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Child porn ring raid

TWO Mallorcan men suspected of being members of a national paedophile ring have been arrested following a police operation.

A total of 40 men, among which were professors, engineers and public employees, were detained following police raids on 42 homes across Spain.

Officers seized laptops, CDs, DVDs and more than 100 hard drives in the raid which took place after an investigation into the ring.

Police alleged the group used software and browsers to access the 'dark web' in order to share illegal images of children, according to reports.

The dark web refers to parts of the internet where outlawed material is shared and sold and is accessed with special software which enables users to avoid detection.

Four girls claimed they suffered abuse and harassment from one of the group's members arrested in Alicante.

Miracle escape

Woman survives fall after roof caves in

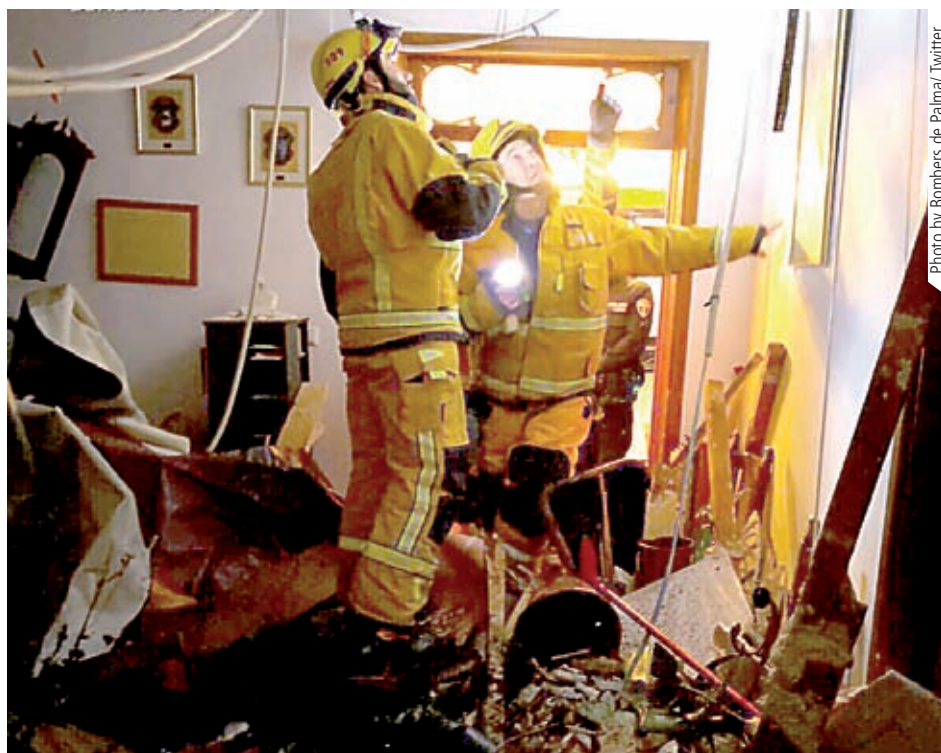


Photo by Bombers de Palma / Twitter

ROOF COLLAPSE: A woman was injured after the roof of her family home fell in.

by Joe Gerrard

Firefighters were called out after the roof of a family home collapsed in the Son Canals area of Palma, injuring one woman.

The family were fixing a leak in their dining room when the ceiling fell down

at around 8pm on Tuesday, according to reports. The woman and her father were on top of the roof while the mother was inside the dining room.

Their daughter fell by around three metres after the collapse and was taken to the University Hospital of Son Espases by ambulance with minor injuries.

Both the woman's parents were unharmed after the cave in which left the dining room strewn with debris.

Firefighters were joined by Local Police and paramedics after receiving a call out to the house on the Calle Safareig del Barrio.

Skin disease hits home

SIX elderly residents in a Palma nursing home, as well as two of its workers, have become infected by the mange skin disease.

Although it is a non-dangerous illness, it is very contagious and causes itching and skin rashes.

This is unfortunately not the first time an outbreak of mange has hit the home.

In November 2014 more than 200 people including residents, their relatives and staff were affected.

The Council believes the infection came from outside the centre, probably through a relative or other visitor.

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NEWS EXTRA

**Hepatitis
outrage**

MALLORCA'S health spokesperson has been accused of 'demagoguery' over the authorities' response to the outbreak of hepatitis A in a Palma restaurant. Patricia Gomez said officials followed protocols after the virus spread.

Fakes raid

ALMOST 280 counterfeit goods were seized by police from the Son Bugadelles market in Calvia. Purses, sunglasses and trainers were among the items taken by officers.

Meeting up

A MEETING to settle transfer of managerial responsibilities for the Museum of Mallorca from Spain's government to Mallorca's council has been scheduled for February 21. Government approval is required to sign of the deal.

Magaluf booze ban

Mayor calls for limited alcohol in all-inclusive hotels

by Matt Ford

MAGALUF lawmakers are considering a scheme under which British holidaymakers booking all-inclusive hotels would only be served alcohol with meals.

It comes as Calvia Council aims to crack down on boozy antics and 'drunken tourism' in the notorious party resort.

And Mayor Alfonso Rodriguez Badal has met with tourism bosses - including Balearic government representative Bel Busquets - to discuss the move, which follows demands from residents to axe two-for-one drinks offers and happy hours.

The town hall said in a statement: "One of the issues discussed was the regulation of all-inclusive hotels, an issue that the council put on the table when coming into office.

"The mayor reiterated the need that alcohol be regulated as part of the framework, that is to say, that alcohol is restricted exclusively to meal-times."



Photo credit: Twitter

GOING SOBER: All-inclusive hotels may soon only serve alcohol with meals.

The island recently revealed that it is to aggressively manage all-inclusive hotels, with some travel agents even removing them from their brochures as a result.

Calvia last year unveiled a raft of 64 new laws, with the rules designed to punish antisocial behaviour.

Revellers will be fined for urinating, being naked and having sex in public, littering, damaging 'street furniture' and playing loud music, among other offences.

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A long stretch

POLICTIAN Mauricio Rovira is set to present plans for 'permanent' prison sentences to Mallorca's council.

The Partido Popular's (PP) proposal would see the creation of sentences that would imprison indefinitely those said to pose a serious danger to society.

The plans, which Rovira is set to put forward in a council meeting today (Thursday), currently have the backing of just the PP in the Consell de Mallorca.

"This is not a form of life imprisonment. It only tries to protect society from exceptionally dangerous criminals," the PP said in a statement.

The party added the sentences would apply to terrorists and murderers among other particularly dangerous criminals.

Some lawyers have voiced their opposition to the plans. Carlos Portalo said those jailed under the sentences would not be able to return to society.

"It is contrary to the principle of social reintegration and the rehabilitation of those punished," he said.

The sentences are only applicable to two cases in the last few decades. Support has grown following the Diana Quer murder.



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Readers' views on eclectic topics in print and online.

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MOTORING

ALL THE LATEST CAR NEWS PLUS OUR WEEKLY TEST DRIVE



P45

Strong winds strike!

THE strong winds forced local authorities to close the Ciutadella Port this week. Yesterday (Wednesday) an orange weather warning was issued in Mallorca as a result of the waves - which were up to five metres high - that were seen hitting the shore.

Terrace rules

PROPOSALS to regulate the size of bar and restaurant pavement terraces are set to be in force in time for the tourist season. Palma's council has held talks on the rules banning terraces less than 3.5 metres wide which they hope to pass soon.

Crashed out

TWO people have been hurt in a crash between two cars in Son Castello, Palma.

The drivers of the vehicles have been taken to a private clinic but they are in a stable condition. Local firemen intervened to disconnect the car batteries and prevent fires breaking out.

Vicious attack

FIVE people have been arrested after they allegedly attacked two people leaving a restaurant on New Year's Eve. The group reportedly attacked the two victims in their car in the restaurant's car park, leaving one of them requiring surgery on a broken finger.

Long wait

ON average it takes just over 37 days to obtain the Spanish National Identity Document (DNI) in the Balearic Islands. Salamanca has the longest wait in the country, with an average of 55.06 days while 24 other parts of the country have an average of over 30 days

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE n°49

With cheap, good quality beer and wine available by the gallon, what more could the Spanish want from their alcoholic drinks? Just a little je ne sais quoi with those reds, it would seem.

PACKETS of crisps, pints of lager and glasses of wine: typical British pub orders are outstandingly predictable.

Yet in Spain, the liquid accompaniments to a bowl of olives or tapas often come with a twist.

While sangria and tinto de verano are not exactly earth-shattering variations on a glass of wine, they do at least add a little diversity.

For the uninitiated - though there are probably not many - sangria is a sweetened and fruity spin off of your standard glass of red wine.

There are a number of variations - particularly regional ones - but traditionally, Spanish red wine is mixed with orange juice and a liquor before being served in a jug with plenty of citrus fruit and ice. Rioja is the red of choice.

Other recipes include sugar, lemonade and other spirits.

There is also sangria blanca - a variation featuring a white wine base.

European law only allows a drink to be called 'sangria' if it is made in Spain or Portugal. However, it could be called 'British Sangria' - for example - if made in another country.

But strangely enough, sangria is thought by some to have originated in the Caribbean, before being introduced to America. This earlier version was known as Sangaree, according to Andrew Smith's book about American food and drink.

Smith reportedly suggests that the iced drink was reintroduced to America around the middle of the 20th century, through Hispanic Americans and Spanish restaurants.

Yet most attribute the roots of sangria to early Greek and Roman culture. People from the ancient civilisations added various flavours to their wine, which was the drink of choice.

Known as 'hippocras,' this seems the most likely ancestor of sangria -

Wine, refined



CHEERS: A glass of sangria with a view.

CORDOBA: The city has a claim to tinto de verano's origins.

TINT: The summery wine-based drink is close to sangria.



and would explain its popularity across the Mediterranean and especially in Spain and Greece.

Tinted, not minted

Meanwhile, tinto de verano is another relatively cheap 'punch' with a resemblance to cold mulled wine.

Simpler than sangria - but similar -

it is one part red wine and one part lemonade (or similar), served on the rocks with a slice of lemon.

Literally meaning 'red wine of summer,' one theory links the drink's history to Cordoba, where a man called Federico Vargas allegedly created the mix in the early 1900s. He initially called it 'a Vargas' and served it in his lively bar called The Brilliant, according to one account.

Presumably the future success of the drink only added to his modesty.

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136

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The light fantastic



Photo by Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias

OUT OF THIS WORLD: Zodiacal light is said to be the largest feature in the solar system.

THIS is the stunning moment that Spain's highest mountain is bathed in a mysterious celestial light.

Captured by a photographer from the Canary Astrophysics Institute, it shows Mount Teide, Tenerife, covered with snow and illuminated by a phenomenon known as zodiacal light.

Appearing above the peak as a roughly triangular glow, the light is most easily seen around an hour after sunset, and can be seen on the island for the next few weeks.

It is produced by sunlight reflecting off particles known as cosmic dust which lie in the so-called interplanetary

dust cloud, orbiting the sun around 600 million kilometres from Earth.

The dust is most likely formed from fragments of asteroids broken off by erosion or collisions, and comets, which release dust and gas when they travel close to the sun.

In the northern hemisphere the light is best seen in the western sky on clear, moonless nights in February, March and April, although it is easily rendered invisible by moonlight or electric light pollution.

And in September and October it can be seen by looking east an hour before dawn.

It appears when the ecliptic - the annual path which the sun appears to take in the sky throughout the year - lies at a steep angle to the horizon, hence the light's vertical appearance.

In this case the glow is accompanied by Mount Teide being covered in snow, creating an unearthly scene.

Teide is an active volcano that last erupted in 1909, and at 3,718 metres is the highest point in Spain.

If measured from its true base on the ocean floor, it is 7,500 metres high, making it the highest volcano in the world outside the Hawaii archipelago.

POLL OF THE WEEK

Would you prefer to see La Liga or Premier League coverage in the Sports section of the Euro Weekly print edition?

LAST WEEK'S POLL:
 With the latest string of drink driving accidents occurring across Spain, is enough being done to tackle the problem?

Yes 81% **No 19%**

EWN online this week
183,481 Page views

TOP 5 stories



CREDIT: Pilar Pinedo/Twitter

OLE?: *The Times* article also featured a picture of a bullfighter.

- 7,690** views Spaniards outraged with *The Times* following 'how to be Spanish' article
- 3,815** views New pet protection laws in Spain today after 'years of waiting'
- 3,279** views Once in a blue moon Spain gets super moon but misses out on blood one
- 2,660** views Cyclist suffers serious head injury as storms batter Costa del Sol
- 2,607** views Red alerts winter returns to Spain with more snow today

**For week 29 Jan - 5 Feb*

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Corrie blimey

SHE'S the glamour model who recently landed an acting job on Coronation Street.

But after allegedly being fired from the long-running ITV soap for 'leaking story-lines,' Bethany Morgan jetted to Spain for a sun-soaked winter break.

The 22-year-old was snapped in the midst of what appeared to be a furious argument with her agent as she lounged by the swimming pool.

And after appearing to blow her top while rocking a tiny swimsuit that barely concealed her ample curves, the blonde beauty later slipped into an equally skimpy multi-coloured number for a dip in the sea.

The racy model has been playing a lap dancer in a story-line involving teenage character Bethany Platt, but a source told UK media: "She's just been sacked from Coronation Street. There's been a bit of a big uproar about it."

WHAT A PAIR: Chyna and Danielle.



Photo credit Bethany Morgan/Instagram



CURY: Bethany Morgan.



Photo credit Danielle Sellers/Chyna Ellis/Instagram

Back in black!

THEY'VE become the best of friends after appearing together on ITV2 dating show Love Island.

And blonde bombshells Danielle Sellers and Chyna Ellis, both 22, certainly turned heads after slipping into tiny black bikinis and hitting the beach in Spain.

The pair were unlucky in love while in the famous villa, but appeared to be carefree as they frolicked in the shallows.

Strictly come petting

THE gossip surrounding their rumoured romance refuses to melt away.

And Strictly Come Dancing stars Gorka Marquez, 27, and Gemma Atkinson, 33, sparked the flames once more after being pictured on a night out in Nottingham.

The Spanish dancer posted a selfie of the English actress nuzzling his neck captioned "You say what...?" to send social media into overdrive.



Photo credit Gorka Marquez/Instagram
JUST GOOD FRIENDS?: Gorka and Gemma.

Minogue in vogue at E-race bash

HE'S married to the daughter of a former Spanish Prime Minister.

And Alejandro Agag, 47, showed he knows how to mix it with the stars as he was snapped alongside Australian songstress Kylie Minogue at a motor racing circuit in Santiago de Chile.

The *Can't Get You Out Of My Head* hit-maker was in the South American country as a guest at the latest round in the Formula E electric-powered racing championship.

The 12-race series was founded by the ex-Queens Park Rangers chairman Alejandro Agag, and his wife Ana Aznar was also snapped with Kylie as the three attended a gala dinner ahead of the event.

Other stars to appear at Formula E races in the past include actors Orlando Bloom and Antonio Banderas, models Alessandra Ambrosio, Paris Hilton, Naomi Campbell, and Irina Shayk, plus Oscar winner Leonardo DiCaprio, who co-owns the Venturi E-racing team.



Photo credit Kylie Minogue/Instagram

NO GRID GIRLS, NO PROBLEM: Kylie and Alejandro strike a pose.

Ball breakers

TWO of the hardest men in football have been pictured in Madrid.

Ex-Manchester United midfielder Roy Keane visited Atletico Madrid's training ground where he posed with defender Diego Godin, who a day later lost several teeth during a Spanish league battle with Valencia.

The Ireland assistant manager is thought to have been on a scouting trip.

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Man caught discarding the evidence

THE Guardia Civil has arrested a man in Inca after he allegedly threw drugs out of his car window.

Acting on grounds of a crime against public health, officers arrested the man during their routine checks of people and vehicles on public roads.

The car had stopped sharply several feet away

from the Guardia Civil, having noticed them.

This sparked the attention of the officers and when they approached the vehicle they saw the driver throw an object out of the window.

It soon transpired that this was a wallet stuffed with 22 small packages of white powder (appearing to be cocaine), ready for sale.



Photo by Guardia Civil

SNOW JOKE: The police were not fooled by the man's actions.

In addition, a large amount of cash was found among the driver's belongings, whereupon he was

then arrested.

The Guardia Civil is making a concerted effort to clamp down on drug use

and trade in the recreational areas of Part Forana, and several similar arrests have been made in recent days.

NEWS EXTRA

Recycling up

MALLORCANS recycled around 17 per cent of their waste last year and 5,000 tons more per year since 2015. The amount of rubbish incinerated fell by 1 per cent over the same period.

Wine school

A CENTRE designed to teach waiters and caterers more about wine has been unveiled at a trade fair. EnoAula, the company behind the scheme, plans to welcome the first students in Palma from March 13.

Park plans

PALMA'S council approved the start of works for a new path in the city's park. The plans are set to see the planting of 290 trees over an area of more than 16,100 square metres.

A MALLORCAN artist is set to release *Accelion*, a comic book which includes a map featuring places inspired by the island.

Jaume Font Rossello wrote the fantasy series after being inspired by *Lord of the Rings* and *Game of Thrones*.

The first of three instalments will be published at the end of February.

Island inspiration

The first part of the trilogy focuses particularly on Mallorca's Serra de Tramuntana mountain range.

Rossello told Spanish media his stories were a departure from the current trend of zombie comics.

"Mine is a fantasy story and it is

set in Mallorca in a land which goes by the name of Nuredum," he said.

"The story departs from the good and bad guy dynamic. It is more nuanced and there are many gray areas.

"Mallorca is an island full of hidden places that inspire adventure.

My intention is to explore different places such as Sineu in future editions," he added.

Rossello said he also wanted to include local myths and legends in his work, such as Comte Arnau from Catalan folklore.

The first volume of *Accelion* is set to be published by Fanes of Cantabria.



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New plastic laws not going to waste



Photo by Wikimedia

KILLER WASTE: Plastics are a menace to ocean life.

THE Ornithological Defence of Nature Group in Mallorca has demanded a new waste law banning the disposal of plastics in the sea, and a more robust recycling system.

In a recent statement the group emphasised that the dumping of plastics in the oceans affect wildlife of all kinds, from whales and large fish to mussels and other invertebrates.

The Ministry of the Environment has been asked to assess the problems of all the Balearic Islands, and implement better protocols between the administrations.

The nature group has also asked that routine cleaning work be undertaken in all the waters to remove plastics, and that the draft waste law include proposals to reduce the production of plastic containers.

AN environmental group has appealed to international law over damage caused to Mallorca's Natural Park of S'Albufera.

