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Neglect claims probed

OFFICIALS are investigating why a three-year-old was locked inside on a school bus for five hours.

The Andalucian Ombudsman for Children is expected to publish a report into how the girl was left behind unnoticed on the bus sparking uproar throughout Spain.

According to one publication, the child fell asleep on the way to the Maria del Mar Romera school in Rincon de la Victoria last December and failed to get off the bus when it stopped, despite two monitors being present. The girl's father said the bus then parked next to the Mercadona de Chilches supermarket where it was left locked until its driver returned five hours later.

The Ombudsman explained it had opened the investigation to 'know more accurately and precisely how the events occurred as well as to consider adopting measures to prevent similar events happening in the future.'

The Ministry of Education has also started an investigation and is looking into the transport company which manages the school bus.

The Junta de Andalucía commented, "from the moment we became aware of the facts the appropriate measures were taken to impose the relevant measures on the companies responsible."



HOMES WRECKED: SOHA strives to save livelihoods.

PHILIP SMALLEY: Speaking at SOHA's 2018 AGM.



10 years on SOHA continues fight for justice

EXCLUSIVE

by Sally Underwood

Save Our Homes Axarquía (SOHA) has been fighting for homeowners' rights for 10 years.

The association, which aims to protect houses from demolition, has recently achieved one of its biggest long-term aims, bringing more than 25,000 homes onto the list of legally-built properties and preventing them from being demolished.

SOHA's president, Philip Smalley, explained the change had come about through years of "hard work," adding it was a result "that many non-members of the association, Spanish and foreign, have benefited

from being able to sell their properties."

Speaking exclusively to the *Euro Weekly News*, he explained the organisation's 10th anniversary was no cause for celebration though, instead saying, "the authorities should hang their heads in shame that we are even now still in existence."

Smalley explained one of the group's largest achievements was to reform part of the Code to ensure any homes subject to a demolition order could not be destroyed more than five years after the property was deemed illegal.

This means after October 2020 councils will no longer be able to destroy any properties judged to be illegal prior to Oc-

tober 2015. Smalley added, "After that period, the owner will be able to benefit from the Out-of-Order Assimilate."

The president told the *Euro Weekly News* homeowners were often unaware of the legal situation surrounding their home, explaining, "They believe that because they have all their paperwork and no action has been taken against them to date they are legal."

Animal abuser jailed

A 65-YEAR-OLD man has been arrested for allegedly mistreating his three horses and one donkey.

The animals have been temporarily housed in shelters in Alhaurin el Grande and Fuente de Piedra after the Velez-Malaga resident voluntarily handed them over to police.

The accused is alleged to have neglected the animals, keeping them in unsanitary conditions without access to sufficient food and water and failing to give them veterinary attention.

Police say all the animals showed symptoms of malnutrition, while some of them also suffered from chron-

ic disease which required urgent care. One horse is said to have been extremely thin and suffering from several melanomas and a large neck wound.

The alleged crime was discovered after police received a tip-off from a representative of a local animal shelter.

Earlier this month, a total of 38 dogs were rescued from abuse in Axarquía in one week, 30 of which were found at a farmhouse in Torrox. Elsewhere in the town officers found a further seven dogs at another farmhouse, five of which are claimed to have been locked in a fenced enclosure surrounded by their own excrement.

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NEWS EXTRA**Wizard in town**

FORMER Harry Potter star, Rupert Grint, has filmed series two of his new drama Snatch in Rincon de la Victoria. The show is based on the 2000 film of the same name.

Party time

FESTIVAL-GOERS are preparing to celebrate the Frigiliana Feria on Saturday, February 17. The event will see people take part in a fancy dress parade.

Upcycled

RINCON DE LA VICTORIA last year donated 84 tons of used textiles, it has emerged. The municipality was even more generous than the previous year, with donations up by 14.84 per cent in 2017.

No harassment

Headteacher declared innocent

A FORMER principal has been acquitted of harassing another teacher.

The man, who had been director of IES Alfaguar in Torrox, will walk free after a judge found he had not committed 'hostile or humiliating acts.'

The verdict was handed down by a judge following a trial last November into alleged workplace harassment between 2011 and 2013.

The Public Prosecutor's Office did not consider the teacher's actions a crime and asked for him to be acquitted, however a private prosecution brought by the complainant sought two years' jail time and €12,067.71 in compensation.

At the verdict, a judge rejected this claim explaining the director was in 'a position of seniority,' and therefore able to discipline other members of staff.

He added there had been 'conflicting versions of events by the parties,' showing, 'dif-



BAD TEACHER: The school were the incident allegedly took place.

ferences of opinion as the form of punishment with which school disputes must be solved.' He concluded these punishments did not constitute 'any criminal offence,' because they did not produce 'a serious situation of harassment.'

The judge conceded the complainant had been subject to dealing with, 'undisciplined, problematic students who lacked respect and that this caused serious health problems,' but explained it was up to the director's discretion what 'sanctions' or 'mediation' was used to solve the issues and that these punishments did not constitute 'humiliation.'

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Sewage war goes on

NERJA Council has arranged a march to protest the town's stalled sewage plants works.

Councillors have been given permission to hold the demonstration this Saturday, leaving the town hall at 11am before marching to the treatment plant in the northeast of the town.

The council is also holding meetings with the Ministry of Environment, businesses, representatives from pressure groups and the company responsible for the works, Isolux-Corsan-Corviam, in an attempt to get the project moving again.

Last November it was announced works to finish Nerja's sewage treatment plant remained stalled despite promises by the Junta de Andalucia after the works' contractors went bankrupt leaving the project 95 per cent complete.

Nerja is the only large resort in Malaga to still pour untreated sewage into the sea, using underwater pipes on both Burriana and Torrecilla beaches. The underwater plant is now around 30 years old and said to be in bad condition with one of its pipes bursting last March, causing waste to pump out 400 metres off Burriana Beach.

Earlier this month, residents raised concerns over further possible contamination prompting, Seprona, the Guardia Civil's nature protection service, to visit Burriana Beach to investigate whether raw sewage is leaking onto the sand.



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ALL THE LATEST CAR NEWS PLUS OUR WEEKLY TEST DRIVE



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Feeling the heat

THE mother of an expelled student has been accused of intimidating the children who 'snitched' on her child for setting light to his desk. The pupil was suspended after allegedly starting the fire before warning other children not to tell the teacher.

Wind of change

STRONG winds have brought down awnings at Velez-Malaga's El Ingenio centre.

Firemen have sealed off several parking bays after 40 kilometre-an-hour gusts tore the fabric awnings from their structures. No one was injured in the incident.

LED break-through

THE University of Malaga (UMA) has developed an LED light to combat algae growth in the Nerja Caves. The development will prevent microorganisms growing and will not affect visitors to the site, according to its engineers, Salvador Merino, Felix Lopez and Rafael Guzman.

Fresh air

FRIGILIANA is getting involved with an innovative European project on air quality. The mountain village is sending air samples off to be analysed after being taken by local geologist, Sonia Castillo who has a PHD in Atmospheric Geochemistry from the Polytechnic University of Barcelona.

Holy smoke

A BLAZE has torn through a cane field next to Nerja's Carabeo Beach, threatening the town's historic centre.

The fire damaged outdoor furniture at several properties and numerous people were forced to evacuate their homes. Officials are now investigating what caused the fire.

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE n°48

Of all the cultural traditions in Spain, bullfighting is perhaps the most controversial and undoubtedly the most brutal, writes Harrison Jones.

THE treatment of bulls during Spanish bullfights is horrifying.

Two days prior to the performance, the animals have been known to have wet newspaper put in their ears, a sticky substance rubbed into their eyes, cotton into their nostrils, a burning irritant applied to their legs, a needle in their private parts and be heavily drugged, welfare groups say.

In Spain, three acts then see the bull tired out in a dark but artistic ritual. Picadors, on horseback, exhaust the bull by twisting thick knives into its neck. Then, the assistant matadors plunge up to six harpoon-like weapons into its body.

Immaculately dressed matadors coax the bulls with red clothes, dodging them as they charge. The final kill can be drawn out and see bulls vomit their own blood. The ears and tail are cut off, often when the animal is still conscious, before it is dragged around the venue by horses, to the tune of baying crowds and traditional music.

Grabbing tradition by its horns

SPAIN is facing louder calls to ban the practice, but so far international condemnation has not told. Protests have hit the country's festivals and turnout is down, but the events - defined as cultural - show no signs of being outlawed imminently.

There has been a steady decline in the number of bullfights, but in 2014-15, nearly 10 per cent of Spaniards bought a ticket, according to Culture Trip. In 2010, a newspaper poll found that only 42 per cent of Spaniards wanted it banned.

That year, the Catalan parliament

Cut the bull



DARK ART: An immaculately dressed matador.

CONTROVERSIAL: The practice has caused protests.



TRADITION: Ronda's bullring is Spain's oldest.

attempted to outlaw the tradition, but the regional ban was overturned by the Supreme Court.

Much like fox hunting in Britain, the main defence of the practice is tradition. It certainly has a long history - Ronda, near Malaga, boasts one of the world's oldest bullrings, from the late 1700s.

Another side to the gore - which sees stadiums reminiscent of Roman gladiators filled with crowds - is the injuries to matadors. Deaths are now very rare, though the last was only in

summer 2017. Over 500 matadors have reportedly been killed in the past three centuries.

Bully for EU

IT is not just in Spain where bullfighting is practised. There are variations in many other countries, most notably in Latin America, France and Portugal.

'Bull wrestling,' meanwhile, reportedly takes place in Japan, the Balkans, Turkey and Southeast Asia.

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126

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Up the isle



Photo credit: Wikimedia



BORDER CONTROL: View from the Spanish side of the river, a satellite image (bottom left) and the meeting on the island between Louis XVI of France and Spain's Felipe IV as depicted by French artist Jacques Laumosnier (bottom right).

SPAIN is about to reclaim 5,000 square metres of territory from France. But in the summer it will voluntarily hand it back.

In a rare agreement that has lasted for more than 350 years, the two countries hold joint sovereignty over Pheasant Island (Spanish: Isla de los Faisanes), an uninhabited tract of land in the Bidasoa River.

The island is among the oldest and smallest condominiums - political territories where two or more countries agree to share ownership and exercise rights jointly - in existence.

Controlled by Spain from February 1 to July 31 each year, it returns to France for the re-

maining six months, with the first handover of 2018 set to take place today (Thursday).

It lies in the middle of the Bidasoa, which forms a natural border between the Spanish town of Irun and its French counterpart Hendaye, and cannot be visited except on the occasional heritage open day.

Measuring just 215 metres long and 38 metres wide, it is thought to be the only condominium in the world which alternates sovereignty during the course of the year.

An old monument on the island holds the key to the island's bizarre status, since it pays tribute to the Treaty of the

Pyrenees, signed in 1659.

It came in the wake of a decade of violence and political interference after the Thirty Years War between France and Spain ended in 1648.

The two governments chose to negotiate on the island because it was considered neutral territory, and after three months of talks the peace agreement was signed.

Territories were swapped and new borders settled, while Maria Teresa of Austria, daughter of Spanish King Felipe IV, married French ruler Louis XIV. And the final part of the deal involved the island being shared by the two countries.

POLL OF THE WEEK

With the latest string of drink driving accidents occurring across Spain, is enough being done to tackle the problem?

LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Do you text more often than call on your mobile phone?

Yes 56% **No 44%**

EWN online this week
166,835 Page views

TOP 5 stories



ON SCREEN: Film crews visit the Rojales rescue centre and (inset) some of the cast.

- 6,758 views** Channel 5's Bargain Loving Brits in the Sun hits Costa Blanca this week
- 5,718 views** British woman takes 14 hours to go to police after son, 3, goes missing
- 4,663 views** Met office warns of rain in Spain and massive 'cold drop'
- 2,906 views** Cyclist suffers serious head injury as storms batter Costa del Sol
- 2,721 views** Three dead and one seriously injured in AP-7 crash

**For week 22 - 29 January*

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Bigwig hauled to court

A DELEGATE from the Junta de Andalucía has been summoned to appear in court.

Adolfo Moreno, an Environment official, will today testify at a Torrox court in a trial into an illegal landfill in Nerja.

The delegate was originally scheduled to appear in court last December but the date was moved back.

Tomorrow, Carmen Molero, the former secretary for the Ministry of Environment, will also appear in the trial.

The case has seen several high profile figures summoned for questioning, including Nerja's present mayor, Rosa Arrabal, and former mayor, Jose Alberto Armijo. Last December Mayor Arrabal swore to a judge she had no knowledge of the site until August 31, 2016, 16 days before it closed after running for 18 years.

Nerja's councillor for the Environment, Jorge Bravo, also denied receiving any complaints about the landfill, telling the court he had not been passed them by the council's lawyer, Sergio Ramos.

The site, which is located in the National Park of Tejeda, Almirajara and Al-

hama, to the east of Nerja, was previously a working quarry owned by the council.

The area was later used as a dumping ground for

16 years, between 2000 and September 2016.

The Public Prosecutor's Office has labelled the landfill "a genuine environmental disaster."



photo by Euroweekly News

APPALLING: The illegal dumping ground.

OUR VIEW

Is it time to end drunken tourism?

WILL 2018 be the year that Spain seriously cracks down on party mad holidaymakers' boozey antics?

With the country outstripping the United States to become the second-most visited country in the world after France in 2017, a string of traditional hotspots have announced plans to control what Spanish media has dubbed 'drunken tourism.'

In the Balearics, many bars and clubs will be forced to close their doors hours earlier this summer, with noise pollution laws set to be strictly enforced.

And new reports suggest that hotels in Benidorm on the Costa Blanca are turning down bookings from hen and stag parties.

It comes after groups of incensed locals last year staged anti-tourist protests in Barcelona, Mallorca, and San Sebastian.

The backlash continued on the Costa del Sol, Marbella tourism chiefs referring to 'cheap' British tourists as 'savages' before unveiling new rules with fines for nudity and rowdy behaviour.

Notorious party resort Magaluf in Mallorca issued 64 new laws to clamp down on unruly holidaymakers, with bar owners warned not to serve alcohol to visibly-drunk revellers, while in Palma happy hours and two-for-one drinks offers are set to be axed. With almost a quarter of the 82 million people visiting Spain last year coming from the UK, the country must clearly be careful not to alienate its largest tourist market.

But since tens of millions - including many Britons - flock to Spain each year with no intention of spending their two weeks in the sun knocking back cheap drinks and sleeping off hangovers, perhaps it is time the country shifts away from this kind of tourism altogether?

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Back on the road

ROCK megastars U2 have announced a second concert date in Madrid.

It comes after tickets for the Irish band's first gig in the Spanish capital for 13 years sold out in just 10 minutes. The two live shows - scheduled for September 20 and 21 - will take place at the WiZink Centre venue.

Kicking off in the United States in May, the European leg of the supergroup's eXPERIENCE + iNNOCENCE world tour begins on August 31 and will see Bono, The Edge, Adam Clayton, and Larry Mullen Jr take to the stage in Germany (Cologne and Hamburg), France (Paris), Portugal (Lisbon), Italy (Milan), Denmark (Copenhagen), the Netherlands (Amsterdam), the UK (Manchester and London) and Ireland in addition to Spain.

Tickets cost from €35-95 and go on sale tomorrow (Friday), with a maximum of four per person.

They are available from the websites livenation.es, www.doctormusic.com and ticketmaster.es.



SOLD OUT: U2's Bono.

HOT MAMA: Pilar Rubio and (right) her decorated bump.

Photo by You Tube



Photo by Pilar Rubio/Instagram



Work of art!

SHE is expecting her third child with Real Madrid and Spain footballer Sergio Ramos.

And TV presenter Pilar Rubio, 39, showed she is game for a laugh after cheekily painting her bump to resemble politically incorrect South Park character Eric Cartman.

The beauty captioned the shot: "Today we came up with a few ideas so that pregnant women can disguise themselves at carnivals. This is my favourite!"

Who's the daddy?



BIG AND LITTLE MAC: Conor and his young son.

Conor McGregor/Instagram

HE'S the Ultimate Fighting champion who last year made his boxing debut. And having taken a break in the wake of his defeat to Floyd Mayweather, Conor McGregor, 29, showed he is enjoying his down time as he flew to Spain with his son Conor Jr.

Taking to Instagram the hardman wrote: "We are having lunch on the jet on our way to Ibiza."

Star responds to abuse allegations

DIY SOS star Nick Knowles' estranged wife has accused the presenter of failing to keep promises made 'when he walked out of our lives to have a string of girlfriends after abandoning us in Spain.'

The explosive social media outburst by Jessica Rose Moor, 30, follows earlier claims that the 55-year-old has pulled funding for their son Eddie's private school education and subjected her to years of 'emotional cruelty and physical abuse.' But

friends speaking to UK media on Nick's behalf strongly denied the allegations.

"These allegations are not true but Nick will not be responding publicly in an attempt to minimise the negative impact on his son." And an insider added: "It's just not true. Nick is one of the most generous men I know and has made substantial financial provision for Jess and Eddie as he does for other members of his family and his children."



HAPPIER TIMES: Nick and Jessica.

Polar plea

HE'S the Spanish Oscar-winning actor who's married to Penelope Cruz.

But Javier Bardem, 48, showed he still has his feet on the ground after travelling to the Antarctic with environmental organisation Greenpeace.

He wrote on Instagram: "We've joined this adventure to ask that the largest protected area in the world is created in the Antarctic. Join us!"

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New mortgage law

FOLLOWING widespread controversy surrounding floor clause mortgages, Spain's government has applied new criteria to protect borrowers.

Lenders will now only be allowed to charge a maximum of 4 per cent commission for early repayment of mortgages within the first 10 years of the loan. The figure decreases to 3 per cent for any years after that.

The fixed maximum will protect consumers with a fixed-rate mortgage who choose to pay off some or their entire mortgage early. The charge would also apply to anyone changing or transferring their mortgage from one lender to another in the hope of securing a better interest rate.

The change is coming in under the new Mortgage Law which will see the Spanish government complying with EU rules surrounding mortgages. Critics



Jorge Salido Cobo/Twitter

RISK AVERSE: Santos Gonzalez, Spanish Mortgage Association president.

say the figure is still too high, however, claiming borrowers could face exorbitant costs to change lenders if their loan is large.

Santos Gonzalez, president of the Spanish Mortgage Association, explains

banks justify charging these fees because otherwise they risk losing money when offering fixed-term low interest rates.

Gonzalez claims, "the entity cannot leave that risk open."

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NEWS EXTRA

Royal uni trip

STUDENTS from Royal Holloway University in London have visited Nerja. The geographers spent several days in the town carrying out field-work.

25 years

THE Beach Restaurants of Axarquía Association has celebrated 25 years. Nerja's councillor for Tourism, Patricia Gutierrez, visited the group to congratulate them on their work.

Digging it

FRIGILIANA'S Archaeological Museum has received a new management and working team ahead of the tourist season. The site, which opened in 2009, has proved popular in the town.

EXCLUSIVE

by Sally Underwood

WHILE Torrox may not be world-famous for its sporting prowess, it is currently home to two super fit fundraisers.

Chris O'Hare, 42, and Gabriella Gratrix, 45, may look like any other tourists visiting the town for its winter sunshine but the pair is in fact using the town to train for a round-the-world cycle.

The couple, who first met four years ago, are using Torrox as their base until embarking on their epic voyage in July, cycling around the world raising money for Prevent Breast Cancer.

No strangers to a challenge, Chris and Gabriella have previously cycled 5,000 kilometres around Europe and a further 5,000 kilometres in southeast Asia. It was during this last trip Chris surprised Gabriella by proposing on secluded Bamboo Island off Thailand after a five-mile kayak trip.

