.



PEACE OF MIND: Put your feet up and think of travel insurance.

For example, if the policy includes Cancellation, this protection kicks-in instantly as long as you opt for an immediate start date. Did you know that holiday Cancellation is one of the most common reasons for making a travel insurance claim? So do yourself a favour and start your policy immediately.

A good Annual Multi Trip policy lets you take as many trips as you like abroad, under the one policy. However, some companies place limits, so look out for restrictions on trips, and the 'individual trip duration.' Be sure to buy a policy that covers the longest trip you'll take.

Look out for special deals such as

children go free, or couples discounts. This could save you a packet. Beware however, the cheapest policy may not provide the cover you need; and the most expensive may not be the best! Read the small print and choose based on your circumstances.

Take account of your holiday costs; value of luggage; and always declare pre-existing medical conditions. Sidestep this at your peril, as it could invalidate your policy and cost you dearly in both cash and anguish.

Wherever you travel, visit the Foreign & Commonwealth (FCO) Travel Aware website for travel safety and security advice and happy holidays!

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GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



BBC one

7:00am Breakfast
 10:15am Rip Off Britain
 11:00am Homes Under the Hammer
 12:00pm Wanted Down Under
 12:45pm A1: Britain's Longest Road
 1:15pm Bargain Hunt
 2:00pm BBC News at One
 2:30pm BBC London News
 2:45pm Doctors
 3:15pm Father Brown
 4:00pm Escape to the Country
 4:45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown
 5:30pm Antiques Road Trip
 6:15pm Pointless
 7:00pm BBC News at Six
 7:30pm BBC London News
 8:00pm The One Show
 8:30pm Match of the Day Live
 11:00pm BBC News at Ten
 11:25pm BBC London News
 11:35pm The Graham Norton Show
 12:25am Witless
 12:50am Hailmakers
 1:10am Weather for the Week Ahead

BBC TWO

7:30am The Farmers' Country Showdown
 8:15am Antiques Road Trip
 9:00am MasterChef: The Professionals
 10:00am Victoria Derbyshire
 12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live
 Stay up to date on the day's top stories with the latest breaking news as it happens.
 1:00pm The Daily Politics
 2:00pm Bowls
 6:00pm Tennis
 7:00pm Eggheads
 7:30pm Great American
 8:00pm Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby
 9:00pm Mastermind
 John Humphrys presents another heat of the classic quiz.
 9:30pm A Vicar's Life
 10:00pm Monty Don's Paradise Gardens
 11:00pm QI
 11:30pm Newsnight
 12:05am Drive

BBC FOUR

4:30am This is BBC Four
 8:00pm World News Today
 The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.
 8:30pm Top of the Pops
 9:10pm The Good Old Days
 Leonard Sachs presents the old-time music hall programme, first broadcast on 2 July 1981.
 10:00pm Hits, Hype and Hustle: An Insider's Guide to the Music Business
 11:00pm Glastonbury Golden Greats
 12:00am Guitar Heroes at the BBC
 1:00am Top of the Pops
 1:40am The Kinks at the BBC
 2:40am Hits, Hype and Hustle: An Insider's Guide to the Music Business

CHANNEL 4

7:00am Countdown
 7:45am 3rd Rock from the Sun
 8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond
 9:30am Frasier
 11:05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
 12:00pm Sun, Sea and Selling Houses
 1:00pm Channel 4 News
 1:05pm Couples Come Dine with Me
 2:05pm Posh Pawn
 3:10pm Countdown
 4:00pm Village of the Year
 5:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun
 6:00pm Four in a Bed
 6:30pm Extreme Cake Makers
 7:00pm The Simpsons
 7:30pm Hollyoaks
 8:00pm Channel 4 News
 9:00pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
 10:00pm 8 Out of 10 Cats
 11:00pm The Last Leg
 12:05am First Dates Hotel
 1:10am Machete

CHANNEL 5

8:05am Paw Patrol
 8:20am Noddy: Toyland Detective
 8:35am Peppa Pig
 8:55am Floogals
 9:05am Digby Dragon
 9:20am Rusty Rivets
 9:35am Shimmer and Shine
 9:55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
 10:05am Mofy
 10:15am The Wright Stuff
 12:15pm Cowboy Builders
 1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime
 1:15pm The Hotel Inspector
 2:15pm Home and Away
 2:45pm Neighbours
 3:15pm NCIS
 4:15pm Amish Abduction
 6:00pm 5 News at 5
 6:30pm Neighbours
 7:00pm Home and Away
 7:30pm 5 News Tonight
 8:00pm The Wine Show
 9:00pm Costa Del Celebrity
 10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
 11:00pm Will and Grace
 11:30pm Celebrity Big Brother
 12:05am Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side

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7:00am Hollyoaks
 8:00am Coach Trip
 8:30am All Star Driving School
 9:00am Charmed
 10:00am Melissa and Joey
 11:00am Baby Daddy
 12:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
 1:00pm The Goldbergs
 2:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 2:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 3:00pm Melissa and Joey
 3:30pm Melissa and Joey
 4:00pm Baby Daddy
 4:30pm Baby Daddy
 5:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
 5:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
 6:00pm The Goldbergs
 6:30pm The Goldbergs
 7:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 7:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 8:00pm Hollyoaks
 8:30pm Coach Trip
 9:00pm The Big Bang Theory
 9:30pm The Big Bang Theory
 10:00pm Lockout
 11:55pm The Big Bang Theory
 12:25am The Big Bang Theory
 12:55am Gogglebox
 2:00am Tattoo Fixers

sky sports main event

6:15am Best of Sky Cricket 2017
 A look at some of the best moments from the world of England cricket.
 6:30am Cricket's Greatest Series profiling some of the greatest cricketers of all time.
 7:00am Live Rugby 7s: Sydney
 11:00am Cricket
 4:15pm Info not available
 4:30pm SKY Sports News
 All the news from the Premier League and beyond.
 5:00pm SKY Sports News
 6:00pm Live PGA Tour
 Featured Groups
 9:00pm Live PGA Tour Golf
 1:00am Live ICC U19 Wc
 A match from the ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup in New Zealand.

itv

7:00am Good Morning Britain
 9:30am Lorraine
 10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
 11:30am This Morning
 1:30pm Loose Women
 2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News
 2:55pm ITV News London
 The latest news and weather from London and the South East.
 3:00pm Judge Rinder
 4:00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
 5:00pm Tipping Point
 6:00pm The Chase
 7:00pm ITV News London
 7:30pm ITV Evening News
 8:00pm Emmerdale
 8:30pm Coronation Street
 9:00pm River Monsters
 9:30pm Coronation Street
 10:00pm Lethal Weapon
 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
 11:30pm ITV News London
 11:45pm Through the Keyhole
 12:45am Take Me Out

itv2

7:00am Totally Bonkers
 7:25am Totally Bonkers
 7:55am Dress to Impress
 Fashion-themed dating series
 8:45am Emmerdale
 9:20am Emmerdale
 9:50am You've Been Framed!
 10:25am The Ellen DeGeneres Show
 11:10am Who's Doing the Dishes?
 12:10pm Dress to Impress
 1:10pm Emmerdale
 1:45pm Emmerdale
 2:15pm You've Been Framed!
 2:45pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show
 3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
 6:50pm Take Me Out
 8:00pm You've Been Framed!
 9:00pm Two and a Half Men
 9:30pm Superstore
 10:00pm American Pie 2
 11:30pm FYI Daily
 11:35pm American Pie 2
 12:05am Family Guy
 12:35am Family Guy

itv3

7:00am Classic Coronation Street
 7:55am Heartbeat
 8:55am The Royal
 10:00am Judge Judy
 11:20am The Darling Buds of May
 (Part 2).
 12:25pm The Darling Buds of May
 1:35pm The Royal
 2:40pm Heartbeat
 3:40pm Classic Coronation Street
 4:15pm Classic Coronation Street
 4:50pm On the Buses
 5:20pm On the Buses
 5:55pm Rising Damp
 6:20pm George and Mildred
 6:55pm Heartbeat
 8:00pm Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs
 8:25pm Rosemary and Thyme
 9:25pm Rosemary and Thyme
 11:00pm Foyle's War
 1:05am Inspector Morse
 Detective drama series.

itv4

7:00am The Protectors
 7:25am Pawn Stars
 7:50am Pawn Stars
 8:15am Ironside
 9:20am Quincy, M.E.
 10:20am Minder
 11:25am The Sweeney
 12:30pm The Professionals
 1:35pm Ironside
 2:40pm Quincy, M.E.
 3:40pm Minder
 4:50pm The Sweeney
 5:55pm The Professionals
 6:55pm The Car Chasers
 7:30pm The Car Chasers
 Jeff and Meg take a trip to California to check out a pristine 1931 Chevrolet Victoria.
 8:00pm Darts: The Masters
 12:00am The Blues Brothers
 1:05am FYI Daily
 Latest news from the world of entertainment.
 1:10am The Blues Brothers

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

7:30am X-Men Origins: Wolverine
 9:30am X-Men: Apocalypse
 12:10pm Deadpool
 2:10pm Logan
 4:30pm X-Men Origins: Wolverine
 6:30pm X-Men: Apocalypse
 9:00pm Deadpool
 11:00pm Logan
 1:30am Wanted
 3:30am Ghost Rider

sky CINEMA COMEDY

7:30am The Naked Gun 2 1/2: The Smell of Fear
 9:00am The Cable Guy
 10:40am Nutty Professor II: The Klumps
 12:30pm This is Spinal Tap
 2:00pm Bridget Jones's Baby
 4:10pm In and Out
 5:45pm Bowfinger
 7:30pm This is Spinal Tap
 9:00pm Bridget Jones's Baby
 11:10pm 48 Hrs
 12:55am Another 48 Hrs

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am Let Me Go
 9:00am Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge
 11:20am First Kill
 Cat-and-mouse action thriller starring Hayden Christensen
 1:10pm Ghost in the Shell
 3:20pm Kicks
 5:00pm Nina
 6:45pm Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge
 Swashbuckling high-seas adventure pitting Johnny Depp's Captain Jack Sparrow
 9:00pm Ghost in the Shell
 11:00pm A Cure for Wellness
 Psychological horror starring Dane DeHaan.
 1:30am First Kill
 3:15am Kicks

sky sports football

10:00am Scottish Cup Greatest Games
 10:30am La Liga Greatest Games
 11:00am La Liga Show
 11:30am EFL Matters
 12:00pm One2eleven
 12:15pm One2eleven
 12:30pm SPFL Greatest Games
 12:45pm SPFL Greatest Games
 1:00pm La Liga Show
 1:30pm EFL Matters
 2:00pm La Liga Icons
 3:00pm La Liga Show
 3:30pm EFL Matters
 4:00pm Football's Greatest Teams
 5:00pm Scottish Cup Greatest Games
 5:30pm La Liga Greatest Games
 6:00pm La Liga Preview 2017/18
 7:00pm SPFL Matters
 7:30pm EFL Matters
 8:00pm La Liga Preview
 8:55pm Football
 11:00pm SPFL Matters
 11:30pm EFL Matters
 12:00am La Liga Icons

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BBC one

7:00am	Breakfast
11:00am	Saturday Kitchen Live
12:30pm	Mary Berry Everyday
1:00pm	Football Focus
2:00pm	BBC News
2:10pm	Weather <i>The latest weather information.</i>
2:15pm	Tennis
3:30pm	Bowls
5:30pm	Final Score
6:20pm	BBC News <i>The latest national and international news stories, followed by Weather.</i>
6:30pm	Regional News
6:35pm	Weather
6:40pm	And They're Off...For Sport Relief
7:25pm	Pointless
8:15pm	All Together Now
9:20pm	Casualty
10:10pm	BBC News
10:25pm	Weather
10:30pm	Hard Sun
11:30pm	Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights
12:50am	The NFL Show

BBC TWO

8:30am	Matilda and the Ramsay Bunch
9:00am	The Dengineers
9:30am	Deadly Top 10
10:00am	Robot Wars
12:00pm	Snow Wolf Family and Me
1:00pm	Hairy Bikers
2:00pm	A Vicar's Life
2:30pm	Diary of Anne Frank
5:15pm	Italy's Invisible Cities
6:15pm	Trust Me, I'm a Doctor
6:45pm	Tom Kerridge's Lose Weight for Good
7:15pm	Hugh's Wild West
8:15pm	A House Through Time
9:15pm	Dad's Army
9:45pm	Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs
10:15pm	QI XL
11:00pm	Darcey Bussell: Dance Beyond Boundaries
11:30pm	Birdman: Or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)
1:20am	Bowls <i>Coverage of the latest bowls.</i>

BBC FOUR

4:40am	This is BBC Four <i>BBC Four is the BBC channel for people who want more.</i>
8:00pm	Children of the Holocaust
9:00pm	Holocaust: Freddie Knoller's War
10:00pm	Spiral
11:00pm	Spiral <i>Crime drama following criminal investigations in Paris from all the different points of view.</i>
11:55pm	Top of the Pops
12:25am	Top of the Pops <i>Richard Skinner and Gary Davies present the pop chart programme.</i>
1:05am	The Easybeats to AC/DC: The Sound of Aussie Rock
2:05am	New York Rock at the BBC
3:05am	Joy of the Guitar Riff

CHANNEL 4

7:15am	3rd Rock from the Sun
7:40am	3rd Rock from the Sun
8:05am	King of Queens
8:35am	King of Queens
9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:25am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:55am	Frasier
10:30am	Frasier
11:00am	Frasier
11:30am	The Big Bang Theory
12:55pm	The Simpsons
2:25pm	Come Dine with Me
3:25pm	Coast v Country
4:25pm	A Place in the Sun
5:30pm	A Place in the Sun
6:30pm	The Secret Life of the Zoo
7:30pm	Channel 4 News
8:00pm	Great Canal Journeys
9:00pm	Village of the Year
10:00pm	Holocaust: Night Will Fall
11:00pm	The Monuments Men
1:20am	Snake Eyes

CHANNEL 5

6:10am	Wildlife SOS
6:35am	Divine Designs
7:00am	Milkshake! <i>Programming aimed at children aged two to seven years old.</i>
11:10am	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
11:45am	Fail Army
12:10pm	Police Interceptors
2:10pm	The A-Team
4:05pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
5:05pm	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords
6:05pm	Rich House, Poor House
7:05pm	The Wonderful World of Puppies
8:00pm	Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind Ups
9:00pm	Blind Date
9:55pm	5 News
10:00pm	Football on 5
11:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
12:00am	The X Files
12:55am	Will and Grace

4

5:30am	Charmed
7:00am	Rude(Ish) Tube
7:25am	Rude(Ish) Tube
7:50am	Couples Come Dine with Me
8:55am	Couples Come Dine with Me
10:00am	Don't Tell the Bride
11:00am	Melissa and Joey
1:30pm	Alvin and the Chipmunks
3:20pm	Rude(Ish) Tube Shorts
3:30pm	The Goldbergs
6:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:00pm	The Karate Kid
11:40pm	Gogglebox <i>Britain's favourite opinionated TV viewers share more of their sharp wit.</i>
12:40am	Gogglebox
1:50am	Rude Tube
2:55am	Gogglebox
3:55am	First Dates <i>Headstrong Mancunian make-up artist Regan returns to the First Dates restaurant.</i>

sky sports main event

6:15am	Ashes Shorts <i>Relive one of the greatest moments in Ashes history.</i>
6:30am	Cricket's Greatest Series profiling some of the greatest cricketers of all time.
7:00am	SKY Sports News
8:00am	Live Women's Rugby 7s
9:30am	Live European Tour Golf
2:00pm	Cricket
4:15pm	Gillette Soccer Saturday
6:15pm	Gillette Soccer Saturday
6:30pm	Football <i>A big clash from La Liga as Valencia host Real Madrid at the Mestalla.</i>
8:30pm	Live PGA Tour Golf <i>Day three of the Farmers Insurance Open, hosted at Torrey Pines Golf Course.</i>
1:00am	Live Rugby 7s: Sydney

itv

7:00am	CITV
10:25am	ITV News
10:30am	Saturday Morning with James Martin
12:25pm	The Hungry Sailors
1:25pm	Countrywise
1:55pm	ITV News and Weather
2:00pm	Dancing on Ice
4:15pm	Catchphrase
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:05pm	ITV News and Weather
7:20pm	You've Been Framed!
7:45pm	Take Me Out
9:00pm	The Voice UK
10:30pm	Through the Keyhole
11:30pm	ITV News and Weather
11:45pm	Jaws 4: The Revenge <i>Fourth in the series of action adventures about a malevolent great white shark.</i>
1:15am	Jackpot247

itv2

7:00am	Emmerdale Omnibus <i>More drama and turmoil from the residents of Emmerdale.</i>
9:35am	Coronation Street Omnibus
12:30pm	Take Me Out
1:45pm	You've Been Framed!
2:10pm	St. Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold
3:10pm	FYI Daily
3:15pm	St. Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold
4:25pm	The Flintstones
5:25pm	FYI Daily
5:30pm	The Flintstones
6:10pm	The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King
7:15pm	FYI Daily
7:20pm	The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King
10:00pm	Fast Five
11:00pm	FYI Daily
11:05pm	Fast Five
12:35am	Family Guy

itv3

7:00am	Murder, She Wrote <i>Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.</i>
8:40am	Lewis
10:40am	Foyle's War
12:50pm	Foyle's War
2:50pm	Rosemary and Thyme <i>Light-hearted drama series about a pair of gardening enthusiasts turned amateur sleuths.</i>
3:55pm	Columbo
5:55pm	Midsomer Murders
8:00pm	Midsomer Murders <i>An international cycling competition comes to the Midsomer village of Burwood Mantle.</i>
10:00pm	Midsomer Murders
12:00am	Foyle's War <i>October 1944: the dying days of the war.</i>

itv4

7:00am	World Cup Rivalries: England v Argentina
7:20am	The Professionals
8:20am	The Professionals
9:25am	The Professionals
10:30am	ITV Racing: The Opening Show
11:30am	Snooker v Darts
11:40am	Pawn Stars
2:30pm	ITV Racing: Live from Cheltenham
5:00pm	Ferris Bueller's Day Off
6:00pm	FYI Daily
6:05pm	Ferris Bueller's Day Off
7:05pm	Storage Wars
7:30pm	Storage Wars
8:00pm	Darts: The Masters
12:00am	Assault on Precinct 13
1:05am	FYI Daily
1:10am	Assault on Precinct 13

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

1:50pm	Avengers
3:15pm	Confidential: Black Widow and Punisher
3:15pm	G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra
5:25pm	Captain America: Civil War
8:00pm	Doctor Strange
10:00pm	Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2
12:20am	Ghost Rider

sky CINEMA COMEDY

8:45am	Calendar Girls
10:45am	Date Night
12:20pm	Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates
2:05pm	Why Him?
4:05pm	Hot Tub Time Machine
5:50pm	Date Night
7:25pm	Liar Liar
9:00pm	Why Him?
11:00pm	Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates
12:45am	Hot Tub Time Machine

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am	First Kill
8:50am	Top Ten Show, the 2018
9:10am	Kicks
10:50am	Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge
1:05pm	Ghost in the Shell
3:10pm	Wakefield
5:10pm	Nina
6:50pm	Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge <i>Swashbuckling high-seas adventure pitting Johnny Depp's Captain Jack Sparrow.</i>
9:00pm	Ghost in the Shell
11:00pm	Wakefield
1:00am	First Kill
2:45am	Cat-and-mouse action thriller starring Hayden Christensen.
2:45am	A Cure for Wellness

sky sports football

7:00am	SPFL Matters
7:30am	EFL Greatest Games
8:00am	Football Countdowns
8:30am	SPFL Matters
9:00am	La Liga Greatest Games
9:15am	EFL Greatest Games
9:30am	Ronaldo
10:00am	EFL Greatest Games
10:30am	SPFL Matters
11:00am	Soccer A.M.
12:30pm	SPFL Matters
12:55pm	Football
3:00pm	Gillette Soccer Saturday
6:30pm	Football
8:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
8:40pm	Football
10:45pm	EFL Goals: Championship
11:15pm	EFL Greatest Games
11:30pm	EFL Greatest Games
11:45pm	EFL Greatest Games
12:00am	Ronaldo
12:30am	EFL Goals: Championship
1:00am	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid

Something to speak about

Cassandra Nash

A weekly look

- and not entirely impartial reaction -
to the Spanish political scene

CATALUÑA still lacks a government but now has a Parliament plus a Speaker and Mesa to regulate its day-to-day running.