The Grup Balear d'Ornitologia (GOB) has warned that changes to water, flora and fauna are making the survival of the park's

wildlife difficult.

They have appealed to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) which mandates the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands throughout the world. Spain wrote the treaty into its national law in 1989.

63,747

People lost their jobs in Spain following the end of the January sales.

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OUR VIEW

Booming economy is welcome, for the rich

NEWS that the Spanish economy continues to grow should provide cheer for jobseekers.

But the sobering reality is that the working classes in Spain are worse off than ever, as cash continues to be funnelled to the top 1 per cent.

Critics say that Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy is oblivious to the struggles of the man on the street, after he was recently quoted as saying that the political crisis in Cataluña is "the only shadow looming over the economy."

However a flourishing economy does not always make for a healthy society.

Last year ended with more than 611,000 new jobs having been created in Spain, but a new Oxfam report shows that wages have been more-or-less frozen since 2009, while a lack of investment in education has seen families pay almost 40 per cent more to send their children to school than a decade ago.

The rate of saving has dropped to its lowest ebb since 2008 as ordinary people battle to make ends meet, with retail sales affected and figures for the January sales failing to match forecasts.

It is a stark reminder that since the 2008 collapse of Lehman Brothers and subsequent recession, a disproportionate percentage of the resultant costs have been foisted onto millions of blameless, low-income citizens.

And perhaps the most sobering aspect is that the trend shows no sign of slowing, with 7,000 new Spanish millionaires last year in a country where 10.2 million remain below the poverty line.

At some point, the balance will have to tip.

The haves and have nots - page 22

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'Ecological crisis' at natural park

The GOB have addressed their concerns to the Secretariat of the convention. They claim fresh water there has become brackish and cloudy which has in turn changed vegetation and affected the diet of birds.

They added the overuse of the park's rock water by farms and tourists and spillages from the cooling system of the Es Murterar power plant have had adverse effects.

Untreated sewage from Sa Pobla and the impact of carp, an invasive species, on the park's water and also causing problems for wildlife, they said.

The GOB have requested Spanish authorities visit the park, as well as the drafting of a plan to reverse the damage and extending the protected area.

NEWS EXTRA

Port growth recorded

MALLORCA'S Alcudia port registered a growth in the number of goods of 23 per cent last year, the biggest of any in the Balearic Islands. Passenger numbers also rose reportedly by 18 per cent.

Solar roofs

PARKING areas bigger than 1,000 square metres will have to have solar power cell canopies fitted before 2025 under incoming environment laws. Marc Pons, the Balearic Islands environment minister, unveiled the proposals on Monday.

Bank owned

JUST 2.5 per cent of the total housing available in the Balearic Islands is owned by banks, according to a new study. The figure is one of the lowest in the country.

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NEWS EXTRA

Birds pay a visit

ALMOST 30,000 waterfowl are reportedly spending the winter in the 'humid areas' of the Balearic Islands. Approximately 35 wetlands have been visited by different birds in Mallorca, including mallards, coots, herons and the European lapwing.

Food cargo

BETWEEN February 5 and 18, 267,077 kilos of food will be delivered to the Food Bank of Mallorca. Once it has been delivered, the food will be distributed among 91 different charities.

Taxi safety

PANIC buttons, cameras, screens and defence courses have been offered to taxi drivers by Palma Council to help keep them safe. When pressed the buttons contact police with the location of the person.

Tourist tax brings in almost €48m

THE amount of money made by the Sustainable Tourist tax increased by 57 per cent last year when compared to 2016 levels.

The tax, which was launched in the Balearic Islands in July 2016, netted more than €64 million in 2017. Mallorca's share of the total was around 74 per cent at €47.7 million.

More than 5,900 establishments were subject to the tax throughout the Balearic Islands, with almost 65 per cent of these in Mallorca at more than 3,800.

Catalina Cladera, the Balearic government's finance minister, said "absolute normality" had followed since the tax's introduction on the islands a



CASHING IN: The Balearic Islands introduced tax on income from tourism in July 2016.

year and half ago.

"The money raised by the tax offers us the chance to improve the environment and invest in basic infrastructure that will impact on the welfare of residents and visitors," she said.

There are already 108 projects currently being funded totally or in part by the money raised from the tourist rate, according to reports.

Hotels were the largest contributors to the total money raised and paid al-

most €55 million throughout the Balearic Islands, around 85 per cent of the total levied.

Apartments came second in terms of contributions at €7.4 million or more than 11 per cent of the total.

Pepsi reach agreement

WORKERS at the PepsiCo plant in Marratxi have voted in support of the agreement reached between the labour committee and the company to close the factory in Marratxi.

The site will officially close its doors on March 15, but its 27 employees will not even have to go to work as of next week as they have been granted paid leave until the aforementioned closing date.

The agreement confirmed by the two parties confirms nine employees will continue working for Pepsi in their other Spanish factories with financial support for moving costs.

Four others will be granted early retirement, and the rest will be dismissed but with better compensation packages than the company offered during the first negotiations.

The agreed terms received 17 votes in favour, four against and three workers abstained. Three others were not able to take part in the vote, allegedly for personal reasons.

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Towering achievement

MALLORCA Council has begun its restoration programme of the island's defence towers, with work on the Cala Pi tower underway.

The other towers of Alcudia, Verger de Banyalbufar,

and La Mola de Andratx are also in line to be renovated.

The project has a budget of €500,000 which the Department of Culture, Heritage and Sports will invest to provide the necessary

workforce and technicians.

Located in the Lluçmajor locality, the tower of Cala Pi was constructed in the late 15th century but remains in good condition generally.

The building requires repairs on the roof, the lining of the inner and outer walls, and at its base.

Assessments were carried out by a multidisciplinary team of the Council's Heritage Service, including an art historian, archaeologist and several architects.

Scaffolding has been erected and stones from the local environment have been collected and cleaned to fill the cracks in the walls.



Photo by Wikimedia

MONUMENTAL PROJECT: The Cala Pi tower is the first to undergo repairs.

The conservation of the towers, which are Properties of Cultural Interest, is important in enabling future access to them for the public.

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Drought alert!

TWO areas of Mallorca have received pre-alert drought warnings, with water reserves on the Balearic Islands at around 59 per cent.

The Serre de Tramuntana Sud and Manacor-Felanitx water bodies have been issued with the alert under Mallor-

ca's new Drought Plan.

The warnings come as Mallorca saw a normal level of rainfall for January but a lower than average level last year.

Levels of rain on the island were 15 per cent lower than normal, according to the Spanish Met Office (AEMET).


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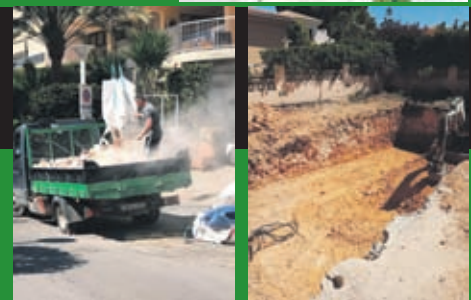


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MUSLIM murderer Darren Osborne used to be an underworld Fuengirola gangster, according to explosive allegations in the UK media.

The paper claims that Osborne - who was last week jailed for 43 years after driving a van into Muslim worshippers - was a violent drug dealer in the Costa del Sol town in his youth.

However, after making "hundreds, if not thousands" of pounds each night - according to unnamed friends cited by the paper - Osborne fled following a row with a rival gang.

He "allegedly spent his youth on the Costa Del Sol dealing ecstasy, speed and party drugs while meting out violent attacks."

Last week, Osborne was

Hate crime culprit was Costa dealer

convicted of murdering dad-of-six Makram Ali. He was also found guilty of attempted murder.

The attack in June injured a further 12 people.

The judge reportedly said: "This was a terrorist attack. You intended to kill."

Osborne drove a hired van into a crowd of worshippers at a mosque in Finsbury Park.

Osborne, who is 48, unemployed and has four children, had allegedly watched a BBC documentary called the 'Three Girls,' before becom-

ing radicalised.

He is believed to have visited numerous far right websites in later weeks, before Osborne reportedly claimed that a "guy called Dave" was behind the attack.

"He's like Dynamo, an illusionist. He can make himself vanish, perhaps. I don't know," he reportedly added.

Osborne was deemed a serious risk to public safety 11 years ago after an attack which took place in Swindon, Wiltshire, according to British media.



DISGRUNTLED: Some of the protesters in Sevilla.

A need for speed

A MOTORIST has been held in northern Spain after watching a 32-inch flat screen television while driving on amphetamines.

He was spotted in Santacara, Navarra, by a Local Police patrol car which was attending to an overturned lorry on the NA-5330 road.

As they directed traffic past the scene of the accident they saw that a 40-year-old man from

nearby Melida had the enormous television switched on in his car.

And when they pulled him over they decided to test him for drugs after noticing his fidgety appearance and dilated pupils. He tested positive for amphetamines, with more of the drug found on his person, before being fined €1,000 and six penalty points put on his licence.

Not a fair cop

THOUSANDS of National Police and Guardia Civil officers turned up to a protest over police pay in Spain.

The march, which took place in Sevilla, saw off-duty officers from Madrid, Barcelona, Alicante, Murcia and more demanding that Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy keep his promise to invest €1.5 billion into increasing wages over a three-year period.

According to a spokesperson it appears that

"Zoido - the Interior Minister - and Hacienda" have "not reached an agreement" over how much money should be invested.

"Or maybe they don't want to," he added.

The spokesperson claims the government is now "only offering €600 million. It is an insult and shows a lack of respect," he said.

According to the group working towards better pay, Jusapol, there is "at least" an average of €600 difference between the different forces.

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NORWAY



Royal jaunt

PRINCE WILLIAM and Kate Middleton visited Oslo to stay at the Royal Palace on the invitation of King Harald and Queen Sonja, visiting local beauty spots and meeting children, business people and soldiers during a whistle-stop tour.



CROWN JEWELS: THE Duke and Duchess of Cambridge in Oslo. |

Far right slight

THE national ski team is under fire for using the Tyr rune character on its official Winter Olympics knitted jumper, with the ancient symbol having been used by neo-Nazis and other white supremacist groups since the Second World War.

Legal drugs

NORWAY appears set to become the second country in the world to decriminalise all drugs as it seeks to follow the successful model used in Portugal, where drug use is treated as a health rather than criminal issue.

Loose moose

AN Oslo metro line was closed for several hours after a moose plummeted from a bridge and landed in the middle of the track, with wildlife authorities forced to put the badly hurt animal down before removing it.

GERMANY



Toxic tests

CAR MAKER Volkswagen has suspended its head of external relations and sustainability, Thomas Steg, after it emerged that he was aware of tests during which monkeys were locked inside small chambers and forced to breathe diesel exhaust fumes.

new record low, falling to just 5.4 per cent of the population in January, its lowest level since the country reunified in 1990.

Killer caged

A EUROPE-WIDE manhunt has led to a 20-year-old man being jailed for life after he was found guilty of butchering a nine-year-old boy before writing online that 'killing the

neighbour's child didn't feel too bad to be honest.'

Human traffic

MORE than 200 police officers swooped on seven properties in the states of Berlin, Saxony, Bremen and North Rhine-Westphalia, with three men arrested in a crackdown against an international migrant trafficking ring.

Jobs boom

UNEMPLOYMENT has reached a

FRANCE



Dolly gosh

THE country's first sex doll brothel has opened its doors in Paris, with a trio of silicone beauties named Lily, Sofia and Kim for clients to choose from at a cost of €89 per hour.

Two for none

'BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE' food offers are set to be axed as the government tries to ensure better income for struggling farmers, with the move following a string of mini-riots as shoppers battled to grab cut price chocolate spread.

Peak trouble

MOUNTAINEER Elisabeth Revol, who was rescued from the 8,125 Nanga Parbat peak - dubbed 'killer mountain' - has returned home suffering from frostbite after authorities were unable to save her Polish climbing partner.

Off the rails

RAIL operator SNCF will have to fork out €170 million after losing an appeal against a 2015 ruling that found it guilty of discrimination against more than 800 Moroccan workers, most of who arrived in the post-colonial 1970's.

BELGIUM



Bling ring

THE trial of 19 jewel thieves linked to a spectacular €40 million diamond heist at Brussels Airport is underway, with the gang accused of posing as police officers armed with machine guns before making off with the loot.

Boar war

THE country's wild boar population has exploded to such an extent that local lawmakers are demanding that the rampant swine are put on the contraceptive pill in what is being described as 'an elegant and animal-friendly solution.'

Eastern promise

START-UP airline Air Belgium has announced plans to fly from Brussels South Charleroi Airport to Hong Kong from March this year, although the route and schedule for the new route have yet to be confirmed.

Suspect handover

THE government has extradited to France Mohamed Bakkali, a key witness in the deadly terror attack on Paris in 2015 which left 130 dead, with the 30-year-old suspected of renting a Brussels apartment where some of the attackers stayed.

NETHERLANDS



Family affair

INDIA has ruled that three-year-old Insiya Hemani, who was violently kidnapped from Amsterdam on her father Shehzad's orders in 2016, must be returned to her mother Nadia by the end of March.

Sea sick

DUTCH fisheries minister Carola Schouten has asked UK environment secretary Michael Gove to provide a clear proposal for post-Brexit arrangements between the UK and European fishing communities, after a white paper promised by the end of 2017 failed to emerge.

Grave discovery

ARCHAEOLOGISTS in in Nieuwegein claim they have found the earliest example of a baby's grave in the country after unearthing the 6,000-year-old skeleton of a woman cradling the tiny infant, which was less than six months old when it died.

Unclean energy

THE country has been ranked second-bottom of a new ranking to determine green energy use in Europe, with only Luxembourg found to use less renewable energy as a proportion of total consumption.

SWEDEN



Stubbed out

THE government is considering plans to ban smoking in public places including outdoor restaurants, train platforms, and playgrounds, health minister Annika Strandhäll has revealed, with a formal proposal expected in February.

Port fail

CHINESE investors have scrapped plans to build the country's deep water port in the western town of Lysekil amid fears over the project's environmental impact and potential risk to national security.

Founder dies

INGVAR KAMPRAD, who rose from humble beginnings to become one of the world's richest men after founding the Ikea furniture empire - now with more than 350 stores in 29 countries - has died aged 91.

Grope attack

PHOTOGRAPHS of a teenager's bloodied face have gone viral after Sophie Johansson, 19, was hit with a glass bottle in a Malmö nightclub when she tried to defend herself from an unknown man who fondled her buttocks.

DENMARK



Cheesed off

DAIRY farms have sparked outrage after illegally labelling cheese as 'feta' to countries outside the European Single Market, with the name protected as a Greek product, according to reports.

Stork shock

BIRD enthusiasts have been left stunned after several white storks were spotted near the Danish border, with climate change blamed for the animals - which usually arrive in spring - migrating earlier.

Illegal arms

THE government has come under fire from the European Union, which has accused it of illegally buying tanks, vehicles and artillery, forcing suppliers to place orders with Danish firms in return for doing business with the military.

Hair today

A JUSTICE MINISTRY scheme to ban the wearing of burkas could be extended to include all 'comprehensively masking items,' meaning helmets, masks and false beards would become unlawful.

Bank raid too cheap

BANCO POPULAR - bought by rival Santander for €1 as part of a rescue package - could have been worth more than €1 billion.

A confidential report by consultancy firm Deloitte, now released into the public domain, valued the failed bank's equity at €1.3 billion in a 'best case' scenario.

Popular was the first bank to be wound down under new European directives blocking taxpayer bailouts, but the sale was contested by investors who lost an estimated €850 million.

Opel jobs fear eases

By Matt Ford

FRENCH carmaker Groupe PSA has unveiled a cost-cutting plan designed to keep production of the Opel Corsa in Spain.

The owner of Peugeot and Citroën bought Opel from US firm General Motors in 2016, but recently threatened to move production of the Corsa compact away from its Zaragoza plant due to spiralling overheads.

Chief executive officer Carlos Tavares said that the site is too expensive compared with the company's other Spanish factories in Madrid and Vigo.

It comes after he earlier criticised spending at Opel's Vauxhall plant in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, which he claims is twice as costly as its French counterparts.

But the company has now presented a five-year plan to workers' unions which it hopes will save jobs at the factory, which currently employs 5,300 people and last year ran at 80 per cent of capacity.

PSA said in a statement that it is "convinced that the employees will un-

derstand the need to secure the future of the site through the performance plan, which will pave the way for new investments and projects."

No specific details regarding the deal - which will need to be approved via a poll of workers - were given, but Spanish media report that it includes a freeze on salaries in 2018 to be followed by wage rises at half the rate of inflation, plus a 5 per cent reduction in overtime pay.

Union sources said that they have agreed to the package in principle following 12 hours of talks.

Catalan jobs go downhill

THE Spanish government has claimed that six out of every 10 jobs lost in the country since September were in Cataluña.

Social Security Secretary Tomas Burgos said that during the same period more people found work in Madrid than Barcelona for the first time in five years, although he emphasised that the two cities are "the main locomotives" of employment in Spain.

"This is a clear sign of the effect that the political situation in Cataluña is having on the economy," he added.

Quote of the Week

"I'm not going to answer that." Maria Elosegui Itxaso, the first Spanish female judge to be appointed to the European Court of Human Rights, when asked if she is in favour of gay marriage.



HUNGER GAMES: A new attraction for Madrid.

Studio reveals new attraction

AMERICAN-CANADIAN entertainment firm Lionsgate is to open a new indoor entertainment complex in Madrid.

The studio has joined forces with Spain's Parques Reunidos to sign a licensing deal that will see the attraction open in 2020, after the inauguration of its flagship Entertainment City in New York next year.

Lionsgate's first indoor project in Europe will be located at the Estacion Principe Pio rail and metro station, and will include a

restaurant and lounge inspired by hit TV series Mad Men plus themed Hunger Games and Divergent Series attractions.

Visitors will also be able to take part in a series of virtual reality experiences.

Lionsgate's senior vice-president Jenefer Brown said: "We are thrilled to continue our global partnership with Parques Reunidos with the opening of our second Lionsgate Entertainment City location and our first branded leisure centre in Europe."

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Financial firepower

CAIXABANK made record €1.68 billion profits in 2017, an increase of 60.9 per cent on 2016, while total revenue increased 5.1 per cent to €8.22 billion, the Spanish bank has revealed.

Claim game

SPANISH politicians have made 167 trips spending more than €2 million on travel and accommodation over the last 18 months, according to reports, with the lawmakers also paid an unspecified daily allowance for food and other expenses.

Stream on

TELECOMS giant Telefonica and online entertainment provider Netflix are close to striking a deal allowing the Spanish firm to include the US company's content as part of its Movistar+ television offering, which has 3.7 million subscribers.