The pair, who is entirely self-funding, are now hoping to raise more money for the cancer charity in what could be a five-year journey across

On the road again



Credit: Chris O'Hare

CHRIS AND GABRIELLA: Plan to cycle the world.

the world, according to Chris.

He explained the couple, who have previously raised funds for children's charities, were inspired to start cycling for cancer after losing two close friends to the disease.

They had planned to set off on their journey last year but Gabriella was sadly diagnosed with breast cancer herself, undergoing a double mastectomy and chemotherapy.

Following her treatment, Gabriella has been given the all clear but is still receiving Herceptin every three weeks until June.

Once her course is finished, Chris and Gabriella will begin their journey from Spain taking in almost every European country before spending some time in Thailand and continuing on to the United States and South America.

Asked whether the engaged

couple had any plans to tie the knot on the road, Chris told the *Euro Weekly News*, "I'm not sure where it will be but it will definitely be somewhere differ-

ent to the normal." For more information on Chris and Gabriella's journey, visit: <https://chrisandgabsworldcyclingtour.com>.

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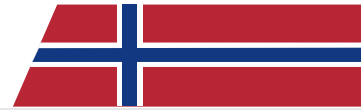


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NORWAY



Breaking the ice

MORE than 2,000 historical artefacts - including primitive shoes and skis - have been exposed by melting ice on the country's highest mountains, with some items thought to date back more than 6,000 years.

Name game

SOFIE and Jakob were the two most popular baby names for girls and boys last year, with 2016 favourites William and Nora dropping down the rankings, according to Statistics Norway.



DEFROSTED HISTORY: A researcher unearths an ancient ski complete with binding.

Peace keepers

THE government spent 1.59 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defence last year, despite NATO rules that European countries must fork out at least 2 per cent of GDP on their respective militaries by 2024.

'Soft Brexit'

PRIME MINISTER Erna Solberg has said that the UK should aim for a "soft Brexit" and said that her country would not fight against a "bespoke deal" with the European Union, as she addressed international media World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

GERMANY



Horror crash

A SMALL plane collided with a rescue helicopter which was on a training flight near the south-western town of Philippsburg, killing four people, police said in a statement.

probe concluded that the social media giant is abusing its position of dominance in the market.

year from his private education business.

Moonlight mile

MORE than 40 politicians are under fire after an independent website revealed that they earn a second income on top of their parliamentary pay, with one raking in an extra €250,000 per

School stabbing

A 14-YEAR-OLD pupil at a secondary school near Dortmund was stabbed to death by a 15-year-old classmate, with police now probing the incident after earlier pledging to tackle youth violence in North Rhine-Westphalia state.

Brought to book

THE caretaker government is threatening to restrict how Facebook mines data from its millions of users after a 2017

FRANCE



Pot luck

EMMANUEL MACRON'S government has indicated it may be willing to consider a softening of the country's cannabis laws, with smokers to be hit with €150-200 spot fines instead of being charged and potentially jailed.

Head to head

THE government has revealed that it aims to increase military cooperation with Japan as the two countries move to minimise Chinese activity in the Indo-Pacific region, with naval troops set to take part in a series of joint exercises.

Sexist sanctions

MEN could face €90 fines for making lewd comments about women in public after a government report advised sanctions for behaviour that impacts 'the freedom of movement of women in public spaces and undermines self-esteem and the right to security.'

Chewing the fat

A DRIVER in the western town of Laval has been fined €750 for tucking into a plate of foie gras on toast and watching a movie on his tablet while at the wheel.

BELGIUM



Truck off

A LORRY carrying 33,500 litres of a chemical derived from palm oil was stolen from the town of Zedelgem, although an official said that the product 'cannot be used as an explosive material.'

Crying wolf

A WOLF named Naya has become the first to be recorded in the country for more than a century, according to biologists tracking the female's journey after she left her family pack in Germany last October.

Deacon of death

A CATHOLIC deacon suspected of killing at 10 people - including his own mother and several other relatives - by injecting air into their bloodstreams, has gone on trial in Bruges.

No terror link

INTERIOR MINISTER Jan Jambon confirmed that a knife-wielding man shot by police at a train station in Ghent was an Afghan refugee with mental issues and had no link to terrorism.

NETHERLANDS



Devil's work

A DUTCH-MOROCCAN woman has been charged with child abuse in the southern city of Roermond after placing her nine-year-old son's hands in a hot oven and stuffing his ears with cotton wool in an attempt to drive out an evil spirit.

Having a gas

THE Dutch government has told 200 companies to stop sourcing natural gas from the Groningen field by 2022 in the wake of a series of increasingly strong earthquakes in the area.

Business boom

MORE than 350 foreign companies invested €1.67 billion in the country last year, generating around 12,500 jobs, according to a new report from the ministry of economic affairs.

Sunny outlook

THE number of solar panels for electricity generation increased by 40 per cent during 2017, according to a report published by *Solar Magazine*, with the rise far outstripping the 13 per cent jump in 2016.

SWEDEN



Snow bomb

SKI resort Kittelfjäll in Lapland Province registered the deepest snow cover yet this winter after more than 1.5 metres accumulated, according to national weather office SMHI.

Shelter plea

TWO members of Russian protest punk rock group Pussy Riot have applied to Swedish authorities for asylum after moving into a home in Lindesberg with their son, blaming persecution after fleeing their home country.

Look, no hands

THE country's first driverless buses have hit the streets in the business district of Kista - north of Stockholm - with the six month experimental project led by bus firm Nobina in partnership with Ericsson and Stockholm City, among others.

Kidnap claim

THE European Union has thrown its weight behind a campaign to release Swedish citizen and Hong-Kong based book publisher Gui Minhai, who was recently taken from a train by Chinese police in front of his own country's diplomats.

DENMARK



Feeling hot

WEDNESDAY January 24 was the hottest January day in Denmark since records began in 1874, as the mercury soared to 12.7°C, beating the previous record - set in 2005 - by 0.3°C.

Coining it

SCANDINAVIA'S largest bank, Nordea, announced it will ban employees from owning Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies by the end of February, sparking outrage in the financial sector and among human rights groups.

Mum-believable

A GROUP of angry parents hired private security guards to join them in an attempt to force the headmaster of the Den Islamisk Arabiske Friskole school in Nørrebro, Copenhagen, to resign following a series of pupil expulsions.

Bold as brass

A SPANISH Supreme Court judge has accused former Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont of trying to 'provoke his own arrest' by travelling to Denmark, after Catalan parliamentary speaker Roger Torrent nominated him to head the new regional government.

€2.9b stock market bid

SPANISH property company Metrovacesa is planning a €2.95 billion flotation.

Formerly the largest publicly traded real estate developer in the Eurozone, the firm was taken over by creditors when the country's property bubble burst in 2009, citing losses of €738 million the previous year.

Its current main shareholders, the banks Santander and BBVA, said the flotation - which is pencilled in for February - is designed to widen its base of shareholders to ease access to capital markets and financing.

Jobless stats boost

UNEMPLOYMENT in Spain is falling.

The number of jobless people in Spain plummeted in 2017 thanks largely to a record year for tourism, according to a year-on-year report by the National Statistics Institute.

Industry, agriculture and construction sectors also showed strong growth, with 471,000 fewer people out of work at the end of the year than in 2016.

The country's unemployment rate was 16.5 per cent as 2017 ended, compared with 18.6 per cent at the

end of 2016.

But Spain still has the second-highest rate of unemployment in the European Union behind Greece, with the average among the 28 member states just 8.7 per cent.

And while the service sector last year created 290,000 additional jobs, many of these only offer temporary contracts, which increased by 4.4 per cent.

"Unemployment is dropping, but the quality of jobs available contin-

ues to be below the minimum," said Pepe Alvarez, leader of Spain's UGT union. "Jobs are increasingly temporary and in December just four out of every 100 contracts signed were long-term and full-time."

Unemployment in Spain peaked at 27 per cent in 2013, when around six million people were out of work, but it has been recovering since as it continues to emerge from the financial crisis of 2007 and 2008.

The latest figures suggest that 3.76 million remain without a job.

Toll road mega deal

A DEAL that will see motorway operator Atlantia buy out Spanish counterpart Abertis has been approved by the government.

The Italian company will now compete with Hochtief, the German subsidiary of Spanish construction firm ACS, which in October launched a €17.1 billion bid to take over the toll road specialist.

If successful Atlantia - controlled by the Benetton family - would become the world's biggest toll road operator with a market value exceeding €40 billion.

Quote of the Week

"Let's not get into that." Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy appears to rule out forcing private firms to pay men and women equal salaries during an interview on national radio station Onda Cero.



MOVING RON: The Pestana CR7 hotel in Lisbon.

Real deal for star's hotels

REAL MADRID footballer Cristiano Ronaldo is expanding into Africa.

And after teaming up with top Portuguese hotel chain Pestana, an ongoing joint venture between the pair will next year see a new hotel opened in Marrakech, Morocco.

It will be the fifth hotel to carry the Pestana CR7 branding.

Ronaldo follows other sports stars who have invested in hotels - including Andy Murray,

Gary Neville and Ryan Giggs - although his project has loftier ambitions.

"It is a brand that will grow... In the next three to five years we will quickly double the number of hotels," said Pestana CEO, Jose Roquette, citing Ibiza and Milan among potential new locations.

In December Roquette said that the partnership will help open new markets in Asia and the Middle East, where Ronaldo is a hero to millions.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Bumper pay day

BANKIA - Spain's fourth largest bank - has announced the release of dividends worth €340 million to its shareholders on the back of its 2017 profits, with state-run bank bailout fund FROB to receive €207 million.

Top tech

SOUTH KOREAN conglomerate Samsung has revealed that Spanish consumers have spent more than €100 million via its mobile payment and digital wallet service, Samsung Pay, since the service was rolled out in 2016.

Mall the way

UNITED STATES investment management firm Barings has completed the €105 million purchase of the 34,000 square-metre Berceo shopping centre in Logroño, northern Spain from previous owner CBRE Global Investors Retail Property Fund Iberica.

Console sales switch on

SALES of Nintendo's new Switch games console have exceeded expectations in Spain.

There are already more Switch systems than Microsoft X Box Ones in the country, according to a report by online network Gamereactor.

It means that Nintendo has sold more units in 10 months than Microsoft has managed in

just over four years.

Although no official figures were given, at least 300,000 of the hybrid consoles are rumoured to have been snapped up.

It comes on the back of a successful Christmas campaign, with gamers attracted by titles including Super Mario Odyssey and The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild.

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LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 29

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,732.50	-2.10	-0.12	24,344.76
Associated British Foods	2,787.50	-67.50	-2.36	22,649.80
Admiral Group	1,944.25	55.75	2.95	5,395.32
Ashtead Group	2,120.00	-4.00	-0.19	10,303.55
Antofagasta	944.00	3.00	0.32	9,345.92
Aviva	516.00	-5.60	-1.07	20,857.89
AstraZeneca	5,000.00	-95.00	-1.86	63,292.09
BAE Systems	572.50	-6.90	-1.19	18,027.56
Barclays	210.00	0.43	0.21	35,878.02
British American Tobacco	4,947.50	8.50	0.17	111,699.92
Barratt Developments	612.50	-5.70	-0.92	6,206.59
Berkeley Group Holdings	4,155.00	41.00	1.00	5,565.57
British Land Co	686.50	0.10	0.01	6,762.14
BHP Billiton	1,587.50	5.10	0.32	33,134.18
Bunzl	1,994.00	-65.00	-3.16	6,748.87
BP	515.55	-0.75	-0.15	102,606.38
Burberry Group	1,627.50	16.00	0.99	6,756.54
BT Group	270.75	7.85	2.99	25,851.32
Coca-Cola HBC	2,434.00	16.00	0.66	8,709.11
Carnival	4,935.00	-5.00	-0.10	10,206.56
Centrica	135.50	0.85	0.63	7,554.78
Compass Group	1,525.00	19.50	1.30	23,694.65
Croda International	4,514.50	0.00	0.00	5,810.19
CRH	2,719.50	-5.50	-0.20	22,507.81
DCC	7,557.50	1.68	0.02	6,667.77
Diageo	2,563.00	4.00	0.16	62,992.75
Direct Line Insurance Group	373.25	-1.75	-0.47	5,156.25
Evrax	375.50	-8.20	-2.14	5,404.57
Experian	1,571.00	-68.00	-4.15	14,882.43
easyJet	1,659.50	-29.50	-1.75	6,557.91
Ferguson	5,515.00	-57.00	-1.02	13,671.62
Fresnillo	1,375.00	6.50	0.47	10,099.13
G4S	291.90	3.00	1.04	4,437.56
GKN	435.50	-0.50	-0.11	7,434.96
Glencore	400.00	-1.90	-0.47	57,578.96
GlaxoSmithKline	1,355.00	0.00	0.00	66,188.60
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,883.50	-16.50	-0.87	9,040.51
Halma	1,257.50	-7.50	-0.59	4,832.83
Hammerson	499.00	2.80	0.56	3,898.86
HSBC Holdings	775.50	4.90	0.64	153,644.98
International Consoltd Air Grp	620.00	-30.00	-4.62	13,050.16
InterContinental Hotels Grp	4,614.00	-164.00	-3.43	9,034.03
3i Group	934.80	4.60	0.49	8,839.56
Imperial Brands	2,890.00	-25.00	-0.86	27,315.03
Informa	698.30	14.10	2.06	5,651.03
Intertek Group	5,135.00	65.00	1.28	8,117.94
ITV	168.75	-2.95	-1.72	6,869.36
Just Eat	826.00	6.60	0.81	5,451.87
Johnson Matthey	3,255.50	-38.50	-1.17	6,241.45
Kingfisher	353.50	-0.60	-0.17	7,517.31

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Land Securities Group	985.00	-25.40	-2.51	7,373.72
Legal & General Group	273.75	-1.45	-0.53	16,206.95
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	72.00	0.74	1.04	51,280.73
London Stock Exchange Grp	4,062.00	38.00	0.94	13,633.69
Micro Focus International	2,126.50	-67.50	-3.08	9,502.30
Mediclinic International	720.40	109.40	17.91	4,638.74
Marks & Spencer Group	310.60	-1.90	-0.61	5,041.58
Mondi	1,917.50	22.50	1.19	9,111.42
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	225.00	-1.90	-0.84	5,316.85
National Grid	825.00	18.00	2.23	26,875.85
NMC Health	3,173.00	-187.00	-5.57	6,909.53
Next	5,080.50	-137.50	-2.64	7,337.70
Old Mutual Group	237.30	-3.00	-1.25	11,858.25
Paddy Power Betfair	8,200.00	120.00	1.49	6,791.32
Prudential	1,935.00	15.50	0.81	49,570.28
Persimmon	2,492.50	-138.50	-5.26	8,036.44
Pearson	686.50	-7.50	-1.08	5,446.53
Reckitt Benckiser Group	6,862.50	135.50	2.01	48,055.78
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	297.50	-4.10	-1.36	35,786.01
Royal Dutch Shell	2,490.00	-20.00	-0.80	115,434.09
Royal Dutch Shell	2,562.50	8.50	0.33	95,959.37
RELX	1,560.00	-1.50	-0.10	16,533.42
Rio Tinto	3,920.00	-22.50	-0.57	53,128.12
Rolls-Royce Group	881.50	25.70	3.00	15,615.79
Randgold Resources	6,850.00	-280.00	-3.93	6,771.63
RSA Insurance Group	646.20	23.80	3.82	6,343.62
Rentokil Initial	280.50	-16.50	-5.56	5,398.08
Sainsbury (J)	258.50	-2.60	-1.00	5,663.92
Schroders	3,695.00	-24.00	-0.65	8,297.28
Sage Group (The)	762.80	4.20	0.55	8,116.56
Segro	586.60	8.40	1.45	5,702.64
Shire	3,475.00	36.00	1.05	30,605.09
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,567.00	39.00	1.54	6,016.01
Sky	1,048.75	0.75	0.07	17,809.02
Standard Life Aberdeen	436.50	3.40	0.79	12,830.28
Smith (DS)	509.10	-1.37	-0.27	5,341.65
Smiths Group	1,624.50	8.00	0.49	6,395.11
Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst	492.50	21.50	4.56	6,498.00
Smith & Nephew	1,250.00	-42.00	-3.25	11,320.96
SSE	1,293.50	12.00	0.94	12,807.51
Standard Chartered	853.00	3.80	0.45	27,461.57
St James's Place	1,178.00	-46.00	-3.76	6,460.04
Severn Trent	2,020.50	10.50	0.52	4,748.99
Tesco	209.50	-2.00	-0.95	17,177.81
TUI AG	1,655.00	23.50	1.44	9,477.49
Taylor Wimpey	202.03	2.73	1.37	6,449.30
Unilever	3,980.00	-14.00	-0.35	49,221.41
United Utilities Group	740.50	-7.50	-1.00	5,047.34
Vodafone Group	227.00	1.40	0.62	59,857.20
WPP Group	1,295.00	2.50	0.19	16,528.17
Whitbread	3,900.00	-9.00	-0.23	7,153.66

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CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 29

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE%	CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	258,630	+2.48%	6,270	153,327,40
AMERICAN EXPRESS	99,6300	-0.06%	-0,0600	85,582,17
APPLE	171,510	+0.23%	0,400	870,217,23
BOEING CO	343,220	+0.03%	0,110	203,806,97
CATERPILLAR	167,060	-1.36%	-2,310	98,919,61
CHEVRON	131,19	+0.41%	0,54	248,514,08
CISCO SYSTEMS	42,560	+1.58%	0,660	208,684,13
COCA-COLA	48,53	+1.44%	0,69	206,408,03
DOWDUPONT	77,02	+0.48%	0,37	179,547,45
EXXON MOBIL	89,00	+0.71%	0,63	375,873,68
GENERAL ELECTRIC	16,1300	-0.31%	-0,0500	138,848,75
GOLDMAN SACHS	268,14	-0.33%	-0,89	101,040,96
HOME DEPOT	207,2300	+0.91%	1,8600	240,509,51
IBM	167,34	+1.13%	1,87	154,625,68
INTEL CORP	50,0800	+10.55%	4,7800	232,549,20
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	116,3200	+0.54%	0,6200	396,649,74
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	145,3300	+0.64%	0,9300	388,752,88
MC DONALD'S CORP	178,3600	+1.54%	2,7000	141,452,61
MERCK AND CO. NEW	62,04	+1.21%	0,74	168,588,15
MICROSOFT	94,060	+1.87%	1,730	720,888,32
NIKE	68,04	+0.49%	0,33	88,346,34
PFIZER	39,0100	+4.78%	1,7800	232,348,37
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	87,730	-0.69%	-0,610	220,638,24
TRAVELERS CIES	149,42	+0.64%	0,95	40,857,32
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	137,98	+0.17%	0,23	109,619,69
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	248,47	+1.34%	3,29	239,999,24
VERIZON COMMS	54,72	+0.79%	0,43	222,880,25
VISA	126,32	+0.88%	1,10	227,660,44
WAL-MART STORES	108,3900	+1.68%	1,7900	318,781,87
WALT DISNEY CO	112,1900	+1.48%	1,6400	168,889,79