Unsurprisingly the Speaker, Roger Torrent, and the majority of the Mesa are pro-independence. Ciudadanos was the most-voted party last December but is outnumbered in parliament by ex-president Carles Puigdemont's JxC, ERC and CUP.

Despite missing votes from Puigdemont who is self-exiled in Brussels with members of his former government, the secessionists pulled it off thanks to the Cataluña en Comun-Podemos tandem. Like the girl in the song, they never say yes and never say no to independence and this time did just that by casting blank ballots.

Torrent, an MP for ERC, declared that despite his pro-independence convictions he respected the cross-

sections in Catalan society and would do his best to defuse conflict.

Meanwhile pro-independence MPs are clamouring to vote on allowing Puigdemont to be installed as regional president via videolink.

Torrent and the Mesa have the nice job of deciding whether this can be done, which should not be too difficult as the Parliament's regulatory committee have already pronounced it unfeasible.

Far from defusing conflict Torrent will be plunged into it, with a lot of it coming from his own side.

Payback time for kickbacks

CARLES PUIGDEMONT'S old party PDeCat was once Artur Mas's old party and before that it was Jordi Pujol's.

The last two politicians were on the make with kickbacks, commissions and padded invoices that were nice little earners for them and for party funds. Unfortunately for Puigdemont & Co the courts have ordered PDeCat to pay back €6.6

million 'earned' through government contracts.

As though this hole in their finances weren't enough, the stench of corruption could sour relations with ERC, the other pro-secession party which proudly claims never to have dipped into the cashbox in its 87 years of existence.

Nevertheless, such admirable probity did not extend to using public money to fund the October 1 referendum, which is one reason why ERC leader Oriol Junqueras is currently remanded.

Junqueras describes himself a regular churchgoer and presumably is at home with the Jesuitical maxim that the end justifies the means.

Time to swim

IF there were a general election tomorrow, Ciudadanos would win it.

More than half the people who voted for Mariano Rajoy and the Partido Popular would not do so again, they told a Metroscopia poll.

Rajoy failed to get an overall majority in December 2015 or June 2016 because PP voters alone have



CHALLENGE ON: Roger Torrent, the new Speaker of the Catalan Parliament.

Dividing line

THE Partido Popular and the PSOE are reluctant to comply with the European Council's call to de-politicise the General Judiciary Council (CGPJ).

This body controls and regulates Spain's judges and both parties want to continue choosing 12 of the CGPJ's members.

Meanwhile the European Council reminded Spain that its Constitution requires the Lower House to name four CGPJ members, the Senate another four and the judges the rest.

It might not be ideal and could make the legal system a closed shop. But is it democratically healthy if the lawmakers appoint the men and women who judge the judges?

never won him an election, as March 2004 and 2008 demonstrated. He only pulled it off in 2011 because voters with no strong party allegiance believed he could reverse the economic crisis.

Corruption and Cataluña have taken their toll since then, and those floating voters have decided to swim instead and they're heading off to Ciudadanos.

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

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BBC one

3:00am	BBC News
7:00am	Breakfast
8:40am	Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights
10:00am	The Andrew Marr Show
11:00am	The Big Questions
12:00pm	Sunday Politics
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:10pm	Weather for the Week Ahead
2:15pm	Money for Nothing
3:00pm	Songs of Praise
3:35pm	Big Cats
4:35pm	Match of the Day Live
7:05pm	BBC News
7:20pm	Regional News
7:25pm	Weather
7:30pm	Countryfile
8:30pm	Still Open All Hours
9:00pm	Call the Midwife
10:00pm	Mcmafia
11:00pm	BBC News
11:20pm	Regional News
11:25pm	Weather
11:30pm	Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights
12:30am	The Women's Football Show

BBC TWO

7:20am	The Instant Gardener
8:05am	Gardeners' World
8:35am	Monty Don's Paradise Gardens
9:35am	Countryfile
10:30am	Saturday Kitchen Best Bites
12:00pm	Food and Drink
12:30pm	Homes Under the Hammer
1:00pm	Nature's Perfect Partners: Natural World
2:00pm	Tennis
3:30pm	Bowls
6:15pm	Ski Sunday
7:00pm	Britain's Cycling Superheroes - The Price of Success?
8:00pm	Yellowstone
9:00pm	Dragons' Den
10:00pm	Chris Packham: In Search of the Lost Girl
11:00pm	The Mash Report
11:30pm	Insert Name Here
12:00am	Cleverman
12:55am	Norfolk
2:15am	Question Time
3:15am	Holby City

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	Only Connect <i>A show in which connections must be made between seemingly unconnected things.</i>
8:30pm	University Challenge <i>Cult student quiz show where two rival university teams battle it out to see who has the most superior intellects.</i>
9:00pm	The Coffee Trail with Simon Reeve <i>Documentary uncovering the stories behind, and roots of coffee.</i>
10:00pm	The Men Who Built the Liners
11:00pm	Machines
12:05am	BBC Proms 2017
1:35am	Classic Soul at the BBC
2:35am	Art, Passion and Power: The Story of the Royal Collection
3:35am	The Men Who Built the Liners

CHANNEL 4

8:10am	Everybody Loves Raymond
8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:00am	Frasier
9:30am	Frasier
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Sunday Brunch
1:30pm	Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
2:30pm	Jamie's Quick and Easy Food
3:00pm	The Simpsons
3:30pm	The Simpsons
3:55pm	The Simpsons
4:25pm	Garfield 2: A Tail of Two Kitties
5:55pm	How to Train Your Dragon
7:40pm	Channel 4 News
8:00pm	Posh Pawn
9:00pm	The Biggest Little Railway in the World
10:00pm	SAS: Who Dares Wins
11:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown
12:00am	Shutter Island
2:25am	Holocaust: Night Will Fall
3:25am	The Supervet

CHANNEL 5

5:45am	House Doctor <i>Home improvement series that works its magic on neglected homes.</i>
6:10am	Wildlife SOS
6:35am	HouseBusters
7:00am	Milkshake!
11:05am	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
11:40am	Football on 5 The Championship.
12:30pm	Police Interceptors
1:30pm	Police Interceptors
2:30pm	Open Season 2
4:00pm	Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves
7:00pm	Bulletproof Monk
9:00pm	Billionaire Kids
9:55pm	5 News
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:05pm	The Boy Next Door
12:40am	The Town
2:55am	Super Casino
4:10am	Celebrity 100% Hotter
5:00am	Britain's Greatest Bridges
5:45am	House Doctor

4

5:45am	How I Met Your Mother
6:10am	Rude(ish) Tube
7:00am	Hollyoaks Omnibus
9:30am	Coach Trip
10:00am	Coach Trip
10:30am	Coach Trip
11:00am	Coach Trip
11:35am	Coach Trip
12:00pm	Melissa and Joey
12:30pm	Melissa and Joey
1:00pm	Melissa and Joey
1:30pm	Melissa and Joey
2:00pm	Melissa and Joey
2:30pm	The Goldbergs
3:00pm	The Goldbergs
3:30pm	The Goldbergs
4:00pm	The Goldbergs
4:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
5:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
6:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
9:00pm	Info not available
11:15pm	The Big Bang Theory
11:45pm	The Big Bang Theory
12:15am	Gogglebox
1:15am	Gogglebox
2:20am	Rude Tube
3:20am	First Dates
4:15am	First Dates Abroad

sky sports main event

4:25am	Live Rugby 7s: Sydney
7:00am	Live Rugby 7s: Sydney
9:30am	Live European Tour Golf
2:00pm	Info not available
2:15pm	Info not available
2:30pm	Football
5:30pm	Sports Sunday
6:30pm	Football
8:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
8:40pm	Football
10:45pm	Live PGA Tour Golf Day four of the Farmers Insurance Open, hosted at Torrey Pines Golf Course.
12:30am	EFL Goals: Championship A round-up of all the goals and action from the weekend's games in the Sky Bet Championship.
1:00am	Live NFL: Pro Bowl
4:30am	My Icon
4:45am	My Icon
5:00am	SKY Sports News

itv

4:50am	ITV Nightscreen
7:00am	CITV
10:25am	ITV News
10:30am	River Monsters
11:00am	Peston on Sunday
12:00pm	The Martin Lewis Money Show
12:30pm	The Voice UK
1:55pm	ITV News and Weather
2:10pm	Britain's Brightest Family
2:40pm	The Cruise
3:10pm	You've Got Mail
5:30pm	Local News and Weather
5:40pm	ITV News and Weather
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Dancing on Ice
9:00pm	Vera
11:00pm	ITV News and Weather
11:15pm	Peston on Sunday
12:10am	Next of Kin
1:05am	Great Art
2:00am	Jackpot247
4:00am	Sunday Night at the Palladium
4:50am	ITV Nightscreen

itv2

7:00am	Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records
7:10am	Emmerdale
9:45am	Coronation Street Omnibus
12:35pm	Take Me Out
1:55pm	The Voice UK
3:20pm	Yogi Bear
4:20pm	FYI Daily
4:25pm	Yogi Bear
4:55pm	Looney Tunes: Back in Action
6:05pm	FYI Daily
6:10pm	Looney Tunes: Back in Action
6:45pm	The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey
7:45pm	FYI Daily
7:50pm	The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey
10:00pm	Ibiza Weekender
11:00pm	Family Guy
11:30pm	Family Guy
12:00am	Family Guy
12:25am	American Dad!
12:55am	American Dad!
1:25am	The Cleveland Show
1:50am	The Cleveland Show

itv3

3:30am	Teleshopping
7:00am	Murder, She Wrote
7:50am	Murder, She Wrote
8:50am	Heartbeat
9:50am	Heartbeat
10:55am	Columbo
12:55pm	Lewis
2:55pm	Foyle's War
4:55pm	Foyle's War
7:00pm	Agatha Christie's Marple
9:00pm	Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs
9:30pm	Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs
10:00pm	Tonight at the London Palladium
11:00pm	Birds of a Feather
11:30pm	Birds of a Feather
12:05am	Evil Under the Sun
2:20am	Blue Murder
3:40am	Rosemary and Thyme Light-hearted drama series about a pair of gardening enthusiasts turned amateur sleuths.
4:55am	Road to Avonlea
5:45am	Road to Avonlea

itv4

4:00am	Teleshopping
7:00am	Goals of the 90's
7:10am	The Sweeney
8:05am	The Sweeney
9:05am	The Sweeney
10:10am	The Car Chasers
10:45am	The Car Chasers
11:15am	The Car Chasers
11:50am	The Car Chasers
12:15pm	The Car Chasers
12:45pm	The Car Chasers
1:15pm	The Car Chasers
1:45pm	Darts: The Masters
6:00pm	Storage Wars
6:30pm	Storage Wars
7:00pm	Pawn Stars
7:30pm	Pawn Stars
8:00pm	Darts: The Masters
11:30pm	Harry Brown
12:30am	FYI Daily
12:35am	Harry Brown
1:35am	Minder Modern-day re-imagining on the classic comedy-drama.
2:40am	Minder
3:35am	Football's Greatest
3:40am	ITV4 Nightscreen
4:00am	Teleshopping

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

6:30am	Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them: Special
7:00am	Aeon Flux
8:35am	Dick Tracy
10:25am	Spider-Man
12:35pm	Spider-Man 2
2:50pm	Spider-Man 3
5:15pm	Power Rangers
6:55pm	Spider-Man
9:00pm	Spider-Man 2
11:10pm	Spider-Man 3

sky CINEMA COMEDY

6:00am	Police Academy 6: City Under Siege
7:30am	Pitch Perfect 3: Special
8:00am	27 Dresses
10:00am	Zoolander 2
11:50am	Ghost Town
1:40pm	Bad Neighbours 2
3:20pm	Table 19
5:00pm	The Blues Brothers
7:15pm	Police Academy
9:00pm	Bad Neighbours 2
10:40pm	Table 19
12:20am	Death at a Funeral

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

6:30am	Moana: Special Sky Movies takes a special look at the animated Disney adventure featuring the voices of Dwayne Johnson and Jemaine Clement.
7:00am	Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge
9:10am	Nina Troubled soul icon Nina Simone rediscovers the meaning of her life and work thanks to the support of loyal assistant Clifton Henderson.
10:50am	Ghost in the Shell
12:55pm	Christine
3:05pm	Wakefield
5:00pm	Pirates of the Caribbean: Salazar's Revenge
7:15pm	First Kill
9:00pm	Ghost in the Shell
11:00pm	Christine

sky sports football

9:15am	La Liga Greatest Games
9:30am	EFL Goals: Championship
10:00am	EFL Goals: League 1 and 2
10:30am	Sunday Supplement
12:00pm	Football
2:00pm	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
2:15pm	SPFL Greatest Games
2:30pm	Football
5:30pm	Ronaldo
6:00pm	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
6:15pm	La Liga Greatest Games
6:25pm	Football
8:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
8:40pm	Football
10:45pm	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
11:00pm	EFL Goals: Championship
11:30pm	EFL Goals: League 1 and 2
12:00am	The Best La Liga Goals 2016/17

TECH FOR THE TIMID



BEYONCÉ is said to have dozens and to change them every week. I have four and haven't changed them for years.

We're talking e-mail addresses, which some people change the way others change their socks. Or should. Not mentioning any names.

It's a surprising half-century since e-mail first emerged, and now we send 50 billion a day, many aimed at augmenting the male anatomy or congratulating you on winning a lottery you didn't enter.

E-mail has decimated the world's traditional postal services, and has reached even the middle of the middle of nowhere. Experts say it's under threat from social media and texts, yet today the world has nearly five billion e-mail addresses, at 2.1 per online user.

But if you're over 50 and typical, you've got just one. Which is a really, really bad idea.

Far from simplifying your life, having just one actually complicates it. Let me give you a for-in-

Wham spam thank you ma'am

If the internet really is 90 per cent porn and spam, Terence Kennedy reveals one way of staying sane online.



E-MAIL ACCOUNTS: The more the merrier.

stance.

Buy just about anything these days, from a left-handed screwdriver, to a pack of Meccano-set furniture, and the vendor wants your e-mail address. Officially, for his sales records. Unofficially, so he can swamp you the way Amazon pioneered: 'If you liked this

item, you may like these other seven hundred...'

Buying online is even worse. Even e-mail providers want an e-mail address to be able to give you an e-mail address.

What it all means is the tedious daily click and zap, deleting the average eight spam messages sent a day for every person on the planet.

So here's this week's priceless tip. Sign-up for at least one extra, free e-mail address. Dish it out happily to everyone who asks, and keep your 'real' address for just friends, family and work.

The biggest advantage is not actually having to download all the junk mail which hits this backup account. That's because you're not

going to access it with your normal e-mail 'client' (programs like Microsoft's Outlook or Mail, Thunderbird, Apple Mail etc).

Instead, go to its website. Under your name will be a list, still without downloading anything. You can simply go tick, tick, tick against all the junk in the list, skipping any you might actually want to read, and then hit the delete button just once.

Voila - they are consigned to e-mail oblivion. Nothing is downloaded, including viruses. There is no futile, irritating beeping coming from your smartphone. No waiting for spam to creep in at its petty pace, before you can get to that vitally important family or work message.

Mailing it

FREE e-mail accounts certainly cost less than the proverbial 'dime-a-dozen', letting you use the service in return for showing you some advertising or harvesting your personal data.

Most providers will indeed let you have more than one address, so in principle if you want multiple Gmail or Yahoo mailboxes, yes you can. Or how about the freebie addresses from your Internet Service Provider, which most of us don't actually use because we already had an established and portable one?

For an account with an address entirely different to your 'real' one, there are plenty of other providers who dish them out like sweets: Yandex, Zoho, Proton, Mail.com....

Sadly, there is some bad news (for me at least) and that is that the best address has already been claimed: hotmale@hotmail.com.

How a fake restaurant became London's hottest reservation

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

THERE are so many daft 'fake' stories doing the rounds now. But surely all are topped by the one about the man who created a fake restaurant in his garden, purely to hoax TripAdvisor.

'The Shed' in Dulwich, England, became an internet hit, ranked number one on TripAdvisor, even though nobody had ever eaten there!

Eventually it became so popular that Oobah Butler had to let people in, serving them ready meals from Iceland. Apparently he got the idea from a previous job of

writing fake reviews on TripAdvisor at £10 a post, praising restaurants in which he had never eaten, to boost businesses up the rankings.

Then he said he had a revelation: "Within the current climate of misinformation and society's willingness to believe absolute bullshit, maybe a fake restaurant is possible? It became my mission. With the help of fake reviews, mystique and nonsense, I was going to do it: turn my own shed into London's top-rated restaurant on TripAdvisor."

He produced a website, a concept to attract attention (dishes named after moods), got a photographer to 'immortalise' the 'food' (close-ups of shaving foam, bleach tablets and, at one point, his own foot) and friends to



THE 'BREXIT SHED': A place of milk and honey...

Photo by Oobah Butler/Twitter

write reviews like: "The earthy taste and freshness of the food was something else."

Now, TripAdvisor's a useful tool but you have to read between the lines and use

your own 'idiot filters.' If there are only five star reviews, be suspicious; similarly, if only bad ones. You come across silly comments as well as the 'Emperor's New Clothes' attitude to 'be-

ing there'. This was a harmless prank, but the guy was correct about our era of fake news. (Incidentally, any chance he could cook up a Brexit deal that'll stand scrutiny for more than a few

minutes?) PS, I'll certainly be recommending this unbiased article! Five stars! Plus a warning: this column may not be written by a real person.

Finally, still need a bit of last-minute encouragement to embrace 'Dry January'? Well, there's always dry cider, dry white wine and dry martinis. Always glad to help!