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Rivalry sparks downturn

BRITISH telecommunications behemoth Vodafone has blamed competition in Spain for a drop in revenues. It comes after the world's second-largest mobile operator announced a lag in organic service revenue over the last three months of 2017.

Finance Director Nick Read told Spanish media: "It was a heavy promotional quarter, specifically Orange was pretty aggressive, and specifical-

ly targeting ourselves.

"We clearly had to respond and there was a degree of churn that we experienced. All of those promotions are now out of the market place."

The firm's main rivals in Spain are Orange and Telefonica, but despite the competitive market it still made €10.19 billion in group service revenue during the quarter.

LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES FEBRUARY 5

| COMPANY | PRICE(P) | CHANGE(P) | % CHG. | NET VOL |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|------------|
| Anglo American | 1,672.70 | 24.70 | 1.50 | 23,738.00 |
| Associated British Foods | 2,723.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 21,715.62 |
| Admiral Group | 1,863.25 | 9.25 | 0.50 | 5,243.10 |
| Ashtead Group | 2,034.00 | 16.00 | 0.79 | 10,357.77 |
| Antofagasta | 914.90 | 13.50 | 1.50 | 9,087.63 |
| Aviva | 504.10 | -10.30 | -2.00 | 20,635.37 |
| AstraZeneca | 4,919.00 | -117.00 | -2.32 | 61,867.59 |
| BAE Systems | 591.80 | 0.60 | 0.10 | 18,895.98 |
| Barclays | 195.55 | -0.01 | -0.01 | 33,673.63 |
| British American Tobacco | 4,759.75 | -0.25 | -0.01 | 110,645.15 |
| Barratt Developments | 574.50 | -0.10 | -0.02 | 5,919.31 |
| Berkeley Group Holdings | 3,976.00 | 78.00 | 2.00 | 5,355.68 |
| British Land Co | 658.20 | 0.16 | 0.02 | 6,553.37 |
| BHP Billiton | 1,550.50 | 13.30 | 0.87 | 32,969.44 |
| Bunzl | 2,047.50 | -13.50 | -0.66 | 6,940.35 |
| BP | 489.45 | 6.84 | 1.40 | 99,980.24 |
| Burberry Group | 1,591.00 | 28.50 | 1.82 | 6,579.66 |
| BT Group | 232.68 | -17.67 | -7.06 | 25,400.07 |
| Coca-Cola HBC | 2,346.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8,742.17 |
| Carnival | 4,998.50 | 59.50 | 1.20 | 10,412.15 |
| Centrica | 130.53 | 1.93 | 1.50 | 7,327.97 |
| Compass Group | 1,479.75 | 14.75 | 1.01 | 23,433.40 |
| Croda International | 4,419.50 | 65.50 | 1.50 | 5,779.97 |
| CRH | 2,489.50 | -52.50 | -2.07 | 21,601.79 |
| DCC | 7,455.00 | 110.00 | 1.50 | 6,583.02 |
| Diageo | 2,563.75 | 50.25 | 2.00 | 62,532.99 |
| Direct Line Insurance Group | 380.50 | 5.60 | 1.49 | 5,106.75 |
| Evrax | 349.15 | -15.35 | -4.21 | 5,428.91 |
| Experian | 1,604.25 | 8.25 | 0.52 | 14,753.66 |
| easyJet | 1,653.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6,623.45 |
| Ferguson | 5,380.00 | 80.00 | 1.51 | 13,388.03 |
| Fresnillo | 1,355.00 | 20.00 | 1.50 | 9,940.70 |
| G4S | 285.00 | 4.20 | 1.50 | 4,415.84 |
| GKN | 417.40 | 2.10 | 0.51 | 7,273.52 |
| Glencore | 382.75 | 7.17 | 1.87 | 57,550.17 |
| GlaxoSmithKline | 1,310.80 | -4.06 | -0.31 | 64,929.29 |
| Hargreaves Lansdown | 1,811.50 | -37.00 | -2.00 | 8,879.25 |
| Halma | 1,267.50 | 18.50 | 1.48 | 4,802.46 |
| Hammerson | 493.25 | 7.25 | 1.49 | 3,858.36 |
| HSBC Holdings | 747.60 | -2.60 | -0.35 | 150,025.81 |
| International Consoldtd Air Grp | 657.90 | 28.30 | 4.49 | 13,246.78 |
| InterContinental Hotels Group | 4,726.00 | 70.00 | 1.50 | 8,956.14 |
| 3i Group | 963.50 | 14.10 | 1.49 | 9,255.95 |
| Imperial Brands | 2,843.50 | -14.50 | -0.51 | 27,591.61 |
| Informa | 696.30 | 10.30 | 1.50 | 5,692.23 |
| Intertek Group | 5,046.50 | 74.50 | 1.50 | 8,058.23 |
| ITV | 168.85 | 1.00 | 0.59 | 6,957.92 |
| Just Eat | 814.20 | 4.00 | 0.49 | 5,591.94 |
| Johnson Matthey | 3,386.00 | 50.00 | 1.50 | 6,645.94 |
| Kingfisher | 349.40 | 1.50 | 0.43 | 7,627.51 |

| COMPANY | PRICE(P) | CHANGE(P) | % CHG. | NET VOL |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|------------|
| Land Securities Group | 986.35 | -0.05 | -0.01 | 7,363.34 |
| Legal & General Group | 274.60 | 5.80 | 2.16 | 16,111.62 |
| Lloyds Banking Group ORD | 68.75 | 0.05 | 0.07 | 49,891.65 |
| London Stock Exchange Grp | 4,076.00 | 60.00 | 1.49 | 13,852.13 |
| Micro Focus International | 2,145.00 | 7.00 | 0.33 | 9,275.85 |
| Mediclinic International | 594.40 | 8.80 | 1.50 | 4,364.48 |
| Marks & Spencer Group | 301.45 | 4.45 | 1.50 | 4,893.73 |
| Mondi | 1,895.75 | -0.25 | -0.01 | 9,196.39 |
| Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets | 225.85 | 3.35 | 1.51 | 5,260.31 |
| National Grid | 803.25 | 11.85 | 1.50 | 26,943.41 |
| NMC Health | 3,305.00 | 49.00 | 1.50 | 6,808.54 |
| Next | 5,101.00 | 75.00 | 1.49 | 7,322.35 |
| Old Mutual Group | 242.20 | 8.20 | 3.50 | 11,680.67 |
| Paddy Power Betfair | 7,962.50 | -172.50 | -2.12 | 6,884.35 |
| Prudential | 1,885.50 | 5.61 | 0.30 | 49,156.33 |
| Persimmon | 2,505.50 | 1.50 | 0.06 | 7,770.83 |
| Pearson | 702.40 | 10.40 | 1.50 | 5,519.83 |
| Reckitt Benckiser Group | 7,016.00 | 302.00 | 4.50 | 47,288.63 |
| Royal Bank of Scotland Group | 286.60 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 34,326.34 |
| Royal Dutch Shell | 2,443.50 | 48.00 | 2.00 | 110,630.08 |
| Royal Dutch Shell | 2,472.00 | 48.50 | 2.00 | 91,108.97 |
| RELX | 1,566.00 | 54.50 | 3.61 | 16,135.60 |
| Rio Tinto | 3,921.00 | 19.50 | 0.50 | 52,999.33 |
| Rolls-Royce Group | 865.00 | 6.38 | 0.74 | 16,133.85 |
| Randgold Resources | 7,361.00 | 317.00 | 4.50 | 6,638.05 |
| RSA Insurance Group | 625.00 | 3.00 | 0.48 | 6,314.98 |
| Rentokil Initial | 300.95 | 4.45 | 1.50 | 5,456.88 |
| Sainsbury (J) | 249.10 | 1.87 | 0.75 | 5,567.55 |
| Schroders | 3,756.50 | 55.50 | 1.50 | 8,389.95 |
| Sage Group (The) | 749.30 | 11.10 | 1.50 | 8,142.51 |
| Segro | 590.70 | 8.70 | 1.49 | 5,863.11 |
| Shire | 3,313.50 | 1.50 | 0.05 | 30,204.79 |
| Smurfit Kappa Group | 2,570.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5,997.07 |
| Sky | 1,078.00 | 16.00 | 1.51 | 18,255.96 |
| Standard Life Aberdeen | 430.35 | 6.35 | 1.50 | 12,645.59 |
| Smith (DS) | 506.45 | 7.45 | 1.49 | 5,373.69 |
| Smiths Group | 1,567.50 | 6.00 | 0.38 | 6,290.24 |
| Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst | 452.90 | -3.10 | -0.68 | 6,346.30 |
| Smith & Nephew | 1,253.00 | -1.38 | -0.11 | 11,010.26 |
| SSE | 1,261.50 | -0.02 | 0.00 | 12,949.54 |
| Standard Chartered | 813.90 | 4.27 | 0.52 | 27,151.68 |
| St James's Place | 1,206.25 | 17.75 | 1.49 | 6,335.71 |
| Severn Trent | 1,938.50 | 28.50 | 1.49 | 4,513.90 |
| Tesco | 202.18 | -0.02 | -0.01 | 16,899.29 |
| TUI AG | 1,588.50 | 3.21 | 0.20 | 9,430.50 |
| Taylor Wimpey | 188.25 | -0.95 | -0.50 | 6,303.54 |
| Unilever | 4,059.25 | 20.25 | 0.50 | 49,664.85 |
| United Utilities Group | 744.20 | 11.00 | 1.50 | 5,041.88 |
| Vodafone Group | 219.48 | -0.02 | -0.01 | 57,189.77 |
| WPP Group | 1,293.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 16,547.22 |
| Whitbread | 3,985.50 | 171.50 | 4.50 | 7,083.95 |

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THE ABOVE TABLE USES THE CURRENT INTERBANK EXCHANGE RATES, WHICH AREN'T REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RATE WE OFFER

DOW JONES

CLOSING PRICES FEBRUARY 5

| COMPANY | PRICE | CHANGE% | CHANGE | VOLUME(M) |
|--------------------|----------|---------|---------|------------|
| 3M | 245,170 | -1.12% | -2,770 | 146,371,27 |
| AMERICAN EXPRESS | 96,6800 | -3.32% | -3,3200 | 83,494,80 |
| APPLE | 160,500 | -4.34% | -7,280 | 822,321,08 |
| BOEING CO | 348,910 | -2.25% | -8,030 | 208,598,40 |
| CATERPILLAR | 157,490 | -2.93% | -4,750 | 93,511,66 |
| CHEVRON | 118,58 | -5.57% | -6,99 | 226,101,47 |
| CISCO SYSTEMS | 40,930 | -1.85% | -0,770 | 203,973,84 |
| COCA-COLA | 46,73 | -1.52% | -0,72 | 199,527,05 |
| DOWDUPONT | 70,89 | -3.55% | -2,61 | 166,256,31 |
| EXXON MOBIL | 84,53 | -5.10% | -4,54 | 353,247,53 |
| GENERAL ELECTRIC | 15,6400 | -2.37% | -0,3800 | 135,371,25 |
| GOLDMAN SACHS | 260,04 | -4.48% | -12,19 | 98,752,10 |
| HOME DEPOT | 193,9700 | -2.97% | -5,9300 | 227,360,66 |
| IBM | 159,03 | -2.08% | -3,37 | 147,691,50 |
| INTEL CORP | 46,1500 | -3.15% | -1,5000 | 217,900,80 |
| J.P.MORGAN CHASE | 114,2800 | -2.22% | -2,5900 | 392,710,65 |
| JOHNSON & JOHNSON | 137,6800 | -1.67% | -2,3400 | 371,250,21 |
| MC DONALD'S CORP | 169,3800 | -1.47% | -2,5200 | 135,680,99 |
| MERCK AND CO. NEW | 58,56 | -2.17% | -1,30 | 160,224,13 |
| MICROSOFT | 91,780 | -2.63% | -2,480 | 711,670,93 |
| NIKE | 67,22 | -0.64% | -0,43 | 87,087,40 |
| PFIZER | 36,6100 | -0.60% | -0,2200 | 217,744,64 |
| PROCTER AND GAMBLE | 84,250 | -1.86% | -1,600 | 212,571,03 |
| TRAVELERS CIES | 147,95 | -1.37% | -2,05 | 40,728,68 |
| UNITED TECHNOLOGIE | 134,61 | -2.68% | -3,71 | 107,950,68 |
| UNITEDHEALTH GROUP | 231,88 | -1.42% | -3,34 | 225,763,64 |
| VERIZON COMMS | 52,98 | -2.43% | -1,32 | 216,495,93 |
| VISA | 120,91 | -3.83% | -4,81 | 219,692,68 |
| WAL-MART STORES | 104,4800 | -0.99% | -1,0400 | 310,872,31 |
| WALT DISNEY CO | 108,7000 | -1.62% | -1,7900 | 163,692,49 |

M - MILLION DOLLARS

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES FEBRUARY 5

| COMPANY | PRICE | CHANGE NET / % |
|---|-----------|----------------|
| Most Advanced | | |
| VelocityShares Daily 2x VIX Short-Term ETN | \$ 7.50 | 1.61 ▲ 27.33% |
| USA Truck, Inc. | \$ 24.99 | 4.91 ▲ 24.45% |
| Johnson Outdoors Inc. | \$ 74.48 | 13.46 ▲ 22.06% |
| Viavi Solutions Inc. | \$ 10 | 1.33 ▲ 15.34% |
| athenahealth, Inc. | \$ 142.25 | 17.34 ▲ 13.88% |
| VelocityShares VIX Short-Term ETN | \$ 13.89 | 1.63 ▲ 13.30% |
| VelocityShares 3x Inverse Silver ETN | \$ 25.10 | 2.67 ▲ 11.90% |
| Mobile Mini, Inc. | \$ 42.40 | 4.20 ▲ 10.99% |
| ARMO BioSciences, Inc. | \$ 33.32 | 3.23 ▲ 10.73% |
| Alkermes plc | \$ 63.42 | 5.09 ▲ 8.73% |
| VelocityShares Daily 2x VIX Medium-Term ETN | \$ 9.57 | 0.73 ▲ 8.26% |
| Most Declined | | |
| Impinj, Inc. | \$ 12.16 | 10.70 ▼ 46.81% |
| Aceto Corporation | \$ 7.92 | 2.99 ▼ 27.41% |
| YRC Worldwide, Inc. | \$ 12.34 | 3.47 ▼ 21.95% |
| Varex Imaging Corporation | \$ 34.61 | 8.82 ▼ 20.31% |
| Arcturus Therapeutics Ltd. | \$ 5.93 | 1.38 ▼ 18.88% |
| OSI Systems, Inc. | \$ 54.60 | 12 ▼ 18.02% |
| Overstock.com, Inc. | \$ 56 | 10.65 ▼ 15.98% |
| Proteostasis Therapeutics, Inc. | \$ 2.76 | 0.44 ▼ 13.75% |
| Menlo Therapeutics Inc. | \$ 30.56 | 4.44 ▼ 12.69% |
| Xunlei Limited | \$ 12.83 | 1.83 ▼ 12.48% |
| VelocityShares 3x Long Silver ETN | \$ 10.62 | 1.35 ▼ 11.28% |

Kleinwort Hambros Elite PCC Limited

Distributing Funds

Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

£0.9182

PRICE MOVEMENT

-£0.0086

Accumulating Funds

Multi Asset Conservative B GBP

Multi Asset Conservative B EUR

Multi Asset Balanced B GBP

Multi Asset Balanced B EUR

Multi Asset Growth B GBP

Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

£1.1583

PRICE MOVEMENT

-£0.0048

£1.0735

-£0.0046

£1.3351

-£0.0069

£1.2254

-£0.0066

£1.5004

-£0.0087

£1.3842

-£0.0083

Remaining Elite Fund prices available on request

Prices correct as at 31/01/2018



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*Fees and exchange rate data for banks taken from the International Money Transfer Index™ (IMTI™).

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Spain's burning desire

COAL POWER BILL SLAPPED DOWN

THE Spanish government has been snubbed by its own energy regulator.

It comes in the wake of a recent announcement that the state intends to support policies encouraging utility firms to continue the use of highly-polluting coal-fired power plants.

But the Comisión Nacional de Mercados y la Competencia (CNMC) has now said that the country could lose a "significant part of the existing coal capacity" without threatening energy security.

The government last November issued a Royal Decree allowing it to prevent a company from closing down a coal power plant should the move be deemed a risk for the national energy supply, incompatible with energy planning, or detrimental for 'any other economic reason.'

This was widely seen as a response to Basque Country-based utility Iberdrola's announcement that it intends to axe its remaining two coal facilities.

Environmental groups panned the decree, claiming that it contravenes both Spanish and European Union (EU) law, and the CNMC has agreed, releasing a statement that said: "The Spanish electricity system will not have problems of security of supply in the medium nor the long term.

"(Even) in the worst scenario with demand peaking at 46,000 MW and low generation, a significant part of the existing coal capacity could be safely discarded."

The report also said that the decree could break European rules and prevent fair competition.

Spain produces around 30 per cent more energy than it needs, whereas the industry standard safety margin is 10-15 per cent.

The country has a long history of mining and burning coal, and political support for the industry within the conservative govern-



Photo credit Wikimedia

SET FOR CLOSURE: The Iberdrola plant at Velilla, Palencia.

ment is strong.

Endesa - the country's largest electric company - recently revealed that it intends to sink €400 million into three of its existing coal plants to ensure they remain operational beyond 2030 despite new EU air pollution laws taking effect in 2021.

The CNMC's decision is not legally binding, but the main opposition political parties have also rallied against the decree. Electrical firms not in favour have threatened legal action if the government pushes it through, and EU lawmakers from the Climate Action and Energy Commission have launched a probe.

Police slam government cop out over pay promise

THOUSANDS of police officers took to the streets to protest over their wages.

The rally, which took place in Andalusian capital Sevilla, saw off-duty Guardia Civil National Police officers from cities including Madrid, Barcelona, Alicante, and Murcia demand that Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy keeps his promise to invest €1.5 billion into increasing salaries over a three-year period.

But according to an official "Interior Minister Zoido and the tax agency" have "still not reached an agreement" over how much money should be spent.

"Or maybe they don't want to," he added, before claiming that the government is now "only offering €600 million.

"It is an insult and shows a lack of respect."

Rich getting richer, report says

The haves and have nots

THE Spanish economy is on the up, growing by an average of 3.3 per cent from 2015 to 2017.

But a new report by Oxfam Intermón - a Spanish offshoot of international poverty-relief charity Oxfam, shows that financial inequality is greater than ever.

Entitled '99: An economy for the 99 per cent,' the study demonstrates how economic growth since the financial crisis of 2007-2008, has benefited the rich, with 1 per cent of the population now owning a quarter of the country's wealth.