M - MILLION DOLLARS

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JANUARY 29

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
World Acceptance Corporation	\$ 117.31	19.63 ▲ 20.10%
ABAXIS, Inc.	\$ 75.71	11.27 ▲ 17.49%
MediciNova, Inc.	\$ 8.77	1.09 ▲ 14.19%
Restoration Robotics, Inc.	\$ 4.83	0.57 ▲ 13.38%
Xenon Pharmaceuticals Inc.	\$ 3.35	0.325 ▲ 10.74%
Rocket Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 16.64	1.60 ▲ 10.64%
Intel Corporation	\$ 50.08	4.78 ▲ 10.55%
Hovnanian Enterprises Inc	\$ 7.69	0.69 ▲ 9.86%
Rapid7, Inc.	\$ 25.01	2.14 ▲ 9.36%
Inseego Corp.	\$ 2.03	0.17 ▲ 9.14%
Forward Pharma A/S	\$ 5.36	0.44 ▲ 8.94%
Most Declined		
MannKind Corporation	\$ 2.79	1.01 ▼ 26.58%
Future FinTech Group Inc.	\$ 3.41	0.39 ▼ 10.26%
Wynn Resorts, Limited	\$ 180.29	20.31 ▼ 10.12%
Pacific Biosciences of California, Inc.	\$ 2.935	0.295 ▼ 9.13%
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 2.54	0.24 ▼ 8.63%
Sientra, Inc.	\$ 11.74	1.08 ▼ 8.42%
Patrick Industries, Inc.	\$ 65.60	5.80 ▼ 8.12%
Ballard Power Systems, Inc.	\$ 3.01	0.26 ▼ 7.95%
Dime Community Bancshares, Inc.	\$ 20.10	1.60 ▼ 7.37%
Casa Systems, Inc.	\$ 17.50	1.37 ▼ 7.26%
Advaxis, Inc.	\$ 2.95	0.23 ▼ 7.23%

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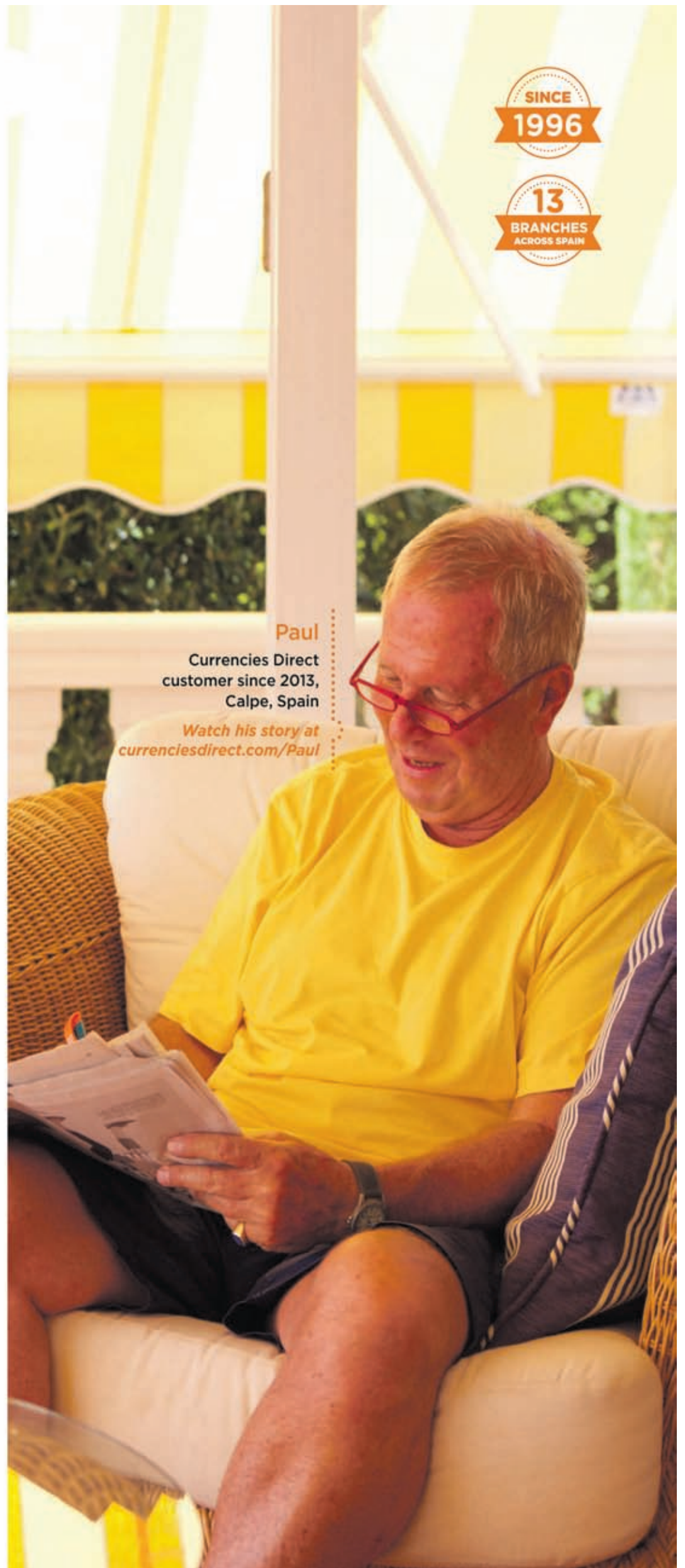
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13
BRANCHES
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GBP/EUR rallies on Brexit speculation

Ask the expert

Peter Loveday

Contact me at euroweekly@currenciesdirect.com



THE GBP/EUR exchange rate got off to a slow start to the year, but Brexit speculation has helped the pairing approach €1.1400, and further gains could be on the horizon.

The pound has been striking its best levels against the US dollar since the EU referendum thanks to broad-based US dollar weakness.

The softness in the US currency has also resulted in EUR/USD hitting the dizzy highs of €1.23.

What's been happening?

Over the last couple of weeks the pound has steadily strengthened on a mixture of upbeat commentary from a Bank of England (BoE) policymaker and hopes that the UK will be able to secure a softer Brexit.

Sterling received a shot in the arm as the BoE's Michael Saunders asserted that he expected UK wage growth to accelerate this year. As wage growth has been one of the main



THE POUND: Has steadily strengthened in the hope that the UK will secure a soft Brexit.

things preventing the central bank from increasing interest rates, Saunders' confidence lifted BoE rate hike expectations and boosted the pound.

Further GBP support came as Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, observed that the UK could always rejoin the EU once Brexit was completed by using Ar-

ticle 49 of the Lisbon Treaty.

French President Emmanuel Macron pressed home the idea of a Brexit reversal on Thursday, when an aide speaking on his behalf told reporters in Paris that France would look 'with kindness' upon the UK changing its mind over its decision to leave the EU.

At the same time, Lord Jim O'Neill, the for-

mer Conservative Treasury minister, was upbeat on the subject of the UK's future growth prospects.

The euro, meanwhile, came under pressure as a result of speculation surrounding the ongoing German coalition talks.

Bets that the European Central Bank (ECB) would maintain a dovish attitude on the subject of tightening monetary policy when it delivered its first interest rate announcement of 2018 also limited EUR demand.

What do you need to look out for?

Brexit developments will remain a key driver of GBP/EUR exchange rate movement over the next few weeks.

Investors will also be looking ahead to the BoE's first policy meeting tomorrow (Friday).

If policymakers are at all encouraging about borrowing costs being adjusted in 2018, Sterling could soar.

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Telefonica unveils 5G tech cities vision Next generation try-out

TWO Spanish cities are to take a leap into the future.

It comes as multinational broadband and telecommunications provider Telefonica unveiled its 5G (fifth generation) 'technological cities' scheme.

The project will lay the foundations for a full rollout of 5G technology across the country on an unspecified future date.

Telefonica is collaborating with European counterparts Nokia and Ericsson in the cities of Segovia, Castilla y Leon, and Talavera de la Reina, Castilla-La Mancha, respectively.

They will both be converted into 'living 5G laboratories' over the next three years, deploying the new technology simultaneously before performing a series of user trials including services, products, user experiences and business models.

"With the 5G technological cities project, Telefónica is turning the technology of the future into reality



TECHS APPEAL: Segovia is set to benefit from the trial and (inset) Luis Miguel Gilperez and Jose Antonio Lopez discuss the scheme.

and providing a constant service for people. This is why we will perform the technological deployment and use cases in parallel, so that we will serve people with the new technologies, one of Telefónica's clear objectives," said Luis Miguel Gilperez, CEO of Telefonica Spain.

Ericsson believes that a fifth of the world's population will be using 5G by 2023, and Jose Antonio Lopez,

chairman of Ericsson Spain, said: "5G technology will have an enormous impact on the user experience and the digital transformation of our cities and industries. Ericsson is already working with more than 35 partners throughout the world to develop use cases to prepare the connected cities of the future.

"The most important ones in Spain are related to tourism, which we have worked on with FITUR and which we are currently demonstrating.

"One of the key aims of this project, in which we are pleased to cooperate with Telefonica and the city council of Talavera de la Reina, will be to promote tourism, demonstrating 5G's contribution to economic growth and the benefits Spaniards will enjoy as a result," he added.

The 5G technology is designed to provide a higher capacity than the current 4G standard, allowing more people to use mobile broadband efficiently and improved device-to-device connectivity.

On Royal business

KING FELIPE OF SPAIN is patching up his country's brand.

The monarch swooped into the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, holding meetings with top brass from a number of multinationals before delivering a speech in front of hundreds of businessmen.

His schedule - described as 'frantic' by Spanish media - included appointments with the presidents of e-commerce platform Alibaba, technology firm Microsoft, Canadian investment fund CPPIB, and Temasek, the government of Singapore's national wealth fund. On his first visit to Davos, the ruler also met with Spanish business leaders from companies including El Corte Ingles and Santander.

The head of state's visit aimed to present Spain as an economically strong, institutionally stable nation in the wake of the Catalan independence crisis, according to reports.





NOT COMPETITIVE: Opel Corsas (inset) at the PSA plant in Figueruelas.

Union standoff could spark cuts

CAR manufacturer Opel has threatened to cut production of its Corsa compact model in Spain.

The warning comes amid tensions over wages and working conditions between workers' unions and the company, which was bought by Groupe PSA - owner of Peugeot and Citroën - from United States-based General Motors in 2016.

The French firm says that its 35-year-old plant in Figueruelas, near Zaragoza, Aragon, is less profitable than its other two Spanish factories due to wages, a lack of flexibility

and staff working fewer hours.

It has produced the Corsa for decades, employs around 5,300 people and ran at an average 80 per cent capacity in 2017, with 382,250 vehicles rolling off the production line.

But an Opel official said: "There will only be investment if a plant is profitable, and the Opel plant in Spain is at a disadvantage to other PSA factories in Spain."

Aragon's regional government said it has called for an urgent meeting to discuss the issue with PSA bosses.

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Election campaigns were paid for with 'dirty money'

SPAIN'S ruling Popular Party (PP) is embroiled in another corruption scandal.

It comes after the conservative government was forced into an embarrassing climb down after a former official told a Spanish court that the party accepted 'dirty money' for election campaigns in the Valencian Community.

Ex-PP leader for the region, Ricardo Costa, was giving evidence in the ongoing 'Gurtel' cash-for-favours case, which is probing claims that campaigns were financed with cash paid in bribes over the award of public works contracts.

"It's true that the PP financed itself with dirty money in election campaign acts in 2007," he said, blaming ex-regional president Francisco Camps.

He added that Camps and former president of

the legislative Corts Valencianes body, Juan Cotin, in 2007 and 2008 ordered that regional and local election campaigns be financed by asking businessmen to pay money to a company in order to bypass a mandatory cap on electoral spending.

Costa went on to explain how he had been shown "envelopes with cash inside them and I was told it was money that businessmen had given and it had been at the request of Camps."

The trial is the latest in a lengthy series of corruption scandals to hit the PP, but when questioned by Spanish media, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said he knew "nothing" about it.

The party's spokesman, Rafael Hernando, tweeted: "I'm ashamed and I apologise for the bad conduct of some people, to those Spaniards who in good faith voted for the Popular Party (PP)."

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Revenge is the sweetest thing

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT

OTHERS THINK IT



NOT being a particularly vengeful person, this so called 'sweet' act of retribution is not particularly high on my 'to do' list. However, there are exceptions, and one example I heard recently certainly fits the bill. Our hero, in this intrepid Irish tale, was on the verge of getting married. He was a nurse by profession and most of his friends worked with him at the local hospital.

Just before the wedding, his colleagues organised a boozy stag do. The night was a rip-roaring success and the future groom, utterly inebriated, was taken home and passed out on his own sofa.

And this is when our devilish plot begins to thicken. In a pre-determined plan one of his 'friends' had raided hospital supplies and brought along all the paraphernalia needed to plaster up broken bones. With our hero duly out for the count, the party goers began their devious work. Careful not to disturb him, they plastered up one of his arms. And what a job they did of it.

Not only did they cover his whole arm, but they fitted one of those wire affairs that keeps the arm bent at the elbow and away from the body. They then all left, leaving him still out for the count and snoring peacefully. Early the next day



PLASTER DISASTER:
What happens when a stag party goes too far?



bride on one arm and the other still uncomfortably stuck out in front of him! And still not one of the instigators said a word. Almost unbelievably, they actually let him, still blissfully unaware, have his reception and leave on his honeymoon. It wasn't 'til he returned that they finally let the cat out of the bag.

Naturally our beleaguered bridegroom went totally ape. Well you would wouldn't you? For some weeks he didn't even talk. As time went by, he appeared to put it behind him. They all began to look forward to the next big event. The marriage of his closest friend. The one who had been the ringleader of the stag night plastering 'joke'!

And on that juicy note, we'll have to leave it all till next week. Don't forget to tune in. The sweetest of revenge awaits.

Keep the faith.

Love Leapy leapylee@gmail.com

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

his closest friend received a hysterical phone call. It was our (naturally) panic stricken hero, pleading to know what had occurred the night before.

After calming him down, the 'friend' then managed to convince him that toward the end of the evening, when he was blind drunk, he had fallen over and broken his arm. They had visited the local hospital, had him X-rayed and subsequently plastered up. He was to go back in six weeks to

have it removed. With their victim, hardly able to remember anything at all, he finally accepted the story. Having no other choice, he then proceeded to carry on with the plans for his wedding the following day. Thinking it was all still a great joke, the stag party jesters still didn't let on.

On the morning of the wedding, still no one owned up. Subsequently they were then treated to our hero, walking up the aisle with his blushing

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

TECH FOR THE TIMID



LAST week I emailed a helpful Spanish colleague and called him a horse.

Well, not intentionally. He had been a true gentleman with his assistance, and I wanted to say so: 'un verdadero caballero.' I should have checked with Google Translate before I wrote instead 'un verdadero caballo.'

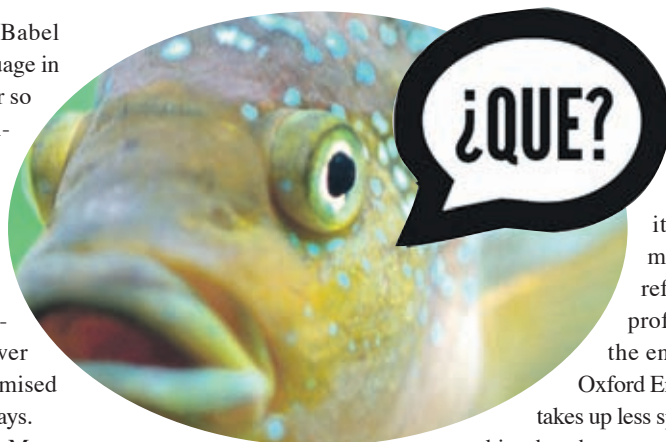
Douglas Adams' famous 'Babel fish' translator for every language in the universe (and the 5,000 or so here on Earth) is part of a hallowed sci-fi tradition, promising instant cross-culture communication. We're actually not that far off, with Google's new Pixel Buds which can translate between 40 languages - though one prominent reviewer has just called them 'overpromised and undelivered,' but it's early days.

It all calls to mind that classic Monty Python sketch where a lost tourist brandishing a Serbo-Croat phrasebook tells a London bobby: "I want to fondle your buttock!"

Today we have better and buttock-free digital phrasebooks. There are truly amazing tech aids ranging from Google Translate, to the much-lauded

Welcum We Spik English

Machine translation is still not good to go, Terence Kennedy regrets.



BABEL FISH: The universal translator.

new contender, DeepL Translator (<https://www.deepl.com/translator>).

When not rhapsodising about the latest techno-toys, I (mis-)translate for a living (no, not Spanish obviously, given the horse incident). That used to

involve shelves of weighty reference tomes, and expensive calls to native speakers. Now it's the click of a mouse, with digital reference works in profusion, and even the entire 20-volume Oxford English Dictionary takes up less space on my hard-drive than the average cat video.

Google Translate does of course have its limits, as I discovered when printing out its rendition of my illness symptoms for my non-English doctor. My few minutes of medical fame were the funniest thing she had read in ages and cabaret for her colleagues.

On a recent holiday in the Czech

Republic I broke the language barrier, with my smartphone as an interpreter, passed back and forth as we each spoke phrases in one language and the phone read them back with reasonable clarity in the other.

However rudimentary machine translation still is at this early stage, it can never be as bad as that fabled 'worst phrasebook ever' written by the legendary Portuguese author Pedro Carolina back in 1883.

Untroubled by not being able to speak any English, he turned classic proverbs into wonderful gibberish:

Nothing some money, nothing of Swiss. He eat to coaches. A take is better than two you shall have. The stone as roll not heap up not foam. The dog that bark not bite.

And my favourite, whatever it may mean: to craunch a marmoset.

Keep calm and translate

THE smartphone world is full of apps to help you across the linguistic divide, from the classic and free Google Translate which even has the hit-and-miss ability to translate a photo of foreign text.

There are more straightforward digital dictionaries than you could shake a Babel fish at. The free ones, like Reverso, are often every bit as good as their paid counterparts.

For entire chunks of translation, DeepL, mentioned earlier, is the new kid on the block. It in turn is based on a standby of word-and-phrase translation, Linguee in many main languages (try <https://www.linguee.com/english-spanish>).

As the inimitable Pedro Carolina insisted: "It may be worth the acceptance of the studious persons, of which we dedicate him particularly."

Couldn't have put it better myself.

The original wristwatch - updated!

Wait for one new wristwatch and hundreds turn up at once. Four distinctive pieces, revealed by four distinctive watch manufacturers, Cartier, MB&F, Officine Panerai and Richard Mille at the SIHH 2018, the annual fine watch exhibition held in the Swiss city of Geneva.

Nick Horne The Rich Pick

Freelance correspondent,
London, England

EACH year watch manufacturers reveal something of what their designers are developing in their research and development workshops. A new year is the opportunity for designers of extremely small engines to amaze, charm and seduce the fine watch collector.

Cartier - French and founded 171 years ago, a byword for luxury and the luxurious. Creators of unique watches and fabulous jewellery, reveals the updated Santos de Cartier. First created in 1904, through a collaboration between the Brazilian aviation pioneer Alberto Santos-Dumont and Louis Cartier.

The updated Santos de Cartier wristwatch is designed to be a perfect fit on the wrist. The design studios updated the wristwatch, focusing on comfort, wear and respecting the original aesthetic, from the square shape to the eight bezel screws. Sleeker lines unify the innovative strap system and the watch case. The strap system ensures all straps are interchangeable with a 'Quick-Switch' system which dispenses with the need for a tool.

MB&F - Maximilian Busser conceived of a brand and manufacture dedicated to developing radical horological concepts, working in small hyper-creative groups.

Following a career work-



EXCLUSIVE: The Moonmachine 2.



ITALIAN PASSION:
The Astonomo.

ing for important manufacturers - Jaeger LeCoultre and Harry Winston - in 2005 Busser realised his dream and launched MB&F. The Moonmachine 2, is offered in three editions, each limited to 12 examples, one in full titanium, with white gold moons and a light-blue sky, one in blackened titanium, with white gold moons and a dark-blue sky, and one in red-gold and titanium with red-gold moons and an anthracite sky.