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

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BBC one

11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under
12:45pm	A1: Britain's Longest Road
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:30pm	Regional News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	Father Brown
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	The Farmers' Country Showdown
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News
7:30pm	Regional News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	Inside Out
9:00pm	EastEnders
9:30pm	Panorama
10:00pm	Silent Witness
11:00pm	BBC News
11:30pm	Regional News
11:40pm	Weather
11:45pm	Have I Got Old
12:15am	News for You
	Miriam's Big American Adventure

BBC TWO

4:15am	This is BBC Two
7:00am	Flog it! Trade Secrets
7:30am	The Farmers' Country Showdown
8:15am	Antiques Road Trip
9:00am	Antiques Roadshow
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Michael Palin's New Europe
3:00pm	Sahara with Michael Palin
4:00pm	A Place to Call Home
4:50pm	This Wild Life
5:20pm	The Hunt
6:20pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm	Big Dreams, Small Spaces
9:00pm	Only Connect
9:30pm	University Challenge
10:00pm	Winterwatch
11:00pm	Two Doors Down
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:10am	Weather
12:15am	Odyssey

BBC FOUR

8:00pm	Beyond 100 Days
8:30pm	Egyptian Journeys with Dan Cruickshank
9:00pm	Highlands - Scotland's Wild Heart
	<i>Documentary looking at the wildlife of the Scottish Highlands.</i>
10:00pm	Trophy - Storyville
11:30pm	Hidden Killers of the Edwardian Home
12:30am	The Victorians
1:30am	Rule Britannia! Music, Mischief and Morals in the 18th Century
2:30am	Top of the Pops: 1981
3:05am	Top of the Pops: 1981
3:40am	Highlands - Scotland's Wild Heart
	<i>Documentary looking at the wildlife of the Scottish Highlands.</i>

CHANNEL 4

9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am	Frasier
10:00am	Frasier
10:35am	Frasier
11:05am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:00pm	Undercover Boss USA
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Couples Come Dine with Me
2:05pm	Posh Pawn
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	Village of the Year
5:00pm	A Place in the Sun
6:00pm	Four in a Bed
6:30pm	Extreme Cakemakers
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	How to Lose Weight Well
10:00pm	The Undateables
11:00pm	First Dates Hotel
12:05am	Derry Girls
12:40am	Hunted
1:35am	SAS: Who Dares Wins

CHANNEL 5

5:45am	House Doctor
6:10am	The Great Artists
6:35am	HouseBusters
7:00am	Milkshake!
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Cowboy Builders
1:10pm	5 News
1:15pm	The Hotel Inspector
2:05pm	Access
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:20pm	NCIS
4:20pm	Fatal Fiancé
6:00pm	5 News
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News
8:00pm	Anglo Welsh Cup Highlights
9:00pm	Police Interceptors
10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm	Extraordinary People
12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
1:05am	Celebrity Botched
2:00am	Up Bodies
4:10am	Super Casino
	GPs: Behind Closed Doors

4

9:00am	Charmed
10:00am	Melissa and Joey
10:30am	Melissa and Joey
11:00am	Baby Daddy
11:30am	Baby Daddy
12:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
1:00pm	The Goldbergs
1:30pm	The Goldbergs
2:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
2:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:00pm	Melissa and Joey
3:30pm	Melissa and Joey
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
4:30pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
5:30pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm	The Goldbergs
6:30pm	The Goldbergs
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	Info not available
11:55pm	Gogglebox
12:55am	The Big Bang Theory
1:25am	The Big Bang Theory
1:55am	Tattoo Fixers
2:55am	First Dates
3:55am	First Dates Abroad
4:25am	Celebs Go Dating

sky sports main event

6:00am	SKY Sports News
7:00am	Transfer Centre
	<i>Get a comprehensive round-up of the latest transfer news, with live analysis of all the major moves.</i>
8:00am	Transfer Centre
9:00am	Transfer Centre
10:00am	Transfer Centre
11:00am	Transfer Centre
12:00pm	Transfer Centre
1:00pm	Transfer Centre
2:00pm	Transfer Centre
3:00pm	Transfer Centre
4:00pm	Transfer Centre
5:00pm	Transfer Centre
6:00pm	Transfer Centre
7:00pm	Transfer Centre
8:00pm	Transfer Centre
8:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
8:40pm	Football
10:45pm	PL Greatest Games
11:00pm	The Debate - Live
12:00am	Live ICC U19 Wc
	<i>A match from the ICC Under-19 World Cup in New Zealand.</i>

itv

9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm	Judge Rinder
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Coronation Street
9:00pm	The Martin Lewis Money Show
9:30pm	Coronation Street
10:00pm	Next of Kin
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:45pm	Killer Women with Piers Morgan
12:45am	An Hour to Catch a Killer with Trevor McDonald
1:35am	Jackpot247
4:00am	The Jeremy Kyle Show

itv2

8:45am	Emmerdale
9:20am	Coronation Street
9:50am	Coronation Street
10:25am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
11:10am	Who's Doing the Dishes?
12:10pm	Dress to Impress
1:10pm	Emmerdale
1:45pm	Coronation Street
2:15pm	Coronation Street
2:45pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:35pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:45pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
5:55pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show
7:00pm	Take Me Out
8:30pm	You've Been Framed!
9:00pm	Two and a Half Men
9:30pm	Superstore
10:00pm	Family Guy
10:30pm	Family Guy
11:00pm	American Dad!
11:30pm	American Dad!
12:00am	Family Guy

itv3

5:45am	Road to Avonlea
6:35am	ITV3 Nightscreen
7:00am	Classic Coronation Street
7:25am	Classic Coronation Street
7:50am	Heartbeat
8:55am	The Royal
9:55am	Judge Judy
10:25am	Judge Judy
10:50am	Judge Judy
11:15am	The Darling Buds of May
12:20pm	The Darling Buds of May
1:35pm	The Royal
2:35pm	Heartbeat
3:40pm	Classic Coronation Street
4:15pm	Classic Coronation Street
4:45pm	On the Buses
5:15pm	On the Buses
5:50pm	Rising Damp
6:20pm	George and Mildred
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Lewis
11:00pm	Foyle's War
1:10am	Inspector Morse

itv4

4:00am	Teleshopping
7:00am	The Chase
7:50am	The Car Chasers
8:10am	The Car Chasers
8:35am	Ironside
9:35am	Quincy, M.E.
10:35am	Minder
11:40am	The Sweeney
12:50pm	The Professionals
1:50pm	Ironside
2:55pm	Quincy, M.E.
3:55pm	Minder
4:55pm	The Sweeney
6:00pm	The Professionals
7:05pm	The Car Chasers
7:35pm	The Car Chasers
8:00pm	Pawn Stars
8:30pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	River Monsters
9:30pm	River Monsters
10:00pm	River Monsters
11:00pm	Death Race
12:05am	FYI Daily
12:10am	Death Race
1:10am	Car Crash Global
2:10am	Fifth Gear
3:05am	Minder
3:55am	ITV4 Nightscreen
4:00am	Teleshopping

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

1:35pm	Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen
4:15pm	Conan the Barbarian
6:30pm	The Huntsman: Winter's War
8:30pm	Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen
11:00pm	Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen

sky CINEMA COMEDY

10:20am	Dragnet
12:15pm	The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
2:10pm	Sausage Party
3:45pm	Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping
5:20pm	Click
7:15pm	Dad's Army
9:00pm	Sausage Party
10:35pm	Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping
12:10am	Road Trip: Beer Pong

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

4:35am	Guerros
	<i>Award-winning comedy-drama following three restless teens as they hit the streets of Mexico City in search of an ailing folksinger.</i>
6:30am	Pitch Perfect 3: Special
7:00am	Let Me Go
8:55am	The Greatest Showman: Special
9:25am	Nina
	<i>Troubled soul icon Nina Simone rediscovers the meaning of her life and work thanks to the support of loyal assistant Clifton Henderson.</i>
11:10am	Christine
1:20pm	Cardboard Boxer
3:05pm	Ghost in the Shell
5:15pm	Nina
7:00pm	Wakefield
9:00pm	Ghost in the Shell
11:00pm	Cardboard Boxer

sky sports football

11:00am	Football
3:10pm	La Liga Icons
4:00pm	La Liga Highlights: Barcelona
4:15pm	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
4:30pm	Football's Greatest Teams
5:00pm	Scottish Cup Greatest Games
5:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
6:00pm	La Liga Highlights: Barcelona
6:15pm	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
6:30pm	Football Countdowns
7:00pm	The Best La Liga Goals 2016/17
8:00pm	Soccer A.M.
8:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
8:40pm	Football
10:45pm	La Liga Icons
11:00pm	SPFL Round Up 2017/18
11:15pm	SPFL Greatest Games
11:30pm	Soccer A.M.
12:00am	La Liga Icons
1:00am	SPFL Round Up 2017/18

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Travel

Letter from The Canaries

Oil, earthquakes and record tourism usher in 2018

ISLAND news from the Canaries this parched January morning, where with insufficient rain to turn the islands into mini-Hawaiis this winter, or even fill reservoirs, we console ourselves with good news for the local economy. In this Best Winter Tourist Season ever, we're so happy we can hardly count!

In Lanzarote, however, there's alarm at Morocco's oil prospecting plans for coastline just 80 miles from the island's beautiful beaches. ENI, the multi-national outfit also commissioned by Trumpton, (sorry... the US), to prospect in Alaska's arctic waters, will soon threaten island beaches and ecosystems, despite criminal proceedings in Italy about oil spills in Niger valley.

More Africa-Canaries in Fuerteventura, where a man and two women have been arrested attempting to board a flight and three children taken into police care. The Syrian man, Kuwaiti woman, and a Swedish woman thought to have organised false documents for onward travel to Europe, are accused of holding fake passports and illegal immigration.

Eastern provincial capital Gran Canaria's news is of the million extra tourists arriving in 2017. The tourist boom is: "...due to our repu-



RECORD WINTER FIGURES: Tourism is booming in Gran Canaria.

tation as a safe destination for tourists," said tourism head Pablo Barbero. Inter-island ferries and flights have also increased: the residents' discount encourages Canarians to go exploring.

Western provincial capital Tenerife also reports record tourist numbers, with Alison Alexander, arriving from Edinburgh with her family for Christmas, 2017's 11 millionth arrival. Energy producer Disa has announced the purchase of a 21-MW wind project, with

Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy SA contracted to build the Bermejo and Vera de Abote wind farms in Arico, Tenerife.

Across the water in La Gomera, in admirable 'forget tourism, what about goats?' mode, New Year attention's on the primary sector, with the Cabildo (island council) organising information sessions for island stock keepers about: "... grants available to help commercialise their stock keeping."

Due west, on the former edge of the known world, lies tiny El Hierro, where councillor Miriam del Pino Moreno's New Year announcement about solar street lamps, which will provide free charging facilities for four devices, complete with instructions in Braille, reflects the Herreño tendency for innovation.

On La Palma, there's no New Year trace of sensationalist press panic. After increased seismic activity in late 2017, the National Geographic Institute monitored the site around the Cumbre Vieja volcano, which blew in 1949 and 1971, causing Brit tabloid hysteria. These are volcanic islands and seismic activity's a constant. Nevertheless, the story of how part of La Palma will fall into the sea, causing a 'megatsunami' to sweep across the Atlantic and obliterate the east coast of Trumpton, provokes screaming tabloid headlines.

"There's no evidence of this happening... It is theoretically possible, but smaller more localised collapses are more likely... generating local tsunamis just a few metres high," says Professor Iain Stewart of Plymouth University.

*Rest easy, New York. Barbara Belt
barbarabelt@gmail.com*



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BBC one

1:50am BBC News
7:00am Breakfast
10:15am Food: Truth or Scare
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm Wanted Down Under
12:45pm A1: Britain's Longest Road
1:15pm Bargain Hunt
2:00pm BBC News
2:30pm Regional News
2:45pm Doctors
3:15pm Father Brown
4:00pm Escape to the Country
4:45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm Pointless
7:00pm BBC News
7:30pm Regional News
8:00pm The One Show
9:00pm The Truth About Getting Fit
10:00pm Wonders of the Moon
11:00pm BBC News
11:30pm Regional News
11:40pm Weather

BBC TWO

9:30am Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs
10:00am Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live
12:30pm The Daily Politics
2:00pm Michael Palin's New Europe
3:00pm Sahara with Michael Palin
4:00pm A Place to Call Home
4:45pm This Wild Life
5:15pm The Hunt
6:15pm Flog It!
7:00pm Eggheads
7:30pm Great American Railroad Journeys
8:00pm Big Dreams, Small Spaces
9:00pm Winterwatch
10:00pm The New-Builds are Coming: Battle in the Countryside
11:00pm Mock the Week
11:30pm Newsnight
12:10am Weather
12:15am House of Saud: A Family at War

BBC FOUR

8:30pm Egyptian Journeys with Dan Cruickshank
Documentary series in which Dan Cruickshank explores some of the most intriguing stories from ancient Egypt.
9:00pm Handmade: By Royal Appointment
9:30pm A Stitch in Time
10:00pm Six Wives with Lucy Worsley
History documentary bearing witness to some of the most important moments in the lives of King Henry VIII's wives.
11:00pm Do We Really Need the Moon?
12:00pm The Brecon Beacons with Iolo Williams
1:00am Info not available
2:00am Top of the Pops: 1981

CHANNEL 4

8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond
9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am Frasier
10:00am Frasier
10:35am Frasier
11:05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:00pm Undercover Boss USA
1:00pm Channel 4 News
1:05pm Couples Come Dine with Me
2:05pm Posh Pawn
3:10pm Countdown
4:00pm Village of the Year
5:00pm A Place in the Sun
6:00pm Four in a Bed
6:30pm Extreme
7:00pm Cakemakers
7:30pm The Simpsons
8:00pm Hollyoaks
9:00pm Channel 4 News
9:00pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it
10:00pm Kiri
11:00pm 999: What's Your Emergency?

CHANNEL 5

5:45am House Doctor
6:10am The Great Artists
6:35am HouseBusters
7:00am Milkshake!
10:15am The Wright Stuff
12:15pm Cowboy Builders
1:10pm 5 News
1:15pm The Hotel Inspector
2:05pm Access
2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Neighbours
3:15pm NCIS
4:15pm The Wrong Nanny
5:00pm 5 News
6:30pm Neighbours
7:00pm Home and Away
7:30pm 5 News
8:00pm Police Interceptors
9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
10:00pm Celebrity Big Brother
11:00pm When Kim Met Kayne
12:05pm Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
1:05am Mums Gone Wild
2:00am Super Casino

4

9:00am Charmed
10:00am Melissa and Joey
10:30am Melissa and Joey
11:00am Baby Daddy
11:30am Baby Daddy
12:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
12:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
1:00pm The Goldbergs
1:30pm The Goldbergs
2:00pm The Big Bang Theory
2:30pm The Big Bang Theory
3:00pm Melissa and Joey
3:30pm Melissa and Joey
4:00pm Baby Daddy
4:30pm Baby Daddy
5:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
5:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm The Goldbergs
6:30pm The Goldbergs
7:00pm The Big Bang Theory
7:30pm The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm Hollyoaks
8:30pm Coach Trip
9:00pm The Goldbergs
9:30pm The Goldbergs
10:00pm Don't Tell the Bride
11:00pm Body Fixers
12:00am The Big Bang Theory
12:30am The Big Bang Theory

sky sports main event

v6:15am Ashes Shorts
Relive one of the greatest moments in Ashes history.
6:30am Cricket's Greatest
7:00am Total Goals
Enjoy all the goals from the Premier League and beyond.
8:00am Total Goals
9:00am Total Goals
10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
11:00am Premier League Daily
12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
1:00pm SKY Sports News
2:00pm SKY Sports News
3:00pm SKY Sports News
4:00pm SKY Sports News
5:00pm SKY Sports News
6:00pm SKY Sports News
7:00pm SKY Sports News
8:00pm Soccer Special Pre-Match
8:30pm Gillette Soccer Special
11:00pm Sky Sports News Ten
12:00am SKY Sports News

itv

4:50am ITV Nightscreen
6:05am The Jeremy Kyle Show
7:00am Good Morning Britain
9:30am Lorraine
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am This Morning
1:30pm Loose Women
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm Judge Rinder
4:00pm Dickinson's Real Deal
5:00pm Tipping Point
6:00pm The Chase
7:00pm Local News and Weather
7:30pm ITV Evening News
8:00pm Emmerdale
8:30pm Coronation Street
9:00pm Britain's Brightest Family
9:30pm Coronation Street
10:00pm Girlfriends
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:45pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow
12:45am Info not available
1:10am Jackpot247
4:00am Tenable

itv2

7:25am Totally Bonkers
Guinness World Records
7:55am Dress to Impress
8:45am Emmerdale
9:20am The Cube
10:25am The Ellen DeGeneres Show
11:10am Who's Doing the Dishes?
12:10pm Dress to Impress
1:10pm Emmerdale
1:40pm You've Been Framed!
2:45pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show
3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
4:40pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
5:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show
6:50pm Take Me Out
8:00pm You've Been Framed!
8:30pm You've Been Framed!
9:00pm Two and a Half Men
9:30pm Superstore
10:00pm Fast Five
11:00pm FYI Daily
11:05pm Fast Five
12:40am Family Guy

itv3

4:00am Teleshopping
7:00am Classic Coronation Street
7:25am Classic Coronation Street
7:50am Heartbeat
8:55am The Royal
9:55am Judge Judy
10:20am Judge Judy
10:50am Judge Judy
11:15am The Darling Buds of May
12:20pm The Darling Buds of May
1:30pm The Royal
2:35pm Heartbeat
3:40pm Classic Coronation Street
4:15pm Classic Coronation Street
4:45pm On the Buses
5:20pm On the Buses
5:55pm Rising Damp
6:20pm George and Mildred
6:55pm Heartbeat
8:00pm Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm Endeavour
11:00pm Foyle's War
1:00am Inspector Morse
3:00am ITV3 Nightscreen
3:30am Teleshopping

itv4

5:00am Teleshopping
7:00am The Chase
7:50am Pawn Stars
8:10am Pawn Stars
8:30am Ironside
9:25am Quincy, M.E.
10:25am Minder
Modern-day re-imagining on the classic comedy-drama.
11:35am The Sweeney
12:40pm The Professionals
Action-packed drama series about two criminal-intelligence agents.
1:45pm Ironside
2:45pm Quincy, M.E.
3:50pm Minder
4:55pm The Sweeney
7:00pm The Car Chasers
7:30pm The Car Chasers
8:00pm Pawn Stars
8:30pm Pawn Stars
9:00pm River Monsters
10:00pm The Gauntlet
11:05pm FYI Daily
11:10pm The Gauntlet
12:20am Lethal Weapon
1:15am The Americans
2:15am The Sweeney

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

12:00pm Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows
1:55pm Logan
4:15pm Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2
6:35pm Robin Hood
9:00pm Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows
11:00pm Logan
1:20am Last Action Hero

sky CINEMA COMEDY

5:55am Music and Lyrics
7:45am Uncle Buck
9:30am Did You Hear About the Morgans?
11:20am Robin Hood: Men in Tights
1:10pm Keeping up with the Joneses
3:00pm Bridesmaids
5:10pm Why Him?
7:05pm Splash
9:00pm Keeping up with the Joneses
11:00pm Why Him?
1:00am Knocked Up
3:15am The Love Guru
4:50am Brüno


sky CINEMA PREMIERE

4:35am Let Me Go
The lives of three generations of women are turned upside down when terrible, long-held secrets tumble into the open.
6:30am The Greatest Showman: Special
7:00am Nina
Troubled soul icon Nina Simone rediscovers the meaning of her life and work thanks to the support of loyal assistant Clifton Henderson.
8:45am Top Ten Show, the 2018
9:00am Fear Inc
10:45am Wakefield
12:50pm Ghost in the Shell
3:00pm Christine
5:15pm Cardboard Boxer
7:00pm Wakefield
9:00pm Ghost in the Shell
10:50pm The King's Choice
1:10am Fear Inc
2:50am Christine
4:55am Cardboard Boxer

sky sports football

12:00pm One2eleven
12:30pm SPFL Greatest Games
12:45pm SPFL Greatest Games
1:00pm Revista de la Liga
1:30pm La Liga World
2:00pm La Liga Icons
3:00pm Revista de la Liga
3:30pm La Liga World
4:00pm Football's Greatest
4:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
5:00pm Scottish Cup
Greatest Games
5:15pm Scottish Cup
Greatest Games
5:30pm La Liga Greatest Games
5:45pm La Liga Greatest Games
6:00pm Football Years
6:30pm Football
Countdowns
7:00pm Revista de la Liga
7:30pm La Liga World
8:00pm Championship
Season Review
9:00pm Revista de la Liga
9:30pm La Liga World
10:00pm Championship
Season Review
11:00pm Eredivisie

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Geography lesson for the less experienced

MIKE SENKER refers to 'countries like El Salvador, Africa and Haiti.'

In order that your less experienced readers are not misinformed, Africa is not in fact a country - either Central American or Caribbean.

It is a continent comprising approximately 54 countries. In the 17th and 18th centuries, Britain transferred three million Africans from their homeland to a life of slavery on the Caribbean islands. The indigenous Caribbeans were not African - nor were those of Central America.

David R Worboys, Nerja

Bang free

THE festivities in Canillas de Albaida to 'celebrate' the San Antonio animal holiday happened last weekend (January 13/14) and are most definitely not animal friendly. As is customary at any festival in Spain, there was the constant noise of bangs going off all day and evening and many dogs, including mine, were so frightened inside that they certainly wouldn't dare venture going outside for a walk. So I think that it would be nice just for once to have a

La Cala should retain charm

A defining moment?

HAVING lived in La Cala de Mijas for more than a decade, I am one of an increasing number of people who identify how the Costa del Sol village has improved in recent years.

Though ongoing expansion with new builds slightly inland concern many, a coastal boardwalk, more quality shops and restaurants and other improvements go some way to balancing some of the possible negatives of its growth from its once small fishing village identity.

However, in recent days I note that extensive infrastructure improvements in Calle Antequera (new footpaths, road resurfacing,



Photo Credit: Jyk Wikimedia

ICONIC DONKEY: Outside the picturesque town hall.

lighting and drainage) has resulted in a shaded public seating area and two old trees - a much-loved characteristic of the residential street locally referred to as Coronation Street by many - in being removed.

This is sad, for although all-important extra public street parking has been provided by the infrastructure project, La Cala should also retain characteristics of its local charm.

JS, name and address supplied

bang free festival that would be not only pet friendly but people friendly too.

Delphine Penfold, Competa

Boaring news

TO all the people in Benidorm, Calpe and Pego suffering from wild boar problems. You must remember the recipe created by a famous Spanish chef for a succulent pork roast which begins 'First remove wild boar from your radiator.'

Ian Royle, Calpe

Postal delays

REGARDING problems in Orihuela with non-delivery of post over the Christmas period. We in Nucua Park have also suffered in a similar way with post taking days to arrive or the postman having to make his delivery at 8.30pm. Complaints to our post office fall on deaf ears. They blame the Benidorm office or suggest the problem is with the UK (even when the letters are from the local bank). Several times we have had bills arrive to be paid on the day of delivery.

My question is, is there somewhere to make an official complaint or is this common for all parts of Spain and we have to put up with it?