According to the data, Spain is ranked third among European Union nations where inequality has grown since the crippling economic downturn in the wake of the global banking catastrophe.

The richest three people in Spain own a combined fortune equivalent to the wealth of the poorest 30 per cent of the population, around 14.2 million.



DESPERATE TIMES: A homeless woman begging in Barcelona.

While executive pay soars, with 7,000 new millionaires created in Spain during 2017, 10.2 million people remain below the poverty line.

An average of 16,347 people re-

quired the services of care centres for the homeless in 2016, with the figure having increased by 20.5 per cent since 2014.

Wages have virtually stagnated since 2009, increasing by around

0.6 per cent nationally, while inflation remains above 1 per cent.

Investment in education has fallen by 30 per cent over the same period, with families forced to spend 37.2 per cent more to cover the costs for their children.

Youth unemployment fell from a record 55 per cent in 2013 to 37 per cent at the start of 2018, but the average annual salary for under-25s in Spain is now 33 per cent lower than in 2008.

And the number of part-time contracts issued to young workers has grown at a rate three times faster than for other age brackets.

Seven out of every 10 people who receive the lowest wages are women, with only 34.5 per cent of the highest earners in Spain female.

A survey revealed that 68 per cent of the population believe that no matter how hard they work, it will be 'difficult or impossible' for them to save more money.

Rail revamp announced

STATE-OWNED train company Renfe has announced plans to convert six more disused trains into high speed AVE units.

The news follows an earlier commitment to transform 13 'hotel trains' at a cost of €107 million, with the total now to exceed €151 million.

Once the conversion by Spanish manufacturer Talgo is complete, the trains will be able to travel at 330 kilometres per hour and transport 405 passengers each.

This is the first phase of a scheme to spend €1.5 billion on revitalising the firm's fleet over the coming years, with the purchase of new trains and carriages to follow the current round of refurbishments.

NO BEAUTIFUL DAY FOR U2 FANS Ticket probe launched

THE Spanish government is probing how tickets for two upcoming U2 concerts sold out 'almost instantly.'

It comes after the Irish rockers announced a second September date in Madrid when those for the first gig ran out within minutes of going on sale.

And Minister of Culture Inigo Mendez de Vigo has ordered detectives to investigate after smelling a rat.

"It is not normal that a few minutes after tickets go on sale over the internet, there are none left," he told Spanish media.

He added that fans are being forced to pay over the odds with tickets being resold online "at a much higher price."

The band play the 16,000-seat WiZink Centre on September 20 and 21, and entrances are already being sold on Spanish classified websites for up to €500 after originally being



BOOTY-FUL DAY:
Tickets for Madrid gigs sold out within minutes.

Photo credit: Twitter

priced at €35-€195.

A new government commission was last year set up to investigate issues with concert tickets, with lawmakers suspecting that software bots are being used to sweep up tickets en masse.

Some adverts list pens or other items at inflated prices with offers of two 'free' tickets for one of the shows in Madrid.

Kicking off in the United States in May, the European leg of the star's eXPERIENCE + iNOCENCE world tour begins on August 31 and will see Bono, The Edge, Adam Clayton, and Larry Mullen Jr hit 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 as well as Spain.

The indoor shows follow last year's record-breaking Joshua Tree stadium tour, which saw the quartet perform 51 concerts across 16 countries and rake in an estimated €250 million with more than two million tickets sold.

U2 recently won a US court battle after Paul Rose - a British songwriter living in New York - accused the band of lifting a 13-second guitar riff from their 1991 hit *The Fly* from his 1989 instrumental *Nae Slappin'*.

Rose had demanded €4 million compensation, but the judge presiding over the case said that the sequence did not form a "sufficiently substantial" portion of his song to be legally protectable, and even if it did a reasonable jury would be unable to say whether the group copied it or not.

Takeover sees bank post loss

STATE-OWNED Spanish lender Bankia is back in the red.

The bank lost money during the fourth quarter of 2017 for the first time in three years, and blamed one-off 'restructuring costs' after it purchased rival Banco Mare Nostrum (BMN).

The purchase came as the company tried to boost profits after a fast recovery from its €22.4 billion rescue in 2012, and agreed to buy BMN in June, creating Spain's fourth-largest bank.

At the time Bankia said that it expected restructuring to set it back around €300 million, with most of the cash spent on closing branches and paying off redundant staff.

But it has now revealed that the final total was €312 million, with the bank making a €235 million loss in the last three months of 2017.



Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

by Stone King

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at international@stoneking.co.uk



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

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

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



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

What is an LPA?

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

Why should you get an LPA?

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

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

Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

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

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



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I TRUST you have all been poised on the edges of your seats, desperate to discover the outcome of last week's saga of 'stag party shenanigans'?

For the uninitiated, this involved our tale of the somewhat extreme party frolic, which resulted in the unfortunate groom, not only getting married, but subsequently leaving for his honeymoon wearing a plaster cast prepared by hospital colleagues. Our unsuspecting hero had been convinced that, while firmly under the influence, he had actually broken his arm.

Naturally, on his return, when the conspiracy was finally revealed, he had not exactly been a happy budge! As time passed however, all appeared to have been forgiven and forgotten. So, if you're all sitting comfortably, I'll begin.

We now move forward some six months, where we find his friend, the main instigator of the 'cast' incident, somewhat tentatively looking forward to his own betrothal! As the date became closer, he naturally became increasingly nervous, racked with trepidation as to what form of devious revenge his former 'victim' was almost certainly concocting.

By the time he arrived at his own stag night, he was practically a mental basket case - and still nothing untoward had occurred. To his amazement - and



SWEET REVENGE: What happens when the stag party prank tables are turned?

relief - the stag night also brought no unpleasant surprises and he duly retired, more than a touch relieved, that his friend appeared to be seeking no retribution for his somewhat ill-conceived party joke of yore.

His subsequent marriage day also passed without incident, but it was not until he and his new bride actually relaxed on the plane bearing them to Mauritius, that he truly felt he was in the clear. He decided to put all his fears behind him and enjoy his honeymoon to

the full; albeit perhaps remaining a little wary of anything they may be planning on his return.

Arriving at their luxurious hotel, they were duly shown to the honeymoon suite and proceeded to enjoy the beginning of their special holiday.

That night the newlyweds retired early. Sharing together all the dreams and intimate exchanges of the recently betrothed, they finally drifted off into happy contented slumber. The next morning they awoke bright and early.

After giving his bride a very special 'wake up call,' the new groom decided to ask for breakfast to be served in the room. Reaching for the phone he dialled room service. 'Hello' he enquired pleasantly. 'Could you please send us up breakfast and a pot of tea for two?' He then froze. 'You'd better make that three,' came a barely disguised triumphant voice from under the bed! Yep. You've guessed it. Beneath the marital bed is where his 'pre-plastered' friend had spent the whole of the previous night. All their most intimate thoughts and moments of passion had been shared with his unforgiving, but now euphoric, stag party victim! Doesn't that just warm the very cockles? Sweet and utterly satisfying revenge.

Back to normal next week.

Keep the faith

Love Leapy

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

TECH FOR THE TIMID



FORGET bringing back a sparkly plastic gondola or a carnival mask from Venice. On a recent holiday I discovered that today's most popular Venetian souvenirs are handmade wooden selfie sticks.

Taking photos is no longer part of the holiday - it IS the holiday. And given that most people never delete anything, right now captive audiences back home are being force-fed squillions of snaps of happy couples shooting themselves in St Mark's Square.

Going, going gone are the traditional photo albums we all used to keep when visitors needed to be bored. Now our whole lives are captured on our phones and cameras. The problem for many of us is that's where they stay.

Come your own personal digital apocalypse (pressing the delete button when you shouldn't, losing your phone, data corruption), and it's goodbye life.

Friends also lost their entire collection because their pictures were in some free photo album software with a lifespan barely longer than a

The face that launched a thousand pix?

With the world's store of photos growing by a 10th each year, where should we put them all, snaps Terence Kennedy.

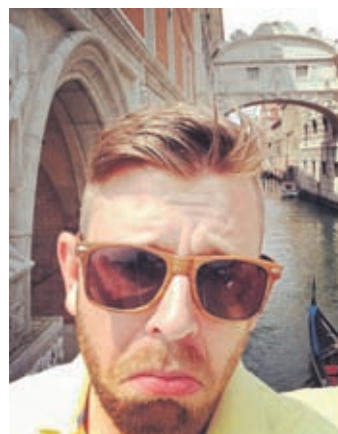
geriatric fruit-fly's, a program which is now long-gone to the great Recycle Bin.

So always save your photos in an industry-standard format which might just last as long as we do. The JPEG (or JPG) format is now ubiquitous, and serious photographers opt increasingly for the high-quality but huge RAW format.

(And here's a tip if you have old photos in an obsolete format: download the all-purpose free image reader IrfanView which might help).

Like anything else digital, photos should be subject to 'the rule of threes': the original copy, a backup copy on a different device, and a third copy off-site.

Keeping your photos on an ever-bigger SD card in your camera is as unwise as keeping all your wealth in



PHOTOGRAPHY: Point, shoot, save and save.

a big box under the bed (as I recall a former Sultan of Oman did with his country's assets, until mice discovered a fondness for shredding banknotes).

After every photo-session copy your pics to a computer, and ideally also to an external storage medium you keep somewhere else, like an external hard drive or flash stick.

Cloud storage sites are growing in popularity, with many offering free initial storage as an incentive, but be prepared for some purse pain if you're really prolific.

Most modern phones will actually back up your photos automatically 'to the cloud.' So at least you will still have your digital memories if your phone undergoes an unauthorised change of ownership.

Oh and by the way, did anyone ever tell you that St Mark's Square might occasionally be a little more beautiful when photographed without your undoubtedly-stunning mug obscuring it?

Photo-finish

THIS year an estimated 1.2 trillion photos will be saved to digital storage media. Increasingly, they will be shunted into 'the cloud.'

Plenty of well-known cloud services are vying for our custom, such as Apple iCloud, Google Photos, Amazon's Prime Photos and Dropbox. One good reason for using them is that they all share an important feature: automatic backups.

What you may need to know however is that some sites (notably Facebook) will 'downsize' the resolution of your photos to save space. That's not important for happy snaps, but it could be catastrophic for serious or professional photographers if that's your sole repository.

However you choose to save, remember one important thing: it's not illegal to zap the less-than-brilliant ones before you do your backup. It isn't, really.

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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

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How stupid to criticise Spain when Brits are to blame

THE SUNDAY TIMES used to be a serious newspaper with some of the best journalists and photographers. It has been dumbing down ever since Murdoch took over and pointless articles such as this demonstrate how low it has sunk.

It is now just another tabloid. The Spanish know how to live and enjoy life taking advantage of the favourable climate. Even though there are too many bars, especially in Madrid, drinking is part of the Spanish culture, but I have never seen the binge drinking or people rolling about outside pubs fighting each other or peeing in the streets like you see in the UK. And the Brits are champions when it comes to swearing. I find the Spanish far more cultured and, despite the image of the passionate, explosive Latin character, very reserved and polite. Viva Espana!

Peter Fieldman, Madrid

Look behind you

HAVING for the first time taken part in an amateur pantomime production, I will never again have the nerve to criticise another amateur performance. I now totally appreciate just how much hard work, total commitment and dedication goes into pre-

Cyclists should learn to behave on the road

MUCH is being done to protect the cyclist from the wicked motorists. But nobody seems to understand that the cyclist is his own worst enemy! I'm sure many, many people can tell tales of woe about near misses brought on by the stupidity of some cyclists.

I thought I had seen most things, until the other day when I was confronted with a 30+ year-old cyclist shooting out onto the N332 in front of me and riding rapidly straight at me after he had ridden the wrong way up the slip road between La Zenia and Playa Flamenca.

He obviously did not see me as I swerved into the central lane because he was too busy with his mo-



Photo Credit: Photobac Shutterstock

OBEDIENCE RULES: Don't cycle and text.

mobile phone on which he was writing a message whilst riding no hands!! This must surely be No 1 in crass idiocy!!!

I am a fairly keen cyclist myself so do not have an axe to grind, but the way a large majority of cyclists

(and skate-boarders plus other motorised board riders) behave is frightening and it is about time rules were introduced to protect the motorists against the stupidity of these people.

Barry Weston, Los Dolses

sending such a show. Not just the acting, but all the 'behind the scenes' involvement, ie scenery painting, designing and making of costumes, script writing, directing and the incredible camaraderie of the actors. The list is endless and, of course, all the months of rehearsals - yes, contrary to what the audience might think, we do rehearse! OK, there are always hiccups, but isn't that what makes it fun? OH YES IT IS! Thank you for supporting your local amateur panto groups. Without YOU it wouldn't be the same.

Margaret Stevenson, Costa del Sol

Hear Hear

I TOTALLY agree with the letter from JS in January (*issue 1699*) regarding the protection of our lovely village of La Cala de Mijas. Some 850 new builds are under construction at the present moment in the immediate vicinity of the actual village.

Where on earth are the people who are going to purchase these properties going to park, and eat for that matter? I too was sad to see the actual tree and seating area in the centre of the said 'Coronation Street' area disappear in the new construction of the 'Street.' Rather sad to see actually. And furthermore, the reconstruction of the road further down outside restaurant La Gambita, leaves me cold.

An amazing area, mainly Spanish, a couple of really good restaurants, road change means no seating areas outside these places. What about the owners? What about the regular clientele? So sad to lose intimate areas that are so important to our lovely village atmosphere. Come on, keep the space special.

Wendy Wolstenholme, La Cala de Mijas

Snail mail

FURTHER to problems with non-delivery of post over Christmas, my complaint concerns missing post. For the past three years, lottery tickets sent from La Coruña to Torreveja never arrived - a ticket sent to Mallorca, however was safely received. Complaints to Coruña postal authorities, resulted in €30 compensation for the loss of a €100 ticket.

A neighbour, who has a birthday before Christmas, has not received birthday cards from the UK for the past two years - complaints fall on deaf ears.

I know of no place to make an official complaint.

Ronaldo Hayward, Torreveja

Clean up

WONDERFUL as usual to holiday in Nerja and nearby places. But what a shame we have to keep our eyes firmly on the pavement to avoid all the dog mess. Come on Nerja, clean up your act!

John Hopes, UK

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.

Teen dies while playing football

Teen dies while playing football

My thoughts and prayers are with his friends and family...so sad... RIP Nacho Polly Anna So sad and so young RIP Eileen Toyne How dreadful, condolences to family n friends

Susan Poole

Thousands of police protest over wages

Why the pay difference, both do the same job, can't get my head around this, should all be paid the same, but it's just like back in the UK as in Spain, the rich get richer while the poor get even poorer, same old story.

John Morris

I've no problem giving them a good wage they are worth it and so far not affected by pc like in UK.

Tim Northern

Yes they should and the Local Police they do a great job and brave with it.

Roy Hadley

Calls for limited alcohol in all-inclusives

Considering that all inclusive is killing bars and

Comments from EWN online

restaurants off and the trouble it causes it's about time the hotels stopped it.

Michael Hannis

If these people want alcohol they will find it somewhere. When they go on holiday getting drunk is their main aim. Hotel or supermarket they will find it.

June Waterhouse

I'd be very careful. Magaluf is a party town and if they start getting too strict tourists won't go.

Ricky Stewart

New pet protection laws

I'd like to see chaining a dog for days and weeks abolished too! These are social animals and it is cruel to tie them up for long extended periods of time.

Ming Louie Stein

Wish they'd tackle bullfighting as well!

Michelle Johnstone

Petition to reverse ban on walk-on girls

Definitely. The whole thing is getting right on my nerves. Don't buckle because of pressure - who exactly is calling for this ban?

Susan Roberts

Has anyone actually asked what the women want or are we too busy being offended for them? I thought the feminist movement was about giving women equal choices, not making choices for them but whatever suits the ones that don't actually do it I guess.

Vicki Anderson

If the models want to do it and they get paid well to do it, w*f has it got to do with anyone else, go get your own life.

Matt Coy

This is all about big business frightened of any sort of backlash from what appears to be a minority. Let the girls decide if they want to do it... If not then fine.