Officine Panerai - Italian design and Swiss craftsmanship. Rooted in Florence, founded 160 years ago, its maritime heritage, established by Officine Panerai's connection to intrepid Italian submariners during the Second World War, for whom highly specialised time pieces were developed.

L'Astronomo Luminor

1950 Tourbillon Moon Phase Equation of time GMT - 50mm. Updated and enhanced, an example of Officine Panerai's technical mastery. Like its predecessor, the new L'Astronomo is made to order, and the skeletonised movement, the P.2005/GLS (standing for Galileo Luna Scheletrato) is personalised to operate in accordance with the geographical place chosen by the wearer.

Richard Mille - the eponymous Swiss luxury brand was founded in 1999. Its first creation the RM-001 went on sale in 2001. The RM 53-01 is claimed to be the result of an encounter between Richard Mille and the polo player Pablo MacDonough. This watch reveals a suspended tourbillon calibre, visible through the laminated sapphire glass of its Carbon TPT® case, a complex armour of an entirely new kind for this high-risk sport and limited to 30 pieces in Carbon TPT.

These exclusive time pieces may be acquired through select networks of dealers and boutiques. Search them out. They deserve to be seen, held and worn.

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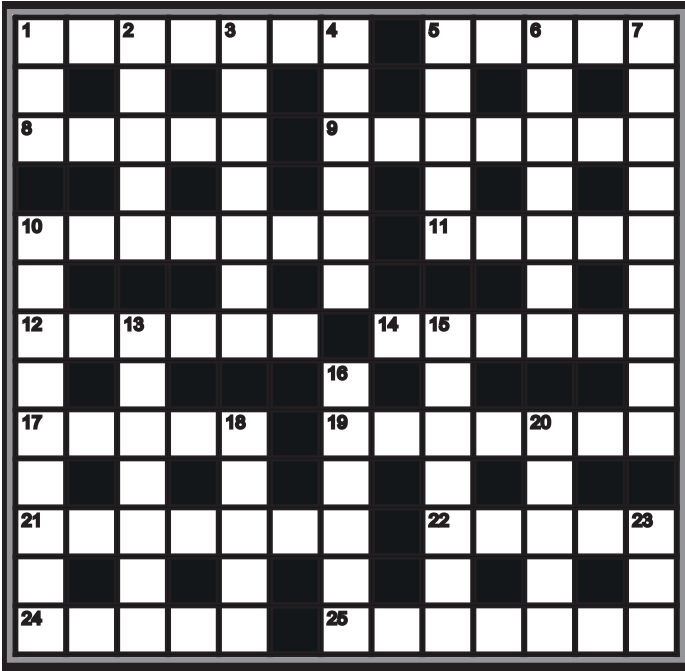
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Tried to work out in Michigan (7)
- 5 Silent diplomacy includes Italy (5)
- 8 Super sort of money bag (5)
- 9 Renault changing gear? (7)
- 10 Refrain from voting for sailor Mark (7)
- 11 Money returned by skinhead for implements (5)
- 12 From Americans we rely on solution (6)
- 14 Return if a self-starter company is a disaster (6)
- 17 Units deployed in an African capital (5)
- 19 Sit and read novel with legs apart (7)
- 21 In descent win, expect wind (7)
- 22 The answer is about The Strand (5)
- 24 Clipped trees replaced (5)
- 25 Ulster's builders are the consequences (7)

Down

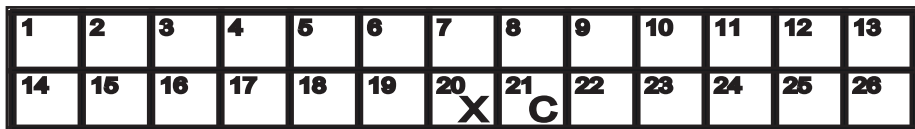
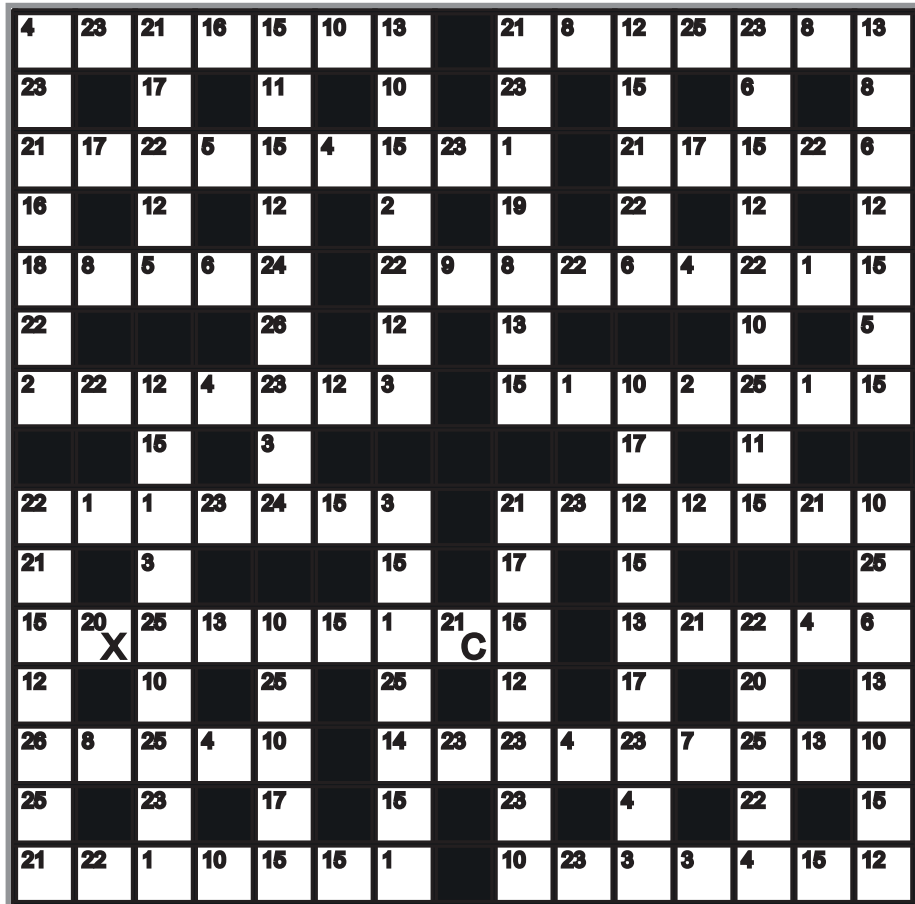
- 1 Princess and prince will name pickpocket (3)
- 2 Calls the conditions (5)
- 3 Make a speech about gym function (7)
- 4 Occupier of temporary shelter around centre of Canada (6)
- 5 Tease the first relative (5)
- 6 Odd trinkets containing uranium (7)



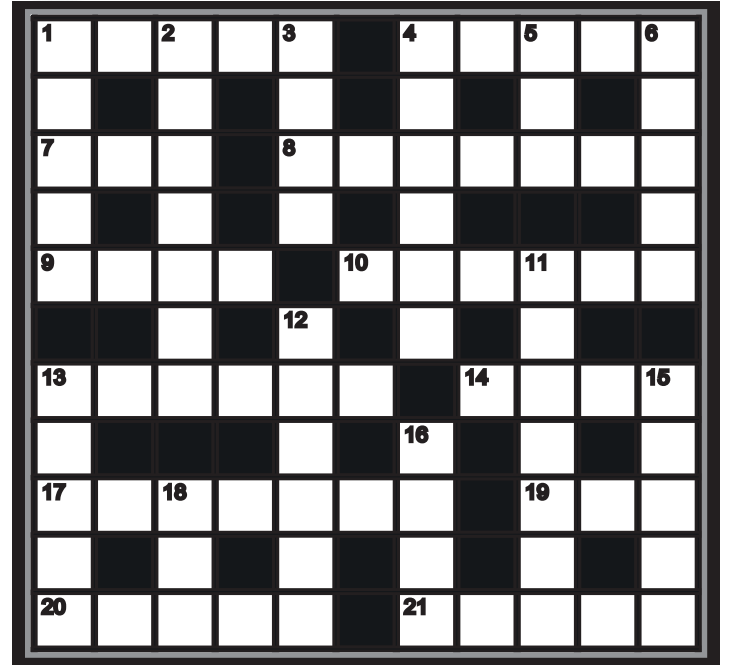
- 7 Note the French range of optical equipment (9)
- 10 Broke? Rent Tampa flat (9)
- 13 Legislator's form of treason (7)
- 15 Hospital doctors bury bridge partners (7)
- 16 Rush into a profession (6)
- 18 It's in the back or middle of the book (5)
- 20 Force the Spanish after the little devil (5)
- 23 Some lucky escapes, of course (3)

Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 20 represents X and 21 represents C, so fill in X every time the figure 20 appears and C every time the figure 21 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



Quick



Across

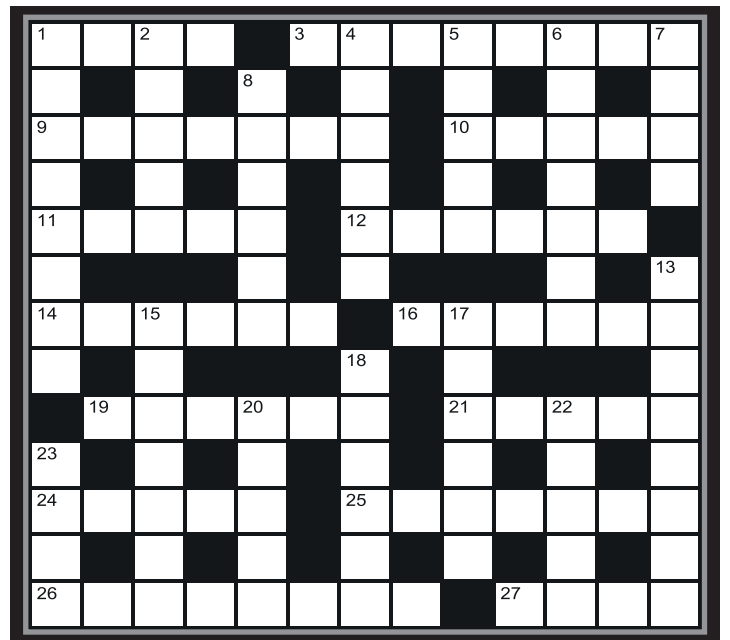
- 1 Arranges (5)
- 4 Small mouse like mammal with a long snout (5)
- 7 Select as an alternative over another (3)
- 8 Rubbers (7)
- 9 Snare (4)
- 10 Popular music originating in the West Indies (6)
- 13 Scandinavian country (6)
- 14 Prison (4)
- 17 Travellers' luggage (7)
- 19 Male child (3)
- 20 Wash off soap or remaining dirt (5)
- 21 Fertile spot or tract in a sandy desert (5)

Down

- 1 Brief (5)
- 2 Continual round of hectic and futile activity (3,4)
- 3 Look for (4)
- 4 Divides up (6)
- 5 Eggs of female fish (3)
- 6 Spend thoughtlessly (5)
- 11 Spectacles (7)
- 12 Mar or spoil the appearance of (6)
- 13 No drunk (5)
- 15 Connections (5)
- 16 Nothing (4)
- 18 Firearm (3)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Arch (4)
- 3 Transfer (move) (8)
- 9 Ruso (7)
- 10 Stage (phase) (5)
- 11 Swan (5)
- 12 Actress (6)
- 14 Tatuaje (6)
- 16 Broom (brush) (6)
- 19 Last night (6)
- 21 Spot (location) (5)
- 24 Platform (railway) (5)
- 25 Saffron (7)
- 26 Please (3,5)
- 27 Jefe (4)

Down

- 1 Albaricoques (8)
- 2 Things (5)
- 4 Pista de aterrizaje (6)
- 5 Dulce (5)
- 6 Fan (hand held) (7)
- 7 Buttonhole (of garment) (4)
- 8 Money (6)
- 13 Thieves (8)
- 15 Fork (cutlery) (7)
- 17 Chairs (6)
- 18 Summer (6)
- 20 Tape (5)
- 22 Fat (person) (5)
- 23 Húmedo (clima) (4)

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MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'IT MUST BE AN ENGLISH BURNS NIGHT - THAT DUMMY LOOKS LIKE NICOLA STURGEON!'

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY
Saturday January 27

29 33 43 **BONUS BALL**
45 49 56 16

IRISH LOTTO
Saturday January 27

2 12 22 **BONUS BALL**
24 33 41 10

EURO MILLIONS
Tuesday January 23

5 8 9 **BONUS BALL**
23 24 8

Friday January 26 **BONUS BALL**

6 15 24 **BONUS BALL**
28 48 9

EL MILLON: WLG90341

LA PRIMITIVA
Thursday January 25

3 6 25 **BONUS BALL**
31 32 40 0

JOKER: 8 889 779

Saturday January 20 **BONUS BALL**

7 8 10 **BONUS BALL**
14 27 48 7

JOKER: 3 129 415

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
Sunday January 28

3 5 11 **BONUS BALL**
41 45 2

YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS
(January 21 - February 19)

Being at the forefront of a learning experience is pleasurable this week. An unexpected offer seems small but could have a big effect. A friend in need may go over the top and annoy you. It may be necessary to distance yourself and give help through others.

LEO
(July 24 - August 23)

Mutual plans are exciting but make sure that others know your needs exactly. As a Leo, you will never willingly accept second best but how can others know your standards? Your needs and desires are close to your heart but are sometimes held so close that others cannot see and respond to them.

PISCES
(February 20 - March 20)

Even as you prepare to go on a trip or start something new this week, the future beckons. In small things there are clues to the way forward. A chance encounter brings humour and opens your eyes to a friendship lately neglected.

VIRGO
(August 24 - September 23)

Putting your thoughts and feelings on a par with someone else will help you to understand their point of view. As painful as it seems, there will need to be some compromise if everyone is to be happy.

ARIES
(March 21 - April 20)

Emotional and monetary wealth go hand in hand at the beginning of this energetic week. Someone is likely to make demands that you find unacceptable and you will need all your tact to avoid unpleasantness, but any resistance by you will, in the longer term, only gain you respect.

LIBRA
(September 24 - October 23)

Sometimes, you retreat into your shell and your normally gregarious personality takes a back seat. Although you may not have received the expected response to a question recently, it is no reason to brood. Show yourself in your true colours this week.

TAURUS
(April 21 - May 21)

You may feel a bit like Sherlock Holmes when you solve a tricky dilemma. With your intellect soaring, it is little surprise that others come to you with their problems. A natural agony aunt because of your interest in others, this suits you well enough.

SCORPIO
(October 24 - November 22)

The way to bring energy levels up this week is to spend time with energetic people. You may feel a little on the fringes initially but, at the end of the day, your spirit will be lifted. Fresh air and group activities bring the most satisfaction, although a one-to-one task proves particularly fruitful.

GEMINI
(May 22 - June 21)

Someone with a romantic interest in you starts buzzing around. This is all very well if you are willing, but if not keep your distance. As thoughts turn to summer, it is not surprising that a holiday is on your mind. There is, however, a question mark over with whom you want to go.

SAGITTARIUS
(November 23 - December 21)

Look ahead to see how exactly you can make this spring extra special. Making your plans clear to others means a smooth journey as opposed to unnecessary delays. A particular place brings back memories of a love long past. However, this love is not truly lost because it will always be a part of who you are.

CANCER
(June 22 - July 23)

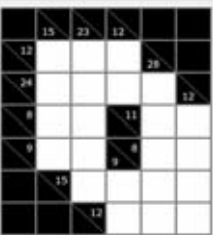
Small matters start to clog up the emotional works. You would rather be somewhere else, but grit your teeth and deal with necessary matters. Finances certainly must be watched most carefully. Get your glad rags on at the weekend and really let your hair down. Of course, there are more serious matters to be considered but not all the time.

CAPRICORN
(December 22 - January 20)

There is an incredibly romantic week ahead if you only enter into the spirit of it. Let your feelings be seen and felt, showing appreciation for loved ones. You do not need the excuse of a birthday or anniversary to give a gift, just a heart full of love. Contentment surfaces several times this week and is down to your own past efforts.

Kakuro

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



Nonagram

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



TARGET:

- Average: 7
- Very good: 14
- Good: 10
- Excellent: 18

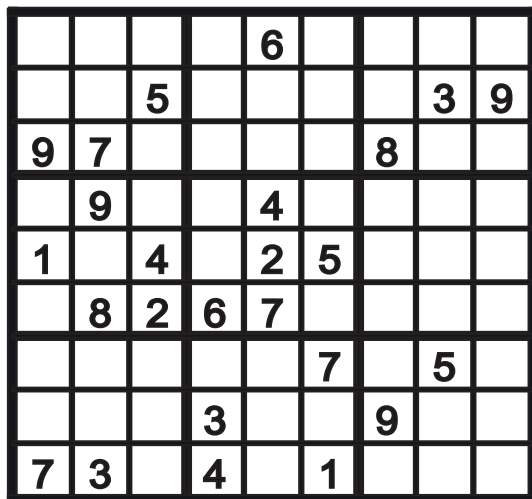
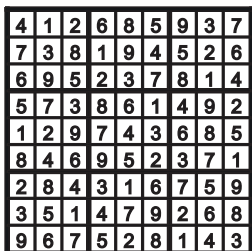
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

cert cord core corm cred doer door dorm ford fore form fort fret from more mort odor oreo redo reft retf rode rood roof room root rote term torc tore tref trod coder comer cored credo croft decor doter fetor force forte metro motor recto rodeo deform doctor doofer footer forced formed moored roofed roomed rooted comfort motored COMFORTED

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



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Chubasco, 4 Ball, 8 Glove, 10 Amapola, 11 Estadio, 12 Rude, 14 Apagar, 16 Straws, 19 Lata, 21 Rescate, 24 Apology, 25 Tides, 26 Lead, 27 Prisoner.

Down:

- 1 Cigüeñas, 2 Ahead, 3 Clavos, 5 Avoid, 6 Leal, 7 Carrot, 9 Ostra, 13 Ascensor, 15 Asador, 17 Ataud, 18 Prayer, 20 Ahora, 22 Setas, 23 Fall.

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Despair, 4 Gloss, 7 Solve, 9 Slating, 10 Inspire, 11 Extra, 12 Rocket, 14 Random, 18 Draft, 20 Abandon, 22 Tribune, 23 Slang, 24 Dates, 25 Sprints.

Down:

- 1 Dossier, 2 Sells, 3 Rasher, 4 Grace, 5 Omitted, 6 Sigma, 8 Elite, 13 Chariot, 15 Amass, 16 Manages, 17 Valets, 18 Dated, 19 Thugs, 21 Drain.

QUICK

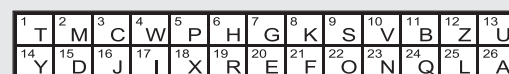
Across:

- 1 Sharp, 4 Scrub, 7 Tarantula, 8 Task, 10 Genius, 12 Cornet, 13 Begg, 16 Premature, 18 Dense, 19 Timid.

Down:

- 1 Skirt, 2 Ant, 3 Pork, 4 Singer, 5 Routine, 6 Brass, 9 Surgeon, 11 Debate, 12 Cupid, 14 Squad, 15 Just, 17 Elm.