Dennis Jackson, La Nucua

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.

Spain set for winter sun

As much as I love this weather we do need some rain desperately.

Joanne Booth

Perhaps cleaning the municipal bins with sea water instead of drinking water may help with the shortages!

Katrina Barratt

Spanish hotels fear Tunisian competition

Tunisia after the shootings - wide berth, no matter if it's free, same with Turkey and Egypt - they don't have what I'd say a safe haven as yet. Marie Ross Main

Tunisia is the only holiday I ever went on that I did not like and felt threatened and I have been on over 30 foreign holidays all over the world. Gill Reynolds

The Spanish government needs to invest more in tourism if they want to keep tourism moving forward. Due to the climate it's ideally suited to theme parks like Disney, Universal Studios and MGM aimed at families. These can be located out of towns.

The Spanish economy needs more all year round jobs, not just seasonal work. This would also benefit local business and jobs in general. It's been needed for a long time in the south. Pps, Estepona

Comments from EWN online

Ryanair still top despite turbulence

Jet 2 are doing extremely well, better planes and flight. Jim Fennessey

Yes Jim but they don't necessarily go to where I want to go! Ryanair go Alicante-Newquay, no choice. Jenny Dodd

Much of Ryanair's problems were towards the end of last year. It will be interesting to see if that has affected their customer loyalty this year. Geoff Kerr

Brit faces jail over starting forest fire

Absolutely fair! He would have been well aware of the risks and must be held accountable. Stephen Richards

This is spot on fair, risks taken by anyone means accountability must be taken too. Debbie Harrison

I hope he gets traditional Spanish hospitality amongst the inmates. Rodolfo Losada

'Drunk' passenger forces flight diversion

Why allow on flight if drunk?? I wouldn't want anyone sitting with or near me if they are drunk!!!!!! Mandy Garside Chatwood

Bloody disgrace, well done crew, poor passengers... She mustn't be allowed to fly again! Sian Foster

OMG what an idiot, well done Ryanair, hope the woman got prosecuted!!!! Sandra Dunn Bratton

Dangerous driver caught on video

He wasn't thinking, they rarely do, especially on the roads. Carl Glover

This happens too often, time to remove the offending driver's privileges of driving licence. David George Mitchell

The driver has been caught, according to N332. Hope the courts nail this one. Russell Bushby

Nerja nasty whilst Torrox keeps clean

NEW YEAR, same old optimistic nonsense from the town hall. I own up to actually living in Torrox and honestly don't know what they do with our sewage, but there never seems to be anything nasty floating off our beaches.

Nerja promotes itself as a world beater resort but surely pumping raw sewage into the sea should disqualify any town. One of your fellow English language papers had an interesting article about blockages caused by wet wipes etc yet Nerja's answer, when/if it is completed, is to pump waste three kilometres distance and 50 metres or so uphill to the new facility.

How long before it blocks up and overflows? I will give you your headline for that week - Crapistrano!

Oh dear, there goes my cheerful, positive start to 2018. Glad to see Mr Lee hasn't made any resolutions and is keeping up his Britain First membership for another year. When in doubt blame the immigrants but remember you are one as well!

Peter Thompson, Torrox

LEGALLY SPEAKING

How to avoid road rage

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.



KEEP CALM: It is not worth getting angry while driving.

FOR this week's driving tips, Guardia Civil offers spoke to the head of driving standards at the UK's Institute of Advanced Motorists Peter Rodger, who talked about how to avoid becoming a road rage victim, and what to do if it does escalate.

The first point is that with any conflict between two parties, both are likely to have played a part. So try to take yourself away from the problem - let the other driver go on ahead. You might feel wronged, but letting the other party go will make no difference to the rest of your day.

If someone is being confrontational or aggressive, don't make eye contact and don't react visibly.

If the conflict is more serious, call the police, especially if you feel there is a threat or possibility of violence against you.

If the other party approaches you in your car, can you drive away safely? If you can, consider doing so. But don't accelerate dan-

gerously, or drive off if you think the other driver is going to chase you.

If you or better, your passengers, can film any behaviour on your mobile phone it will help in terms of evidence, including the registration number of the other vehicle involved. Don't open your door, don't open your windows fully and don't start or get provoked into an argument.

If you were at fault, admit it and apologise. It may be enough to diffuse the situation quickly. And do not do anything that can be interpreted as retaliation.

Hopefully by now the matter is over and you are driving away. If you feel upset or emotional pull over and get some fresh air or walk around if you need to before resuming your journey.

Peter said: "Road rage does not affect everyone every day. If you're finding it is happening very often, you might want to think about how you engage with other road users."

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

Can they sell UK home?

Q. WE want to sell our main home in the UK. We have owned it for 24 years and have lived in it for 95 per cent of the time. However, for the past year it has been rented out to tenants. In the UK, if a person sells their 'main residence,' they do not pay Capital Gains tax (CGT). Even if we are non-resident in the UK, we can still pay almost no capital gains tax if we comply with certain conditions. There is a system called 'Private Residence Relief' that reduces the CGT down to very little. We want to sell our UK home, but we do not know what the tax position is if we are Spanish (Canarian) resident.

P H (Canary Islands)

A. I doubt that you are a tax resident of the Canary Islands. Do you pay Spanish income tax? Have you filed Form 720 declaring your assets held outside Spain? Per-

David Searl
You and the Law in Spain

haps you are simply away from your UK home for a

time. The Private Residence Relief provisions that I consulted mention three years of absence without penalty, for example. Get professional help in the UK.

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

A birthday party at 11am?

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



WHEN I came back from the UK at Christmas I got the flu. Not my normal, sniffy, man cold stuff. I got THE FLU.

I don't know whether it's my age but I was out for the count for five days. I couldn't get out of bed. Mrs S went to the pharmacy and got me all the medications but nothing worked. So I got to thinking - has anyone had the flu jab? If so, does it work?

I finally felt well enough to venture out and in fact I had booked to go back to England for my mate's 70th birthday party. We have been friends since we were five years old so there was no way I was going to miss it.

I'd booked my flights and hotel and car and they were all paid for or so I thought. A few days before I went I got an email from Ryanair telling me that if I wanted to take hand luggage, with wheels, into the cabin I'd have to pay extra.

Now when I booked I thought it was included so I went on to their live chat and told them it was a liberty. Of course, they were not interested and I paid the extra but

lots of people didn't and it was fun watching people trying to smuggle hand luggage on to the plane. The staff were not having any of it.

I have a favourite deli I go to when I'm in the UK and I decided to go there for a late breakfast on Saturday before I left for the airport to come home. As I was on my own I couldn't sit in one of the lovely booths that I like by the window and I was given a seat round the other side where I was the only one sitting for five minutes. Then it happened.

The door opened and I realised that the reason I was the only one round there was that the 20-odd five-year-olds hadn't arrived yet, but they had now! Who has a birthday party at 11am for five-year-olds in a deli? And who sits a grumpy old man on his own next to them?

There has to be some sort of rule about that. The noise was horrendous, but they did seem to be enjoying themselves. But come on people, use yer loaf - at least warn me and let me decide whether to stay or go.

Sorry to hear the man who invented predictive text died this week. His funfair will be next monkey.

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

Email: mikesenker@gmail.com



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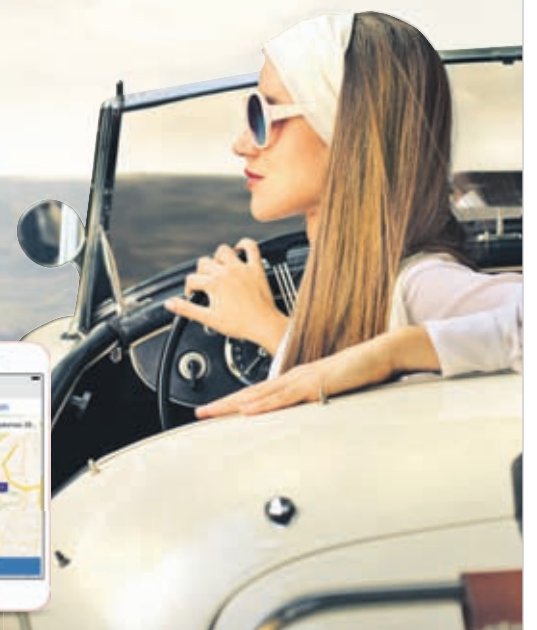
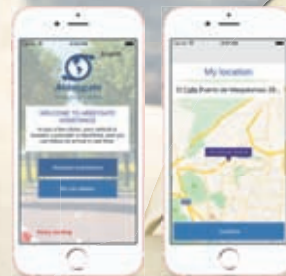
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65 years as a cartoonist and painter

by John Smith

AS he heads towards his 90th birthday, cartoonist and Costa del Sol resident, Peter Maddocks took the time to reminisce with *Euro Weekly News*.

We are delighted that Peter supplies a weekly cartoon on an exclusive basis to the paper, as he has retired from commercial illustration and only paints for fun and the excitement of creating a new artistic work.

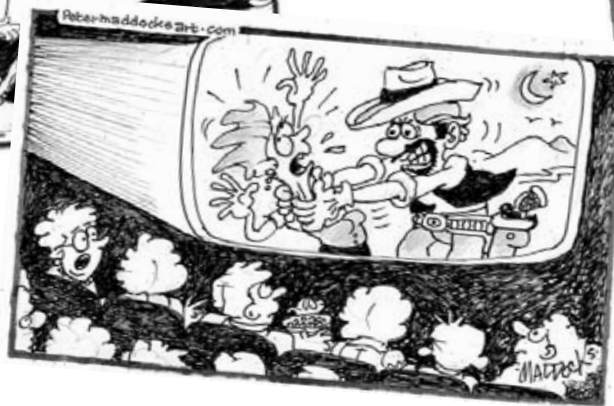
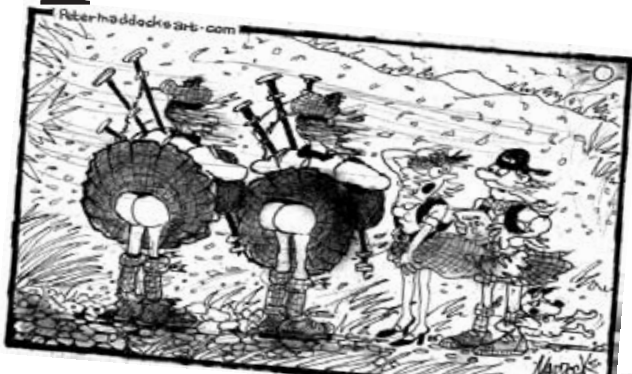
Having joined the Merchant Navy at the age of 15 in 1943, he not only braved the dangers of war, but says that he actually had a great time travelling the world and discovering new experiences and adventures.

This was quite a change for a young man from Birmingham, who had first started drawing at the age of six, before winning a scholarship at the age of 11 to attend the Moseley School of Art.

With a wicked glint in his eye and a smile on his face, Peter said "My tutor was Norman Pett, who drew the risqué Jane cartoon strip for the *Daily Mirror*, which saw the heroine out of her clothes as often as she was in them. There I was drawing daffodils whilst he was drawing naked women in the classroom!"

After swapping the sea for a land based job, Peter set up his own advertising agency and started designing cinema posters, as well as writing Kit Carson stories.

When he was very young, his teacher told him that whilst his art was good, his lettering needed improvement. Having studied fonts, he was determined to be involved in letter-



ing the cowboy stories as well.

Whilst he had a love of painting, when he was invited to draw a sample cartoon for the *Daily Sketch*, his was delighted to be accepted as one of their main contributors and as this was in 1953, he is now celebrating 65 years as a cartoonist.

"I preferred to paint, but with cartoons I could take a thought, transfer it to paper quickly with a pithy comment and get paid almost immediately" he said, explaining why he had never become a commercial artist.

He quickly became much sought after by all of the major newspapers of the time including the *Mail*, *Telegraph*, *Express*, *Mirror*, as well as *Mayfair* and *Private Eye*. He eventually became Cartoon Editor for *Express Newspapers* and regularly produced a satirical look at events in 10 Downing Street.

During that time, he helped

to found the British Cartoonists' Association and travelled back to the UK in 2016 to help celebrate its Golden Anniversary.

With two of his three sons (there is also a daughter) he decided to set up an animation studio and attracted interest from the BBC for three cartoon series. *The Family-Ness*, which centred on the life of the Loch Ness Monsters, *Jimbo and the Jet Set* and *Penny Crayon* featuring the voice of Su Pollard.

He also worked with legendary animators Halas and Batchelor and spent a number of years working for them in Berlin, but admits that this wasn't the best time of his life.

Eventually, after writing a number of self-help books on

how to become a cartoonist (plus *Condomania*, 101 uses for a condom) Peter decided that it was time to come to Spain to follow his love of painting. Now, nearly 18 years later, he is happily ensconced in a property between Alhaurin El Grande and Coin.

"Having also produced children's books and short stories, I no longer produce any commercial work, other than my weekly cartoon for *Euro Weekly News*, which I started supplying five years ago.

"My passion is painting and with 200 pictures (that I call my family) around the house, all in a range of styles, I am definitely trying to perfect my own, although I may have left it a little late," laughed the 89-

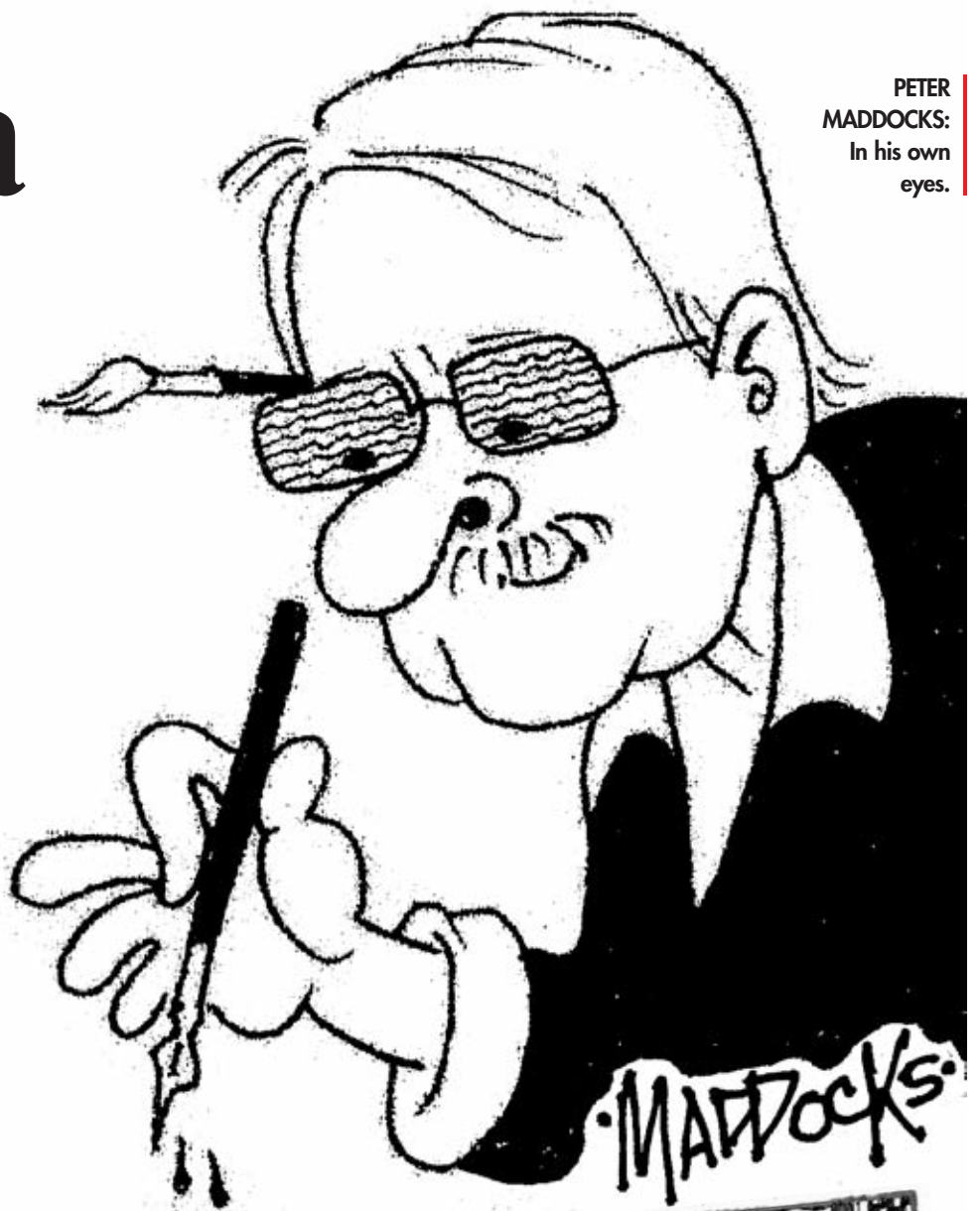
year-old.

Peter is a pleasure to chat with and confided that he stopped riding his motor scooter just two years ago. He is still driving his car on a daily basis, although he had been a little surprised with the ice that had formed on his vehicle the other day.

Although he has been living by himself in Spain for all of these years, he admits that he struggles with the Spanish language.

But he has developed a perfect arrangement with local shopkeepers saying "If I can't make myself understood, I whip out my drawing pad and produce a picture of what I want to buy. It seems to work pretty well and the people in the shops seem happy to keep the sketches."

PETER
MADDOCKS:
In his own
eyes.



Many people living by themselves could be lonely, but not Peter Maddocks as he simply loves to paint. As long as he manages to be creative at least once a day, then he considers himself a happy man.

He has the gift of being able to follow the news, think up a few funny lines, produce an accompanying image and then invariably change the words to make the cartoon even funnier. Readers enjoy seeing Peter's work each week in the Time Out section of the six *Euro Weekly News* editions.

And we, at the newspaper, want to thank him for his continued decision to prepare a new and amusing cartoon exclusively for us, week in, week out and congratulate him for his 65 years of professional work.