Peter Maden

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| THURSDAY | BBC one | BBC TWO | itv | CHANNEL 4 | CHANNEL 5 | sky sports main event |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 8 FEBRUARY | 6:15pm | Pointless | 7:00pm | Emmerdale | 6:30pm | 2:00pm |
| | 7:00pm | BBC News at Six | 7:30pm | Travel Chaos: The True Cost - Tonight | 7:00pm | 3:00pm |
| | 7:30pm | BBC London News | 8:00pm | Emmerdale | 7:30pm | 4:00pm |
| | 8:00pm | The One Show | 9:00pm | The Cruise | 8:00pm | 5:00pm |
| | 8:30pm | EastEnders | 10:00pm | James Bulger: A Mother's Story | 9:00pm | 8:00pm |
| | 9:00pm | Animals with Cameras | 11:00pm | ITV News at Ten and Weather | 10:00pm | 11:30pm |
| | 10:00pm | Death in Paradise | 11:30pm | ITV News London | 11:00pm | 12:00am |
| | 11:00pm | BBC News at Ten | 12:15am | Car Wars | 11:35pm | 1:00am |
| | 11:30pm | BBC London News | | | 12:35am | |
| | 11:45pm | Question Time | | | | |
| 12:45am | This Week | | | | | |
| FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY | 7:00pm | BBC News at Six | 7:00pm | ITV News London | 6:00pm | 11:00am |
| | 7:30pm | BBC London News | 7:30pm | ITV Evening News | 6:30pm | 12:00pm |
| | 8:00pm | The One Show | 8:00pm | Emmerdale | 7:00pm | 1:00pm |
| | 8:30pm | Would I Lie to You? | 8:00pm | Coronation Street | 7:30pm | 3:00pm |
| | 9:00pm | EastEnders | 9:00pm | River Monsters | 8:00pm | 4:00pm |
| | 9:30pm | Room 101 | 9:30pm | Coronation Street | 9:00pm | 5:00pm |
| | 10:00pm | Requiem | 10:00pm | Lethal Weapon | 10:00pm | 8:00pm |
| | 11:00pm | BBC News at Ten | 11:00pm | ITV News at Ten and Weather | 11:00pm | 11:00pm |
| | 11:25pm | BBC London News | 11:30pm | ITV News London | 11:35pm | 11:15pm |
| | 11:35pm | The Graham Norton Show | 12:05am | Through the Keyhole | 12:05am | 12:15am |
| 12:25am | The Young Offenders | | | | | |
| SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY | 6:45pm | And They're Off...For Sport Relief | 6:00pm | 6 Nations Live: England v Wales | 4:30pm | 9:30am |
| | 7:25pm | Pointless | 7:00pm | Take Me Out | 5:30pm | 11:45am |
| | 8:15pm | All Together Now | 8:00pm | The Voice UK | 6:35pm | 12:00pm |
| | 9:20pm | Casualty | 9:00pm | Through the Keyhole | 7:30pm | 1:00pm |
| | 10:10pm | BBC News | 9:30pm | ITV News and Weather | 8:00pm | 4:00pm |
| | 10:25pm | Weather | 10:00pm | Lethal Weapon 2 | 9:00pm | 6:15pm |
| | 10:30pm | Hard Sun | 11:00pm | You've Been Framed! | 10:00pm | 9:00pm |
| | 11:30pm | Match of the Day | 12:40am | | 12:35am | 1:00am |
| | 12:50am | Winter Olympics | | | 2:25am | |
| | 3:00am | Winter Olympics | | | | |
| SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY | 7:25pm | Weather | 5:30pm | The Cruise | 2:35pm | 10:00am |
| | 7:30pm | Countryfile | 7:00pm | Britain's Brightest Family | 3:35pm | 11:00am |
| | 8:30pm | Still Open All Hours | 8:00pm | Tipping Point | 5:45pm | 12:00pm |
| | 9:00pm | Call the Midwife | 9:00pm | ITV News and Weather | 7:30pm | 12:30pm |
| | 10:00pm | Mcmafia | 10:00pm | The Chase | 8:00pm | 3:15pm |
| | 11:00pm | BBC News | 11:00pm | Dancing on Ice | 9:00pm | 5:15pm |
| | 11:20pm | Regional News | 11:00pm | Endeavour | 10:00pm | 8:00pm |
| | 11:25pm | Weather | 11:30pm | ITV News and Weather | 12:20am | 12:30am |
| | 11:30pm | Match of the Day 2 | 12:15am | Peston on Sunday | | |
| | 12:35am | The Women's Football Show | | Rugby | | |
| MONDAY 12 FEBRUARY | 9:00pm | EastEnders | 7:30pm | The Martin Lewis Money Show | 6:00pm | 4:30pm |
| | 9:30pm | Panorama | 8:00pm | Coronation Street | 6:30pm | 5:00pm |
| | 10:00pm | Julius Caesar with Mary Beard | 9:00pm | Trauma | 7:00pm | 6:00pm |
| | 11:00pm | BBC News | 9:30pm | ITV News at Ten and Weather | 7:30pm | 7:00pm |
| | 11:30pm | Regional News | 10:00pm | James Bulger: A Mother's Story | 8:00pm | 8:00pm |
| | 11:40pm | Weather | 11:00pm | Caught on Camera | 9:00pm | 12:00am |
| | 11:45pm | Have I Got Old News for You | 11:30pm | | 11:00pm | 1:00am |
| | 12:15am | The Graham Norton Show | 12:15am | | 12:05am | 2:00am |
| | | | | | 1:40am | 5:15am |
| | | | | | | 5:30am |
| TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY | 9:00pm | Holby City | 9:00pm | ITV Evening News | 6:00pm | 7:00am |
| | 10:00pm | Shetland | 10:00pm | Emmerdale | 6:30pm | 10:30am |
| | 11:00pm | BBC News | 11:00pm | Save Money: Good Food | 7:00pm | |
| | 11:30pm | Regional News | 11:30pm | What Would Your Kid Do? | 7:30pm | 11:00am |
| | 11:40pm | Weather | 12:10am | Trauma | 8:00pm | 12:00pm |
| | 11:45pm | Sex, Drugs and Murder: A Year in the Red Light Zone | 12:15am | ITV News at Ten and Weather | 9:00pm | 8:00pm |
| | | | 12:45am | Girlsfriends | 10:00pm | 11:00pm |
| | 12:35am | Info not available | 1:45am | Sunday Night at the Palladium | 11:00pm | 12:00am |
| | 1:05am | Winter Olympics | 2:30am | | 12:05am | 1:00am |
| | 4:00am | Winter Olympics | | | | 2:00am |
| WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY | 3:15pm | The Coroner | 2:00pm | Local News and Weather | 6:00pm | 10:00am |
| | 4:00pm | Escape to the Country | 7:00pm | ITV Evening News | 6:30pm | |
| | 4:45pm | Get Away for Winter | 7:30pm | Emmerdale | 7:00pm | 11:00am |
| | 5:30pm | Antiques Road Trip | 8:00pm | Coronation Street | 7:30pm | |
| | 6:15pm | Pointless | 8:30pm | Britain's Brightest Family | 8:00pm | 5:00pm |
| | 7:00pm | BBC News | 9:00pm | Coronation Street | 9:00pm | 6:00pm |
| | 7:30pm | Regional News | 9:30pm | Trauma | 10:00pm | 7:30pm |
| | 8:00pm | The One Show | 10:00pm | ITV News at Ten and Weather | 11:00pm | 11:00pm |
| | 9:00pm | The Sheriffs are Coming | 11:00pm | UEFA Champions League Highlights | 11:35pm | 12:00am |
| | 10:00pm | Earth's Natural Wonders | 11:30pm | | | 1:00am |
| 11:00pm | BBC News | | | | 2:00am | |

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



TV COUCH CRITIC

INSIDE NO 9 (BBC2, Tuesdays, 10pm) is in its fourth series and arguably the best yet. Written by Reece Shearsmith and Steve Pemberton of *League Of Gentlemen* fame, it's a dark comedy anthology coming in self-contained 30-minute episodes.

I didn't take to the *League Of Gentlemen* so it was with much apprehension I gave *No 9* a chance, I'm so glad I did. Stand out episodes so far were Bernie Clifton's *Dressing Room* (episode two) about a lost show business friendship between two estranged comedy partners reunited for one last show. Bittersweet throughout, I have to admit the finale brought a tear to my eye.

To *Have and To Hold* (episode four) was the darkest of the lot. The basic story of an unhappy middle-aged couple with a brittle relationship was funny in itself, but the story had hidden depths to explore which came to its dark conclusion at the end. I leave the details out so that those who haven't enjoyed this brilliant series can catch up. For those who enjoy this type of drama, you won't regret it.

Piers Morgan's interview with Donald Trump (ITV, Sunday, 11pm) was hardly what you would call insightful. Morgan's soft-soaping of the president made for quite bland viewing. Nuggets such as Trump admitting he wasn't a

Comedy is a cracker but Piers and the Donald avoid real issues



Photo credit BBC

INSIDE NO 9: Dark but hilarious.

feminist and his continuing scepticism over climate change was hardly headline news, and the pally interview style (Piers may as well have sat on Trump's knee) had me bored fairly quickly. I did stay to the end though.

Even though the interview was heavily advertised by ITV, it drew nearly a million less viewers than the BBC news at the same time. Even the previously publicised possibility of Trump apologising for re-tweeting far right

group *Britain First* stopped short of an actual apology. His claims that he didn't realise what *Britain First* stood for did speak volumes however about his Twitter vetting procedure. Piers Morgan's abrasive and often aggressive style on *Good Morning Britain* (ITV, mornings) would have at least been entertaining.

Hidden gem of the week was *Rhod Gilbert: Stand Up To Shyness* (BBC2, Tuesday, 10pm) which was an exploration of social anxiety of

which, surprisingly, Rhod has had since childhood. He described his own trials and anxieties and spoke to fellow comedian Greg Davies, a number of scientists and took part in activities meant to help his condition.

The finale was his mentoring of three fellow sufferers from South Wales in a challenge to perform stand up in front of a live audience. That they succeeded in putting two fingers up to shyness was a fitting climax and induced in me one of those 'feel good' moments.

A short plea for the BBC to bring back Miriam Margolyes', *Miriam's Big American Adventure*, (BBC1, Wednesdays, 10pm). Her final episode into Middle America to seek out alternative views to her own delivered in bucket loads.

From believers in creationism, the local altright group, to a visit to 'the most racist town in America', she encountered her opposites. The Ku Klux Klan refused to meet her but the pastor, who wouldn't meet face-to-face and instead relayed questions to her via a headset because she was Jewish, was stomach churning. The first female black sheriff in Texas was a positive end to the series. More please!

Advertising Feature

AS we sit in the beautiful Spanish sunshine, whatever the time of year, sipping our pina colada or our cafe con leche and reading the latest liquidation scandal in the UK, are we immune to the effects of such a disastrous commercial collapse?

Unfortunately, we are not! Reading the latest news, there may be some readers today who are worried about their Carillion pensions in particular. Well, by law, in the UK, pension shortfalls are protected but, as we saw with the recent BHS debacle, it can take many months to sort out and in that time payments could be delayed, reduced or worse still stopped.

It brings us back to the ongoing problem of slow or reduced payments when our community management fee statements are sent out to expatriates, and those holiday homeowners residing in the UK in particular, whose income may be under threat from the travails of the UK economy, including the latest business collapses.

As we well know, reduced or de-

Why should the failure of Carillion affect me?

layed payments back to our communities can have a long-term effect on the well running and beautification of our Spanish homes.

On a wider note I keep asking myself: why does it keep happening? It seems always to point to the directors and how they run their companies, or perhaps how the rules and regulations governing corporate responsibility seem to be ignored, flouted or deliberately mismanaged.

In the case of Carillion, my own firm's (LPL) Corporate Collections Team saw, at least two years ago, signs that Carillion were heading into cash flow difficulties, brought about by contract arguments in the Middle East, impossibly low contract tenders for private and gov-



COLLAPSE OF CARILLION: Warning signs were there.

ernment projects in the UK and worse still, lax oversight by those in government when looking at the public contracts Carillion were al-

ready involved in.

Hundreds of our own clients instructing LPL to collect unpaid invoices from Carillion should have

given many the first warning signs that they were in trouble. The Stock Market knew two years ago and was actually betting shares on Carillion's imminent failure and made a small fortune doing so.

My firm warned many that their slow payments (Payment Lagging) were a sure sign of difficulties ahead.

The debate lingers on as to how our laws can make directors more responsible for their actions, particularly how pension funds are managed. Whilst there will certainly be new legislation, this will not be on the Statute books for at least another three years.

It is a sad fact that in an economy that relies upon credit, good fiduciary responsibility and at least a measure of prompt payment, all we can do is continue to be vigilant in the way we all run our businesses and here in Spain, our own communities.

From our own point of view, if management fees are late, don't ignore the warning signs, act quickly before some else does.

Enjoy your drink!

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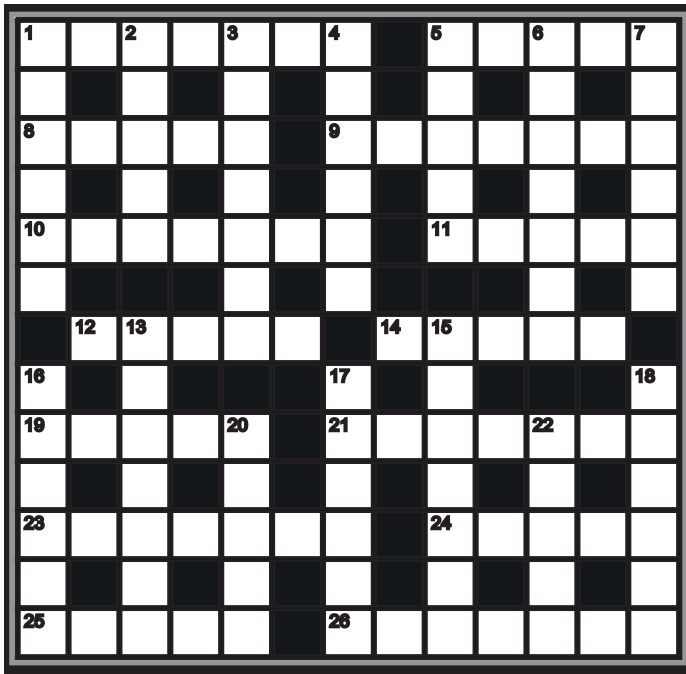
Cryptic

Across

- 1 A doctor I sent to bed drunk (7)
- 5 Love-in-a-mist is slightly wet (5)
- 8 City in pastrami land (5)
- 9 Inscrutable late Greek god (7)
- 10 Desperate rival at work (7)
- 11 Treasure discovered in a controversial place (5)
- 12 Overturned if set up incorrectly (5)
- 14 Stop a person including the Guardian, say (5)
- 19 Spotted in embarrassing tapestry (5)
- 21 Arrange trout so differently (4,3)
- 23 Thankless person from Tangier (7)
- 24 Contempt for a small cereal plant (5)
- 25 Jokes about northern mobs (5)
- 26 Have sheriff's helpers joined Nazi police? (7)

Down

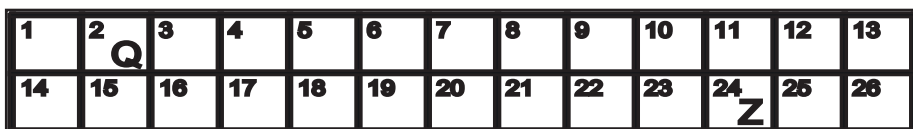
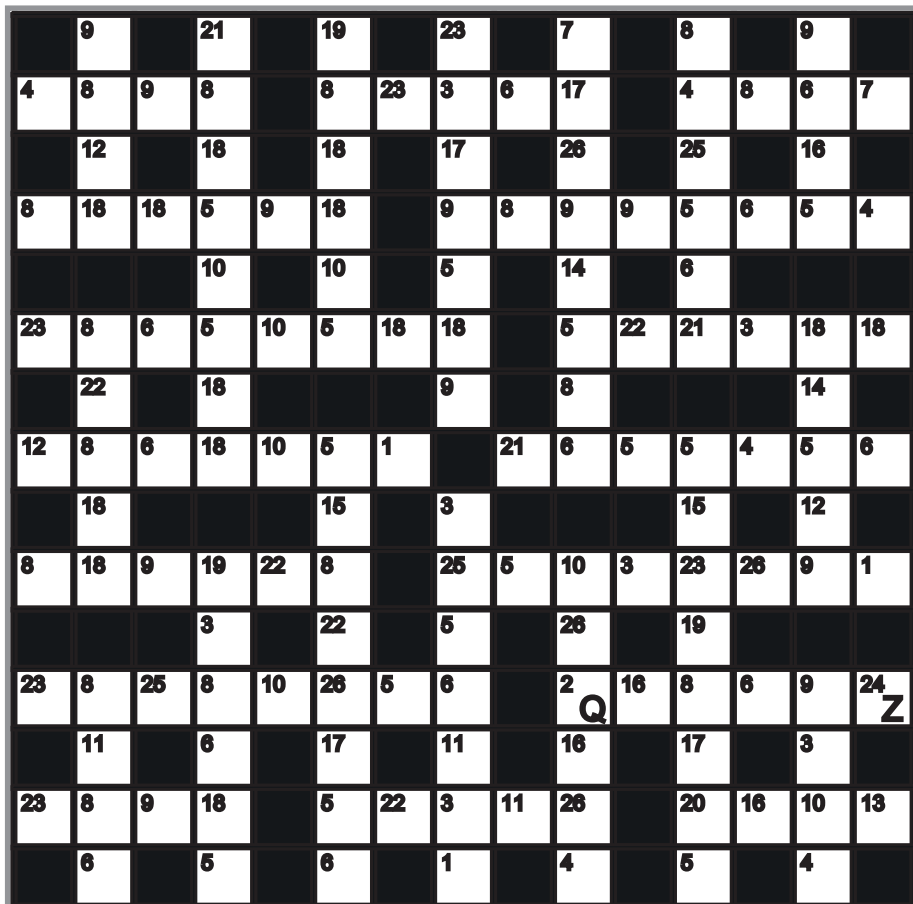
- 1 How chess game ends for prisoner (6)
- 2 Be all upset for a girl (5)
- 3 A long time after 007's detention (7)
- 4 It's easy keeping theologian in unemployment benefit (6)
- 5 Proposed food is injected with nitrogen (5)
- 6 Mischievous child learning to beg (7)



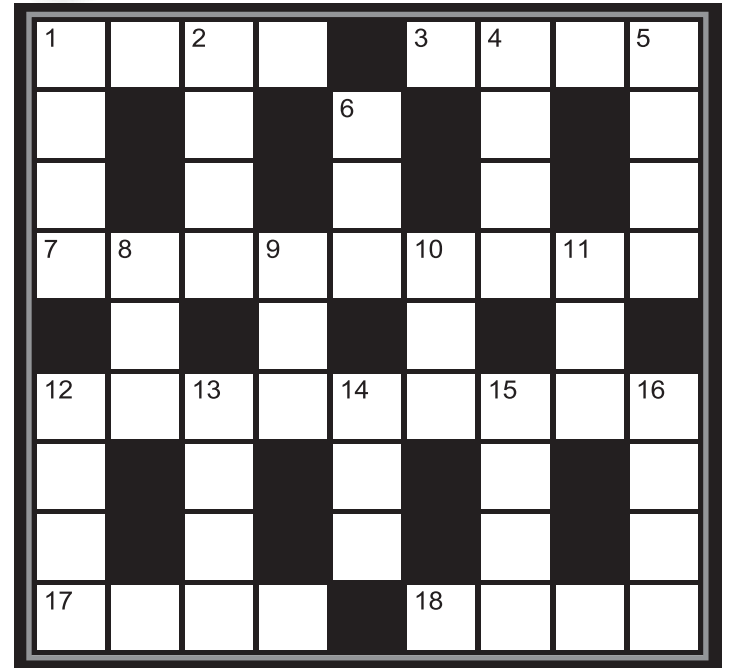
- 7 Light material can turn red (6)
- 13 Model soft angora dress (7)
- 15 Stops a Republican's lies (7)
- 16 Part of London damaged in gale (6)
- 17 Peel back as before, when not awake (6)
- 18 Doesn't give one's all in periods of work (6)
- 20 Puts down some runners' lap sessions (5)
- 22 Sea-air adds a little weight to one (5)

Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 2 represents Q and 24 represents Z, so fill in Q every time the figure 2 appears and Z every time the figure 24 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



Quick



Across

- 1 Marine crustacean (4)
- 3 Lowest brass wind instrument (4)
- 7 Lacking a name (9)
- 12 Marked by eager anticipation (9)
- 17 Abominable snowman (4)
- 18 Automobiles (4)

Down

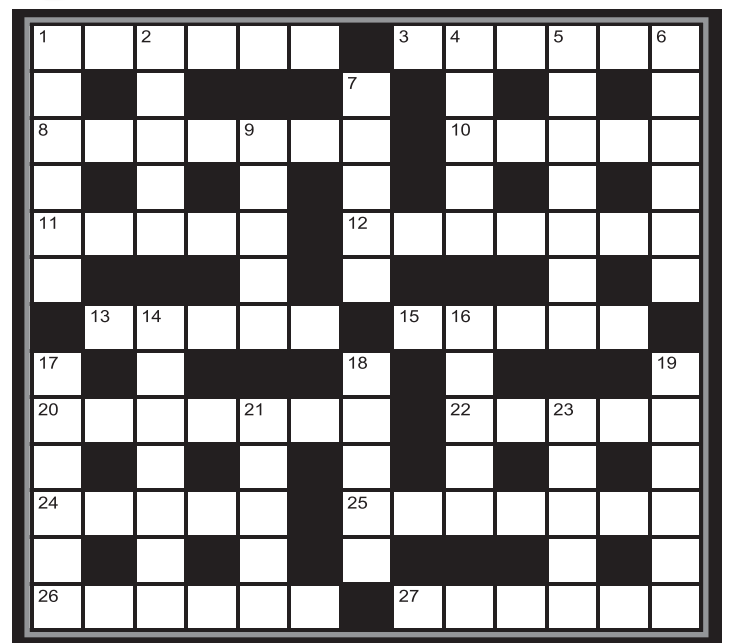
- 1 Spanish sparkling white wine (4)
- 2 Lowest female singing voice (4)
- 4 Cancel or annul (4)

5 Beers (4)

- 6/14 Reduction in salary (3,3)
- 8 Nothing (3)
- 9 Born (woman's maiden name) (3)
- 10 Attained (3)
- 11 Tall, rounded vase (3)
- 12 Deadly sin (4)
- 13 Accord (4)
- 14 See 6
- 15 Elaborate song for solo voice (4)
- 16 Gentle knocks (4)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Algodón (6)
- 3 Ground (coffee, spices) (6)
- 8 Church (7)
- 10 Pasillo (en avión, teatro) (5)
- 11 Bit (piece) (5)
- 12 Tip (gratuity) (7)
- 13 Vendavales (vientos fuertes) (5)
- 15 Cenizas (5)
- 20 Acrobata (6)
- 22 Nidos (5)
- 24 Pound (5)
- 25 Chestnut (7)
- 26 El más raro (6)
- 27 Grandmother (6)

Down

- 1 Joke (6)
- 2 Awning (5)
- 4 Opaque (5)
- 5 Inspirar (7)
- 6 Sheep (pl) (6)
- 7 Feliz (5)
- 9 Roncar (cuando se duerme) (5)
- 14 To approve of (7)
- 16 Canciones (5)
- 17 To dance (6)
- 18 Palo (de poco grosor) (5)
- 19 Broom (brush) (6)
- 21 Latón (metal) (5)
- 23 Mirar fijamente (5)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'MEN CAN NO LONGER TOUCH, HOLD OR SAY NICE THINGS TO WOMEN - SO WE THOUGHT WE SHOULD PLAY SAFE ON VALENTINE'S DAY!'