CODE BREAKER



KAKURO



QUIZ: TAKING A GAMBLE

- Gamblers Anonymous (GA), the 12-step programme for people who have a gambling problem, was established in Los Angeles in which decade?
- Hotel magnate Sol Kerzner created which golf and gambling resort in the so-called 'homeland' of Bophuthatswana in South Africa in 1979?
- In gambling slang, what is the value of a monkey?
- In poker, what is the highest ranked hand?
- In the UK what name is given to a bet placed on a series of races (or other events), the winnings and stake from each being placed on the next?
- 'My daddy was a gambling man way down in New Orleans' is a famous line from which traditional folk song that was a UK number one hit single for The Animals in 1964?

- When gambling on horse-racing, what term is used for a bet on four selections and consisting of 11 separate bets?
- Which famous American folk hero was shot and killed by gambler 'Black' Jack McCall at Nuttal and Mann's Saloon in Deadwood, Dakota Territory on August 2, 1876?
- Which item of footwear shares its name with the box from which cards are dealt in casinos at baccarat or some other card games?
- Which singer, along with his Skiffle Group, topped the UK singles charts in 1957 with 'Gamblin' Man'?

Not a lot of people know that... the Venetian Macau (Macau, China) is the world's largest casino complex, covering 546,000 square feet with 4,200 slot and table games and 53 bars and restaurants.

Answers:

- 1950s (September 13, 1957).
- SUN CITY, 3, £500, 4, ROYAL FLUSH (ace, king, queen, jack and 10, all the same suit).
- ACQUILATOR (also known as a PARLAY).
- THE HOUSE OF THE RISING SUN.
- YANKEE, 8, WILD BILL (James Butler) HICKOK, 9, SHOE, 10, LONNIE DONEGAN

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THURSDAY - 1 FEBRUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

10:15am	Food: Truth or Scare	7:30am	Wanted Down Under	8:30pm	Top of the Pops	8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond	9:35am	Shimmer and Shine
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer	8:15am	Food: Truth or Scare	9:00pm	How We Got to Now with Steve Johnson	9:00am	Everybody Loves Raymond	9:55am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under	9:00am	MasterChef: The Professionals	10:00pm	For at least 100,000 years, humans have known how to make fire.	9:30am	Frasier	10:05am	Mofy
12:45pm	A1: Britain's Longest Road	10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire	11:00pm	Forces of Nature with Brian Cox	10:00am	Frasier	10:15am	The Wright Stuff
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt	12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live	12:00pm	Prehistoric Autopsy	10:35am	Frasier	12:15pm	The Hotel Inspector
2:00pm	BBC News at One	1:00pm	The Daily Politics	12:00am	Charles Darwin and the Tree of Life	11:05am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
2:30pm	BBC London News	2:00pm	Monty Halls' Great Escape	1:00am	Top of the Pops	12:00pm	Boss USA Channel 4 News	1:15pm	Cowboy Builders
2:45pm	Doctors	3:00pm	Sahara with Michael Palin	1:00pm	Simon Bates and Janice Long present the pop chart	1:00pm	Couples Come Dine with Me	2:15pm	Home and Away
3:15pm	Father Brown	4:00pm	A Place to Call Home	1:00am	programme, first broadcast on 14 February 1985	1:05pm	Neighbours	2:45pm	NCIS: Deadly Assassins
4:00pm	Escape to the Country	4:45pm	This Wild Life	1:35am	Boy George and Culture Club: Karma to Calamity	2:05pm	Posh Pawn	3:15pm	Escaping Dad
4:45pm	The Farmers' Country Showdown	5:15pm	The Hunt	2:35am	How We Got to Now with Steve Johnson	3:10pm	Countdown	4:15pm	5 News at 5
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip	6:15pm	Flog It!	3:35am	Forces of Nature with Brian Cox	4:00pm	Village of the Year with Penelope Keith	6:30pm	Neighbours
6:15pm	Pointless	7:00pm	Eggheads	4:35am	This is BBC Four	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	7:00pm	Home and Away
7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:30pm	Big Dreams Small Spaces			6:00pm	Four in a Bed	7:30pm	5 News Tonight
7:30pm	BBC London News	8:00pm	Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure			6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers	8:00pm	The Wonderful World of Puppies
8:00pm	The One Show	9:00pm	Winterwatch 2018			7:00pm	The Simpsons	9:00pm	Bargain Loving
8:30pm	EastEnders	10:00pm	The Mash Report			7:30pm	Hollyoaks	10:00pm	Brits in the Sun
9:00pm	Animals with Cameras	11:00pm	Newsnight			8:00pm	Channel 4 News	11:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother
10:00pm	Death in Paradise	11:30pm	Dragons' Den			9:00pm	George Clarke's Amazing Spaces	11:00pm	Special Needs Employment Agency
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	1:15am	A House Through Time			10:00pm	Hunted	12:05am	Celebrity Big Brother's Bit on the Side
11:30pm	BBC London News	2:15am	Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure			11:00pm	Derry Girls		
		3:15am	This is BBC Two			11:35pm	The Undateables		
						12:35am	Katie Piper's Face to Face		

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky sports main event

9:30am	Lorraine	7:55am	Dress to Impress	7:25am	Classic Coronation Street	4:00am	Teleshopping	2:00am	Live ICC U19 Wc
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show	8:45am	Emmerdale	8:55am	Heartbeat	7:00am	The Chase	6:15am	Best of Sky Sports Cricket 2017
11:30am	This Morning	9:20am	Coronation Street	10:00am	The Royal Judge Judy	7:50am	Pawn Stars	6:30am	Crickets Greatest Total Goals/Total Transfers
1:30pm	Loose Women	9:50am	Coronation Street	10:20am	Judge Judy	8:10am	Pawn Stars	7:00am	Total Goals/Total Transfers
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News	10:25am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show	10:50am	Judge Judy	8:30am	Ironside	7:30am	Total Goals/Total Transfers
2:55pm	ITV News London	11:10am	Who's Doing the Dishes?	11:15am	The Darling Buds of May	9:30am	Quincy, M.E.	8:00am	Total Goals/Total Transfers
3:00pm	Judge Rinder	12:10pm	Dress to Impress	12:25pm	The Darling Buds of May	10:30am	Minder	8:30am	Live European Tour Golf
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal	1:10pm	Emmerdale	1:35pm	The Royal Heartbeat	11:35am	The Sweeney	11:30am	Premier League Daily
5:00pm	Tipping Point	1:45pm	Coronation Street	2:35pm	Classic Coronation Street	12:40pm	The Professionals	12:00pm	Cricket Super League 2018 Preview
6:00pm	The Chase	2:15pm	Coronation Street	3:40pm	Coronation Street	1:40pm	Ironside	8:30pm	Live Super League
7:00pm	ITV News London	2:45pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show	4:15pm	Classic Coronation Street	4:55pm	The Sweeney	11:00pm	The Debate - Live: Neville and Carra
7:30pm	ITV Evening News	3:35pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show	4:50pm	On the Buses	5:00pm	The Car Chasers	12:00am	Sky Sports News
8:00pm	Emmerdale	4:40pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show	5:20pm	On the Buses	5:30pm	Pawn Stars	2:00am	Sky Sports News
8:30pm	NHS Winter Crisis: What's the Truth?	5:50pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show	6:25pm	Rising Damp	8:00pm	Pawn Stars	3:00am	Sky Sports News
9:00pm	Emmerdale	6:50pm	Take Me Out	7:00pm	George and Mildred	8:30pm	Thunderball	4:00am	Sky Sports News
9:30pm	The Cruise	8:00pm	You've Been Framed! Gold	8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote	9:00pm	Thunderball	5:00am	Sky Sports News
10:00pm	Death Row 2018 with Trevor McDonald	8:30pm	You've Been Framed! Gold	9:00pm	Agatha Christie's Marple	10:00pm	Assault on Precinct 13		
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm	Two and a Half Men	11:00pm	Foyle's War	1:40am	FYI Daily		
11:30pm	ITV News London	9:30pm	Superstore	1:00am	Inspector Morse	1:45am	Assault on Precinct 13		
11:45pm	The Late Debate	10:00pm	Release the Hounds	3:00am	ITV3 Nightscreen	2:55am	The Sweeney		
12:10am	Great Art	11:00pm	Celebrity Juice	3:30am	Teleshopping	3:50am	ITV4 Nightscreen		
1:15am	Lethal Weapon	11:50pm	Family Guy			4:00am	Teleshopping		
2:00am	Jackpot247					4:00am	Shopping from home.		

FRIDAY - 2 FEBRUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

10:15am	Food: Truth or Scare	7:00am	My Life in Books	8:00pm	World News Today	7:00am	Countdown	8:35am	Peppa Pig
11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer	7:30am	Wanted Down Under	8:35am	The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective.	7:45am	3rd Rock from the Sun	8:55am	Floogals
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under	8:15am	Food: Truth or Scare	9:30am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	8:35am	Everybody Loves Frasier	9:05am	Digby Dragon
12:45pm	A1: Britain's Longest Road	9:00am	MasterChef: The Professionals	11:05am	Undercover Boss USA	9:35am	Everybody Loves Frasier	9:20am	Rusty Rivets
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt	10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire	12:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:55am	Shimmer and Shine	9:35am	Shimmer and Shine
2:00pm	BBC News at One	12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live	1:00pm	Includes sport and weather.	10:05am	Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom	10:05am	Mofy
2:30pm	BBC London News	1:00pm	The Daily Politics	1:05pm	Couples Come Dine with Me	10:15am	The Wright Stuff	10:15am	The Wright Stuff
2:45pm	Doctors	2:00pm	Monty Halls' Great Escape	2:05pm	Posh Pawn	12:15pm	The Hotel Inspector	1:10pm	5 News Lunchtime
3:15pm	Father Brown	3:00pm	Coast Australia	3:10pm	Countdown	1:15pm	Cowboy Builders	1:15pm	Cowboy Builders
4:00pm	Escape to the Country	3:50pm	A Place to Call Home	4:00pm	Village of the Year with Penelope Keith	2:15pm	Home and Away	1:50pm	Insider's Biggest Band
4:45pm	The Farmers' Country Showdown	4:45pm	This Wild Life	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun	2:45pm	Neighbours	2:05pm	Posh Pawn
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip	5:15pm	The Hunt	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	3:15pm	NCIS: Deadly Assassins	3:10pm	Countdown
6:15pm	Pointless	6:15pm	Flog It!	6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers	3:15pm	Escaping Dad	4:00pm	Village of the Year with Penelope Keith
7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:00pm	The Simpsons	4:15pm	My Daughter is Innocent	5:00pm	A Place in the Sun
7:30pm	BBC London News	7:30pm	Big Dreams Small Spaces	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	6:00pm	5 News at 5	6:00pm	Four in a Bed
8:00pm	The One Show	8:00pm	Mastermind	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	6:30pm	Neighbours	6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers
8:30pm	A Question of Sport	9:00pm	A Vicar's Life	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:00pm	Home and Away	7:00pm	The Simpsons
9:00pm	EastEnders	9:30pm	Nigel Slater's Middle East: Lebanon	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:30pm	Room 101	10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother	8:00pm	Breakups and Makeups	8:00pm	The Wine Show	9:00pm	Breakups and Makeups
10:00pm	Requiem	11:00pm	Special Needs Employment Agency	9:00pm	Biggest Band	9:00pm	Celebrity Five Go Barging	10:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	11:00pm	Derry Girls	10:00pm	Breakups and Makeups	10:00pm	Celebrity Big Brother	11:00pm	The Last Leg
11:25pm	BBC London News	12:05am	Katie Piper's Face to Face	11:00pm	Breakups and Makeups	11:00pm	Will and Grace	12:05am	First Dates Hotel
				11:30pm	Breakups and Makeups	11:30pm	Celebrity Big Brother		
					11:00pm	Will and Grace			
					11:30pm	Celebrity Big Brother			

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky sports main event

7:00am	Good Morning Britain	7:25am	Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records	7:00am	Classic Coronation Street	7:50am	Pawn Stars	7:30am	Good Morning Sports Fans
9:30am	Lorraine	7:55am	Dress to Impress	7:25am	Classic Coronation Street	8:10am	Pawn Stars	8:00am	Bitesize
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show	8:45am	Emmerdale	8:55am	Heartbeat	8:30am	Ironside	8:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
11:30am	This Morning	9:50am	You've Been Framed! Gold	10:00am	The Royal Judge Judy	9:25am	Quincy, M.E.	8:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
1:30pm	Loose Women	10:25am	The Ellen DeGeneres Show	10:20am	Judge Judy	10:25am	Minder	8:30am	Live European Tour Golf
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News	11:10am	Who's Doing the Dishes?	10:50am	Judge Judy	11:35am	The Sweeney	8:30am	The second day of the Maybank Championship, held at the Saujana Golf and Country Club.
2:55pm	ITV News London	12:10pm	Dress to Impress	10:50am	Judge Judy	12:40pm	The Professionals	11:30am	Premier League Daily
3:00pm	Judge Rinder	1:10pm	Emmerdale	11:15am	The Darling Buds of May	1:45pm	Ironside	12:00pm	Sky Sports Daily
4:00pm	Dickinson's Real Deal	1:45pm	Coronation Street	12:25pm	The Darling Buds of May	2:50pm	Quincy, M.E.	1:00pm	Sky Sports News
5:00pm	Tipping Point	2:15pm	Coronation Street	12:40pm	Coronation Street	3:55pm	Minder	2:00pm	Sky Sports News
6:00pm	The Chase	2:45pm	The Ellen DeGeneres Show	1:40pm	Ironside	6:00pm	The Professionals	3:00pm	Sporting Triumphs
7:00pm	ITV News London	3:35pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show	2:45pm	Assault on Precinct 13	6:00pm	Bodie's girlfriend discovers one of her ex-pupils is involved in a drug-smuggling operation.	3:15pm	Live PGA Tour Golf-Featured Groups
7:30pm	ITV Evening News	4:40pm	The Jeremy Kyle Show	3:40pm	Classic Coronation Street	7:05pm	The Car Chasers	8:30pm	Live Super League
8:00pm	Emmerdale	4:50pm	On the Buses	7:05pm	Heartbeat	7:35pm	The Car Chasers	1:00pm	Sky Sports News
8:30pm	Coronation Street	5:20pm	On the Buses	7:35pm	Coronation Street	8:05pm	Pawn Stars	2:00pm	Sky Sports News
9:00pm	River Monsters	5:55pm	Rising Damp	8:00pm	Pawn Stars	8:30pm	Pawn Stars	2:00pm	Sky Sports News
9:30pm	Coronation Street	6:25pm	George and Mildred	8:30pm	Thunderball	9:00pm	Hornblower	3:00pm	Sporting Triumphs
10:00pm	Lethal Weapon	7:00pm	Murder, She Wrote	9:00pm	Thunderball	11:05pm	Exit Wounds	3:15pm	Live PGA Tour Golf
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm	Agatha Christie's Marple	10:00pm	Assault on Precinct 13	12:05am	FYI Daily	1:00am	Sky Sports News
11:30pm	ITV News London	11:00pm	Foyle's War	1:40am	FYI Daily	Latest news from the world of entertainment.			
		1:00am	Inspector Morse	1:45am	Assault on Precinct 13	12:10am	Exit Wounds		
		2:00am	ITV4 Nightscreen	2:55am	The Sweeney	1:10am	Green Street		
		3:00am	Teleshopping	3:50am	ITV4 Nightscreen	9:00pm	Rosemary and Thyme		
		4:00am	Shopping from home.	4:00am	Teleshopping	1:00pm	Foyle's War		
		5:00am		4:00am	Shopping from home.	1:00am	Inspector Morse		



TV COUCH CRITIC

All together on Saturday night, let's hope so

SATURDAY nights can be tricky things. I really don't want to light the fire and curl up to watch TV every week, but the coldish snap last week made me do just that and I started my viewing with *All Together Now* BBC1 Saturday.

The format here is relatively simple; you and 99 friends go to your local bar, set up a karaoke machine and ask random people to belt out a tune. If you like the singing you turn a light on and get up to sing along. If you don't like it you try to sit still and look grumpy.

The BBC have thrown in a former Spice Girl and assorted people from the music industry - you won't know most of them and host Rob Beckett, fresh from the Wedding Day Winners nightmare show with dazzling Lorraine Kelly, gives Ginger Spice the most air time. To be fair so would I. The prize is a chance to win £50,000 in the grand final.

Two performances stand out from week one. Michael Rice blasted out a brilliant version of Proud Mary by Tina Turner and got all of the 100 up singing along. He will go far in this competition. The other stand out for me was Alex who clearly isn't going very far, achieving a score of 11. The problem was the song choice. Alex can sing, has stage presence and if he ditched the comedy moustache was capable of going further. But he sang Your Song by Sir El-



Photo credit BBC

SPOT THE SPICE GIRL: All Together Now.

ton. This is Saturday night, the panellists are people who have more faith in their own talent than is safe and Alex sang Your Song. What a shame. I loved the social media references to the Muppet Show following the first episode.

Two Doors Down, BBC2 Monday nights has thankfully returned for a third series. You might remember that I am a fan of this Scottish come-

dy and not just because I am married to a Glaswegian and recognise some of my in-laws in the characters. The delivery is always on point and Doon MacKichan should get some sort of award from First Minister Sturgeon for her performance as Cathy. She is doing more to get people to visit the glens than Tourism Scotland.

I need to give a plug to *Next of Kin*, Monday

Night *ITV*. A brilliant concept, intelligent writing, two wonderful headliners in Archie Panjabi and Jack Davenport and yet ratings are sliding and critics being unkind, but I'm sticking with it.

Michael Portillo continued his *Great American Railroad Journey*, (BBC2, weekdays) with a trip through Canada's Quebec province - yes Canada, Great American Railroad, I'm just going with it. We need someone to get Michael to El Corte Ingles to do something about his blazers and pairing red trousers with a green shirt (is that part of the appeal?) but this is a smashing show, with wonderful scenery and informative pieces. Who doesn't want to learn more about maple syrup and Canada's Parliament?

Finally this week, I'm still confused by *A House Through Time*, (BBC2 Saturday); 62 Falkner Street in Liverpool is a nice Georgian terraced house, in a wonderful city but I just don't get the point of it all. There are much better history telling formats out there and would someone please get David Olusoga a different job, preferably off our screens!