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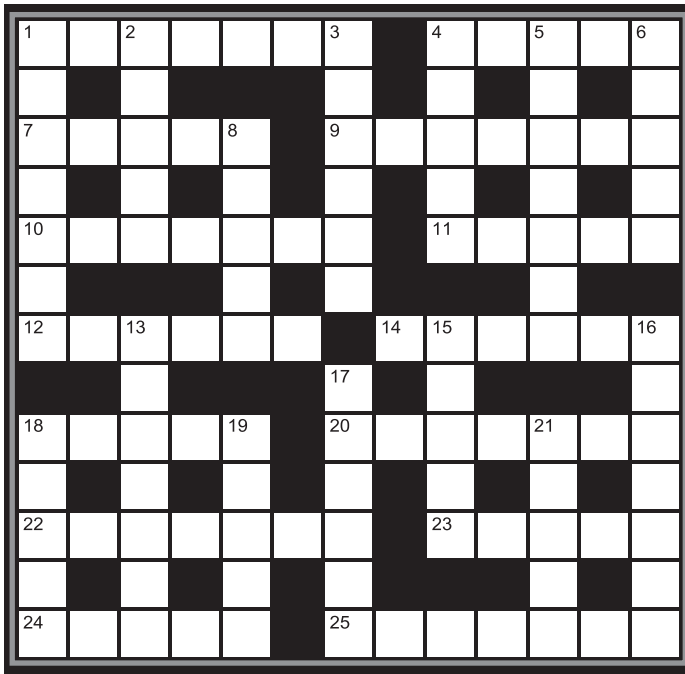
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Aspired, in a way, to helplessness (7)
- 4 Slogs away to get shine (5)
- 7 Only about five find the answer (5)
- 9 Strongly criticising the roof work (7)
- 10 Encourage another to breathe? (7)
- 11 Minor part in Oedipus Rex tragedy (5)
- 12 Stone alien missile (6)
- 14 Hit and miss or damn silly (6)
- 18 A drink for the American conscripts (5)
- 20 Leave, if there's a group performing (7)
- 22 Roman officer broke turbine (7)
- 23 Some of his language was jargon (5)
- 24 Fruit for specific days of the month (5)
- 25 Rushes to publish within seconds (7)

Down

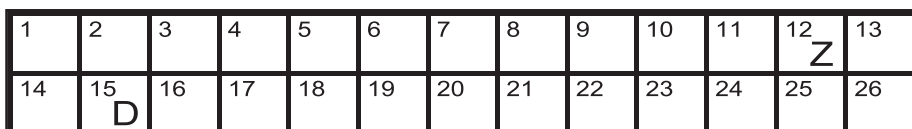
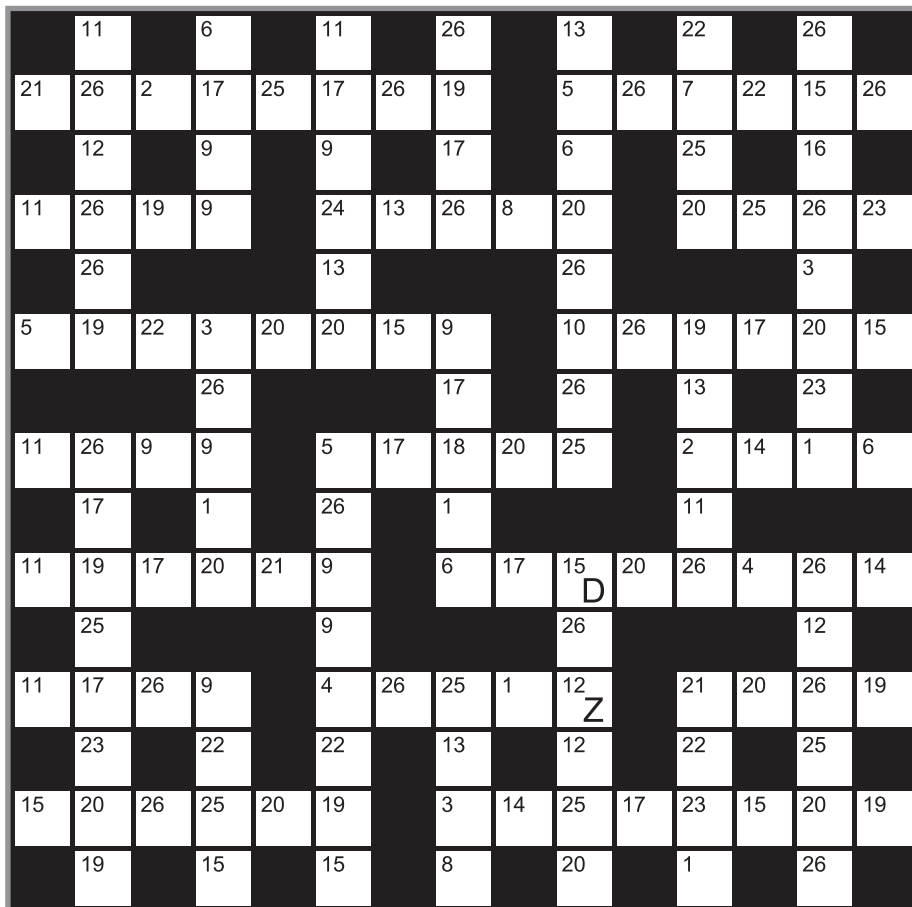
- 1 Tramp, one in collection of papers (7)
- 2 Auctions off prison rooms, we hear (5)
- 3 More hasty to produce a slice of bacon (6)
- 4 Elegance of old cricketer (5)
- 5 Left out by mistake, I met Dot (7)
- 6 Greek letter begins, 'Sir, I give



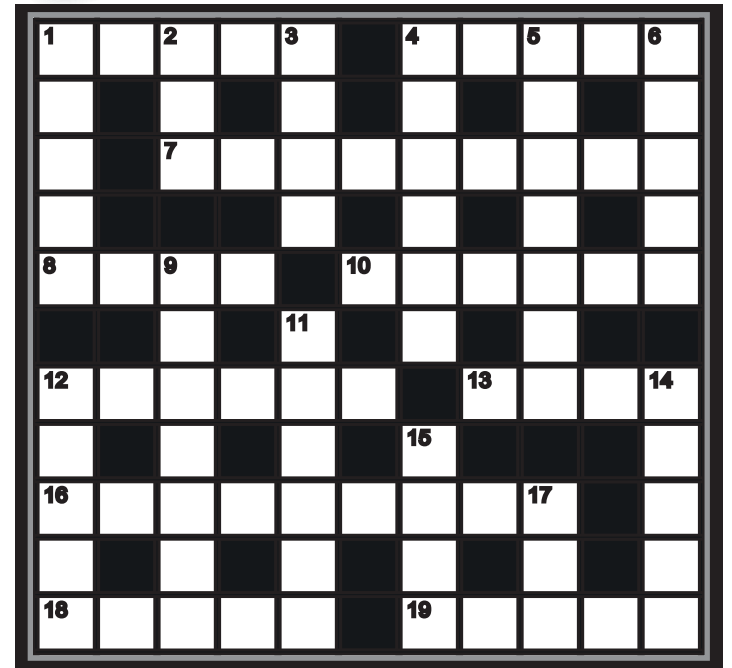
- my assurance' (5)
- 8 Some hotel items for the select few (5)
- 13 Disturbance after tea in old vehicle (7)
- 15 Gather a large amount (5)
- 16 Chap gets older, but copes
- 17 Menservants drink during TV's broadcast (6)
- 18 Went out with old hat (5)
- 19 Roy leaves mixed yoghurts for hooligans (5)
- 21 Empty shower after last showered (5)

Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 12 represents Z and 15 represents D, so fill in Z every time the figure 12 appears and D every time the figure 15 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.



Quick



Across

- 1 Clearly defined (5)
- 4 Clean with hard rubbing (5)
- 7 Large, hairy spider (9)
- 8 Chore (4)
- 10 Unusual mental ability (6)
- 12 Musical instrument (6)
- 13 Asks for alms (4)
- 16 Too soon or too hasty (9)
- 18 Thick, closely-spaced, compact (5)
- 19 Lacking self-confidence (5)

Down

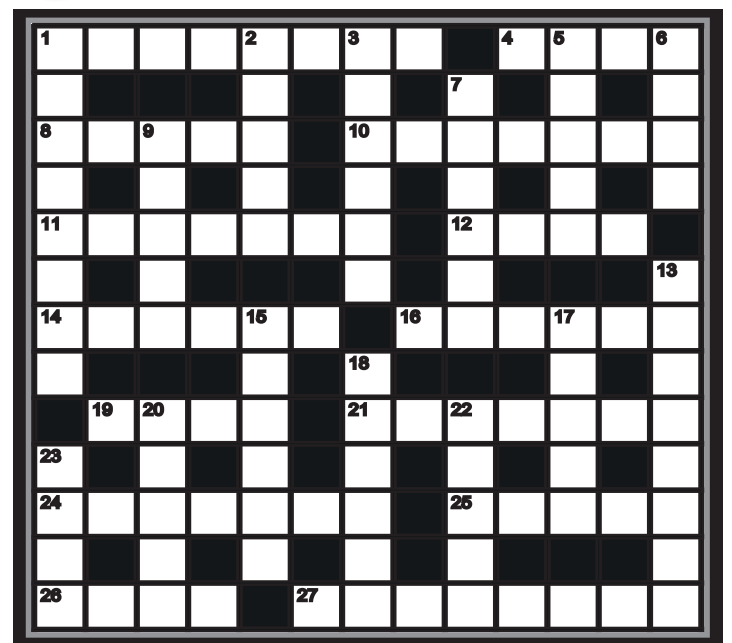
- 1 Woman's garment hanging from the waist (5)

Across

- 2 Social insect living in organised colonies (3)
- 3 Meat from a domestic pig (4)
- 4 Vocalist (6)
- 5 Everyday procedure (7)
- 6 Alloy of copper and zinc (5)
- 9 Person who treats injuries or diseases by manual operations (7)
- 11 Argument (6)
- 12 Roman god of love (5)
- 14 Small group of soldiers assigned to a particular activity (5)
- 15 Fair and impartial (4)
- 17 Tall, deciduous tree (3)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Shower (of rain) (8)
- 4 Pelota (4)
- 8 Guante (5)
- 10 Poppy (7)
- 11 Stadium (7)
- 12 Grosero (maleducado) (4)
- 14 To turn off (light, television) (6)
- 16 Pajitas (6)
- 19 Tin can (4)
- 21 Rescue (7)
- 24 Disculpa (7)
- 25 Mareas (5)
- 26 Plomo (4)
- 27 Prisionero (8)

Down

- 1 Storks (8)
- 2 Delante (5)
- 3 Nails (metal) (6)
- 5 Evitar (5)
- 6 Loyal (4)
- 7 Zanahoria (6)
- 9 Oyster (5)
- 13 Lift (elevator) (8)
- 15 Spit (roast) (6)
- 17 Coffin (5)
- 18 Oración (religión) (6)
- 20 Now (at this time, immediately) (5)
- 22 Mushrooms (flat-topped) (5)
- 23 Caída (4)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



' WE WERE GOING ELECTRIC - BUT THE THREAT OF DROUGHTS AND DESERTS...! '

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



TARGET:

- Average: 11
- Very good: 22
- Good: 15
- Excellent: 29

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

berk berm bier boor bore bort brim brio brit emir kerb mire moor more mort oreo rime riot rite robe rook room root rote term tier tiro tore tori trek trim trio biker biter broke brook broom merit metro miter mitre moire motor ombre orbit remit robot timer tribe trike booker boomer obiter reboot retook rookie roomie timber timbre **MOTORBIKE**

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

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

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

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday January 20



IRISH LOTTO

Saturday January 20



EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday January 16



Friday January 19



EL MILLON: WCN20873

LA PRIMITIVA

Thursday January 18



JOKER: 3 973 025

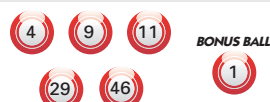
Saturday January 20



JOKER: 3 031 690

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday January 21



YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)

You realise this week how liberating it is to share your thoughts and feelings with someone close. It is not always easy to do this, until you realise everyone has them. Some hopes and dreams are more attainable than others, of course, and someone has to find out which are which.

LEO (July 24 - August 23)

Reading the small print or being sure what is offered in a personal encounter is most important this week. Leave nothing to chance or you could be out of pocket.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)

Being over-generous with cash midweek could see you making a poor move.

Perhaps someone needs to be more hardworking or perhaps less of a spendthrift. Propping up a bad habit would be doing them no favours.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

Time is precious this week because you are in demand. A chance lost in the past presents itself again but won't be too easy. Holding back just a little makes you more desirable. A want to travel could be cramped by financial considerations. If making extra money is too difficult, consider sharing something of value with someone else.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)

A suggestion made by you recently did not seem to be taken seriously.

This week, however, negotiations could be opened.

Circumstances change and it may seem someone gave up too early. Bide your time and even hold your tongue when someone in a strong position spouts rubbish.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

After a relaxed weekend, it might prove difficult to take up the reins of work again.

However, midweek sees you trotting along happily and minding your own business when someone stops you in your tracks. When a challenge is issued, your natural stubbornness comes to the fore.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

Confidence in a close relationship should be maintained.

Possibly someone who envies your position would like to see discord. A matter of spiritual or religious faith is questioned, but the answer comes more clearly and sharply than you would have thought.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

With a mind as sharp as a needle, you spin through the week, weaving your own charming spell. A bit of extra confidence works wonders for your mood. Something that you read sets you thinking about doing some writing or creating something artistic, perhaps even a musical.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

An emotional cut-off from the past is not as bad as anticipated. Indeed, it confirms in your mind who you are and what your place in the world is. Inherited traits knit easily with your present life and bring contentment.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Although energy is not high, there is the need to have some kind of challenge. With the brain active, it is an ideal time to plot and plan your next moves. Maybe something that has been delayed might now be advanced. You find it hard to choose between opportunities.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

An investment made recently is built upon and brings peace of mind.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The imagination stirs and the heart races at a suggestion this week. Your strong intuition tells you it is the right thing to do.

Finances do need consideration but more in the long than the short-term. Much is happening in the background that does not require your attention but, all the same, be aware.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Speak, 4 Focas, 10 Enter, 11 Seaside, 12 Mas joven, 13 Damp, 15 Ninety, 17 Colour, 19 Sage, 20 Farmacia, 23 Receive, 24 Nests, 25 Toser, 26 Pared.

Down:

- 2 Patos, 3 Airports, 5 Ojal, 6 Ahijado, 7 Hermanastro, 8 Ashes, 9 Despertarse, 14 Tormenta, 16 Negocio, 18 Paseo, 21 Cisne, 22 Wise.

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Peach, 4 Courage, 8 Chagrin, 9 Sward, 10 Satin, 11 Meander, 12 Diddle, 14 Meagre, 17 Setback, 19 Snaps, 21 Arena, 22 Initial, 23 Redeems, 24 Sorry.

Down:

- 1 Picks, 2 Adapted, 3 Heron, 4 Cinema, 5 Upstage, 6 Award, 7 Endorse, 12 Despair, 13 Leakage, 15 Glacier, 16 Skeins, 18 Trend, 19 Slips, 20 Splay.

QUICK

Across:

- 1/11 Dry ice, 3 Pact, 5 Acre, 6 Swap, 8 Rant, 12 Rush, 15 Sofa, 16 Drag, 17 Pike, 18 Eat.

Down:

- 1 Dear, 2 Yarn, 3 Pester, 4 Tip, 7 Adds, 9 Alto, 10 Tirade, 13 Urge, 14 Hint, 15 Sip.

CODE BREAKER

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

KAKURO

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

QUIZ: DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY

- Seven Tears was a UK number one hit single in 1982 for which dance band?
- The Latin-American ballroom dance the rumba originated on which Caribbean island?
- The mazurka is a lively folk dance in triple time principally associated with which country?
- What is the name of the American-born dancer/choreographer who became internationally known for his Irish dance shows Riverdance, Lord of the Dance, Feet of Flames and Celtic Tiger?
- Which actor starred, directed and produced the epic 1990 American Western film Dances with Wolves?
- Which American actress and former teen model starred as the 18-year-old welder Alex Owens in the 1983 American romantic drama film Flashdance?

- Which French impressionist artist is noted for his many paintings of dance scenes, including The Dance Class, Dancers at the Barre and Dancers in Pink?
- Which group topped the UK singles chart in 1962 with Dance On?
- Which Lerner and Loewe musical features the song I Could Have Danced All Night?
- Which newsreader and television presenter was the first ever series winner of BBC's Strictly Come Dancing in 2004?

Not a lot of people know that... the earliest known evidence of dancing comes from 9,000 year-old cave paintings in India.

Answers:

- GOOMBAY DANCE BAND,
- CUBA, 3. POLAND,
- IRISH,
- MICHAEL FLATLEY, 5. KEVIN COSTNER, 6. JENNIFER BEALS,
- EDGAR DEGAS, 8. THE SHADOWS, 9. MY FAIR LADY, 10. NATASHA KAPLINSKY (dancing with Brendan Cole)

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Advertising Feature

Help is at hand if you suffer with varicose veins



Photo by Wikimedia

FOR those who have to put up with the discomfort of painful and unsightly varicose veins, a new treatment is now available.

The team at QUPA, based at Clínica Mejorate clinic in Alicante Province, can offer a wide range of different health treatments, as can be seen on their extensive website www.clinicamejorate.com.

It is very important to select a specialised medical team, which can guarantee a complete and permanent result, for all those suffering from their veins.

The clinic keeps a close watch on patients for a whole year, to ensure that there are no medical surprises which could involve additional cost.

Generally, varicose veins are mainly found in the leg, although they can appear elsewhere, and are actually veins that have become enlarged and twisted. This can be caused through genetic inheritance, as well as environmental factors.

Although in most cases they are simply a painful irritant, severe long-lasting varicose veins can lead to leg swelling, venous eczema, skin thick-

ening and ulceration. Life-threatening complications are not common but varicose veins may be confused with deep vein thrombosis, which is very dangerous.

Some veins can be controlled by sclerotherapy (which involves the injection of a chemical into the vein to obliterate it), elasticated stockings, elevating the legs, or exercise but traditionally, those who are badly affected see them literally removed by surgery.

Now, as technology has progressed, there are alternative tech-

niques which include, ultrasound-guided foam sclerotherapy, radiofrequency ablation and endovenous laser treatment, all of which are becoming increasingly more popular.

As most of the blood in the legs is returned by the deep veins, the superficial veins, which tend to be most affected, return only about 10 per cent of the total blood of the legs, and can usually be removed or ablated without serious difficulty.

For more information on how to cope with varicose veins and the other procedures offered, call in at the

REMOVE: Unsightly varicose veins.

Clinica Mejorate clinic in Los Montesinos, or contact them by telephone on 966 721 687.

Generally, the first consultation is free of charge, which will allow you to receive advice about your problem, and to gain some idea of the likely cost of resolving the problem.

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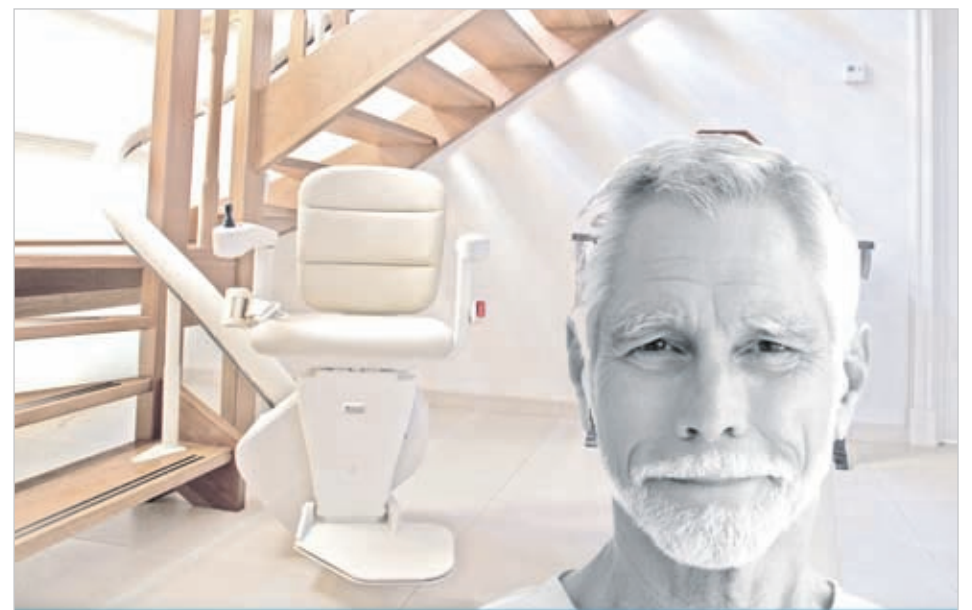


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BLESS YOU: Hay fever may soon be a thing of the past.

IF you suffer from a runny nose and itchy eyes just by looking at a plant you may be relieved to hear a hay fever vaccination is in the works.

The jab, which could be available in three years, has been shown to reduce medication use for hay fever symptoms by 25 per cent. Scientists say three rounds of injections a year could leave sufferers symptom-free.

Dr Rudolf Valenta, the study's lead scientist, explained, "My expectation is that the vaccine will lead to an almost complete relief of symptoms two or three years after injections."

He added, "People will be able to defend themselves from grass pollen using their own immune system, without having to take expensive anti-inflammatory

drugs which may weaken their immune system and make them tired during the day," concluding, "they may still have hay fever but they will feel no different to someone who is hay fever-free."

The study's lead author at the Medical University of Vienna's Ear, Nose and Throat Department, Verena Niederberger-Leppin, explained the effects would differ from person to person, saying, "The more severely the allergy sufferer is affected by grass pollen, the greater the beneficial effect following vaccination."

The news has been welcomed by other health organisations, with head of clinical services at Allergy UK, Amena Warner, explaining, "Traditional immunotherapy has been used for many

years, although it comes with a high level of risk, such as anaphylaxis. That is because it uses natural allergen extracts such as grass or tree pollens."

She added, "So this is an exciting de-

velopment if subsequent trials show success because recombinant technology, such as this, uses synthetic allergens and therefore potentially reduces the risk of severe side effects."



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Advertising Feature

Be treated as part of the family by Carredent

ESTABLISHED in Torrevieja for more than a decade, Carredent Dental Practice is owned, and run by husband and wife team Ian and Alison Smith.

Ian studied dentistry at Liverpool University for five years, while Alison is a qualified oral health educator, radiographer and dental nurse. The couple owned a large family practice in Manchester for 10 years before moving to Spain in 2004, where they set up Carredent, which is opposite Carrefour in Torrevieja.

Since then they have dedicated themselves to serving an international client base. They offer the latest equipment, and services in the dental world at affordable prices, with a professional and friendly team.