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



TARGET:

- Average: 6
- Very good: 13
- Good: 9
- Excellent: 16

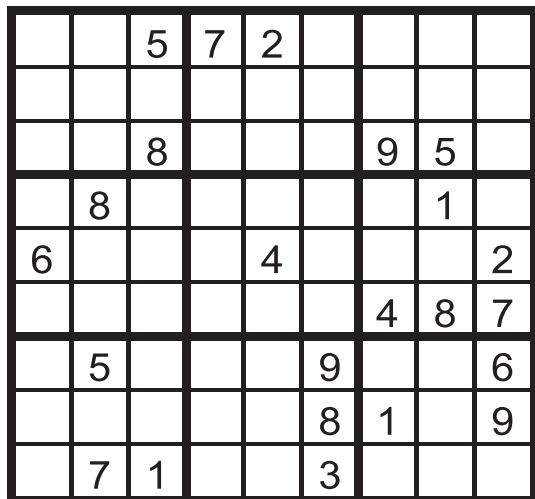
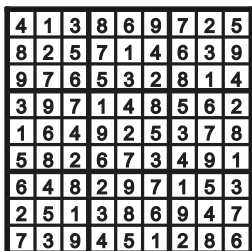
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

aced acre cafe carb card care cede cere crab cred dace face race acerb aced arced brace caber cadre cared cedar cered creed decaf faced facer farce raced rebec arcade braced carafe deface facade farced reface defacer BAREFACED

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



LOTTERY

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Saturday February 3



IRISH LOTTO

Saturday February 3



EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday January 30



Friday February 2



EL MILLON: WQK58563

LA PRIMITIVA

Thursday February 1



JOKER: 5 778 491

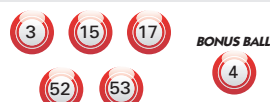
Thursday February 3



JOKER: 6 229 581

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday February 4



YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS
(January 21 - February 19)

A shopping trip with a friend makes you realise that there is more to them than meets the eye. Should you have underestimated them, encourage them to open up. Something you hear this week will be of immense value to you in the future. Decorating and changes at home really bring spring into your life and perk you up.

LEO
(July 24 - August 23)

Something said to you in confidence should be respected this week. Should the beans be spilled, it will not be you who is feeling guilty. The need to help someone with legal forms or some other complicated matter will be much appreciated.

VIRGO
(August 24 - September 23)

A slow start to the week sees you full of beans come Wednesday. What is the cause of this change of attitude? Something you worked on last week shows signs of progress just when you thought it wouldn't.

PISCES
(February 20 - March 20)

Someone new to your circle of friends brings humour and a new lease of life, socially. When something outside your comfort zone is suggested, then be sure that it is not just faint heart that is stopping you. There is nothing wrong with saying 'no', unless there is heartache in doing so and then wishing that you had not.

LIBRA
(September 24 - October 23)

It is now that you may realise how right you were to keep something in reserve. Certainly, so far as a relationship is concerned, holding back has proved its worth. Financially, you are entering a period of frugality, but this is more for your own satisfaction than because of any money worries.

ARIES
(March 21 - April 20)

Are you in the mood for some retail therapy? There are bargains to be had this week. The trend also extends to your personal life where it is possible to negotiate much more easily with a loved one. Suggestions for a busy weekend may be resisted owing to overload.

SCORPIO
(October 24 - November 22)

Getting more sleep and fresh air last week may show dividends now. The results are a brighter mind and more willingness to be social. Young people will be particularly helpful and fun to be with. Asking for their help makes them feel important in your life and will also bring you great pleasure.

TAURUS
(April 21 - May 21)

The more sensitive side of your nature comes to the fore this week. You are likely to find yourself upset but, by looking on the bright side and keeping your sense of humour, brings a balanced view.

SAGITTARIUS
(November 23 - December 21)

Keep a wide circle of friends and constantly seek to add to them. With such an active mind as yours, boredom is agitating and non-productive. Spring gives you the ideal opportunity to visit others and get out in the open. Both your health and finances gain from a day somewhere new as an inspired idea comes to you. An invitation you are tempted to refuse should be accepted if possible.

GEMINI
(May 22 - June 21)

This is a time to keep your mind sharp, so get plenty of sleep and exercise for sure. Legal matters may be paramount and need specialist advice. So long as you are doing your best in a certain situation, no more can be expected of you.

CAPRICORN
(December 22 - January 20)

News of someone close brings finances into your mind. Perhaps some juggling is needed to keep the balance. There is more than one way to conserve both energy and money, which will give you a head start. Getting involved with a charity, even on a small scale, can bring immense satisfaction and costs nothing.

CANCER
(June 22 - July 23)

This is a time of the year when new starts and fresh ideas come to you, which is excellent news for those who are looking forward to changes. The weekend brings you courage and determination and you feel confident enough to speak plainly with people.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Arco, 3 Traslado, 9 Russian, 10 Etapa, 11 Cisne, 12 Adriz, 14 Tattoo, 16 Escoba, 19 Anoche, 21 Lugar, 24 Andén, 25 Azafraán, 26 Por favor, 27 Boss.

Down:

- 1 Apricots, 2 Cosas, 4 Runway, 5 Sweet, 6 Abanico, 7 Ojal, 8 Dinero, 13 Ladrones, 15 Tenedor, 17 Sillas, 18 Verano, 20 Cinta, 22 Gordo, 23 Damp.

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Detroit, 5 Tacit, 8 Purse, 9 Neutral, 10 Abstain, 11 Tools, 12 Answer, 14 Fiasco, 17 Tunis, 19 Astride, 21 Entwine, 22 Reply, 24 Terse, 25 Results.

Down:

- 1 Dip, 2 Terms, 3 Operate, 4 Tenant, 5 Taunt, 6 Curious, 7 Telescope, 10 Apartment, 13 Senator, 15 Interns, 16 Career, 18 Spine, 20 Impel, 23 Yes.

QUICK

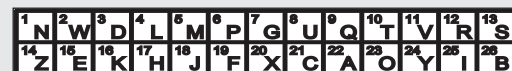
Across:

- 1 Sorts, 4 Shrew, 7 Opt, 8 Erasers, 9 Trap, 10 Reggae, 13 Sweden, 14 Jail, 17 Baggage, 19 Son, 20 Rinse, 21 Oasis.

Down:

- 1 Short, 2 Rat race, 3 Seek, 4 Shares, 5 Roe, 6 Waste, 11 Glasses, 12 Deface, 13 Sober, 15 Links, 16 Zero, 18 Gun.

CODE BREAKER



KAKURO



QUIZ: LUCKY DIP

- According to the old superstition, how many years bad luck would you have for breaking a mirror?
- 'Don't want a four leaf clover. Don't want an old horse shoe' are the first lines of which UK number one hit single by Elvis Presley?
- First published in 1954, Lucky Jim was which celebrated English writer's first novel?
- Goodluck Jonathan was president of which African country from 2010 to 2015?
- Michael Barrymore's long-running quiz Strike It Lucky was renamed what in December 1996?
- The Santangelo novels are a series of novels written by which English romance novelist, which focus on the Santangelo family, particularly Gino Santangelo, an Italian-American former gangster, and his daughter Lucky?
- To who would you most likely wish someone good luck with the phrase 'break a leg'?

- Tucker's Luck, which ran from 1983 to 1985 was a spin-off from which BBC television school drama?
- Which 1950 Frank Loesser musical features the song Luck Be a Lady?
- Which famous English actor starred as the 'plantation thief' Mick Travis in the 1973 British comedy-drama fantasy film O Lucky Man!?

Not a lot of people know that... after the success of her debut single Locomotion in Australia, Kylie Minogue travelled to London to work with the songwriting and production team Stock, Aitken and Waterman. However, they had forgotten that she was arriving. As a result, they wrote I Should Be So Lucky in 40 minutes while she waited outside the recording studio.

Answers:

- SEVEN, 2. GOOD LUCK CHARM, 3. KINGSLEY AMIS, 4. NIGERIA, 5. STRIKE IT RICH, 6. JACKIE COLLINS, 7. ACTORS/MUSICIANS BEFORE THEY GO ON STAGE TO PERFORM, 8. GRANGE HILL, 9. GUYS AND DOLLS, 10. MALCOLM MCDOWELL

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New fitness trends to look out for

ALTHOUGH just going for a good old fashioned jog is as good a way to get your heart rate going as any, there are several new fitness trends to look out for that could refresh your workout and make exercising fun again.

High-intensity interval training (or HIIT) is regaining popularity among exercise fiends and is a great option for those who prefer to keep their workouts short and sweet.

An HIIT training session involves short bursts of intense training - typically a minute or less - followed by a period of less intense recovery. The entire workout usually lasts around 30 minutes and is proven to be an effective way to do cardio and burn lots of calories.

Group training sessions are also rising through the ranks of popular workout options, as there's no better way to push yourself to your limit than a little bit of friendly competition, right?

They're also a great oppor-



Photo by Unsplash

WORKING IT: Smart watches are a great way to keep track of how you exercise.

tunity to hang out with friends or meet new people, so provide that extra motivation to drag yourself off that couch in the first place. Group classes aren't just limited to gyms, taking part in a salsa class or joining a running group are al-

so great options.

Smart, wearable technology is also proving increasingly popular and helps provide a better insight into how our body functions and how well we exercise.

From Fitbits to smart

watches - and now even a smart ring - these devices help you to know just how hard you're working during an exercise session by monitoring your heart rate and can even let you know how much sleep you get at night.

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Stay clean

CLEAN eating has been the focus of many dieticians and health-food obsessives for a while now, but what does the term actually mean? Is it actually as good for you as it's made out to be?

Clean eating is defined by The Oxford Dictionary simply as: 'Relating to a diet consisting of unprocessed, unrefined, and nutrient-rich food, typically eaten as small meals throughout the day.'

Eating a diet of fresh, unprocessed food is undoubtedly important, and is the basis for the entire clean eating movement. However, the term has now been used to describe many recent diet trends such as organic, vegan or alkaline diets.

Some believe you have to cut out all gluten products to be eating 'clean,' others think the same for dairy.

While many of these diets have their benefits, it's impor-



Photo by Unsplash

GOOD STUFF: How clean is your plate?

tant to make sure your diet is rich with all the essential nutrients your body needs, and eliminating entire food groups sometimes defeats the purpose of healthy eating.

Although society as a whole is undoubtedly eating more processed food than a hundred years ago, simply because there were less processed ingredients back then and it was

more common place to eat from scratch, the clean eating movement has had a positive impact in that it's encouraging more people to get back to basics and consider what they actually put in their bodies.

You shouldn't cut out every indulgence in the name of healthy eating, but eating a range of unprocessed, fresh food is always important.

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Advertising Feature

Three ways to replace your missing tooth

IF you've been unlucky enough to lose a tooth (or two), perhaps from gum disease, tooth decay or trauma, it's wise to actively seek a solution for its replacement, even before the tooth has come out if at all possible.

"Sometimes it's not necessary to replace a missing tooth, it rather depends on where it is and what effect its absence could have on adjacent or opposing teeth in terms of movement, rotation, over-eruption, tilting and loosening," says Howard Forge, Practice owner at Santa Ponsa Dental Practice.

"However, if we feel you should replace it, with an implant for example, the 'gap' will rapidly lose bone density and volume so you need to act promptly."

Broadly speaking there are three solutions: a denture, bridge or implant.

Dentures are a cost-effective way of replacing multiple missing



DR HOWARD FORGE: Practice owner at Santa Ponsa Dental Practice.

teeth and are favoured where insufficient teeth exist for a bridge or an implant is not achievable. Fashioned from acrylic/resin or cobalt chromium, dentures last up to 10 years.

A bridge requires preparation of the adjacent teeth, so they must be firm and healthy (an x-ray will help assess this), but it is a rela-



DENTIST: Good practice.

tively quick way to give back a new tooth. Fixed in place with strong adhesive, bridges have the look and feel of real teeth and a

LATEST TECHNOLOGY: Santa Ponsa Dental Practice has it.

lifespan up to 15 years.

The king of all tooth replace-

ment solutions is the implant. Not involving or damaging adjacent teeth, implants look, feel and act like normal teeth.

"If bone exists, or can be created with grafting, an implant is a superior solution for single or multiple missing teeth, even if all teeth are absent," says Howard.

"A simple surgical procedure is performed to create a small hole in the bone and into this a threaded titanium cylinder is 'implanted'.

After a period of healing, around three months, a crown is attached to the implant. The majority of our clients say the procedure was painless or has caused them minimal discomfort, often much to their surprise."

The cost of a single implant is comparable with that of a three-unit bridge and, if looked after well, may last a lifetime, so could wind up being better value for money in the long run.

Contact Santa Ponsa Dental Practice on (00 34) 971 694 071, hforge@santaponsadental.com, www.santaponsadental.com - you can also find us on Facebook.



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In plain English please

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



I WANT to discuss today the ins and outs of cryptocurrency - Bitcoin, blockchains, ASIC mining, block heights and block rewards - blah, blah, jargon, jargon.

I want to discuss how it works and how it's going to be the future. I want to discuss how it is going to make you all millionaires. I want to, but I can't because I haven't got a clue what it's all about!

I mean you can explain it to me until we are all blue in the face. I watched an hour and a half documentary explaining it all to me and still not a clue. It's something to do with algorithms. Even though I don't understand it I do know it was invented by a man called Satoshi Nakamoto who, by the way, doesn't exist!

Even though I don't understand it I think it's a Ponzi scheme or pyramid sales. I think that if you got in early you might have made loads of money. But I do know that about six weeks ago I put a survey on Twitter asking if you would prefer one bitcoin or 11oz of pure gold. All but one said gold.

Good call, I think, because today one bitcoin buys you 6½oz of gold. I don't know how or why it works but good luck to you if you want a punt. Just don't put your life savings into it. Just put in what you are happy to lose and I mean lose it all. I look forward to all the emails explaining it to me but it has to be in simple, plain English please.

Now on to real money. I applied to see if I was entitled to a Spanish pension as well as my English one because I had paid into the system here. I'm pleased to say that after eight months of toing and froing I was informed that I did indeed qualify and would be notified when I would get paid which turned out to be February 1.

Anyway the day came and went - nada - which got me thinking why?

Why do the banks have to hold on to money? Whenever I have to pay something on the first the money is taken on the first. If that date falls on the weekend they take the money the day before and never the Monday after.

I mean, it's not like someone is going down to the bank and standing in line to pay it in or even sitting in the office waiting to hit the 'pay' button on a computer.

It's all automated. So the message is simple - PAY ME ON TIME!

columnists@euroweeklynews.com



Photo by ParaisoBalear/facebook

Photo by Mical Calvià/facebook

DEBAUCHERY: At last year's parade.

COLOURFUL: Dancing is the way forward.

The carnival is coming to town

EVERY year Spain celebrates the arrival of Lent with extravagant, over the top carnivals and Mallorca is no different.

The carnival is known as 'les Darrers Dies' (the last days) in Mallorca, in reference to the arrival of the Christian tradition, during which eating meat is prohibited.

Most towns and villages will be putting on their own colourful parades over the weekend but the biggest - and arguably the best - are found in Palma. You can expect fancy dress competitions, plenty of live music, food and drink stands and various street parties.

In Palma, the main parades will take place this Sunday with 'Sa Rueta' - the children's event - held from 10.30am to 1.30pm. 'Sa Rua' - the adult version and main event - will be held from 5pm.

There will be prizes for the best costumes and both processions will march down La Rambla, passing through Calle de La Riera, Calle de la Unio, Plaza del Rei Joan Carles I and Avenida de Jaume III.

Other notable carnival events held in Mallorca this weekend include the festivities in Calvià which promises magical floats to transport you to the world of superheroes, pirates and fairies, starting this Saturday at 4.30pm.

Meanwhile the carnival in Manacor begins with the 'Dijous Llarder' today (Thursday) with parades, shows for children and musical performances from 5pm onwards and ends next Tuesday with the 'burial of the sardine,' which commemorates the end of the carnival, at 7.30pm.