Critique: Adam Whalley-Lewis, Casares, Costa del Sol

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SATURDAY - 3 FEBRUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am Breakfast	8:10am The Pets Factor	4:30am This is BBC Four	6:00am Location, Location, Location	7:00am Milkshake!
11:00am Saturday Kitchen Live	8:30am Matilda and the Ramsay Bunch	<i>BBC Four is the BBC channel for people who want more.</i>	6:55am Kirstie's Handmade Treasures	11:05am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
<i>James Martin presents another menu of mouth-watering recipes, great chefs and celebrity guests.</i>	9:00am The Dengineers	8:00pm Sicily: The Wonder of the Mediterranean	7:15am 3rd Rock from the Sun	11:40am Fail Army
<i>Deadly Top 10</i>	9:30am Robot Wars	9:00pm Nature's Miniature Miracles: Natural World	8:10am King of Queens	<i>Comedy series taking a look at when things go wrong in the worst possible way.</i>
<i>mouth-watering recipes, great chefs and celebrity guests.</i>	10:00am Homes Under the Hammer	10:00pm Spiral	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:05pm Police Interceptors
12:30pm Mary Berry	1:00pm Hairy Bikers Mediterranean Adventure	<i>Crime drama following criminal investigations in Paris from all the different points of view.</i>	9:55am Frasier	2:00pm The A-Team
1:00pm Football Focus	2:00pm Tennis: Davis Cup Spain v GB	11:00pm Spiral	11:25am The Big Bang Theory	4:00pm Nightmare Tenants
2:00pm BBC News	4:30pm Nigel Slater's Middle East: Lebanon	12:05am Top of the Pops	12:55pm The Simpsons	6:00pm Rich House, Poor House
2:10pm Weather	5:30pm Final Score	<i>Richard Skinner and Gary Davies present the pop chart programme.</i>	2:25pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm The Wonderful World of Puppies
2:15pm Six Nations Preview	6:15pm Flog It!	1:10am Elvis: That's Alright Mama 60 Years on	3:25pm Coast v Country	8:00pm Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind Ups
2:45pm Six Nations Rugby Union	7:00pm Hugh's Wild West	12:40am Top of the Pops	4:25pm A Place in the Sun	9:00pm Blind Date
8:00pm BBC News	8:00pm A House Through Time	1:10am Elvis: That's Alright Mama 60 Years on	5:25pm The Secret Life of the Zoo	10:00pm Football on 5
8:10pm Regional News	9:00pm Dad's Army	2:10am Sicily: The Wonder of the Mediterranean	6:35pm Channel 4 News	11:00pm Football on 5
8:13pm Weather	9:30pm Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs		8:00pm Great Canal Journeys	11:30pm The X Files
8:15pm All Together Now	10:00pm Live at the Apollo		9:00pm Village of the Year with Penelope Keith	1:15am Super Casino
9:20pm Casualty	10:45pm QI XL		10:00pm Suffragette	
10:10pm BBC News	11:30pm The Talented Mr. Ripley		12:05am About Time	
10:25pm Weather	1:40am Albatross		2:20am The Last Leg	
10:30pm Hard Sun	3:05am This is BBC Two			
11:30pm Match of the Day				
12:50am The NFL Show				
<i>Highlights from the fourth week of the NFL season.</i>				
1:20am Ill Manors				

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky sports main event

8:30am Scrambled!	7:00am Totally Bonkers	7:00am Murder, She Wrote	7:00am The Protectors	7:00am Live ICC U19 Wc
8:35am The Tom and Jerry Show	7:25am Guinness World Records	7:50am Murder, She Wrote	7:25am The Professionals	<i>The final of the ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup in New Zealand.</i>
8:55am Fangbone	7:50am Emmerdale	<i>Second part of the murder mystery episode.</i>	10:30am ITV Racing: The Opening Show	9:45am My Icon
9:10am The Powerpuff Girls	<i>Rhona tries to move on. Moira is in turmoil but an ultimatum is given. Cain awaits a decision.</i>	8:50am Murder, She Wrote	<i>Magazine show to complement coverage of the horse racing.</i>	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
9:30am The Haunted Hathaways	10:05am Coronation Street	9:50am Lewis	<i>Barcelona's European Glory</i>	11:00am Info not available
10:05am Wishfart	10:25am ITV News	11:55am Foyle's War	<i>A short film looking at Barcelona's triumphs in Europe.</i>	12:00pm Info not available
10:25am Saturday Morning with James Martin	10:30am Dancing on Ice	3:55pm Columbo: Dagger of the Mind	11:30am Pawn Stars	12:30pm Football
12:20pm ITV Lunchtime News	2:20pm News	5:55pm Midsomer Murders	<i>Reality series.</i>	<i>Burnley meet Manchester City at Turf Moor in the Premier League.</i>
2:30pm Britain's Favourite Walks: Top 100	3:20pm Yogi Bear	7:55pm Midsomer Murders	2:30pm ITV Racing: Live from Sandown	4:15pm Info not available
5:00pm Tipping Point	4:20pm FYI Daily	10:00pm Midsomer Murders	5:00pm Smokey and the Bandit	6:15pm Football
6:00pm The Chase	4:25pm Yogi Bear	12:00am Foyle's War	6:05pm FYI Daily	<i>Wolves face Sheffield United at Molineux Stadium in the Sky Bet Championship.</i>
7:00pm ITV News London	5:00pm Mr Bean's Holiday	<i>Foyle takes on the might of the US army as racial prejudice erupts.</i>	6:10pm Smokey and the Bandit	8:40pm Live Fight Night
7:05pm ITV News	6:00pm FYI Daily	2:00am On the Buses	6:50pm Storage Wars	12:30am Live Rugby 7s: Hamilton
7:15pm You've Been Framed!	6:05pm Mr Bean's Holiday	<i>Classic sitcom. Sinspector's niece at a dinner party end in disaster.</i>	7:45pm World Boxing Super	
7:40pm Take Me Out	6:45pm The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	2:25am On the Buses	12:30am Pale Rider	
9:00pm The Voice UK	7:50pm FYI Daily	<i>Sitcom about a bus company.</i>	1:30am FYI Daily	
10:30pm Through the Keyhole	7:55pm The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey	2:55am ITV3 Nightscreen	<i>Latest news from the world of entertainment.</i>	
11:30pm ITV News	10:00pm Hercules			
11:45pm Lethal Weapon	11:00pm FYI Daily			
1:40am Jackpot247	11:05pm Hercules			
	12:00am Family Guy			

SUNDAY - 4 FEBRUARY

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am Breakfast	7:05am Coast	8:00pm Only Connect	7:15am King of Queens	6:35am HouseBusters
8:35am Match of the Day	7:35am The NFL Show	<i>A show in which connections must be made between seemingly unconnected things.</i>	<i>Sitcom about a working man making what he can of family life.</i>	7:00am Milkshake!
10:00am The Andrew Marr Show	8:05am Gardeners World	8:30pm University Challenge	8:05am Everybody Loves Raymond	<i>Programming aimed at children aged two to seven years old.</i>
11:00am The Big Questions	8:35am Countryfile	9:00pm Wild Ireland	9:00am Frasier	11:05am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
12:00pm Sunday Politics	9:30am Saturday Kitchen	10:00pm Scotland's Vital Spark: The Clyde Puffer	10:30am Sunday Brunch	11:40am Football on 5
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	11:00am Tennis: Davis Cup Spain v GB	11:00pm Arena	1:30pm Jamie and Jimmy's	<i>The Championship.</i>
2:00pm BBC News	1:15pm MOTD2 Extra	12:15am Stanley Spencer: The Colours of the Clyde	2:35pm The Simpsons	12:35pm Football on 5
2:10pm Weather for the Week Ahead	2:00pm Orson Welles Talking Pictures	12:45am Cuba with Simon Reeve	3:35pm Kissed	1:10pm Fail Army
2:15pm The Truth About Getting Fit	2:40pm Jane Eyre	1:45am The Story of Maths	5:40pm Shark Tale	1:35pm Police Interceptors
3:15pm Wonders of the Moon	<i>Adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's classic novel.</i>	2:45am The Story of Maths	7:30pm Channel 4 News	<i>Documentary series profiling the work of a high-speed police interception unit in Essex.</i>
4:15pm Escape to the Country	4:15pm Info not available		<i>Includes sport and weather.</i>	3:30pm Johnny English Reborn
4:45pm Songs of Praise	5:15pm Info not available		8:00pm Posh Pawn	5:25pm Earth to Echo
5:20pm The Proposal	5:45pm Elise Christie: In From the Cold		9:00pm The Biggest Little Railway in the World	7:05pm 5 News
5:25pm BBC News	6:15pm Ski Sunday		10:00pm SAS: Who Dares Wins	7:15pm Bulletproof Monk
7:20pm Regional News	7:00pm Six Nations Rugby Special		11:00pm Maltese Elizabeth	9:00pm Batman Begins
7:25pm Weather	8:00pm Yellowstone		<i>Cate Blanchett received an Oscar nomination for her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth</i>	11:45pm The Punisher
7:30pm Countryfile	9:00pm Info not available		<i>presented by Professor Marcus du Sautoy.</i>	
8:30pm Winter Special	10:00pm Dragons' Den		12:20am The Story of Maths	
9:00pm Call the Midwife	11:00pm The Mash Report			
10:00pm Mcmafia	11:30pm Insert Name Here			
11:00pm BBC News	12:00am Cleverman			
11:20pm Regional News	12:55am Women's Six Nations Highlights			
11:25pm Weather				
11:30pm Match of the Day 2				
12:15am Super Bowl LII				

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky sports main event

7:50am Super 4	9:50am Coronation Street Omnibus	7:00am Murder, She Wrote	7:00am The Protectors	12:30am Live Rugby 7s: Hamilton
8:00am Share a Story	12:40pm Take Me Out	7:25am The Sweeney	7:25am The Sweeney	7:00am Live Rugby 7s: Hamilton
8:05am Ultimate Spider-Man v the Sinister Six	2:00pm The Voice UK	8:20am The Car Chasers	8:20am The Car Chasers	9:15am Cricket
8:30am Scrambled!	3:30pm Beethovens 2nd	8:50am The Car Chasers	8:50am The Car Chasers	<i>South Africa host India at SuperSport Park in Centurion in the second ODI in their series.</i>
8:35am The Tom and Jerry Show	4:30pm FYI Daily	11:15am Storage Wars	11:15am Storage Wars	2:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
9:10am Ben 10	4:35pm Beethovens 2nd	12:10pm Pawn Stars	12:10pm Pawn Stars	<i>Crystal Palace meet Newcastle United at Selhurst Park in the Premier League.</i>
9:30am Mr. Bean: The Animated Series	5:10pm Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore	2:00pm Lonely are the Brave	2:00pm Lonely are the Brave	5:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
9:30am Spy School	6:10pm FYI Daily	3:00pm FYI Daily	3:00pm FYI Daily	8:00pm Live PGA Tour Golf
10:05am Wishfart	6:15pm Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore	<i>Latest news from the world of entertainment.</i>	4:15pm Smokey and the Bandit	<i>Day four of the Waste Management Phoenix Open in Scottsdale, Arizona.</i>
10:25am ITV News	6:55pm The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug	4:15pm Smokey and the Bandit	5:15pm FYI Daily	12:00am Live NFL Super Bowl LII
10:30am River Monsters	7:55pm FYI Daily	5:15pm Thunderball	6:05pm Thunderball	5:00am Sky Sports News
11:00am Peston on Sunday	8:00pm The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug	7:10pm Thunderball	7:05pm FYI Daily	
12:00pm The Martin Lewis Money Show	10:00pm Ibiza Weekender	8:50pm Hornblower	8:50pm Hornblower	
12:30pm The Voice UK	11:00pm Family Guy	9:00pm Agatha Christie's Marple	11:00pm Birds of a Feather	
2:00pm ITV Lunchtime News	11:30pm Family Guy	9:00pm Agatha Christie's Marple	12:00am The Constant Gardener	
2:10pm Britain's Brightest Family	12:05am Family Guy	11:30pm Birds of a Feather	<i>Thrilling drama.</i>	
2:40pm The Cruise	12:30am American Dad!	12:10am Source Code	12:10am Source Code	
3:15pm Six Nations Live		1:55am FYI Daily	12:55am The Gauntlet	
6:40pm ITV News		3:40am George and Mildred	1:55am FYI Daily	
7:00pm Dancing on Ice		<i>70s sitcom.</i>		
9:00pm Endeavour		4:10am George and Mildred		
11:00pm ITV News				
11:15pm Peston on Sunday				
12:15am Next of Kin				

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.

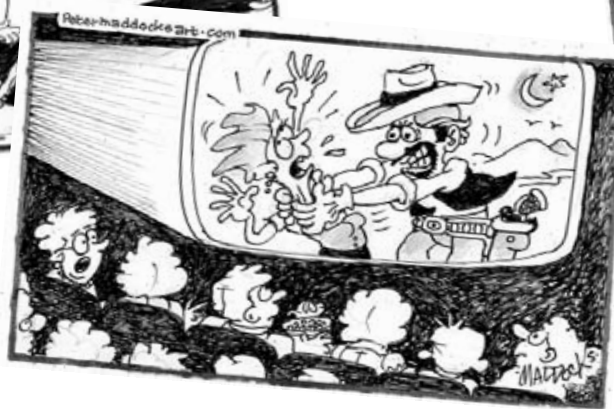
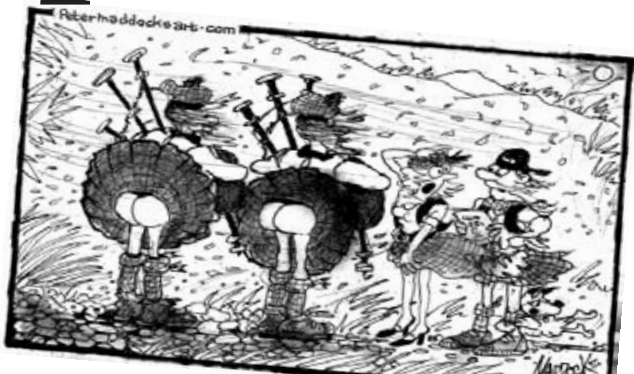
Having joined the Merchant Navy at the age of 15 in 1943, he not only braved the dangers of war, but says that he actually had a great time travelling the world and discovering new experiences and adventures.

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



PETER MADDOCKS: In his own eyes.

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."

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.

GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



MONDAY - 5 FEBRUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
12:45pm A1: Britain's Longest Road	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	8:00pm Beyond 100 Days	12:00pm Undercover Boss USA	10:15am The Wright Stuff
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	1:00pm The Daily Politics	8:30pm Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo	1:00pm Channel 4 News	12:15pm The Hotel
2:00pm BBC News	2:00pm Women's Six Nations Highlights	9:00pm Wild Ireland	1:05pm Couples Come Dine with Me	1:10pm 5 News
2:30pm Regional News	2:30pm Coast	10:00pm Hull Headscarf Heroes	2:05pm Posh Pawn	1:15pm Cowboy Builders
2:45pm Doctors	3:00pm Monty Halls' Great Hebridean Escape	11:00pm Last Days of the Liners	3:10pm Countdown	2:10pm Access
3:15pm Moving On	4:00pm A Place to Call Home	12:00am Horizon	4:00pm Village of the Year with Penelope Keith	2:15pm Home and Away
4:00pm Escape to the Country	4:50pm This Wild Life	1:00am Rule Britannia! Music, Mischief and Morals in the 18th Century	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	2:45pm Neighbours
4:45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown	5:20pm Flog It!	2:00am Top of the Pops: 1981	6:00pm Four in a Bed	3:15pm Killer Assistant
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	6:20pm Eggheads	2:40am Top of the Pops: 1981	6:30pm Extreme Cake Makers	5:00pm NCIS
6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Great American	3:15am Hull Headscarf Heroes	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:00pm 5 News
7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Railroad Journeys		7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:30pm Neighbours
7:30pm Regional News	8:00pm Big Dreams, Small Spaces		8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Home and Away
8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Only Connect		9:00pm Supershoppers	7:30pm 5 News
8:30pm Inside Out			9:00pm Savers Special	8:00pm Anglo Welsh Cup Highlights
9:00pm EastEnders				9:00pm Police Interceptors
				10:00pm The X Files
				11:00pm The Silence of the Lambs

itv	itv2	itv3	itv4	sky sports main event
1:30pm Loose Women	12:10pm Dress to Impress	12:35pm Love Your Garden	10:25am Minder	11:00am Premier League Daily
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News	1:10pm Emmerdale	1:35pm The Royal Heartbeat	11:30am The Sweeney	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
2:55pm ITV News London	1:45pm Coronation Street	2:40pm Classic Coronation Street	12:40pm The Professionals	1:00pm Sky Sports News
3:00pm Judge Rinder	2:15pm Coronation Street	3:40pm Classic Coronation Street	1:45pm Ironside	2:00pm Sky Sports News
4:00pm Dickinson's Real Deal	2:45pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	4:15pm Classic Coronation Street	2:50pm Quincy, M.E.	3:00pm Sky Sports News
5:00pm Tipping Point	3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	4:50pm On the Buses	3:50pm Minder	4:00pm Sky Sports News
6:00pm The Chase	4:40pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	5:20pm On the Buses	4:50pm The Sweeney	5:00pm Sky Sports News
7:00pm ITV News London	5:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	5:50pm Rising Damp	5:55pm The Professionals	6:00pm SKY Sports News
7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:50pm Take Me Out	6:25pm George and Mildred	7:00pm The Car Chasers	7:00pm SKY Sports News
8:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm You've Been Framed! Gold	6:55pm Heartbeat	7:30pm The Car Chasers	8:00pm Football
8:30pm Coronation Street	8:30pm You've Been Framed! Gold	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:00pm Pawn Stars	12:00am Sky Sports News
		9:00pm Lewis	8:25pm Pawn Stars	1:00am Sky Sports News
		9:00pm Foyle's War	8:55pm River Monsters	2:00am Live WWE Late
		1:00am Inspector Morse	9:30pm River Monsters	5:15am My Icon
			9:55pm River Monsters	5:30am My Icon
			11:00pm Green Zone	
			12:00am FYI Daily	

TUESDAY - 6 FEBRUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	1:00pm The Daily Politics	10:00pm Art, Passion and Power: The Story of the Royal Collection	12:00pm Undercover Boss USA	1:10pm 5 News
2:00pm BBC News	2:00pm Super League Show	11:00pm Behind Closed Doors	1:00pm Channel 4 News	1:15pm Cowboy Builders
2:30pm Regional News	2:45pm Coast	12:00am The Incredible Story of Marie Antoinette's Watch with Nicholas Parsons	1:05pm Couples Come Dine with Me	2:10pm Access
2:45pm Doctors	3:00pm Monty Halls' Great Hebridean Escape	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	2:15pm Posh Pawn	2:15pm Home and Away
3:15pm Moving On	4:00pm A Place to Call Home	6:00pm Four in a Bed	3:10pm Countdown	2:45pm Neighbours
4:00pm Escape to the Country	4:50pm This Wild Life	7:00pm Extreme Cake Makers	4:00pm Village of the Year with Penelope Keith	3:15pm The Devil's Teardrop
4:45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown	5:20pm The Hunt	7:30pm The Simpsons	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	5:00pm NCIS
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	6:20pm Flog It!	8:00pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm Top of the Pops: 1981	6:00pm 5 News
6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:00pm Top of the Pops: 1981	6:30pm Neighbours
7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Great American	9:00pm Secret Life of 5 Year Olds: Here Come the Girls	8:00pm Big Dreams Small Spaces	7:00pm Home and Away
7:30pm Regional News	8:00pm Railroad Journeys		9:00pm Back in Time for Tea	7:30pm 5 News
8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Big Dreams Small Spaces		10:00pm Flatpack Empire	8:00pm Anglo Welsh Cup Highlights
8:30pm EastEnders	9:00pm Back in Time for Tea			9:00pm Police Interceptors
9:00pm Holby City	10:00pm Flatpack Empire			10:00pm The X Files
10:00pm Silent Witness				11:00pm The Silence of the Lambs
11:00pm BBC News				

itv	itv2	itv3	itv4	sky sports main event
2:40pm Make it Pop	12:10pm Dress to Impress	12:30pm Love Your Garden	12:50pm The Professionals	12:30pm Sportswomen
3:00pm Almost Naked Animals	1:10pm Emmerdale	1:30pm The Royal Heartbeat	1:50pm Ironside	1:00pm Sky Sports News
3:15pm Almost Naked Animals	1:45pm Coronation Street	2:35pm Classic Coronation Street	2:50pm Quincy, M.E.	2:00pm Sky Sports News
3:30pm The Oddbods Show	2:15pm Coronation Street	3:40pm Classic Coronation Street	3:55pm Minder	3:00pm Sky Sports News
4:00pm Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures	2:45pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	4:15pm Classic Coronation Street	5:00pm The Sweeney	4:00pm Sky Sports News
4:25pm Super 4	3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	4:45pm On the Buses	6:00pm The Professionals	5:00pm Sky Sports News
5:00pm Mr. Bean	4:40pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	5:20pm On the Buses	7:05pm The Car Chasers	6:00pm SKY Sports News
5:15pm Fangoone!	5:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	5:50pm Rising Damp	7:35pm The Car Chasers	7:00pm SKY Sports News
5:30pm Horrid Henry	6:50pm Take Me Out	6:25pm George and Mildred	8:05pm Pawn Stars	8:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
6:00pm Wishfart	8:00pm You've Been Framed! Gold	6:55pm Heartbeat	8:35pm Pawn Stars	9:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
6:30pm Thunderbirds are Go	8:30pm You've Been Framed! Gold	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	9:00pm The Chase	10:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
		9:00pm Midsomer Murders	10:00pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
		11:00pm Foyle's War	11:05pm Airport - Heathrow	12:00am Sky Sports News
			12:05am FYI Daily	1:00am Sky Sports News
			12:10am Pale Rider	2:00am Live WWE Late
				12:00am Night Smackdown