Their family-run dental clinic focuses on being just that; a family practice where you are treated as a member of the family, and where focus is given on creating a welcoming atmosphere, and professional, gentle, one-to-one care.

Carredent has a fully professional and highly qualified team, and have recently welcomed dentist Jonathon to the team. The practice is fully legal and registered with the Valencian Health Authority and Sanidad. Their prices follow the guidelines set out in the association of Alicante dentists, so patients can rest assured they are not being overcharged.



CARRENT: Your expert family dentist.

The practice specialises in cosmetic dentistry such as crowns, dentures, white fillings, bridges, porcelain veneers and bleaching. People seek cosmetic dentistry for a variety of reasons.

The truth is most people would like their teeth to be straighter, whiter, and pleasing to the eye when they smile,

and by fixing and repairing what they dislike, can boost their self-esteem, positively impacting both personal and professional relationships.

Recognising that not everyone is comfortable with a trip to the dentist, Ian is renowned for his careful and gentle treatment of nervous patients. Con-

trary to popular belief, root canals and most other procedures are painless, and there is nothing to fear as you are in the hands of caring and certified professionals. But recognising not everyone is comfortable with a trip to the dentist, the team put every patient at ease from the moment they walk through the door.

Practice manager Alison said: "We pride ourselves on our excellent standards of pain-free work. We have glasses where patients can watch a DVD during longer treatment sessions so they can feel more comfortable."

They use a state of the art dental chair, fully equipped with a digital X-ray monitor and only the most modern and effective techniques and procedures.

Same day emergency appointments are available and a same day service is offered for denture repairs, and now they are able to offer some home visits for the elderly or infirm.

To book an appointment telephone 965 711 797 or 638 608 532. Carredent is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, from 8.30am to 12.45pm and 1.30pm to 5pm and on Wednesday and Friday from 8.30am to 12.30pm.

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MICRO PAIN: Microwaves

How safe are

FOR years there has been conflicting advice about the use of microwaves with some scientists telling us the machines could be damaging to health.

But now researchers have found microwaves may not just be harmful for us but also for the environment.

Researchers from the University of Manchester found the number of microwaves in Europe could be as toxic for the environment as seven million cars due to the amount of CO2 they release into the atmosphere. The study also found the British were the worst offenders with the UK responsible for almost half of all microwave ready-meal use over all Europe.

The study's lead author, Dr Alejandro Gallego-Schmid, from the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science, explained, "consumers now tend to buy new appliances before the existing ones reach the end of



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s could be damaging the environment. |

e microwaves

their useful life as electronic goods have become fashionable and 'status' items." He added, "as a result, discarded electrical equipment, such as microwaves, is one of the fastest growing waste streams worldwide."

The scientist concluded, "given that microwaves account for the largest percentage of sales of all type of ovens in the EU, it is increasingly important to start addressing their impact on resource use and end-of-life waste."

The rise in ready-meal use is being blamed for the phenomenon with many families now turning to cheap and easy prepared meals for dinner.

Britons now spend €3.4 billion (£3 billion) on ready meals a year, some which have been found to contain as much sugar as a can of coke, cheaper cuts of meat and additives made from human hair.

Chef Gordon Ramsay once described them as "food hell."

SPECIALISTS recommend a varied and not very strict diet with a steady weight loss to achieve your objectives.

Diets that are low in calories and restrict certain food groups are the least effective because the body reacts by reducing its energy use. What's more, although at first you may lose weight, in the long-term it gets more difficult, claim nutrition specialists from Hospitals Quirónsalud Murcia, Valencia and Torrevieja.

After Christmas a lot of patients decide to embark on miracle diets, taking weight reducing products, or doing intensive gym routines to burn off excess fat.

Carolina Perez, nutritionist at Hospital Quirónsalud Torrevieja and Hospital Quirónsalud Murcia, explains: "the main risk of miracle diets is related to the speed at which the individual loses weight. The drastic reduction in the calories they consume creates nutritional imbalances.

"The apparent success at the start of the diet is not just due to a loss of fats, but also to a loss of muscle, one of the most metabolically active body tissues we have, which explains the bad results of the diet in the long run."

Nutritionist Rocio Praxedes from the Obesity Unit at Hospital Quirónsalud Valencia advises people to try a moderately low-calorie diet for more effective results: "that way people prevent their metabolism adapting which can later hinder a continuous weight loss; and more obviously because if a patient is hungry they are more likely to quit their diet."

Medical Advice

For a diet to be effective special-

Diets that are low in calories are the least effective for weight loss

ists recommend following these steps:

- Choose a complete and varied diet that covers 100 per cent of your nutritional requirements, and all basic food groups.

- Don't be too strict and adapt the diet to your own tastes, to avoid giving it up.

- Maintain a steady weight loss; losing more than one kilo a week is counterproductive. The optimum weight loss is 500gr-700gr/week.

- Be realistic. Plan progressive changes to your diet and achievable objectives.

- Don't skip any meals. Normally diets consist of five meals a day which must be carried out to maintain blood sugar levels and not be too hungry before the next meal.

- Respect everyone's beliefs and cultures.

When to choose surgery

When talking about a BMI (body mass index) of over 35, patients should first follow a diet supervised by a specialised nutritionist. If this does not reach the desired results, obesity surgery or bariatric surgery is an option. It should always be a doctor who decides what treatment is necessary and safe for each patient.

The advances in minimally invasive operations have revolutionised modern surgery in the last decade, including bariatric surgery. "The comprehensive treatment offered to overweight,

obese, or diabetic patients guarantees the best results. What's more the risks of the operation are very low, especially compared to the possible illnesses the patients are exposed to if they continue suffering from the disease," assures Doctor Pedro Bretcha, coordinator of the Obesity, General Surgery and Digestive System units at Hospital Quirónsalud Torrevieja.

The benefits of the intervention are many, "80 per cent of diabetic patients overcome the illness, and the condition of the other 20 per cent is made substantially better and includes a weight loss of over 70 per cent of excess fat, even reaching an optimum weight if patients accompany the treatment with a healthy lifestyle. This leads to an increase in life expectancy of obese patients of up to 10 years, and a better quality of life," points out Doctor Carlos Sala, coordinator of the Obesity unit and specialist in metabolic surgery at Hospital Quirónsalud Valencia.

In spite of its advantages, only 5 per cent of overweight Spaniards undergo surgery due to a lack of information or not having access to the treatment.

About Quirónsalud

Quirónsalud is the most important hospital group in Spain, and the third largest in Europe.

It can be found in 13 regions in Spain, has state-of-the-art technology and offers over 6,500 beds in more than 100 healthcare centres,

as well as a huge team of highly qualified professionals of international prestige.

They promote teaching and medical and scientific research (they run the Jimenez Diaz Foun-

ation and the Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria Healthcare Research Institute).

Currently, Quirónsalud is developing research projects across Spain, and many of its healthcare centres carry out cutting edge work in this field, as pioneers in different specialisations such as radiology, cardiology, endocrinology, gynaecology, neurology, oncology and sports medicine.

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Advertising Feature

REMEMBER we are three people. The one we think we are, the one others think we are and the one we really are.

I try my best to work with no Religion or Politics, if I was to have a religion it would be Love.

The language of the Heart. What is more important to me is to be kind, considerate, understanding and non judgemental. I am very passionate about uplifting and helping anyone who may allow me to help them to help themselves.

The universe will give each person what they need, even if it was not to show for another six months. As soon as I am guided into anyone's life, their life will start to unfold, only good for their highest good.

My work comes direct from the Great Divine Universe, which is good and only good. It's a direct connection between the universe and you; I am no more than an instrument.

I am very lucky, fortunate and blessed to be on this Earth with a gift that cannot be described or explained. All I know is that I wish to hold your hand and tell you "it's going to be alright" or to wipe your tears away. The rest is done by the universe.

Each time someone comes to me or I go to them I thank my bosses up above for

Love, help and serve all



SARB: At one with the Universe.

giving me this service to help someone, not to judge or break but to fix and make. So yes I'm very passionate to take my time and find the root to the cause of someone's illness, heartache, pain or whatever reasons, so that the roots are taken away for it not to occur again.

I am passionate about making a difference. Everything about me has to be different because nothing is about me, it's all about you, to take away your tears or pain.

Humans today consume more medication than food. We are not allowed to eat this and that. Our situations and circumstances have overtaken our lives that we no longer smile or even laugh. Laughter is the best remedy for everything. Come along to our laughing fun group.

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MEDITATION

Somewhere along our lives we have lost ourselves. It is very important for all of us to inner connect to our real personality to identify what our needs, passion, hobbies, likes, dislikes really are. Many people are in the wrong professions and are not happy. Work should be a passion and not a struggle. I teach meditation one to one or to a group of people. We make wrong choices that cause us heartache, pain, illness, sadness, the list can go on. Start by being more positive about everything around us. Meditation helps us to think and see everything differently and clearly. I am nothing but Energy (Atoms). Everything and everyone is connected. The whole universe is Energy and only Spiritual Energy.

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Is gluten-free really guilt free?

WHILE some people avoid gluten because of a medical condition, other people cut it out of their diet because they feel less bloated and more energised without it.

As a result, the range of gluten-free foods on offer has grown enormously over the past few years. From pastas and breads to ready meals, many supermarkets now have whole aisles dedicated entirely to the sale of gluten-free products.

And while it may not be necessary to cut gluten out of your diet unless you are suffering from certain diseases like coeliac disease, many people argue there is no harm in switching normal foods for gluten-free alternatives.

But scientists have revealed these alternatives can contain much higher levels of fat and calories than their gluten-full counterparts, and even cost up to 160 per cent more.

A study at the University of Hertfordshire looked at 1,700 gluten-free foods and found that with the exception of crackers, all examples contained more sugar, salt and fat than normal foods as well as having a

lower fibre and protein content.

Dr Rosalind Fallaize, a Research Fellow in nutrition and dietetics at the university, explained, "we found that gluten free foods were significantly more expensive than regular items, which is very concerning given the movement towards stopping gluten free prescriptions for people with Coeliac disease."

She concluded, "It's also clear from our research that gluten free foods don't offer any nutritional advantages over regular foods so are not a healthier alternative for people who do not require a gluten free diet."



GLUTEN FREE:
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Update on food, drink, entertainments, what's on and weekly happenings

Carnival lunch

TO coincide with the upcoming carnival, there will be a party held in the Orihuela Civic Centre cafeteria on Saturday February 10.

Starting at 1pm, cost for the meal which includes a pork stew with vegetables, a salad and ice cream will be €6 for centre members and €7 for non-members with drinks costing extra.

Visitors are invited to turn up in their carnival costumes and there will be prizes for the three adjudged to be wearing the best costumes whilst there will also be music.

Tickets should be obtained in advance from the cafeteria.

LAST Saturday, the Terri Horvath Morris returned to perform in the Plaza at Almoradi with the large audience receiving the dancers very enthusiastically and with much appreciation.

It was clear that the enthusiasm and enjoyment came from both-sides, performers and audience alike.

Those interested in this most English of traditions will be interested to learn that Terri Horvath Morris have been invited to perform at this venue again in the autumn.

New members are always welcome to join this friendly group and if you are interested please contact the secretary.

The Terri Horvath Morris Team members come from different areas of the British Isles and now live in Spain.

The dances they perform are 'Cotswold' from the Midlands, wearing white shirts, bells and handkerchiefs that we usually associate with Morris dancing; 'Border,' from the English/Welsh border counties, which usually have sticks in imitation of border skirmishes and are associated with Tatters and blackened faces; 'Northwest,' with ranting and Cheshire stepping.

The Morris Dance is a form of traditional English Folk Dance accompanied by music and usually performed in the open. It is associated with similar traditional dances done throughout the Celtic

Morris dancing in Costa Blanca



MUCH APPRECIATED: The Terri Horvath Morris.

regions of Europe and also with the Morisco dancing of Aragon in Spain.

Morris was extremely popular during Elizabethan times. It survived in its different styles all over England and then, in the early 20th century, the folk tradition revival movement recorded its music and

dance forms.

For further information, either to become a member or to invite them to dance at your charity event or occasion please contact Sue Walters at suzi.inspain@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page.

Enjoying the classics in Torrevieja

THE Symphonic Orchestra of Torrevieja under the direction of José Francisco Sánchez will be performing works by Beethoven on Saturday February 17.

The performance of the Concerto for violin and orchestra Op 61 and Symphony no 5 in C minor will start at 7pm in the Torrevieja International Auditorium with tickets costing €7, €11, €15 and €20 and can be obtained from the box office in advance or two hours before the event.

Then on Saturday April 14, the symphony orchestra will be performing a selection of works by Mozart, Sibelius and Schubert with ticket details as above.

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Photo by Los Secretos

LOS SECRETOS: Still recording and touring.

Madrid rock visits the Costa Blanca

THREE brothers Álvaro, Enrique and Javier formed a band in 1978 and became part of the Madrid Indie scene although they kept a touch of American country rock in their repertoire.

Sadly, the death of their drummer José Cano on New Year's Eve 1979 signalled a time for change and after recruiting a new drummer, they changed their name to Los Secretos in 1980 and have been playing under that name since.

Once again they were hit with the loss of not just a mem-

ber, but one of their brothers, Enrique who passed away the day before the release of a new album in 1999.

With 13 studio and four live albums, the group has been recording and playing regularly around Spain.

On Saturday February 17, Los Secretos will play at the Gran Teatro De Elche at 8.30pm with tickets selling fast and only those costing €27.50 possibly still available from the theatre box office or from the website www.los-secretos.net.

Diego Cantero is building an international name

Photo by Ray García flickr

FUNAMBULISTA is the name of singer Diego Cantero's band who has just released his latest album Dual where he performs duet with some of the most outstanding voices in Spanish music.

Alongside the album release which is his first release for Sony Music, he is now touring with the band across Spain with many of his concerts immediate sell outs

The album includes 14 songs - three unpublished songs and 11 of his best-known numbers which the band will perform on stage - and in all of them he is collaborating with some great artists.

"Dual is the most important album of my career, it is a gift that artists make me admire, something that one day I wanted so hard that it ended up being fulfilled" - Diego Cantero.

Diego Cantero not only leads Funambulista, which is a most popular band, but he is also building a reputation as a songwriter and solo singer.

Whilst he balances these two roles, it will be as part of the band that he will appear at the Auditorio El Batel Cartagena on Saturday February 3 with tickets costing just €25 from the usual online outlets.

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by Lorenzo Barbareschi



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CODORNIU is the world's oldest and second-largest producer of bottle-fermented sparkling wine - cava - made by the méthode traditionnelle (same as Champagne).

Founded in Cataluña in 1551 by Jaime Codorniu, just over 100 years later Codorniu heiress Anna married Miguel Raventós merging two families with a long wine tradition.

Cava was first made in 1872 by José Raventós who established a new industry with Codorniu cellars established at Sant Sadurní d'Anoia between 1895 and 1915.

They were designed by renowned Catalán architect Josep Puig i Cadafach.

Tragically in 1930 the Phylloxera plague infested the vineyards, but the family fought back with innovative viticultural techniques and ensured survival, with Codorniu producing more than 100,000 bottles of cava annually by the end of the 20th century.

Nowadays, Codorniu with modern instal-

lations and the latest equipment continues to control the production process of its cavas from vineyard planting to finished product.

Wines produced with different blends of Chardonnay, Macabeo, Xarel.lo, Parellada, Pinot Noir and reserve wines are: Anna de Codorniu Brut, Codorniu 1551 Brut Natural, Codorniu Mediterranea Brut Natural, Cuvée Raventós Brut Natural, Codorniu Rosé Brut, Cuvée Reina Maria Cristina Brut, Delapierre 'D' Brut, Delapierre Glacé Prestige Brut, Gran Codorniu Brut, Jaime de Codorniu Brut and Non Plus Ultra Reserva Vintage Brut.

Codorniu has been one of the innovators of Wine Tourism in Spain, providing the infrastructure necessary for an interesting visit to their cellars at Sant Sadurní d'Anoia which in 1976 were declared a National Monument of Historical and Artistic Interest by King Juan Carlos.

Happy tasting.

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In the mood for music



Photo by The Glenn Miller Orchestra UK

GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA: Ray McVay (in blue) and some of the band.

BRITISH bandleader Ray McVay spent his early years as a musician touring with some of the greats of rock and roll.

He then formed his own orchestra which for 12 years was the resident band on Come Dancing, the precursor to Strictly but his heart was always with the Big Bands, and he yearned to direct the music of Glenn Miller.

He decided he wanted to join a British Glenn Miller Orchestra but having heard various bands play Glenn Miller type music

he was disappointed when their phrasing, tuning and arrangements were not correct so he decided to contact Glenn Miller's American Office with the idea of forming a Glenn Miller Orchestra in the UK and was invited to New York to discuss plans.

Within six months of that American conference, the Glenn Miller Orchestra (UK) had taken to the road in Britain. Its success was immediate and the spring of 1999 saw the band commence their first trip to Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

They have been playing ever since and now the band which faithfully recreates the sound of the original Glenn Miller Orchestra will be visiting the Auditorio y Centro de Congresos Victor Villegas in Murcia on Wednesday February 28 with tickets costing from €25 to €42 available from <http://www.bacantix.com>.

For an evening of real class and swing, those who love the likes of the Andrews Sisters and the booming Big Band Sound will find a great deal to enjoy.



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 Hours

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FORMED in 1996 in Barcelona, Hip Hop band Falsalarma has been a mainstream of the Spanish Hip Hop scene.

Now touring their latest album La Memoria de Mis Pasos (The memory of my steps) their ninth, they will be appearing in Alicante at the Caja Negra on Friday March 9 and Murcia at the Auditorio Parque on Friday April 6 with both shows expected to be very popular.

It is seven years since the duo of David Navarro Romero (the Saint) and Ángel Navarro Romero (Tito) released their last album and this current tour will include tracks from the new release together with a retrospective of their 22-year career.

Always at the forefront of

Return of the Hip Hop kings



Photo by: Sno Wikimedia

HIP HOP: Falsalarma on stage.

modern Hip Hop and working with some of the top producers and DJs in Spain, the visits to Costa Blanca promise to be loud, exciting and not to be missed.

Cracked it: Nut sells out

A SELL-OUT audience in Torrevieja were set to enjoy a theatre showing of The Nutcracker.

The Torrevieja Auditorium featured the performance by the Ballet of St Petersburg, according to reports.

Loosely based on the story by E T A Hoffmann, the 1892 ballet has become a classic in

the theatre world. The production features famous compositions by Tchaikovsky.

The cast features award-winning international dancers: Maria Poliudova, Radamaria Duminika, Vladimir Statnyi, Nadezhda Schepachiova, Nikolay Nazarkhevich, Konstantin Kuznetsov and Karina Shatkovskaya.

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Nick Horne *The Rich Pick*

Nick Horne - writer of *The Rich Pick* - travelled widely with his expat parents in his youth but has based himself in London - limpet like - for most of the last four decades despite working in global media. For the past 20 years with a high end quarterly magazine read by the commercial and political elite of the Middle East. Travelling extensively and learning who is supplying the exclusive needs and exquisite wants of a minute fraction of planet Earth's population.

A Picasso portrait, an E1 Million watch and a high-tech chair. 'The Rich Pick' of Nick Horne in a new weekly column.

THE impulse for the unique or to personalise is irresistible, the cost can be great, rather than just own a Rolls Royce it must be bespoke, a unique expression of their taste. Such a person and family will frequently travel; often in their own aircraft, which naturally has a shower en suite to the bedrooms.

Three near unique objects; a Picasso portrait, a chair and a watch, irresistible objects to a person with the wealth to buy anything.

Consider a chair that is near perfect, and improve it. David Hugh Limited launched its latest creation the Elysium-R chair at Rolls Royce Motor Cars London. Displaying it in the dealer's window next to the latest Phantom

Million Euro wristwatch!



PABLO PICASSO: Femme au béret et à la robe quadrillée (Marie-Thérèse Walter), December 1937.

model. One of just 18 on offer worldwide.

The Elysium-R neutralises grav-

ity 'by implementing flotation theory' to take comfort to a whole new level. Presented in near black

Credit: Sotheby's

pure aniline leather made from Swedish cattle with a black chrome plated stainless steel base and an almond gold frame. Black anodised aluminium arm rests, gel filled, are swept back to

follow the chair's contours and

m o t i o n .

D a v i d

Wicket co-

founder

of David

Hugh ob-

serv ed ,

"this is

w i t h o u t

question the

most elegant

version of Elysi-

um we have ever

made." Price

£38,000 (€39,

378).