Revolutionary flamenco



Photo by MadridFree/Twitter

IN SYNC: Rosalia and Raul Refree.

ROSALIA and Raul Refree, the young Catalan duo that has 'revolutionised' flamenco music are set to appear at the Teatre Principal in Palma.

This dynamic musical act will be performing songs from 'Los Angeles' their debut album this Saturday at 8pm.

Their popular record includes songs that speak of traditional flamenco themes such as pain and loss, but the duo is also known to break with tradition and push the boundaries of the genre. The two also claim to be fans of many other genres of music;

from Guns n' Roses to Kanye West.

On the album, Raul's guitar playing perfectly accompanies Rosalia's vocals to create a modern sound, leaving traditional flamenco behind.

Twenty-four-year-old Rosalia is known as one of the most up and coming voices of the genre today and has already collaborated with artists such as La Fura dels Baus, Chicuelo and Rocio Marquez.

Meanwhile Raul Refree is one of the most renowned names on the current flamenco scene, and his passion for experimentation has led him

to work with artists such as La Mala Rodriguez, Kiko Veneno and Christina Rosenvinge.

Tickets range from €8 to €20 and can be purchased from: www.teatreprincipal.com/es/ficha/compra/koobin/67/

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Moraira author's fascinating journey

EXCLUSIVE

by Harrison Jones

LUCINDA E CLARKE is no ordinary author.

The Moraira-based 69-year-old has gone from toilet cleaner to giant teddy bear sewer to professional writer - via spells in nine different countries and a stint as a dog breeder. She has interviewed Nelson Mandela, met royalty and 'been abandoned in the African bush with a nine-year-old baby.'

But after a lifetime of adventure, the Dublin-born writer is settling down to focus on her award-winning work.

"For me writing is a kind of drug, I get twitchy when I don't write," she told *Euro Weekly News*.

Happily married to her second husband for 20 years, Clarke is now promoting her latest novel, 'Cut For Life' - the fourth in her Amie series.

The subject matter for the latest instalment, though, is dark.

"All my books carry a message - living as an expat in Africa and understanding differ-

ent cultures, radical religious groups, human trafficking, and now Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)," she said.

"When I researched FGM I was horrified and I wanted to raise awareness of the practice, which is growing not only in Europe, but in America as well. It's total abuse and subjugation of women."

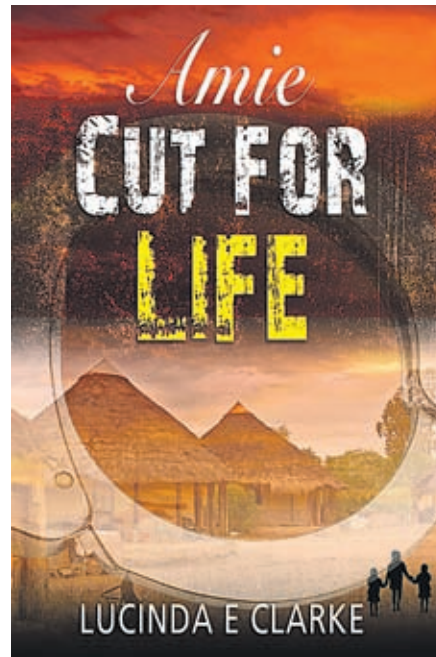
Clarke had spells in the Cotswolds and Liverpool as a child but has since lived in Scotland, Kenya, Libya, Botswana, Swaziland, South Africa and now Spain.

Despite hopes to go into writing from an early age, her career route was unconventional.

She jokes: "as a precocious brat I devoured Enid Blyton and thought 'I could do this.'"

After a series of random jobs, she recalls: "I was dragged to the South African Broadcasting Corporation for an audition which I failed abysmally. I was then shunted to the drama department and I underwhelmed them there too, but it was suggested that I enter the playwright of the year award (she won). After that there was no stopping me!"

Along the way, she found interviewing anti-apartheid hero Mandela frightening.



THOUGHTFUL: Clarke has had an adventure-filled life. (LEFT) The latest book explores FGM.

"I pushed past Reuters, CNN, BBC, etc waving my microphone jauntily in their faces. However, the great man was in a foul mood. He was incredibly tall, which I wasn't expecting, and since he was fuming, and I'm not an important person, he did not turn on the charm, in fact he frightened me to death. He was kind enough to answer all my questions, but I remember thinking that I would never like to get on the wrong side of him."

She has warmer words for Prince Charles - and an anonymous African woman.

"He was not what I expected. The British

media had given me the impression he was a bit of a wuss. When we chatted he was charming, confident, friendly and easy to talk to. He had an aura of power, like Mandela.

"But perhaps the interview that I remember (most) was in a mud hut with a middle-aged black lady, who was dying of AIDS. What she had accomplished in her life, with little cash, few resources and immense courage showed me the true depth of the human spirit."

Clarke's book is available to buy online.

Step in time!

THE North of Mallorca Amateur Dramatic Society (Nomads) have once again given up their time to rehearse, dress up, forget their words and generally tread the boards more times than Laurence Olivier to 'get it right.'

The company that once brought you *The Killing of Sister George*, *Educating Rita* and *A Christmas Carol* now presents *A Spoonful of Nomads*; a take on Disney's *Mary Poppins* with the script 'adapted' by Andrew Ede and choreography input from Sharry Cooper.

The show will be performed at the usual venue of the (reformed) Casa de Cultura, just off the Market Square in Alcudia on Friday February 16 at 7.30pm and Saturday February 17 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets cost €5.

All profits from the shows will be donated to different charities, either local or national.

Nomads have been established for nearly 16 years. They try to produce at least one pantomime annually, but have also staged various other productions over the years.

Expect banter, bright costumes and fun, interjected with great songs and a bit of supercalifragilisticoespialidoso.



PERFECT IN EVERY WAY: 'Mary' during production rehearsals.

Waste not!

BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi



GRAPPA is one of Italy's most popular alcoholic drinks, with approximately 40 million bottles produced each year.

In 1989 the name Grappa became protected by the EU and can be used only if the drink is sourced and produced in Italy with alcohol content between 35-60 per cent.

Grappa is made by steam distillation of the skins, pulp, seeds, and stems (the pomace) left over from the wine-making process in order to extract remaining flavours before the waste is discarded.

It is then bottled at once to make Grappa Bianca, or aged in wooden casks to create the yellow or brown-hued riserva: Flavoured grappas are also produced with infusion of herbs.

If at least 85 per cent of the pomace comes from a single variety, grappa can be designated *di vitigno* or *varietale*, and the type of grape



GRAPPA: Popular and potent.

can be incorporated into the name, eg, grappa di moscato.

An aromatic, neutral spirit with great digestive qualities grappa is a wonderful way to end a meal drunk on its own or added to an espresso, when it is known as 'caffè corretto.'

Young and aromatic grappa should be served chilled, while aged should be served slightly below room temperature, but never ice cold as freezing affects the flavour, and drunk from small tulip-shaped glasses with an open rim.

The flavour of grappa depends on the type and quality of the grapes used, as well as the distillation process, though quality is not guaranteed as there is no DOC protection system as for wines.

There are more than 100 grappa producers in Italy, with several in Bassano del Grappa, the drink's historic home.

The best-known include Berta, Bocchino, Brotto, Distilleria De Negri, Domenis, Jacopo Poli, Nardini, Alexander and Nonino.

Happy tasting.

Spain beats UK on property investment

SPAIN is ahead of the UK and second only to Germany as international investors' favoured destination in Europe, according to leading real estate consultancy Knight Frank.

Speaking at Property EU's Europe and Spain Investment briefing held at law firm CBS' offices recently, Carlos Zamora of Knight Frank Spain said:

"Our survey of major in-

vestors shows that 29 per cent favour Germany, 20 per cent prefer Spain, with the UK coming in third on 12 per cent.

"Spain, Germany and Ireland are the only three countries in Europe with positive forecasts for 2018 in all three main sectors - offices, residential and logistics."

The Spanish market built strength steadily in 2017, with transaction

volumes of €9.2 billion in the first three quarters of the year, up 20.3 per cent on 2016.

In contrast, Portugal saw a 20 per cent fall in 2017, with Italy experiencing a 14 per cent decline.

Maurizio Grilli, Head of Investment Management at BNP Paribas Real

Estate, "Spain is on the up, rents are growing and confidence is high."

There is no doubt that its economic growth is powering positive momentum across sectors, with residential particularly strong in Madrid.

"We are in a recovery market, but we are not repeating the mistakes of the past," said Zamora.

"In 2017 80,000 houses

were built, but in 2006 it was 700,000 so we are very far from the pre-crisis boom."

Both domestic and foreign investors are scouring the country for opportunities in residential.

Oscar Perez, Investment Director of Qualitas Equity Partners says, "There is interest across the board. There are Spanish family offices investing in build to rent, but we also have South Korean investors looking for farms in Extremadura."

The vacancy rate in

Madrid is at an all-time low and rents will only increase as there is not enough space in the city centre to meet demand.

Meanwhile, online sales represent only 4.5 per cent of Spain's total, compared to 18 per cent in the UK and 15 per cent in Germany.

Many are therefore targeting an opportunity for growth in e-commerce. In addition, student housing and old people's homes are beginning to attract more investors.



AIMING HIGH: Spain is increasingly attractive for international investors.

You talkin' to me?

De Niro to open new luxury resort

HOLLYWOOD actor Robert de Niro and professional chef Nobu Matsuhisa are expanding their hotel empire with a new adults-only resort in Marbella.

The Nobu Hotel Marbella - part of the Puente Romano Beach Resort and Spa - boasts direct access to a picture-perfect beach while there will be plenty of bars and restaurants to choose from around the vibrant Plaza.

All of the rooms and suites boast their own private terrace and ensuite marble bathrooms with rainfall showers.



HOLLYWOOD TO HOTELS: Robert de Niro and (inset) the new Marbella venture.

Spa aficionados are sure to love the soothing and tranquil space of the Six Senses Spa that 'combines

the very essence of their philosophy with local Spanish charm and influence.'

The hotel will also offer its guests private VIP access to club La Suite, which has its own private outdoor terrace.

Nobu Hotels attract a sophisticated clientele and are a magnet for A-listers, including models, celebrities, musicians, politicians and business leaders.

The chain was launched in 2009 with De Niro, chef Nobu Matsuhisa, and Hollywood producer Meir Teper as co-owners.

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

Ref 3117, Vallgornera, 170,000€

Apartment with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living room, kitchen, laundry room, large balcony, garage, community pool, aircon. Living area 73m2.



Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€

Semi-detached house with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with American kitchen, garden and roof terrace. 75m² living area.



Ref 3115, Son Bielo, 268,000€

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



Ref 3112, Campos, 1,060,000€

Large finca perfect for keeping horses: main house 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, kitchen/diner, garage. Guest house for total reform, large stables, own well, mains electricity. Totally constructed 750m2, plot 70,500m2.



Ref 3118, Lluçmajor, 106,500€

Apartment in good state of repair, 3rd floor. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, kitchen, 2 balconies. No lift. Living area 90m2 plus terraces.



Ref: 3104, Algaida, 160,000€

Plot with building permission, mains electricity and mains water possible. Nice views.



Village life for sale

MUCH of rural Spain is up for sale, with around 15,000 entire villages on the market.

For example, Olmeda de la Cuesta is a tiny community in La Alcarria, an isolated region of rolling farmland between Madrid, Guadalajara and Cuenca.

With just 35 residents on the electoral roll and barely 10 over winter, it is facing oblivion.

As a result, in a bid to attract newcomers the local council is selling off land at hugely discounted prices.

It has also begun to auction off plots with some success. Last year the mayor Jose Luis Regacho auctioned off 14 plots of land

at €5 per square metre.

This summer, six or seven areas have been identified for sale and buyers are being attracted from abroad.

Some are looking to make a home in the community, including a British sculptor and an Iranian who works as a chef.

Countless villages throughout Spain are facing a similar existential struggle.

A Xesta, in the hills of the Pontevedra Province, has been offering rents of only €100 a month.

There is certainly demand for rural properties, especially from city dwellers looking for a weekend retreat.

Starting prices for properties are between €15,000 and €20,000, although the restoration work needed for them would cost double that.

If the trend continues, more people will be tempted to sell. Elvira Fafian, who runs a website specialising in selling entire villages called *Aldeasabandonadas.com*, says:

“There are places where four or five villages are bought by a family, who then bring their friends and create a little community of their own.

“According to our data, this year half of buyers will be Spanish, and the other half from abroad.”



RUSTIC IDYLL: Esblada is on the market for €280,000.

Of the 3,500 abandoned villages in Spain, around 1,500 are up for sale and they have previously proved popular with American, German and French buyers.

At the upper end of the scale are villages priced at €15 million, with renovated houses and located near woodland and rivers.



Beachside Villa
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GRAEME TYRRELL

Gourmet garlic to garnish your Mediterranean goodies

IF you use garlic in your cooking or for anything else, with just a little preparation you can grow your own and have the freshest garlic possible, even if you have only a spare metre of space.

The climate in Spain is ideal for growing garlic. It can be grown in containers with a good soil mix and it takes up very little space. One good bulb can give you around 20 cloves that can be planted just eight centimetres apart in all directions.

A broad, shallow container is ideal as the roots do not need to go too deep if they are cared for correctly. A metre square container can give 100 new bulbs which could be enough for a year's supply in many kitchens.

A great way to have fresh garlic leaves, used in the way chive leaves are used in salads and soups, is to separate the smaller cloves from the bulbs being prepared to grow large bulbs.

Plant the biggest cloves in a larger container and the smaller cloves in another container. The smaller cloves will grow quickly,

perhaps just weeks, and you can start harvesting the outer leaves for your favourite dishes to benefit from the fresh garlic taste while waiting for the bulbs to mature in the other container. It is best not to harvest the leaves of the larger growing bulbs as it may affect their size.

If you have a space in your garden you can start your garlic patch there. The soil should be loose, with plenty of compost enriched with manure or other nutrients but not to excess. Garlic does not like wet feet so keep watering to a minimum to keep the soil just moist, and if your soil tends to be waterlogged at any time, plant them in raised beds. They do best with plenty of sun and only very partial shade.

To obtain bulbs for planting, it is a good idea to source them from



Photo by Jeep Photo Shutterstock

GARLIC: Easy to grow at home.

organic shops or good market stalls so they are chemical free and fresh. Garlic stored for long periods does

not grow as strongly as fresh cloves so it is best to look around for the freshest looking ones.

Once you get the bulbs home and your containers or plot prepared, break open the bulbs carefully, so that the plate at the base is intact on each clove, as otherwise they may not grow. Cloves with broken plates can be put to use in the kitchen.

The bigger the clove planted, the bigger the new bulb that will develop, but it depends on whether there is the right balance of nutrients and sun as to whether they will have the same size cloves in the new bulb when they mature.

They are ready to harvest when the leaves start to naturally die down, usually from summer to autumn. Maturity depends on the timing of planting, which can be from autumn to early spring in the Mediterranean climate. Planting in autumn and spring can give an extended harvest season.

Green fingers

A GARDEN should, by the very nature of the thing, be eco-friendly - or so you would think. However, there are many improvements the average gardener can make to their outdoor spaces to make them more environmentally conscious.

The best way to create your own eco-paradise is to make a space that is self-sustaining so it supports itself like the best natural ecosystems. This can be easily achieved just by using natural landscaping techniques and carefully considering which supplies you use.

One of the most effective - and most fruitful - ways to create an eco-friendly garden is to grow your own food. This will help to decrease your reliance on goods produced by large scale farming systems, so you'll do your bit towards cutting down on emissions generated by transporting produce.

Planting certain foods such as garlic will help cut down on the amount of pest control you use - which is also important

when creating an eco-friendly garden. Many insects don't like the smell of garlic, and you get an endless supply to add to your dishes, so it's a win-win situation.

However, it's also important to attract the right kind of insects to your garden, such as pollinators, to help your plants flourish and help boost the local bee population.



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Hugh Carville is a famous face on Mallorca, having entertained the masses for 5 years at popular venue 'The Stadium'. He's a music aficionado who can tell his Black Sabbath from his Black Lace.

Hugh's radio career started when he was a regular host of the legendary weekend radio show 'English Radio Mallorca'. On air he highlighted weekly events and was one member of the popular team who's show has now become part of Mallorca's history.

Hugh has his finger on the pulse of what's happening on Mallorca and brings you local news, events, charity updates, gossip, and much more each day on Spectrum Mallorca.

Hugh has lived on Mallorca for 10 years and shares a home with his fiancé in Palmanova. He loves to help with the various charities on the island and enjoys walking in the mountains of Mallorca. Having learnt his DJ trade in various clubs and bars in and around London, he decided to make his move to the wonderful island of Mallorca; which he now calls home. You can listen to Hugh in the mornings on Spectrum FM from 8am to 12 pm.

Have an event? Get in contact with Hugh
on hugh@spectrumfm.net
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David retires from Talk Radio Europe

David THE Dogman

columnists@ewnmediagroup.com

IT is with great pride that I look back on my 30 years of broadcasting on this coast.

I am now over 80 and whilst I look forward to my journalistic endeavours at the *Euro Weekly News*, continuing the stresses of preparing and presenting a radio show are too much, so the time has come for me to hang up my microphone.

Over this very long period I have been supported by many knowledgeable colleagues and to name them individually would take far too long.

To my team I would like to extend a very big thank you to



DAVID THE DOGMAN: Looking forward to retirement.

Nazli and Celia, who have been wonderfully supportive at all times, and I must also include Rona Brown, Val Boney, and Carolyn Menteith, Giles and of course my darling wife

Susan who has always been with me at the studio.

To my many friends I thank you for your support and to our latest contributor Boris the cat (a female!) I say thanks for the pleasure you have given us through Barry Nathan.

So to everybody a big thank you and I look forward to a happy retirement.

Tributes pour in

Dear David,
I confess you took me by surprise although I can well understand why you took the decision. Nobody outside radio can fully appreciate the work that is involved in producing a one-hour show and I think you have made the right decision to retire and keep your legacy intact. I wish you and Susan health and happiness for many years.
Sincerely, *Martin (Talk Radio Europe)*

Dear David,
Enjoy your time retired with dear Susan. I know you and I know you will always make yourself busy!

It was such an honour to be your very last guest. Thank you also for your friendship and professional guidance that you have freely given over the recent years that I have known you.

Brotherly love, *Dave*

Dear David,
A great 30 years entertaining and informing your listeners, you should indeed be proud. We'll continue to follow you in the *EWN* and wish you a more relaxed life... which you and Susan have certainly earned. All good things to you both.