WEDNESDAY - 7 FEBRUARY

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	10:00am Victoria Derbyshire	8:30pm Railways of the Great War with Michael Portillo	11:05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	12:10pm The Hotel
12:00pm Wanted Down Under Revisited	12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live	9:00pm Wondrous Obsessions: Cabinet of Curiosities	12:00pm Undercover Boss USA	Inspector
12:45pm A1: Britain's Longest Road	12:30pm The Daily Politics	9:30pm A Stitch in Time	1:00pm Channel 4 News	1:10pm 5 News
1:15pm Bargain Hunt	2:00pm Coast	10:00pm Queen Victoria's Children	1:05pm Couples Come Dine with Me	1:15pm Cowboy Builders
2:00pm BBC News	3:00pm Monty Halls' Great Hebridean Escape	11:00pm Servants: The True Story of Life Below Stairs	2:05pm Posh Pawn	2:10pm Access
2:30pm Regional News	4:00pm A Place to Call Home	12:00am The Killer Wave of 1607	3:10pm Countdown	2:15pm Home and Away
2:45pm Doctors	4:50pm This Wild Life	12:50am Time Shift	4:00pm Village of the Year with Penelope Keith	2:45pm Neighbours
3:15pm Moving On	5:20pm New Zealand: Earth's Mythical Islands	1:50am Top of the Pops: 1981	5:00pm A Place in the Sun	3:10pm Midnight Stallion
4:00pm Escape to the Country	6:20pm Flog It!		6:00pm Four in a Bed	5:00pm NCIS
4:45pm The Farmers' Country Showdown	7:00pm Eggheads		6:30pm Extreme Cake Makers	6:00pm 5 News
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm Great American		7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours
6:15pm Pointless	8:00pm Railroad Journeys		7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away
7:00pm BBC News	8:00pm Wild Cameramen at Work		8:00pm Police Interceptors	7:30pm 5 News
7:30pm Regional News	8:30pm Eurovision: You Decide		9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	8:00pm Access
8:00pm The One Show	10:00pm The New Builds are Coming: Battle in the Countryside		10:00pm Alex and Oliver's Restaurant Rescue	2:15pm Home and Away
8:30pm Match of the Day Live	11:00pm Mock the Week		11:00pm Frozen-From Dusk Till Dawn	2:45pm Neighbours
11:00pm BBC News	11:30pm Newsnight		12:05am Balmoral: A Hidden History	3:10pm Midnight Stallion
11:30pm Regional News	12:10am Weather		2:00am Super Casino	5:00pm NCIS
11:40pm Weather			4:10am Secrets of the National Trust	6:00pm 5 News
11:45pm A Question of Sport			5:00am Get Your Tat's Out: Kavos Ink	6:30pm Neighbours
			5:45am House Doctor	7:00pm Home and Away

itv	itv2	itv3	itv4	sky sports main event
9:30am Lorraine	11:10am Who's Doing the Dishes?	9:00am The Royal Judge Judy	4:00am Teleshopping	12:45pm SPFL Greatest Games
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show	12:10pm Dress to Impress	10:05am Judge Judy	7:00am The Chase	1:00pm Revista de la Liga
11:30am This Morning	1:10pm Emmerdale	10:30am Judge Judy	7:50am Pawn Stars	1:30pm La Liga World
1:30pm Loose Women	2:15pm You've Been Framed! Gold	11:00am Judge Judy	8:10am Pawn Stars	2:00pm La Liga Icons
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News	2:45pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	11:25am Griff's Great Britain	8:30am Quincy, M.E.	2:45pm La Liga Icons
2:55pm ITV News London	3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	11:55am Griff's Great Britain	10:35am Minder	3:00pm Revista de la Liga
3:00pm Judge Rinder	4:40pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	12:30pm Love Your Garden	11:40am The Sweeney	3:30pm La Liga World
4:00pm Dickinson's Real Deal	5:50pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	1:35pm The Royal Heartbeat	12:50pm The Professionals	4:00pm Football's Greatest
5:00pm Tipping Point	6:50pm Take Me Out	2:35pm Classic Coronation Street	1:50pm Ironside	4:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
6:00pm The Chase	8:00pm You've Been Framed! Gold	3:40pm Classic Coronation Street	2:35pm Heartbeat	5:00pm Greatest Games
7:00pm ITV News London	8:30pm You've Been Framed! Gold	4:15pm Classic Coronation Street	4:45pm On the Buses	5:30pm La Liga Greatest Games
7:25pm Party Political Broadcast	9:00pm Two and a Half Men	4:45pm On the Buses	5:20pm On the Buses	5:45pm La Liga Greatest Games
7:30pm ITV Evening News	9:30pm Superstore	5:20pm On the Buses	6:25pm George and Mildred	6:00pm La Liga Icons
8:00pm Emmerdale	10:00pm The 40 Year Old Virgin	6:25pm George and Mildred	7:05pm Heartbeat	6:20pm Football
8:30pm Coronation Street	11:00pm The 40 Year Old Virgin	7:05pm Heartbeat	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	6:30pm MLS Greatest Games
9:00pm Britain's Brightest Family	11:05pm The 40 Year Old Virgin	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:05pm Endeavour	8:30pm Games
9:30pm Coronation Street	12:20am Family Guy	8:35pm Pawn Stars	9:00pm Foyle's War	8:35pm Football
10:00pm Girlfriends	12:55am Family Guy	9:00pm Inspector Morse	10:00pm ITV3 Nightscreen	10:45pm La Liga Icons
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather		11:00pm Snowquake	11:00pm Text-based information service.	11:00pm Eredivisie
11:30pm ITV News London		11:05pm Tango and Cash		12:00am La Liga Icons
11:45pm Airport - Heathrow		12:05am Lethal Weapon		

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Snuck off, we don't want American slang here

DEAR Leapy,

I am a great fan of yours but in your article, dated January 4, you used that awful US word SNUCK. We English don't SNUCK, we SNEAK!

Much of what we remember of England has sadly now gone, but at least the beautiful English language which we gave to the world, still remains.

That's all for now, please, excuse my scrawl, I have a disabled hand.

Keep up the good work, I will now SNEAK away!

John Frensham, Quesada, Rosales

Plane stupid

THE budget airlines expect their customers to print their own boarding passes, but unhelpfully prevent it happening earlier than a month before each flight.

Anyone visiting Spain for more than a month can therefore find it difficult to get a boarding pass for the return journey. If locutorios, cyber cafes or tourist offices are willing to help, they could display notices offering to

Supermarket Sweep a constant problem

ON the last three occasions I have shopped at a Spanish supermarket in the Aguilas Plaza I have encountered exactly the same problem.

The store is festooned with special offers such as 'buy one get the other one at half price.' When I have selected these and presented them for payment at the checkout, the computer tills have in many cases not been programmed to reflect the offers and the full price is charged.

When I try to explain to the checkout girl what the problem is she doesn't really understand, she just scans the items and does



Photo Credit: Photobac Shutterstock

SPECIAL OFFERS: Often not programmed at the tills.

what the computer tells her. I then have to go back to the displays and physically remove the special offer labels and bring them to the checkout, where the assistant has to then manually override the computer to input

the correct prices.

This is very frustrating for both myself and the checkout girl and very irritating for other customers waiting in the queue whilst all this is taking place.

Don Mather, Aguilas

print boarding passes and stating their price for this valuable service.

Derek Eyles, Alicante

Confused Cartagena

CAN anyone really tell us what is happening with San Javier airport? Corvera is supposed to be opening this year, but we have heard that before, and when that opens San Javier is supposed to close.

However during the last week, AE-NA have given a four-year contract to ADELTE, a company specialising in airport boarding, for better assistance to passengers with reduced mobility or mobility issues.

Does this perhaps mean that San Javier won't close and they will keep both open, which would be nice, especially as we and lots of other passengers will have double the journey time to Corvera?

Richard Prowse, Cartagena

Different strokes

THE difference between sensible print and dross was highlighted in last week's *Euro Weekly*.

In the sensible corner we had Mike Senker highlighting Donald Trump's total lack of diplomacy, his racism and his tweet endorsements from that bastion of peace the KKK.

Then in the opposite corner we had good old Leapy, bleating on as if Trump was some sort of latter day saint. Mr Lee, get your facts right, Mr Obama was not responsible for the embassy move.

I sometimes worry, Leapy about your feelings towards Trump. It's plain to see what sort of President he is. Why don't you read Mike Senker's column first, nail and head come to mind.

Philip, San Fulgencio

Kitchen sink

MUCH was made of a recent police crackdown on older cars, with motorists being stopped and having their vehicles checked for safety.

That is very laudable but why don't the authorities seem to do anything about the constant parade of foreign cars totally overlaid en route to and from ports connecting with Morocco? The police seem to ignore these really dangerous vehicles, perhaps because they don't want the hassle of dealing with potentially non-Spanish speakers.

Brian Jones, Manilva

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.

Nothing against immigration (Leapy Lee)

WELL, for once Leapy you've tried (but failed) to write a balanced opinion. You ignore that you migrated of your own free will. Maybe your self-inflicted prison sentence influenced your decision, but Britain was not a war zone. Your home was not bombed to rubble. You had electricity, water, food and free medical care if you needed it. You had choice. Ninety-nine per cent of the migrants you are so opposed to have NO CHOICE! They are faced with appalling conditions you would not tolerate for one moment! They are enduring years of proxy wars inflicted on them by OUR OWN disastrous policies in the Middle East. IF they stay, they face starvation and death! You would be fleeing with them! I don't buy your bleating. As Shakespeare's Hamlet might say, the Leapy doth protest too much.

Brian Eagleson

How can Brian Eagleson possibly know that 90 per cent of immigrants are fleeing starvation and death. Has he counted them? Anyway, Leapy is not talking about them. He is talking about the ones that come to take advantage of our better way of life with their Nike trainers and iPhones. The ones who leave their womenfolk and children behind. The ones who hate us and want to change our way of life.

As usual an inciteful and well written piece Leapy.
Erica P

Comments from EWN online

Three dead in AP-7 crash

How awful we were on that road going the other way about that time! There was snow for about one mile !

Jean and John Rowlands

So sad RIP to all who lost their lives.

Donna Connors Hughes

Robert De Niro opening new resort in Spain

I'm waiting for my invitation!

Barbara Stallwood

Hope he's polished up his Spanish? Last I heard he was talking Italian...

Terence Sheehan

Plans to remove toll road charges

I just read between the lines and I just wish they would stop overdeveloping the coast, it will soon end up as a conglomerate of urbanisations, the only bit left is Duquesa to La Linea.

It's such a shame. All those apartments will have cars belonging to them that further clog up the towns when you want to park and do your jobs. And all the extra tourists on the roads, nightmare. I'll be off if it gets much busier down here, I left Barcelona and that coast for the same reason.

Leigh Hobson

Best idea they have had in a long time.

Trisha Rodgers

Five detained over 4,000 kilo orange theft

Did the 'peel-ers' apprehend the jaffa stealers?

Tim McMahon

I think they should appeal.

Stewart Kingsley

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TO READ MORE

The colour purple

ULTRA VIOLET:
Blueberries are packed
with antioxidants.

IT'S safe to say the colour purple is having a moment, in fashion, beauty and interior design.

However, it's the purple-food trend that is perhaps becoming the most popular. Many naturally purple foods are closely associated with healthy eating, as they are known to have a high nutritional content and be packed with antioxidants.

Fruit such as blackberries, blueberries and blackcurrants contain the antioxidant 'anthocyanin' which has been linked to a whole range of health benefits, such as lower insulin levels and less risk of inflammation. It can also be found in cranberries, cherries, aubergines and cabbage.

Purple cabbage is also a great source of essential nutrients such as manganese, potassium, magnesium and calcium. It also contains vitamin K, vitamin C, vitamin B1 and vitamin B6. The anthocyanins found in red or purple cabbage are also believed to protect the heart and red blood cells from wear and tear.

Antioxidants found in purple and blue fruits

could also be the key to young and healthy-looking skin as they help prevent damage caused by free radicals in the body.

Other purple foods such as aubergine and purple onions reportedly help to reduce the risk of cancer as they contain flavonoids which have been proven to boost immunity to certain cancers and help keep blood pressure under control.

Purple sweet potatoes are packed with fibre, as well as iron, potassium and vitamin B6, so are great for improving digestion. Studies have shown them to help improve blood sugar levels and they also have antibacterial properties, so protect against contracting certain diseases.

Beetroot, perhaps the most famous purple vegetable of them all, is jam packed with essential nutrients such as iron, potassium, B vitamins, magnesium and manganese. It is also a great detox food as it contains compounds called glutathiones which help to cleanse heavy metals, toxins and waste from the system.

They have also been proven to help your

muscles recover following a workout as they are full of nitrates which release oxygen into the bloodstream and boosts circulation to the places that need it. This can also help to lower blood pressure.



Photo by unsplash

Detoxing: decoded

THE phrase 'detoxing' is never more overused than it is at this time of year, when people decide it's time to cleanse their bodies of all the bad stuff consumed over the holiday period.

After all, new year, new you right?

However, not many people know what 'detoxing' really means and it has become something of a fad phrase in

recent years, used to describe everything from staying away from alcohol for a month to doing a full-on juice cleanse.

Detoxing is basically the body's way of getting rid of toxins and pollutants, which it

does naturally anyway. The body's organs are constantly working to neutralise and remove harmful substances, with the liver filtering one and a half litres of blood every minute alone.

Harmful substances encompass much more than booze and junk food; they are in everything and are impossible to avoid. Pesticides, pollution and pharmaceutical drugs are just some of the things the body works hard to purge.

A good detox plan involves consuming more good stuff, not just cutting out the really bad stuff.

Adding more anti-inflammatory foods, such as fresh fruit and veg, to your diet and drinking more water will help your body to flush out the toxins and you could start noticing the difference almost immediately.

It can help make your skin glow, boost your energy levels, and improve your mood, your sleep, and your sugar cravings. Go on, give your body a break.



GOOD STUFF: Don't rely on juice to cleanse your system.

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Possible controversy over Motril bull fight

A NUMBER of popular bull fighters will be raising funds for cancer research when they appear in the Motril Bull Ring on February 18.

The day is supported by the Motril Council and tickets will cost €25 in advance or €28 on the day with a percentage of money taken being donated to the Spanish Association Against Cancer.

There have already been a number of comments both for and against the concept of the event on the Motril Council Facebook page.

Month long exhibition of tactile art

THOSE interested in tactile works of art will be drawn to the Sala El Posito in Velez-Málaga to view work by Dutch artist Prisca Sinay.

The exhibition will consist of paintings, mixed media works and other interesting objects which are tactile and physically present.

Images and photos are transferred and painted on old pieces of wood, or framed by it, lending them an obvious sculptural character. Images are taken out of their original two-dimensional form such as a picture and given a three-dimensional presence.

Housed in the former grain warehouse in front of the old city walls, the exhibition fits in with the surroundings and is open to the public until February 27.

The most ambitious of pieces is an installation of a boat built with recycled wood which is the third part of a series of 'thread works.' The thread projects, developed in Granada, are a contemplation of our nomadic existence in an ever-changing world.

Winner for Andres Segovia competition

AFTER whittling down the finalists to just seven, 22-year-old Portuguese guitarist, Joaquim Dos Santos Simoes was adjudged winner of the 33rd International Classical Guitar Competition Andres Segovia.

The judges and audience in La Herradura were impressed by the talent of this young man who came third in last year's competition and now has the additional

kudos in becoming the first guitarist from Portugal to win the accolade.



HAPPY WINNER:
Joaquim Dos Santos Simoes.

Photo Credit: Ayuntamiento de Almuñecar

He modestly said that he hadn't expected to be the eventual winner but said "I'm very happy. It is a great honour for me because Andres Segovia was my inspiration to start studying the guitar with the recording of the *Chaconne* and now winning this award is incredible for me."

Deion Cho from South Korea was runner up whilst Laura Lootens from Germany took third place which shows what a truly international competition this has become, helping to keep La Herradura and Almuñecar on the musical map.

BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi



WINES in Spain are classified into 69 major regions or Designation of Origin (DO) with their own set of laws and quality standards.

The best known national regions are Rioja, Ribera del Duero, Penedés, Navarra, Rueda, Cava, Rias Baixas, Jeréz, and La Mancha.

Grape names are not often used, with restaurants and shops classifying wines according to their origin, therefore it is quite common to confuse the grape name with the region.

A clear example is that Rioja refers to the DO as there is no such grape; though Albariño refers to the grape variety from the Rias Baixas region.

Here are the most common Spanish red grape varieties.

Tempranillo: The best known red also known as Tinto Fino, Cencibel and Ull de Llebre producing fruity young wines that age well in oak.

Garnacha (Grenache): Though of Spanish origin and produced in La Rioja, Navarra, Aragón and Cataluña is also found in several wine countries. It is normally blended with Tem-



RED OR WHITE: What's your tippie?

Grapes and regions

pranillo to produce fruity wines, with raspberry aromas.

Bobal: Cultivated mainly in Valencia it produces full bodied wines.

Monastrell: The typical grape of Murcia producing powerful wines with structure and strength.

Cabernet Sauvignon: Not a Spanish grape varietal but grows well here and is often blended with other grapes to produce more complex wines. Cabernet is found in La Mancha, Catalonia and Navarra.

Merlot: Another French grape variety and again found in many regions.

Syrah: Relatively popular in La Mancha and in the Mediterranean areas, it produces full bodied wines high in alcohol.

Tinta de Toro: Of the Tempranillo grape family and most typically grown in Zamora.

Cariñena: Widespread in Spain and in other wine-producing countries around the world. Other red wine grape varieties

include Manto Negro from the Balearic Islands, Negramoll and Listán Negro from the Canary Islands, Prieto Picudo from León, Brancellao and Caño from Galicia, and Gamacha Tintorera found in Galicia, Alicante, and Albacete.

The most common Spanish white grape varieties.

Verdejo: Typical from Rueda-producing wines that are aromatic with a tropical character.

Albariño: Produced in Rias Baixas, Galicia; aromatic and crispy with a distinctive aroma and silky texture.

Godello: From Northwest Spain producing aromatic wines.

Palomino: Mainly used for Fino production in Andalucía.

Xareló, Parelada and Macabeo (or Viura): Grapes traditionally used to produce Cava.

Airen: The world's third most planted grape and traditionally used to produce the alcohol served as the base for brandy.

Happy tasting.

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SPLASHING OUT: Sterling's choice of villa is in Puerto Banus. (INSET) The England attacker has been in a rich vein of form.

by Harrison Jones

ENGLAND footballer, Raheem Sterling, is reportedly set to buy a stunning new six-bed Spanish villa.

The Manchester City star is believed to be paying around €5.45 million for the luxury Marbella pad, which comes complete with a cinema room, pool and wine cellar. Located close to the beach at Puerto Banus, the area is a haunt for millionaires - and the 23-year-old is keen to add to his property portfolio there, according to reports.