For the serious

watch collector; very serious

wealth is an obligation. The RM

50-03 Tourbillon McLaren F1 a

Richard Mille at £964,000

(€1.08m) makes a statement on

the wrist, though only to those who recognise the wristwatch for what it is. A rare wristwatch one of a kind or created to order.

Finally; a unique portrait painted by Picasso in 1937 has emerged from a distinguished private collection and depicts his golden muse Marie-Thérèse Walter. Painted just months after his masterpieces Guernica and Weeping Women. Picasso at the very peak of his creative energy.

Described as 'One of the greatest portraits by Picasso to appear on the market in recent years' by Thomas Bompard; Head of Sotheby's London Impressionist & Modern Art 'Of all the artist's styles and decades this is the one that most epitomises the legacy of Picasso as a portraitist of women.'

Soon to be offered at auction in London. If you ask, you possibly cannot afford it though Sotheby's will share an estimate auction bid upon a serious enquiry. Those with the ability will be there among the bidders or sending their agent.



ELYSIUM-R: The near perfect chair.

Travel

Sevilla: A friendly city that has it all

SEVILLA just about has it all. Yet the city manages to retain a likeable modesty: it's grand but not flashy, modern but full of history, diverse but traditional.

Spain's fourth largest city - which is also the capital of Andalusia - is home to three UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

That is probably part of the reason why it has been named 'Best City to Travel in 2018' by the Lonely Planet.

Originally a Roman settlement, it has historical charm by the bucket load.

Later influenced by Moors, Castellians and Muslims, the points of interest in the city are hugely diverse.

The Cathedral, Torre Giralda, Plaza de Espana and historical centre are good places to start for antique architecture buffs and pretty-city strollers.

Torre Giralda, the bell tower, is particularly quaint and pleasing on the eye, much like the Royal Tobacco Factory.

Christopher Columbus is also buried in the city.

Fountains, cobbled streets, greenery and white buildings make up most of the river city's scenery and - alongside aristocratic



MOORISH: Tourist favourite Alcazar.

mansions - provide some insight into why the place was one of the Moorish empire's showpiece settlements.

On a more modern note, the Metropol Parasol (Las Setas) is the world's largest wooden structure. The slightly bizarre monument arguably looks most impressive at night from the walking platform.

Around that time, flamenco dancing, and Spanish restaurant culture make for vibrant but relaxed and friendly districts.



WOODEN: The Metropol Parasol.

There is more than a hint of party atmosphere, though, so it is not difficult to imagine the festivities when Sevilla won their

third consecutive Europa League in 2016.

Indeed, the city's festivals and crowded bars are considered some of the country's best.

For tourists, the Alcazar of Sevilla is an obvious highlight. Drawing on the city's medieval Islamic heritage, the stunning building, gardens and furnishing are an intriguing blend of Christian and Moorish architecture. It is not one to miss.

The city can be sweltering in summer but is on the warm side of perfect for most of the year, so many are glad of the shade from imposing buildings.

Balmy evenings make the tapas scene even more attractive. Local favourites include various seafood dishes, grilled and stewed meats, lamb kidneys in sherry sauce and spinach with chickpeas. A 'Seranito', meanwhile, is Sevilla's answer to fast food: a warm sandwich with grilled meat, traditional ham, green pepper, tomato and sauce.

Fuelled by the tasty lunchtime treat, sightseers can tick off the main attractions in a few days, especially with a bike in one of the many cycle-friendly routes.

THE extravagant mansion where Gianni Versace lived features in the new film *The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story*, which premiered this week.

Viewers will get a look inside the luxurious estate where the designer was tragically murdered by Andrew Cunanan in 1997.

Today, the house is known as the Villa Casa Casuarina, a 19,000 square-foot exclusive boutique hotel.

It features 10 custom guest suites with marble bathrooms, separate living areas, and balconies.

Other amenities include a pool, a spa, two private lounges and a rooftop bar.

Those thinking of treating themselves to a stay at the mansion will have to brace themselves for some serious pricing.

Suites start at \$899 (€734) and \$1,199 (€979) on weekends, but the excitement from the film could drive those rates up quickly.

Casa Casuarina was originally built in 1930 by Alden Freeman, heir to an oil fortune. In 1992, Versace was on a walk with his family and was drawn to the grand Spanish Architecture and the 'Kneeling Aphrodite' statue outside.

The designer splashed out €32 million to completely reconstruct the building, adding a new wing, tiled pool and thousands of 24-karat gold mosaics.

Fit for the stars

New film reveals designer's dream home



Credit: Twitter



HALLS OF FAME: Bookings are possible at a price.

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Photo credit FC Barcelona/Twitter

NEW TEAM, NEW HOME: Coutinho and his mansion.

A Philipping nice house

EX-LIVERPOOL forward Philippe Coutinho has moved into a stunning Barcelona mansion previously owned by Chelsea midfielder Cesc Fabregas.

The Brazilian star will be living in Bellamar, Castelfells, and will count on Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez as neighbours.

And Suarez was so keen for Coutinho to complete his move that he actually bought the house before the deal between the two clubs was confirmed.

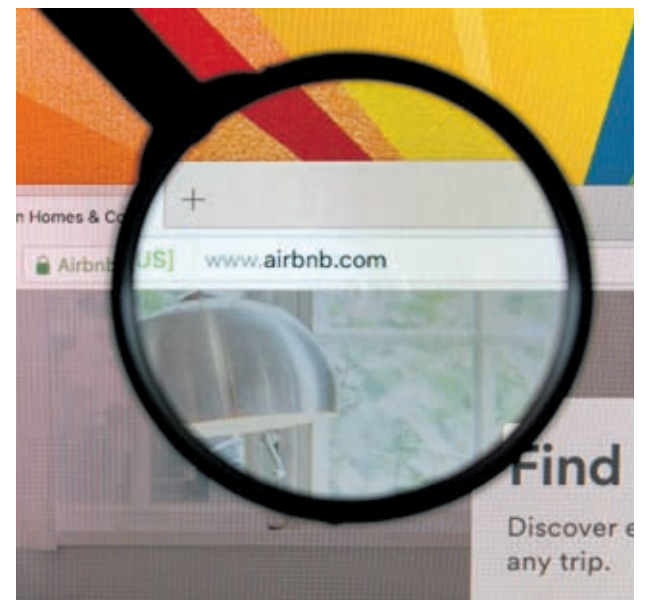
Builders are currently working on the property before Coutinho and his young family move in.

The mansion, which

features a swimming pool in the spacious back garden, has also been the home of new team-mates Thomas Vermaelen and Andre Gomes.

It is part of a 750-metre square plot that boasts a gym and lift amongst its perks.

Coutinho's €160 million transfer is the second most expensive of all-time following fellow Brazilian Neymar's €222 million move from Barcelona to Paris St Germain.



NIPPING THE PROBLEM IN THE BED: Airbnb will receive increased surveillance.

Government to monitor rental sites

THE Spanish government has announced plans to monitor accommodation

sites much more closely.

The move comes in the wake of the Catalonia terrorist attack last August.

The Interior Ministry has revealed new measures in the fight against jihadist cells, as part of the Antiterrorism Pact.

Records will be kept of people's bookings on hotel and short-term rental sites across Spain such as Airbnb and Booking.com.

The same action will be taking on vehicle rental companies and websites, given that the Catalan terrorist attack involved three hired vans to kill 16 and injure 152.

The Interior Ministry also plans to tighten loopholes relating to immigration, where extremists and expensive court cases are involved.

"The measures will be put in action throughout the next year and most of them are already prepared or in the final stages of completion," said Interior Minister Juan Ignacio Zoido.

Airbnb bought background check start-up Trooly Inc last June in an attempt to protect users and restore its reputation.



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Advertising Feature

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MIKE BUTLER of Simply Pro Floor Care has been refurbishing and polishing marble, terrazzo and other stone floors in Spain since 2008.

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Mike is an expert in the field and having previously owned a large cleaning company in the UK boasts more than 30 years of experience in the cleaning industry.

After moving to Spain and realising the problems people had

keeping their marble floors shiny and sparkly, he retrained and attended several stone restoration courses in London to become a specialist restorer and cleaner.

Marble floors can lose their glossy shine through using the wrong cleaning products, simple lack of care or just simple wear and tear.

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sively higher grades of grinding pads.

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paired as Mike uses a special marble repair resin with hardener added, that once applied, allowed to set and then ground flat, leaves the area with little or no sign of the original problem.

If you have a problem with your external patio, balconies, terraces or roof terraces then he can often assist in brightening the area up without the mess of high pressure spraying.

Mike is fully insured and registered in Spain. He is based in Los Montesinos and works throughout the Costa Blanca and Murcia region.

Call him on 691 649 515 or 966 721 331, email simplyprofloorcare@hotmail.com or visit his informative website www.simplyprofloorcare.com to find out more or to arrange a no obligation quote.

Time to start planting seeds for spring

GRAEME TYRRELL

IF you like to grow your own plants to save cost, add interest from the huge range of plants available from seed, or just want to grow your plants in the way you like, now is the time to start planting.

Seeds are relatively cheap for many garden varieties in comparison to buying seedlings. A packet can provide seed for a series of plantings, to allow a continuous harvest of vegetables or a sequence of flowers over spring and summer.

I use special trays to grow a batch of seedlings, and when they are ready to plant out into the garden, I plant another batch from the same packet. It works well with vegetables like lettuce or flowers, including petunia, that have a long growing season, which permits planting through all of spring and summer.

There is a huge range of different plants that can be grown from seed, that cannot usually be found as seedlings or small plants in the nurseries. This



SOWING SEEDS: A fun job.

makes it much more interesting to garden with many unusual and exotic plants. This year I am growing a variety of passion fruit, sent over from Australia, that is not generally available here in Spain.

Growing your own can also be a great way to coordinate with other gardeners and neigh-

bours, to have something to exchange if you grow more than you need. Probably half my garden is planted with varieties obtained in this way.

This also allows you to enjoy watching the seeds emerge with your care and flourish into a full grown plant, whether it is a vegetable to eat, a flower to

decorate, or a tree to stand as a long term memory of your work to grow it.

A visiting friend showed me pictures of a table she had made from an oak tree planted by her grandparents, that had been struck by lightning and fallen.

If you are concerned about the way plants are grown, and want to be sure that the soil is of good quality and without chemicals, to gain the maximum benefit from what you eat, as well as caring for the environment you live in, it also makes seedlings a good option to ensure you have the very best.

Any small container can be used to grow seeds, as long as it holds the soil and has drainage holes to allow excess water to escape. You can recycle yoghurt containers, egg cartons, shallow cardboard boxes and many other items that may normally just be disposed of.

The soil mix needs to be finer than general potting mix, but you can use a coarse sieve to remove the larger pieces of a general mix to obtain a finer

material, or do the same with your compost if you have some.

As a rule of thumb, seeds are planted about double the depth of the size of the seed. Fine seed is best just placed on the

surface, with a little more soil mix sprinkled on top.

Keep the soil moist, but not wet, and you will soon have new plants emerging to enhance your garden and share with friends.



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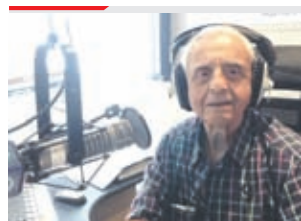
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Unwanted sexual behaviour



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104.6fm,
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columnists@ewnmediagroup.com

OVER the years, hundreds of you have informed me that your male and female dogs like to mount you sexually by rubbing on your leg, a cushion or a toy. This is called masturbation which should not be encouraged.

Some owners stand their rights and say the dog has been spayed/neutered and it cannot do any harm. Dogs that are spayed are able to have sex, but are unable to breed. Quite often, behav-

ourists and vets decide to spay the animal since testosterone is running high, which causes excitement

and makes the animal high.

To say the least, it is unhealthy to allow a dog - male or female - to mount

you.

In fact I have known large breeds that love it so much they will not let go,

and often it takes two or three people to remove the dog. This is very confusing for the dog and it can turn aggressive. The other danger is that this can happen to a child or elderly person.

Many owners are unaware that dogs will leave sperm on the leg, and often on its body, which leaves a smell. Some dogs like cushions; these should be removed.

When a dog is mounting a leg he/she is very comfortable so how do we make this uncomfortable? Simply flick them off your body like you would a fly or just get up and walk away with a 'no' then say 'good dog' but keep walking.

If you have a dog that likes to do this it is advisable to speak to your vet.



OVER-EXCITED: Don't allow your dog to mount you.

Lunes

Lunes is a lovely happy dog who loves snuggling up to people and nibbling them affectionately. He has a great deal of energy so would benefit from long walks and a home with a large garden.

Lunes is a large size dog with a big heart. He loves other dogs but will chase cats.

D.O.B JAN 2010

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Pets in Spain

Polly is a 13 week old kitten and would love to find a forever home before Christmas. She has been in a foster home since she was 5 weeks old. Polly is a confident kitten who loves cuddles and is very playful.

Call **645 469 253**

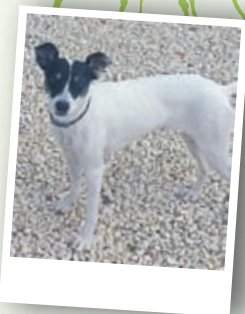
www.petsinspain.com
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Bonnie

Home wanted for Bonnie who was abandoned. She is a small terrier breed, Ratonero Anduluz recognised by the Spanish Kennel Club. She is 2/3 years old, very friendly, gets on well with other dogs and good with children.

She has been vaccinated and spayed.



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Telephone Shirley on **692 439 749**

Or email pinosopapas@gmail.com

Brave new world

PET owners can now keep their pet up to date on all their next social media exploits with BEPUPPY, the first pet social network.

The revolutionary social network now allows owners to tag their pets in posts, through the use of dedicated usernames.

When you register a pet, BEPUPPY assigns them with their own web address, for example 'Bepuppy.com/+fluffy', allowing owners to then tag their pets in their online activities.

This will allegedly allow pet owners to communicate with each other at a distance, and could prove useful when owners find themselves separated from their furry friends.

For example, pet-sitters will be able to reassure nervous owners while they're away by tagging their dogs in a photo taken during a walk in the park, or during dinner time.

It will also allow the pet-sitters to keep check on the animals once they've said goodbye, just by searching for the animal in the network so they don't have to bother their owners.

Keeping pets happy at home while you're on holiday

MOST of us like to go away on holiday at least once a year, and January seems to be the time to plan our seasonal escapes. But what to do with the pets? If like me you worry about intelligent pets becoming bored, stressed or agitated if left at home for long periods, or even in unfamiliar surroundings while you are away then think about finding housesitters to stay in your home and care for your pets.

Many people are finding that house-sitters are a good solution - they stay in your home to care for your pets, to play with them and make sure they are comfortable and safe in their own environment.

What do you need to do?

- If you have pets and need house-sitters - Register on our site as a 'homeowner' and provide photos and general information about your location and

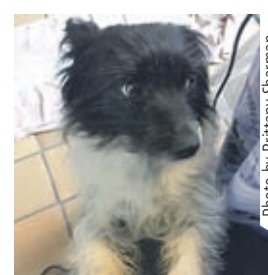


Photo by Brittany Sharran

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Client testimonial
Peter, Pet owner in Spain
We found this to be a well run website with a personal touch. Well worth trying.

(See more reviews in Trustpilot)

your assignment. If you register as a Premium Homeowner for £75 per year we help you at every step.

- If you have experience with home and pet care and want to house-sit in Spain or abroad - Register as a 'house-sitter,' build a profile with photos and describe how you think you can help homeowners with pets. Choose a Premium plan for £75 per year, you can build a large profile with more prominence online.

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Who are the pet-sitters and why will they want to house-sit for free?

Most of the pet-sitters and house-sitters who join HouseSitMatch are looking to spend time in a new location and exchange their service for free accommodation. It's a working holiday with agreed requirements on both sides.

Do you need a house or pet-sitter? Get in touch. House-sitting can be a win-win for both parties, free house and pet-sitting and the experienced and checked sitters get free accommodation!

Register as either house-sitter or homeowner now with a 20 per cent off introductory offer using coupon code PERFECT20.

To find a house or pet-sitter go to www.HouseSitMatch.com
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LA SIESTA EVANGELICAL CHURCH on Urbanisation La Siesta, Torrevieja is a friendly, English speaking Church. We hold services each Sunday and everyone is welcome. Our 11.00 am Services are held every 2nd and 4th Sunday in the month (and 11.00 am on the 5th Sunday, if this applies.) On the 1st and 3rd Sunday's our Services are at 9.30 am. Our choir sings at our 11.00 am Services and there is also a Sunday School, called Stepping Stones, on these Sundays. We welcome residents, visitors and children. For more information see our website www.lasies.taevangelicalchurch.org or telephone Pastor Keith on 666 180 108.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH, La Fustera. For more info: contact Frank Bentley on 966 495 188. (95461)

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS IS ALCOHOL COSTING YOU MORE THAN MONEY? Drinking to excess not only affects your health it can spill over into every other aspect of your life - damaging everything that is important to you. English-speaking AA meetings are held throughout the Costa Blanca from Valencia City to Murcia. Anyone wishing to attend a meeting or discuss a possible drinking problem contact Costa Blanca North: *648 169 045* or Costa Blanca South: *625 912 078* or Costa Calida *679 385 105*. All calls are treated in the strictest confidence. AA in German: 645 456 075; Spanish: 679 212 535; Flemish: 635 047 053; and Scandinavian: 659 779 222. www.aacostablanca.org (93323)

ROUNDAABOUT CHARITY SHOP. We are now into summer and very soon we will be feeling the heat! It is time therefore for another visit to the shop where you might find a bargain or two. Choose from the clothing selection, jewellery, household goods, books or bric a brac. There is usually something there for everyone - but not always. Charitable donations have recently been made to The Alzheimers Centre, Cancer Research and The Amigos Ambulance Service. We still need your help with donations etc. Please keep them coming in! We are situated on Avenida

Del Furs close to the Fountain Roundabout and immediate left by Don Colchon bed shop. (93325)

THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION, Torrevieja Branch, meet at 17.00 on the first Wednesday of each month at the Restaurante El Paraiso, Urb. Jardin del Mar 3 (behind Carrefour), Torrevieja. Contact Paul Edwards, Chairman 618 644 934 or Margaret Forshaw, Secretary 966 921 996. (95455)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Orihuela Costa - covering from Punta Prima to San Javier. The branch meets at Olympia restaurant, Mil Palmeras on 3rd Thursday of each month at 19.00 - 19.30pm. More info can be found on branch website www.orihuelacostarbl.co.uk (95457)

HELP VEGA BAJA. We are a non-profit making organisation that helps and supports anyone, without prejudice, in times of need or crisis within the Vega Baja area. Our offices are based in San Miguel at Calle Lope de Vega 46 (Tel 966 723 733), Torrevieja at Rambla Juan Mateo Garcia 4 (Tel 965 704 282). Both offices are open Monday to Friday from 10 am to 1.30 pm and the Helpdesk at La Marina is open every Thursday (10 am to 1.30 pm) at the Hope Fellowship Church (opposite the Thursday Market site) at Avda de Justo Antonio Quesada, Urb. La Marina (Tel 615770145). We are online at www.helpvegabaja.com and also on Facebook. You can email the San Miguel Centre at office@helpvegabaja.com. **We also have a 24 hour Emergency help-line which is available to both members and non-members on 966 723 733 (95456)**

THE BAKER FOUNDATION SPIRITUALIST CENTRE. Find us on the Saturday market road opposite the Chinese Restaurant. Playa Flamenca. Different International and local mediums every Sunday and Tuesday. Sunday, divine service with clairvoyance 11 am start. Tuesday, evening of clairvoyance doors open 7'o'clock for 7.30 start. Spiritual Healing is available on Sundays after service and on Thursday mornings from 10.30 until 12. We have a development group on Tuesdays 5 until 6.30 for those interested in meditation and advancing your knowledge of spirit. Private readings are available on request. Please join us and make new friends, a warm welcome awaits you all. Tea, coffee and soft drinks are available. You can join us on Facebook at, The Baker Foundation spiritual centre. Hall is available for hire. For more information please contact Linda

on 606 990 665. Email, schugy54@gmail.com (95458)

THE PHILIP SCOTT LODGE No 10671 of the RAOB meets every Friday in the Bar Catorce, Benijofar. Please call the secretary, Colin Bird on 693 287 614 for further information. (95459)

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PILAR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, Calle Canalejas, 3. Pilar de la Horadada. Sunday Service at 11am & Thursday at 5pm for Prayer and Praise and Worship. Home groups meet during the week. All welcome from any church background or none. For further information, www.pilarchurch.org Reg No: 2009-SG/A (95463)

TORREVIEJA Christian Fellowship (TCF) is an English speaking lively church located at Avenida de las Valencianas 68, Torrevieja 03183. Residents and holidaymakers are welcome to attend our services with communion and 'kids church' each Sunday at 10.30am. We have a Fellowship Meeting (Bible Study) each Wednesday at 6.00pm. For further information see our website www.tcf-spain.org or tel 966 700 391.

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION COSTA BLANCA BRANCH. Former & serving aircrews of the UK or Allied Armed Forces are welcome to join this convivial & friendly organisation, now in its 21st year. www.aca-costablanca.org or call the Secretary on: 966 495 042

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION JAVEA BRANCH meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month @ Scallops Rest on the Arenal at 11.00am. Everyone is welcome to attend as a visitor and join the branch if they wish. Anyone needing any help or advice on welfare, or any information regarding the branch can contact either Sheila on 965 791 270 or Roger on 965 790 123 (95472)

STROKE ASSOCIATION Spain (formally known as Torrevieja stroke support) meet every Wednesday and Friday

2.30pm until 5.00pm. Our new address is Casa de Cultura, Calle Francisco Ribera Perez Benijofar. Our aim is to help and support stroke survivors and their carers. With rehabilitation, speech therapy, OC therapy and a very active social group. For info please contact 654 801 260 or email strokesupportgroup@hotmail.com, website: torreviejastrokesupport.org. We are always looking for volunteers who have the skills and knowledge to support our groups and activities. (95474)

CAMPELLO CONTRA CANCER in conjunction with AECC Asociação Español Contra Cancer has opened a charity shop at C/Virgen de los Desamparados No 13 (next door to Mas y mas) El Campello. The shop is open Mon-Fri 10 - 2pm and is run by unpaid volunteers and all monies raised goes to the AECC. We urgently need donations of clothes, books, large and small furniture etc, and we will arrange collection of large items. We need volunteers to help out in the shop and also clothes rails, shelves etc. for display. Please support your local Cancer charity and if you wish to obtain literature or simply talk to someone. Please stop by at the shop. Contact Mina or Trisha. Tel 650 071 278 or 610 921 413 e-mail aecc_campello@hotmail.com

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY, TORREVIEJA Calle Urbano Arregui, 23, Torrevieja 03185, Alicante Evangelical non-denominational church. All nationalities welcome. Sunday service 11.00 a.m.; Sunday school; Prayer meetings; craft and computer clubs. Ladies Bible Study: Thursday 11.00 a.m. Church Bible Study: Thursday 1.30 p.m. House groups in Torrevieja, La Siesta, La Zenia - Contact 966 752 543 / 617 215 463. For other church matters Phone: 966 799 273 / 966 752 543 / 617 215 463 www.icatorrevieja.org

ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION (Costa Blanca) The aim of the Association is to bring together not just ex Royal Marines, but ex Service personnel with an affinity to the Royal Marines. We meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 5.30. For further details Hon Sec 692 938 664

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FREEMASONRY. Are you aware that Freemasonry is thriving on the Costa Blanca? There are various lodges meeting up throughout the Valencia region. If you already are a Mason or simply wish to know more about Freemasonry in Spain please contact Harry Palmer Membership Committee. Tel: 966 712 326 or email: palmers.quesada@yahoo.co.uk (95477)

ROYAL AIR FORCES Association Branch #1359 Costa Blanca. The Branch meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the El Paraiso Restaurant located close to the Carrefour Supermarket in Torrevieja. The meeting starts at 1430 hrs. You do not have to be an ex-member of the RAF to join this friendly Association, which supports the welfare of the RAF family and provides a social hub for ex RAF members and their friends. For further information about the Association and its activities please contact the Chairman on 692 508 916 or the Welfare Officer on 615 048 892 or visit our website: www.rafa.org.uk/costa-blanca

THE PATIENCE LODGE No 2177 of the R.A.O.B meets every Sunday morning at the Sacko's Bar, El Limonar near Las Siesta at 10am. We are always looking for new and lapsed members to join us. Please call Secretary Dave Tonge on 688 704 091 for further information. (253807)

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the way customers drive and how vehicles are powered and integrated into society.

“This is a car that is more enjoyable, more connected and more exciting to drive than any other mainstream electric vehicle in history. It is simply amazing.”

When it comes to specifica-

tions, the new LEAF will have overhauled the old model and will now have improved acceleration, capable of reaching 0-100kmh in just 7.9 seconds.

Its electrical range will allow drivers to travel 415km on a single charge, while charging time from alert to 80 per cent takes just 40 to 60 minutes.

A completely redesigned interior focuses on the driver and combines space with functionality, while a number of new futuristic features have also been added.

The Leaf is packed with Intelligent Mobility innovative technologies, including ProPILOT Park, which is an automatic parking function capable of both parallel and bay parking after the driver selects a spot proposed by the system.

Another innovative feature is the car’s e-pedal. By releasing the accelerator, the car will decelerate and eventually come to a complete stop, without the need to press the brake.

This allegedly helps reduce fatigue and stress in city driving.

The new Leaf will officially hit European showrooms at the beginning of next month.

FERRARI has finally revealed that it will build an SUV while claiming that it will be the fastest in the world

The Italian car giants have previously said that a Ferrari SUV would be “ridiculous,” but seem to have changed their mind as they are reportedly now saying that a car could be ready as early as 2019.

Speaking at the Detroit Motor Show, Fiat Chrysler boss Sergio Marchionne told Auto Express that the aptly named FUV (Ferrari Utility Vehicle) will have to “drive like a Ferrari” while also targeting the top speed in the division.

That title is currently held by the Alfa Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio, capable of speeds over 176mph and going from 0-60mph in just 3.8 seconds.

The British website later released images and sketches of what a future FUV may look like.

But that is unlikely to be the real target for Ferrari, after Lamborghini unveiled their first super SUV, the Urus, last year which will become the world’s fastest.



FUV: An artist’s impression of what the new Ferrari SUV may look like.

Photo by Twitter

Ferrari finally announce SUV

Once it is eventually released, the FUV will have to surpass the Urus’ expected top-speed of a staggering 189mph if it is to receive the title of the fastest SUV in the world.

Fiat Chrysler chief Marchionne also revealed t o

Auto Express that Ferrari is planning an electric supercar, capable of rivaling the Tesla Roadster.

Tesla’s Roadster will reportedly be capable of hitting speed of 250mph and is set to be released in 2020.

He said: “Ferrari has looked at this forever and if there is an electric supercar to be built Ferrari will build it first.”

A handsome fee

A RARE Ferrari supercar built for the Sultan of Brunei is set to be sell for a staggering €2.2 million (£2 million)

The F40 was reportedly the first production vehicle capable of 200mph when it was originally released in 1987.

The model up for sale is reportedly just one of seven models ever made in right hand drive by Pininfarina, the Italian car design firm.

The Sultan, who reportedly has a collection of over 5,000 motors, has spent more than €113,000 on the car in its lifetime.

It is fitted with a 2.9 litre twin-turbocharged V8 engine that can hit 0-60mph in just 4.1 seconds, with a top speed of 201 mph.

John Collins, who runs Talacrest Ferrari dealership, managed to bring two of the rare Ferraris to the UK in the 1990’s.

Mr Collins told British media: “The F40 is one of the most sought-after Ferraris and the definitive supercar. It was the first production car capable of 200mph and is an automotive icon.

“The F40 was a landmark not just on account of its crushing performance and stunning looks, but it was fittingly the last ever car presented by Enzo Ferrari.

“Everyone wants an F40 in right-hand drive but Pininfarina only made seven.

“This will be the third time I’ve sold this model and it has always commanded a premium.”

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X-Class glamping!

MERCEDES' brand new X-Class pickup has a camper van conversion option.

The German car giants turned a few heads when they announced their first ever pickup late last year, announcing

the X220d and the upscale X250d.

Prices are thought to begin at approximately €30,932 for the X220d while the X250d range starts at €34,148.

And now brand new images

have been released of the X-Class to show that it can be more than just the average pickup.

In the new images, the X-Class has been given a makeover by specialist firm Tischer, turning it into a car perfect for camping.

The firm have added a cabin, which can be taken on and off, that sits directly on the load bed of the truck, with plenty of room inside for the perfect getaway.

Inside the cabin, there is a sleeping compartment, fitted kitchen, with a gas stove, and a seating area that can be converted into a second bedroom.

It even has a bathroom that has a foldaway sink, toilet and there is room for a shower.

The cabin is expected to cost around €28,310.

Head of Mercedes Vans, Volker Mornhinweg, told British media: "It is important to us that our vehicles appeal to camper van bodybuilders as well, of course, to end customers."

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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

Lexus CT200h F Sport

THE luxury hybrid hatchback class is a significant niche market, with models aimed at those seeking premium quality and sporty styling in a compact package.

Add eco-credentials to the mix and one contender moves to the head of the list, the Lexus CT200h, just revised and enhanced for 2018.

It is a hybrid, mating a 1.8 litre petrol engine, with an electric motor and CVT auto transmission, and the result is smooth refined driving, from a car with visual charisma and a luxurious interior.

Prices start at €26,414 (£23,495) for a well-kitted entry version, though the mid-range F Sport I tested features revised body styling for a more muscular image, and extra equipment.

For €30,343 (£26,995) you get special F Sport front grille, bumpers and rear spoiler, F Sport steering wheel, aluminium pedals, special 17 inch alloy wheels and

sports suspension. You also get leather upholstery, large display screen with sat-nav, dual-zone climate control and a raft of safety features, including a pre-collision system and lane-keep assist.

The petrol engine and electric motor combine to give 134 hp, with a 0-100 kph time of 10.3 seconds and a top speed of 180 kph (112 mph). Fuel economy is an impressive 24.3 kpl (68.9 mpg).

The road stance of the Lexus CT200h F Sport is head-turning, and it stands out in a sector which includes rivals such as, the SEAT Leon, Audi A3 and BMW 1 Series.

The Lexus is smooth and

quiet, the gearshifts seamless. The sports suspension is quite firm, as you discover on rough surfaces, but is well-set for assured and composed handling and still gives decent ride quality on the tarmac.

The cabin has a premium look and while the dashboard is unusually styled and appears complex, it has a logical layout. Seating is comfortable, there is ample room for four occupants and a big boot - 385 litres, expandable to 985 litres.

This Lexus offers distinctive styling, luxury features, the bonus of hybrid power and the strong residual values which hallmark the brand.

STATS PANEL

■ **Model:** Lexus CT200h F Sport

■ **Engine:** 1.8 litre petrol with electric motor

■ **Transmission:** Auto electric CVT

■ **Performance:** 0-100 kph 10.3 seconds, top speed 180 kph (112 mph)

■ **Economy:** 24.3 kpl (68.9 mpg)

■ **Emissions:** 94 g/km



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

Going to Ibiza

SEAT's all-new Ibiza has been awarded the Best Supermini title at the UK Car of the Year Awards 2018.

The fifth-generation of the Spanish giant's iconic model beat off competition from several big names, to win the prize at the coveted awards.

It was put through a number of thorough road-test pro-

grammes before a panel of judges, who expressed nothing but admiration for the car's advancements.

Several features were noted that put the Ibiza 'a cut above,' but the new MQB A0 platform played a significant role in the Ibiza's triumph, earning praise from a number of judges.

The all-new Ibiza will now be considered for the overall Car of the Year title, which

is expected to be announced in a few weeks time.

Richard Harrison, SEAT UK Director, told British media: "The new generation Ibiza marks a watershed in the car's history of achievement, as our most successful model.

"We're hugely grateful to the UK Car of the Year judges for this initial title and hope that the Ibiza's qualities can take it through to the ultimate award."

ALL-NEW IBIZA: Picked up Best Supermini award.



Ron gone

Former Barcelona star Ronaldinho retires

FORMER Barcelona forward Ronaldinho has retired from professional football at the age of 37 according to his agent Roberto Assis.

The superstar, who is considered one of the best players to ever play the game, has been without a club since he left Brazilian side Fluminense in 2015.

Assis wrote in a column for Brazilian newspaper *O Globo*, "He has stopped, it is ended.

"Let's do something pretty big and nice after the Russia World Cup, probably in August. We will do various events in Brazil, Europe and Asia and, of course, we are arranging something with the Brazilian team as well."

The Brazilian enjoyed an illustrious career in which he won the World Cup in 2002, the Champions League in 2006 and the Ballon d'Or in 2005.

He began his career in Brazil with Gremio, before joining PSG in 2001 where he impressed ahead of a move to the Nou Camp in 2003.

Many would say that it was there where he defined his career, winning two La Liga titles, a Champions League trophy and the 2005 Ballon d'Or during his five-year stay with the Catalan club.

Ronaldinho then formed part of the 2010/11 Serie A winning side alongside the likes of David Beckham, Andrea Pirlo and Zlatan Ibrahimovic before a return to Brazil with Atletico Mineiro in 2011, followed by spells with Mexican side Queretaro and finally Fluminense.



	1997 – 2000	Gremio (Brazil)	121 Matches • 58 Goals
	2001 – 2003	PSG (France)	77 Matches • 25 Goals
	2003 – 2008	FC Barcelona (Spain)	207 Matches • 94 Goals
	2008 – 2011	A C Milan (Italy)	95 Matches • 26 Goals
	2011 – 2012	Flamengo (Brazil)	72 Matches • 28 Goals
	2012 – 2014	Atl. Mineiro (Brazil)	85 Matches • 27 Goals
	2014 – 2015	Queretaro (México)	29 Matches • 8 Goals
	2015	Fluminense (Brazil)	9 Matches • 0 Goals

THE BEST EVER?: The Brazilian enjoyed a fantastic spell at Barcelona before moving to AC Milan in 2008.

Ex-Brazil striker Ronaldo reveals plans to buy lower league club 'in Spain or England'

FORMER Brazil striker Ronaldo has announced that he is thinking about buying a lower league football club in either Spain or England.

The ex-striker, who is widely regarded as one of the greatest footballers to ever grace the game, hung up his boots in 2011 after a career stretching 18 years.

The 41-year-old's name has been regularly talked about as the future Brazilian Football Federation's President.

But, for the time being, the two-time World Cup winner has ruled himself out of the running for the presidency, but has revealed that he would be interested in owning a club in either the Spanish or English second division.

"It would be a great honour, but before that I want to experience running a big club," he told *Folha de S Paulo*.

"I'm thinking about buying a club in the second division in Spain or England.

"I want to do something innovative. I think



SPAIN ON HIS MIND: Ronaldo has said he is thinking about buying a club in either Spain or England.

"I'm prepared for the challenge."

Former Real Madrid, Barcelona, AC Milan and Inter Milan striker Ronaldo scored 300 goals across his career and won many of the top trophies all over the world.

Nine Saudi players move to Spain as part of Saudi-La Liga partnership

NINE separate loan deals for Saudi Arabian players across Spain's top two divisions occurred this weekend as part of a deal between the General Sports Authority (GSA) of Saudi Arabia, the Saudi Arabian Football Federation (SAFF) and La Liga.

The deal has been done which will see all the players, who currently play in the Saudi first division, join La Liga sides ahead of Saudi Arabia's return to the World Cup later this year, their first tournament since 2006.

Three players who were instrumental in helping the national team to World Cup qualification will join La Liga first teams, while the others will join Segunda division sides and youth academies respectively.

Players joining La Liga sides include Yahya Al-Shehri who has signed for Leganes, Fahad Al-Muwallad joins Levante and Salem Al Sawsari has signed for Villarreal.



PLAYERS: Have joined on an initial six month loan deal.

Elsewhere, Jaber Issa joins Villarreal B while Nooh Al Mousa moves to Real Valladolid, Abdulmajeed Al Sulayhi signs for Rayo Vallecano, Ali Al Namer joins Numancia and Abdullah Al Hamdan has sealed a switch to Sporting Gijon.

In a statement, La Liga said: 'LaLiga Santander and LaLiga 1 | 2 | 3, the first and second division of Spain's professional football competition, respectively, announced that they will take nine players from Saudi Arabia on loan.

'The incorporation of

players from Saudi Arabia in the Spanish clubs follows a rigorous scouting programme that spanned multiple months to identify the best talent.'

The statement continued: 'For the Spanish clubs, adding players from Saudi Arabia not only expands their squads, it also means added exposure in the Arab world.

'As part of the agreement with La Liga, SAFF is also working to create local football academies in Saudi Arabia under the brand, technical supervision, and expertise of La Liga.'

REAL MADRID are currently as close to the relegation zone as they are to current La Liga leaders Barcelona. Last year's Champions currently sit on 35 points, 19 points behind Barcelona and 19 points ahead of 18th placed Deportivo La Coruña.

Costa Blanca's best guide to local sport

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www.euroweeklynews.com

Carlos Sainz wins Dakar rally Age just a number

FIFTY-FIVE-YEAR-OLD Carlos Sainz has won the Dakar rally for the second time in his career.

The Spaniard held an hour and 45 seconds lead going into Saturday's final stretch in Cordoba and finished 43 minutes ahead of Toyota's Nasser Al-Attiyah in second-place.

He finished in 49 hours, 16 minutes and 18 seconds overall and celebrated by climbing on top of his car at the end of the South American rally.

Following the celebrations, the rally driver thanked fans



Credit: @LucasCruz74/Twitter

CELEBRATIONS: Sainz (right) celebrates his Dakar rally win with co-driver Lucas Cruz.

and his team for support on social media.

He said: "Finally we win the Dakar thanks for the incredible support during these days!! Fantastic job from Lucas Cruz (co-driver) and Peugeot Sport."

Sainz's second Dakar trophy comes eight years after his first in 2010, when he drove for Volkswagen in the second edition of the famous rally.

He finished ninth in Saturday's finale, but was under less pressure after 13-time winner and closest rival Stephane Pe-

terhansel, known as 'Mr Dakar,' crashed on Friday.

His son, F1 Driver Carlos Sainz Jr, was one of many to congratulate the 55-year-old in the aftermath of the victory.

Accompanying a photo of the pair when Sainz Jr was a child, the 23-year-old wrote on Twitter: "Today I am probably the proudest son of his father in the whole world. Winner of the toughest Dakar ever done at 55 years of age and he did it in his own way. Congrats matador! Congrats Lucas Cruz!"

King of Singapore Garcia wins first tournament of the year

SERGIO GARCIA has started 2018 where he left off last year as he won the Singapore Open by five shots.

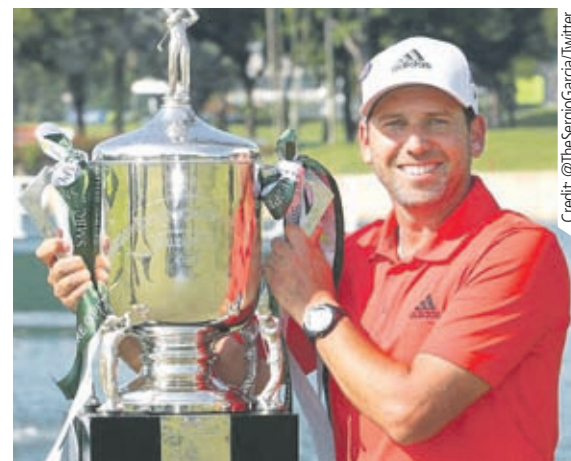
The Spaniard carded a three-under par 68 in the final-round to finish the tournament at 14-under, 270.

The 38-year-old recorded just three bogeys across 72 holes and the victory gives Garcia the 33rd title of his professional career.

Garcia was forced to return to the course at dawn on the final day as play was suspended on Saturday due to lightning strikes.

The 38-year-old flew through his last nine holes of his penultimate round in 4-under for a round of 66 to take a one-shot lead into the final round.

He returned to the course not long after and wrapped up the title in stunning fashion, recording a 68 after recording 10 straight pars to win the tournament that he finished 11th in this time last year.



Credit: @TheSergioGarcia/Twitter

HITTING NEW HEIGHTS: Garcia won his 33rd title with a victory in Singapore.

Garcia enjoyed an excellent season last year as he won three times on the Tour, including the Andalucia Valderrama Masters which he hosted, as well as the Masters at Augusta National for the first time.

His season was topped off at the end of the year by being named the Hilton European Tour Golfer of the Year for the first time.

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