The villa's description says: 'It offers open-plan living, that flows effortlessly between beautifully designed interior and exterior spaces, each filled with bespoke furniture, commissioned exclusively for the property, giving it a modern and highly unique look.

Sterling: Raheem set for plush multi-million euro Marbella villa

'The ground floor entrance leads onto a light, open plan living and dining space, complete with a state-of-the-art custom kitchen. Sliding glass windows give access to the garden with its covered terrace and bespoke zero edge swimming pool area.'

Sterling already lives in a £3 million, five-acre mansion in Cheshire, England, with girlfriend Paige Milian and their one-year-old son, Thiago.

He signed for City for £49 million from Liverpool and earns roughly £200,000 a week.

The attacking midfielder, has been in superb form this season, netting 14 times in the Premier

League to make him the divisions fourth top scorer. He also has four assists.

But now he wants a holiday home to visit when he's not playing. He has visited the area twice already, according to British media.

The description continues: 'The villa boasts a stylish outdoor living area. In addition the ground floor also has a double bedroom with en-suite bathroom, leading out to a private terrace garden area. The first floor features a magnificent master bedroom, and a truly sensational en-suite bathroom.

'There are a further two bed-

rooms with bathroom on the first floor, and access to two large sun terraces looking over the pool and gardens.

'The basement level, benefiting from independent access and floor to ceiling natural light, is in excess of 400m². This incredible space has purposefully been left partially finished. It can be designed for bedroom and bathroom accommodation, as well as a multi-entertainment space, cinema room, wine cellar or gym, offering a unique turnkey opportunity.'

Sterling bought his mother a multi-million pound home a couple of years ago.



RISING UP: It is a good time to sell in Spain.

Gains in Spain

THE average price of exclusive housing in Spain rose by 6 per cent year-on-year at the end of 2017.

According to the Barnes Report 2017 of the luxury real estate market, that averages at €6,600 per square metre.

However, it is expected that the negative impact of the Catalan independence struggle will not be felt for a few more months.

In large cities like Madrid, Barcelona, Sevilla and Valencia, the increase in prices was above 12 per cent (€10,000 per square metre).

This figure also applied to regions with the highest tourist influx such as the Costa del Sol, the Balearic Islands and the Valencian coast. Emmanuel Virgoulay, the founding partner of Barnes Spain, commented that the real estate sector has experienced a 'historic year' in 2017.

"Not only has the economic crisis been left behind, but a necessary stability has been achieved for the market," he said.

Second best to invest

SPAIN has established itself as the second most attractive country in Europe for investors in real estate.

Only Germany is ahead, with 28.5 per cent of the total, while Spain brings in a healthy 19.9 per cent,

and the UK in third at 11.9 per cent.

This data was presented at the Outlook 2018: Europe and Spain Investment Briefing, where more than 100 real estate professionals gathered.

In addition, experts are confident that real estate investment will continue to grow in Spain this year, in a strong economic climate.

The political instability in Cataluña is an ongoing cause of uncertainty for the Spanish market, in a similar way to the Brexit effect on the UK, according to Alvaro Otero, a partner of CMA Albinana.

In the face of the Catalan crisis, investors are looking for "boring places, in political terms, to invest," said Nicole Klux, Director of real estate company AF Advisory.

As a result, other cities like Madrid, Sevilla, Mala-



HOUSE BOOM: Spain is enjoying a popular property market.

ga and Valencia are benefiting from the investment boom.

Oscar Perez, the Invest-

ment Director of Qualitas Equity, said, "the investment trend is on the rise, as shown by a greater in-

terest in international funds entering Spain through local family offices."



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Your garden in February

THE importance of trees within, and surrounding, villages and towns is now taken seriously worldwide. February

marks the start of the season of 'Days of the Tree' (Dias del Arbol), leading up to the United Nations Day of the Tree on

Wednesday March 21.

On such days, local residents of all ages join forces to support the local environmental protection (Medio Ambiente) teams. They plant up new trees, to replace those lost by fires or the drying out of mountainsides or valleys, review and improve the quality and density of tree plantings in village and town streets and squares and at home in their private gardens.

A much-needed day in our village, La Drova, has been organised by the local Residents Association for Sunday March 11. In other locations it has been gardening clubs and local councils that have taken the initiative.

In each case the main objectives are, to improve the range of trees useful for creating interesting views, improve the balance between shaded and sunny areas, protect and stimulate the growth of wildlife populations, create local sup-



TREE-MENDOUS: Trees perform a number of useful functions in both private and public gardens.

plies of medium and long-term commercial supplies of wooden fencing posts and construction beams, lop or remove dangerous trees, establish local sources of leaves and fruits for healthy infusions and to enhance personal privacy and security.

Selections of useful native and imported trees are provided in my books 'Your garden in Spain' and 'How to use less

water in your garden - a practical guide to waterwise Mediterranean style gardening worldwide.'

What is planted and when it is planted needs to match local seasonal climates, soil depths and qualities, eventual heights and widths, and, in some cases, historical customs. Two of the longest existing tree planting days in Spain are those of the villages Alameda de los Reme-

dios, started in 1594 and Villanueva de la Sierra, started in 1805.

It is obvious that these plantings were taken seriously, as the results are apparently still to be seen.

However, in our village for instance, many plantings die within a few years due to poor planting practices, poor provision of protection from hungry animals and playful dogs, and irregular watering and weeding of young trees.

Fortunately, surviving ancient trees are now given official protection in many areas of Spain, but in others they are felled within private gardens by new owners, to reduce the need to rake or vacuum up fallen leaves and dead flowers.



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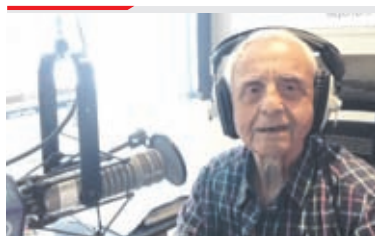
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Negative reinforcement

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GOOD BOY: Negativity can be disastrous if used on its own.

AS the name suggests, negativity is never good. Used with people or animals it can have a disastrous effect.

When teaching and exercising 'sit', you pull up on the check chain, hand on your dog's rump and tell him to 'sit'. No reward is given. Is that good for the dog? Yes, he will automatically sit in time when you stop walking. He has learnt the exercise with the repetition of the action being used.

This goes for all exercises you train him in, but something is lacking. He's learnt of course, but where is the joy and the outgoing exuberance. Remember you do have to train to the stage where just a quick 'good dog' is sufficient. He needs to work every time, not just sometimes.

Punishment of a dog should never be used.

However correction of a dog should be done when it is necessary. I am not talking about if it makes a mistake in training. That's usually your fault. You may not have taught it properly.

You only have about four seconds to make any correction. Usually a growl can be sufficient. Sometimes, if the reason for the cor-

rection is sufficient, you may need to physically grab the dog either side of the neck, and even lift it off the ground using a firm grip and an even firmer voice.

You would use something like this if the dog snarls at you, goes to bite you or some other action which is more than a misdemeanour. Again, remember you only have about four seconds after the event to make the corrections. After that you are too late. Think about two dogs mixing it up. They don't hesitate to retaliate if challenged. They are instant creatures.

What is important here is that afterwards you have to correct the dog, whether it just be with 'ah.. ah' or you have to handle the dog. You must give it a command it can achieve quickly like 'sit' and then reward it immediately.

You have corrected (not punished) for the misdemeanour, and you are immediately rewarding for the command of sit, which it has done well. It's now all over. Never hit your dog or use your feet on it. All corrections must be followed by praise. Never finish on a negative, always on a positive and happy note.

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MOTORING FACT

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Slick Yamaha buggy out in June

YAMAHA have released a new 'utility' golf buggy.

And the company boast that the latest stylish model has 'superior comfort and increased productivity.'

The Yamaha UMX light utility vehicle - which they say is 'built for work' - will soon be available in 400cc petrol and 5.0kW electric versions.

Set for release at Yamaha dealers in June, the company describes the new vehicle as 'a strong, stylish and compact utility vehicle that is equipped to transport two people and their cargo quickly and effortlessly around farms, parks, factories and airports.'

The aluminium cargo bed is a spacious 104.6cm long x 116.6cm wide x 30.2cm deep. There is also a one-touch tailgate, giving instant access to tools, equipment or supplies.

The company add: 'Its rugged design enables the UMX to be driven over a variety of road and non-extreme off-road terrain to give access to all areas, both indoor and outside - and the smart suspension and two separate seats ensure a comfortable and confident ride.'

'Equipped with a large rear cargo bed and convenient front storage compartment,

the UMX is an asset to any business - and with its easy to use controls and ergonomic design, this new Yamaha utility vehicle ensures that every member of the workforce gets the job done more efficiently.'

The price of the vehicle is not yet known.

Yamaha is one of the best established brands in the golf car segment but now says it is aiming to diversify its range. The company's line up includes a wide range of models aimed at different segments of the market.

From the hard working YTF2 and Super Hauler Utility models through to the stylish Drive2 Golf Cars and the Concierge Personal Transportation vehicles, Yamaha offers a diverse range of golf cars and utility vehicles.

Now they say their focus is on 'diversifying and expanding its line-up in the Utility vehicle segment.'

Though they look like stylish golf carts, the Yamaha Utility vehicles claim to offer the 'versatility, user-friendliness and durability that professional operators require, and are designed to handle everything from site maintenance duties and light farming through to gardening and housekeeping chores.'

ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

Volvo S90 D4 Inscription

WITH the growing popularity of hatchbacks, SUVs and estate cars, the market for luxury saloons is declining, but it is still an important sector served by brands such as Mercedes-Benz, Audi, BMW and Jaguar. And Volvo, of course.

The Swedish manufacturer brings a fresh look and sophistication to the sector with its latest S90, with particular emphasis on extensive equipment and safety features, and driving refinement.

The S90 I tested is the largest saloon in the company's line-up and prices start at €38,568 (£33,865), though my test model was a mid-range D4 Inscription version priced at €44,268 (£37,115).

Powered by a 2.0 litre

190 hp diesel engine with eight-speed auto gearbox, it has a quick 0-100 kph time of 7.9 seconds and top speed of 225 kph (140 mph). Fuel consumption is 22.7 kpl (64.2 mpg).

There is plenty of room for five adults, and the 500-litre boot is more than adequate for normal requirements. The cabin - described by Volvo as 'a sanctuary' - has a cooler, more mod-

ern look than most rivals, a significant factor in an image-conscious sector.

Latest styling gives the S90 a sleek, distinctive, more elegant appearance than some of its German opposition and while not quite as agile as some, it is smooth, quiet and effortless in overall driving and is an excellent motorway cruiser.

Standard kit includes heated leather seats, large touch-screen infotainment system with sat-nav and connectivity, alloy wheels and arguably best-in-class safety equipment which includes various crash-prevention features including roadside animal detection and Pilot Assist, a semi-autonomous system which aids acceleration, braking and lane-keeping.

Volvo aims to bring new vision to the traditional luxury saloon class, offering more svelte, more intelligent and more innovative styling. With the S90, it has certainly succeeded.

STATS PANEL

- **Model:** Volvo S90 D4 Inscription
- **Engine:** 2.0 litre diesel
- **Transmission:** 8-speed automatic
- **Performance:** 0-100 kph 7.9 seconds, top speed 225 kph (140 mph)
- **Economy:** 22.7 kpl (64.2 mpg)
- **Emissions:** 116 g/km



VOLVO S90: A sophisticated fresh look.

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

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by Benjamin Park

LIONEL MESSI scored a late free-kick to secure all three points for Barcelona after a second-half fight back saw them win 2-1 against struggling Alaves.

The runaway leaders fell behind to a shock first-half opener through former Manchester City and Celtic striker John Gudetti's strike and the 17th placed side held the lead for most of the match before Luis Suarez broke their resolve in the 72nd minute.

Alaves seemed to be heading for a memorable draw against the runaway leaders, but that man Messi stepped up to score a trademark free-kick, albeit not his best, to break Alaves hearts.

The result leaves Alaves sitting dangerously just two points above the relegation zone, while Barcelona retained their 11 point lead at the top of La Liga after Atletico had cruised past Las Palmas earlier in the day.

Second half strikes from Antoine Griezmann, Fernando Torres and Thomas Partey were enough to see the 2013/14 Champions past Las Palmas at the Wanda Metropolitano and keep some pressure on Barca.

Elsewhere, Real Madrid moved to within two points of third placed Valencia as they brushed the Valencians aside 4-1 to ease pressure on boss Zinedine Zidane.

Cristiano Ronaldo scored

La Liga roundup

Messi magic spares Barcelona's blushes



MAGIC: Messi saved the day for Barcelona with a late free-kick.

two first half penalties before Santi Mina replied for the hosts, but two late strikes from Marcelo and Toni Kroos saw the current champions move to within two points of third place with a game in hand.

Last year's Champions remain just a point ahead of Villarreal though, as they continued their good form to beat

While Villarreal pushed on, Sevilla stumbled as their quest for Europa League qualification hit a snag with a 1-1 draw against Getafe.

Sevilla seemed on course for victory after Lucas Muriel's 72nd minute strike opened the scoring, but Angel replied for the away side with a 93rd minute equaliser to secure a point as Getafe moved into the top 10.

Following their historic Copa del Rey quarter-final victory over Real Madrid, Leganes continued their red hot form as they beat Espanyol 3-2 on Sunday.

Espanyol's Mario Hermoso scored possibly one of the

strangest hat-tricks in history as he managed to score two own goals, before getting one back for the side in the final minutes.

Ten-man Deportivo La Coruña let a 2-0 lead slip in the final 10 minutes as Ivan Ivi scored a quickfire double for Levante who staged a dramatic late comeback to salvage a 2-2 draw.

Deportivo looked set to leapfrog their opponents out of the relegation zone after Adrian Lopez and Florin Andone put the hosts firmly in control, de-

spite playing with a man less from the 34th minute after Celso Borges saw red.

But they let the lead slip in the final 10 minutes as Ivi made the most of some slack defending to ensure that Deportivo remain in deep trouble.

In the weekend's other fixtures, bottom side Malaga managed to grab another point as they drew 0-0 with Girona, while Athletic Bilbao drew 1-1 with Eibar, and in the Monday night game, Celta Vigo overcame Real Betis 3-2 thanks to

an Iago Aspas double.

Results

Friday, January 26

Athletic Bilbao 1-1 Eibar

Saturday, January 27

Villarreal 4-2 Real Sociedad

Malaga 0-0 Girona

Valencia 1-4 Real Madrid

Deportivo La Coruña 2-2 Levante

Sunday, January 28

Leganes 3-2 Espanyol

Atletico Madrid 3-0 Las Palmas

Sevilla 1-1 Getafe

Barcelona 2-1 Alaves

Monday, January 29

Celta Vigo 3-2 Real Betis

Fixtures

Friday, February 2

Real Sociedad vs Deportivo La Coruña

Saturday February 3

Eibar vs Sevilla

Real Betis vs Villarreal

Alaves vs Celta Vigo

Levante vs Real Madrid

Sunday February 4

Getafe vs Leganes

Espanyol vs Barcelona

Girona vs Athletic Bilbao

Atletico Madrid vs Valencia

Monday February 5

Las Palmas vs Malaga

SPAIN has been crowned European Handball Champions for the first time after a 29-23 win over former World Champions Sweden in the final.

In what turned out to be a thrilling match, the Swedes raced into a three goal lead early in the first half and dominated the remainder, deservedly taking a 14-12 lead into the half-time interval.

Spain's Alex Dujshabaev, who was named in the team of the tournament, told media after the match: "After four losses in finals of the European championships, we knew we had to give everything in our power and play the best we can."

"In the first half, they were the ones that outplayed us, they were better, but we talked in the break and told ourselves we are about to play the last 30 minutes of the tournament."

Their talk during the break clearly worked as Spain, who defied the odds to reach the final, soon put on an 8:1 goal spree to turn the match on its head.

Spain are European Handball Champions



CHAMPIONS: Spain won their 1st European Handball Championship.

Ferran Cole and David Balaguer scored five goals each, while backs Raul Enterrios and Alex Duishabaev pitched in with four apiece.

Spain were also indebted to their stand-in goalkeeper, 38-year-old Arpad Sterbik, who pulled off some crucial saves in the second half.

England "one of the favourites" for Six Nations, says Redfern

FORMER England international Steve Redfern believes that England will be "one of the favourites" for this year's Six Nations.

The Red and Whites ran away with last year's trophy, but were edged out 13-9 by Ireland in the final game and narrowly missed out on the Grand Slam.

And ahead of this year's tournament, former England international and Leicester Tigers front row Steve Redfern believes that Eddie Jones' men have more than enough to win the title once again and will also have an eye on the Grand Slam.

He told the *Euro Weekly News*: "I think they've got to be one of the favourites."

"Eddie Jones is developing and the players are as well."

"We have to be up there again and the players will be thinking about that Grand Slam."

The side head into this weekend's tournament second in the world in the World Rugby rankings, just behind New Zealand, and will be confident of winning their third successive Six Nations title.

England begins their campaign on Sunday as they travel to Italy with the kick off at 4pm.



BARCELONA star Lionel Messi has hit the post an incredible 13 times already this season. The Argentinian hit the post again during his side's win against Alaves at the weekend, surpassing the 12 times he hit the woodwork in the 2014/15 season.

Axarquía's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

Samu signs!

Midfielder makes Malaga return as Ideye joins as well

CLUB legend Samuel Garcia has returned to Malaga on loan until the end of the season.

The midfielder, known as Samu, has signed from Levante UD and the club reportedly has the option to sign him at the end of the season.

Samu left the club to join Villarreal for the 2015/16 season, but rejoins with Los Boverones in desperate need of some magic to remain in the division.

Speaking to Malaga's official website, he said: "I'm back home. Amongst us all, both you and the team, we'll try to achieve permanency, which is what we all want. And that's where the team should be, in the First Division"

The 27-year-old first joined the club at youth level and be-



Photo by Malaga CF

SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED: Samu returns to Malaga three years after leaving the club

came a pivotal part of the side's reserve team before breaking into the first team during the 2013/14 season.

In his debut season with the side, the midfielder managed four goals in 27 appearances,

before registering five more the following season.

He became a fan favourite after his habit of scoring spectacular goals but left the club in 2015 to join Villarreal.

Samu has since had spells with Russian side Rubin Kazan, before returning to Spain with CD Leganes and finally Levante.

And after his signing was officially announced, Club President, Abdullah N Al Thani, tweeted: 'Welcome to your home Samuel.'

Malaga has also announced the signing of former West Bromwich Albion and Olympiacos striker, Brown Ideye.

The 29-year-old has signed from Chinese Super League side Tianjin Teda on loan until the end of the season.

Serbian star out for 2-3 weeks

UNICAJA will be without key point guard Nemanja Nedovic for between two to three weeks after he suffered a sprained ankle.

The Serbian suffered the injury after landing awkwardly following throwing a three in Unicaja's 85-78 victory against San Pablo Burgos at the weekend. He was forced to withdraw from the match and subsequent

tests at the Hospital Quiron Salud Malaga revealed a grade II sprain in his right ankle.

If he progresses well, he may return in time for the Copa del Rey, which begins on February 15.

Jeff Brooks is also expected to spend a spell on the sidelines after he suffered a similar ankle sprain towards the end of Unicaja's game Euroleague game

against Baskonia.

Brooks' injury is not believed to be as serious however, and he may recover in time for the team's match tomorrow (Friday).

Unicaja return to Euroleague action tomorrow (Friday) as they travel to Moscow for their match against Khimki, while they face UCAM Murcia in the Liga Endesa on Sunday at 6pm.



Photo by Unicaja

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