Warmest wishes, *Sheila and Alan Skinner, Parcent*

Dear David,
Oh, what a shame! I know many, many people who enjoyed your programme, myself included, although to be honest I do not know how you managed to keep it up for so long. There will never be anyone capable of replacing you.
Big hug, *Andrew*

Hi David, wishing you a long and happy retirement. No doubt you will still be keeping busy. With very best wishes.
Fitz and Alice, Cosford Dog Training

Dear David,
Although understandable, I was very upset to hear of your retirement and will miss you and your team of experts enormously. Over the years I have learnt so much and am incredibly grateful for all your hard work in providing so many interesting interviews and indeed producing so many programmes. Saturday mornings will not be the same without you.
With very best wishes for a happy retirement.
Angela Webb

An inspiration to many - David the Dogman...

SOME dogs have bigger personality than others

We find that the pet stories we receive from our readers are mainly about dogs and cats. And it can be remarkable the big personalities some of them display whether just at home or indeed among their kind. Increasingly we hear stories of rescue animals, and especially dogs who take time to recover from the ill treatment they have received over the years. One gentleman people have listened to when asking for advice about their dogs is David the Dogman.

Who do you call in a crisis?

Since my first interview with David on TRE I've listened regularly to his advice.

One time I was housesitting for a client (yes, I housesit too!), and found I was struggling to manage one of my canine charges. She was a recent

rescue, who had been badly abused. The owner had asked me to make sure she came into the house every night. I found this task was taking longer each evening. I needed advice, and David was the man I called. The other three dogs in the family pack were established as a unit but Perle was still integrating as she was only recently adopted from a local shelter. It was clear she thoroughly mistrusted people. She would do

any

thing to avoid proximity with humans.

I made the call

On the fourth evening I called David. He was wonderful, generous in time and spirit and needless to say his advice worked. Within two days the dog and I had an understanding, she came into the house with the other dogs as night fell. As he advised, I was kind to her with every word and gesture, but also firm, my instructions were clear with a reward. She accepted my treats and commands and I accepted her measured distance.

This year I returned to the same housesit, all the dogs remembered me and Perle seemed as excited as the others to have me back.

Thanks David!



The Rottweiler, one of our favourites.

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Lazy dog days are over...

WHILE it goes without saying that many dogs enjoy fewer walks during winter, when adverse weather conditions can derail the plans of even the most dedicated pooch lovers, apparently some people pray that the weather doesn't hold out during these months so they have an excuse not to go out for a stroll.

According to a new survey by *Tails.com*, one in six people admitted they hope it will rain so they have a reason to avoid taking their dog for a walk.

Meanwhile, a whopping 56 per cent of dog owners revealed their dogs get less exercise when it's cold out. As a result of their owner's aversion to bad weather, many dogs put on weight during winter and fall out of shape.

However, your dog is still probably just as enthusiastic about going for a walk when it is pouring down with rain as when it is sunny outside, so they can get out the house and burn off some energy.



SLUMPED: Get your dog off the sofa this winter.

Forcing yourself to go for a walk in winter can be just as beneficial for owners as it is for their dogs as regular exercise is a proven mood booster, while 50 per cent of owners think their dog is happiest after stretching its legs, and 43 per cent believe regular exercise helps to keep their dog calm.



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Photo by Marco Verch Flickr

AERIAL VIEW: Can Picafort moorings.

Longer lease but higher charges

AS was predicted when the Ports de les Illes Balears indicated that new long term leases for different marinas were to be granted, mooring prices have had to increase.

The latest yacht club to be adversely affected in this manner is that at Can Picafort which will be increasing mooring fees by between 30 and 40 per cent.

This is the price that will have to be paid in order for the yacht club to obtain a new, long term lease.

According to the president of the club, a demand was initially made for an annual fee of €220,000 per year although following a number of discussions, the demand was dropped twice, resulting in a final fee of €150,000 per annum.

Some 350 members of the club attended an extraordinary general meeting and reluctantly gave their approval for the new charge in order to allow them to continue to use the marina for the next 35 years.

The drastic rise in mooring fees is un-

welcome especially as the majority of vessels using the facility are no larger than 12 metres in length and the president, Toni Montserrat commented that this was an area for small boats adding "It's not Port Adriano."

One good piece of news however was that there would be a commitment to spend €3 million on improvements to the pontoons, electrical installation plus an agreement for an annual cleaning of algae.

Making access to the Paseo Marítimo easier

MORE than €1.5 million is to be spent on upgrading the infrastructure of Puerto Alcudia of which €500,000 will be paid for by the Balearic Islands Tourist Authority.

The money will be spent improving the roads, pavements and disabled access with a new tree lined boulevard running down to the Paseo Marítimo which will have plenty of walking space, street furniture and cars will be encouraged to drive at a slower pace.

According to the local council,



PUERTO ALCUDIA: The port will be even more accessible after the work.

the idea is to make life easier for those wanting to use the port and to beautify the area generally for the benefit of residents as well as visitors.

They plan to undertake the work during the 'off season' in order to cause the minimum of disruption and inconvenience.

Close competition in Sotogrande races

THE fourth meeting in the Seventh Circuit of the J/80 competition took place in the Marina de Sotogrande last week with some interesting results.

The Gibraltarian sailor John Bassadone achieved his second consecutive triumph with two victories against the one of the Marbella team of Pepequin Orbaneja and Juan Luis Paez.

Difficult weather condi-

tions meant that there were only three races on Saturday but on Sunday, every time they tried to start a new race, the wind changed and the racing had to be called off in order to protect the competitors.

At the end of this fourth round, the Marbella team still has a narrow lead but this could all change with the fifth round which takes place on the weekend of February 17.



Photo by Ayuntamiento de San Roque

RACE VICTOR: John Bassadone on Urban Arkimedes (formerly Gesta Real State).



Photo by Ainhoa Sanchez/ Volvo Ocean Race

RETURNING: The race restarts from Hong Kong.

Volvo Ocean Race is now on Leg 6

AFTER visiting China and then returning to Hong Kong, Leg 6 of the Volvo Ocean Race to Auckland is now underway.

Spanish vessel MAPFRE is still just the overall leader in the competition but with a journey of nearly 6,000 nautical miles, taking the yachts through a whole range of different weather, it would be foolish for anyone to predict how this leg will finish.

One yacht, Vestas 11th Hour Racing will

not be taking part in this leg of the race as the crew were unable to repair the damage following the unfortunate accident outside of Hong Kong which left nine local fishermen injured and one dead.

Assuming that repairs can be completed over the next few days, it is planned to take the yacht to Auckland on a freight vessel and then rejoin the race for Leg 7 from Auckland to Itajai in Brazil, which is scheduled to start on March 18.

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“The ‘new car smell’ is the odour that comes from around 50 volatile organic compounds - mainly via plastics, adhesives and sealers. There is some question about whether it poses a health risk to humans.”

Cashqai:

3 million UK sales gives Nissan further boost

NISSAN have sold their three millionth Qashqai in the UK, 10 years after the 4x4 model came onto the British market.

And Spanish sales of the car have also contributed to a profitable year for the company, with a near 10 per cent rise in sales in the country.

The news comes after Nissan announced their best ever annual sales figures in Europe - up 3.8 per cent on 2016.

Overall, they sold around 750,000 vehicles in 2017, including those from their sister company Datsun. They are now boasting a 3.7 per cent share of the continental car market.

The company attribute much of the success to the Qashqai, with 350,000 of the ‘urban crossover’ being made at the company’s plant in

Sunderland. Nissan believe the Qashqai is their ‘most successful model in Europe in Nissan’s history’, pointing out that the car has won more than 80 awards, including 19 ‘Car of the Year’ titles.

Paul Willcox, chairman of Nissan Europe, said: “2017 was another record-breaking year for Nissan Europe, and 2018 has started the same way.

“The Qashqai’s achievement of reaching 3,000,000 vehicles produced in 10 years is a significant milestone, while the October launch of the new and eagerly awaited Nissan LEAF has seen record-breaking pre-orders of one every 10 minutes.”

Willcox added that he expects the company to break further records in 2018.

MAKING WAVES:

The Qashqai’s success has been remarkable.



Ready for take-off?

DUTCH company Pal V said it will reveal a flying car at the Geneva International Motor Show next month.

Named ‘The Liberty’, the model resembles a motorbike sidecar topped with helicopter blades.

Pal V have dubbed the vehicle ‘the world’s first flying car’.

Now in the final stages of its development, the manufacturers say they will certify the vehicle for road and air use shortly, with the final safety certification due straight after the Geneva show.

The company say the internal combustion engine will deliver 100 horsepower. Top speeds will be around 100mph on land and 112mph in the air.

Fuel economy is remarkably reasonable - according to the company’s forecasts at least - given that the car is also an airplane. Pal V claim it will do 31 miles per gallon while driving with a 284-mile



Credit: Twitter/worldsfairmano

OFF ROAD: The vehicle can drive and fly.

range.

Consumption rockets to 6.9 gallons per hour in the air, with a total range of 310 miles, however. And that assumes only one person is inside the two-seater vehicle.

Aside from the price of fuel, punters will have to stump up some \$399,000 (currently around €320,000) to buy one of the forthcoming regular liberty sport models.

The company has spent years readying production and supply chains, meaning production could now begin later this year.

Pal V is confident the vehicle will meet all safety certifications this year and that deliveries will begin in 2019.

There are, however, various other companies vying for the honour and prestige of delivering the first flying car.

Mazda sign up to voluntary UN agreement

MAZDA has signed an agreement with the United Nations (UN). By agreeing to the ‘Global Compact’ terms as the company say they did in January, they are now a member of the Global Compact Network Japan.

By joining, the Japanese car manufacturer agrees to a voluntary commitment to ‘exercise responsible, creative leadership and (build) a global framework for sustainable growth’.

Mazda say it practises ‘corporate social responsibility’ in all of its operations, but will now work to uphold the 10

principles of the UN Global Compact.

These include promises on human rights, the environment,

labour and anti-corruption.

The UN Global Compact has nearly 10,000 members, from 161 countries.

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La Liga round-up

Levante leave it late to stun Real

by Benjamin Park

A LAST-MINUTE goal from substitute Giampaolo Pazzini gave Levante a well-deserved point against Real Madrid as Los Blancos stumbled to yet another point.

Last year's champions looked to be heading for victory when Isco put them ahead in the 81st minute after Emmanuel Boateng's first half equaliser had cancelled out Sergio Ramos' early opener.

But despite Real scoring late themselves, Pazzini, who was making his La Liga debut following a January move from Hellas Verona, nipped in behind the defence in the final minute to earn a memorable point against struggling Madrid.

The result sees Real remain in fourth place, who missed the chance to leapfrog third-placed Valencia after they lost 1-0 to Atletico Madrid.

Angel Correa scored the only goal of the

game in the battle of second against third, as Madrid moved nine points clear of the Valencians.

Atletico moved to within nine points of Barcelona as it was honoured even at in the Derbi Barceloni as Espanyol held the runaway leaders to a 1-1 draw.

Gerard Moreno gave the hosts a second-half lead in torrential conditions, but Gerard Pique rose highest from a late corner to ensure his side left the RCDE Stadium with a point and preserved their unbeaten La Liga record.

Elsewhere, Eibar humbled Sevilla 5-1 on Saturday, as they closed the gap on the top six.

Garcia Martinez got the hosts on their way in the first minute and further goals from Ivan Ramis, Arbillana and an Orellana double saw Eibar move to within a point of their opponents in the table.

STUNNED: Giampaolo Pazzini scored a last-gasp winner to earn Levante a point against Real Madrid.



It was a similar result for Real Sociedad on Friday, as they hammered struggling Deportivo La Coruna 5-0 to boost their own survival hopes.

An Asier Illarramendi double as well as goals from Willian Jose, Sergio Canales and Artiz Elustondo ensured Sociedad ended a run of four straight defeats and moved nine points clear of the relegation places.

Malaga's season went from bad to worse on Monday as they lost the 'relegation six-pointer' 1-0 to Las Palmas.

Croatian Alen Halilovic broke Malaga's hearts in the 90th minute as he lashed home the winner brilliantly past Roberto to ensure a huge three points for the Gran Canarian side.

The result leaves Los Boquerones well off the pace, seven points behind 17th placed Levante.

In the weekend's other results, Girona breezed past Athletic Bilbao with a double from former Middlesbrough midfielder Christian Stuani securing a 2-0 victory, Alaves were 2-1 winners against Celta Vigo, it was the same result for Real Betis against Villarreal and Getafe drew 0-0 with Leganes.



SPANISH LA LIGA 2017/18 TABLE

| TEAM | PJ | PG | PE | PP | GF | GC | PT |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 • Barcelona | 22 | 18 | 4 | 0 | 60 | 11 | 58 |
| 2 • Atlético | 22 | 14 | 7 | 1 | 33 | 9 | 49 |
| 3 • Valencia | 22 | 12 | 4 | 6 | 42 | 26 | 40 |
| 4 • Real Madrid | 21 | 11 | 6 | 4 | 45 | 21 | 39 |
| 5 • Villarreal | 22 | 11 | 4 | 7 | 33 | 26 | 37 |
| 6 • Sevilla | 22 | 10 | 3 | 9 | 28 | 34 | 33 |
| 7 • Eibar | 22 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 31 | 34 | 32 |
| 8 • Celta | 22 | 9 | 4 | 9 | 39 | 32 | 31 |
| 9 • Girona | 22 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 31 | 29 | 31 |
| 10 • Betis | 22 | 9 | 3 | 10 | 37 | 45 | 30 |
| 11 • Getafe | 22 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 26 | 21 | 29 |
| 12 • Leganés | 21 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 20 | 21 | 29 |
| 13 • Athletic | 22 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 24 | 25 | 27 |
| 14 • R. Sociedad | 22 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 41 | 40 | 26 |
| 15 • Espanyol | 22 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 19 | 29 | 25 |
| 16 • Alavés | 22 | 7 | 1 | 14 | 19 | 32 | 22 |
| 17 • Levante | 22 | 3 | 11 | 8 | 20 | 32 | 20 |
| 18 • Deportivo | 22 | 4 | 5 | 13 | 24 | 51 | 17 |
| 19 • Las Palmas | 22 | 5 | 2 | 15 | 17 | 50 | 17 |
| 20 • Málaga | 22 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 14 | 35 | 13 |

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Davis Cup: Spain pip plucky Brits in Marbella

by Harrison Jones

TENNIS legend David Lloyd labelled Cameron Norrie's Davis Cup debuts "one of the most impressive of all time," despite Great Britain's loss against Spain.

The visitors to Marbella had strong support, but fell to a respectable 3-1 loss in the Davis Cup tie.

In the absence of number one Andy Murray, the new-look side impressed.

On Friday, Norrie, 22, had come back from two sets and 3-0 down to beat world number 23 Roberta Bautista Agut - sparking hopes of an unlikely British win.

But Norrie - ranked 114 in the world - fell to Albert Ramos-Vinolas in four sets to give Spain victory. The youngster was given huge credit for his performance.

Lloyd said: "What a performance. To go against world-class players, with no experience, and to embrace this occasion like he has is quite extraordinary. We've got another player coming up now who is going to be tremendous."

Earlier in the tie, Ramos-Vinolas had beaten Liam Broady in the opening singles match.

Doubles pair Jamie Murray and Dominic Inglot lost to Pablo Carreno-Busta and Feliciano Lopez in disap-

pointing fashion. They were dispatched in straight sets and two hours 28 minutes.

Spain, who were also without their star man in Rafael Nadal, still named a squad including five players ranked in the world top 40.

Britain now have to win a play-off in September to stay in the World Group in 2019, while Spain face Germany in the quarter finals in April.

Despite the loss, Britain will take heart from Norrie's performance. Going into the tie, many expecting a white wash - and pinning some hope on Jamie Murray's doubles match for a possible consolation point.

The victory was the youngster's first ever match on red clay - and the only time he had gone beyond three sets.

He was written off multiple times during a pulsating game, but came back for a sensational victory which drew praise from across the sport.

Leon Smith, the Great Britain captain, said: "I can't speak highly enough of what Cam has done all weekend.

"People might have thought Friday was a one-off but he did it again against another high-quality player. He pushed him really close and I'm really proud of him. The only way is up for him."

Hornets sting Chelsea to pressurise Conte

WATFORD earned a memorable 4-1 victory over Chelsea at Vicarage Road on Monday to add to the mounting pressure on Blues boss Antonio Conte.

Last season's Champions were all at sea the whole evening and were down to 10-men in the 30th minute after Tiemoue Bakayoko saw red, and quickly fell behind to a Troy Deeney penalty.

Chelsea equalised through a marvellous Eden Hazard goal, but went searching for the winner, and conceded three goals in the final six minutes to Daryl Janmaat, Gerard Deulofeu and Robert Pereyra as the Hornets inflicted Chelsea's second big loss in as many games.

The result leaves the champions a staggering 19 points behind leaders Manchester City, who could only manage a draw against Burnley.

Daniilo got the runaway leaders on their way early in the first half but City missed a host of chances and was made to pay, as Johann Berg Gudmundsson's late strike earned Burnley a point.

Manchester United closed the gap at the top to 13 points following the

result, as Alexis Sanchez grabbed his first goal for the club in a 2-0 win over Huddersfield.

Arsenal continued to thrive following Sanchez's departure as they thrashed Everton 5-1.

New boy Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Laurent Koscielny and an Aaron Ramsey hat-trick saw Arsenal breeze past their Merseyside opponents on Saturday

Their North London rivals Tottenham scored a last gasp penalty to secure a 2-2 draw with Liverpool after a frantic last 10 minutes at Anfield.

Liverpool led from the third minute before Victor Wanyama's wonderstrike levelled the tie in the 80th minute.

Salah seemed to have won it for Liverpool in the 91st minute before Tottenham was awarded a 95th minute penalty, which Harry Kane dually dispatched following an earlier penalty miss.

GERARD DEULOFEU:
Caused Chelsea
havoc in 4-1 win.

Photo by: gerarddeulofeu/Twitter



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TWO-TIME World Darts Champion, Adrian Lewis, was suspended from the UK Open after pushing Spaniard Jose Justicia in the chest during their recent match. The bizarre event occurred after Justicia allegedly accused Lewis of trying to trip him as he picked up his darts.

Mallorca's best guide to local sport

TO READ MORE

TWO-TIME Formula One World Champion will race at the Le Mans 24 Hours in 2018 and 2019.

The Spaniard will race as part of a deal that will see him compete in all but one World Endurance Championship (WEC) race for Toyota this season.

Alonso's Formula One team McLaren officially revealed the news but confirmed that the 36-year-old's priorities continue to focus on the 'main target of Formula 1 with McLaren.'

Thirty-six-year-old Alonso has reportedly set himself the target of winning motor racing's infamous 'triple crown' of the Monaco Grand Prix, Le Mans and the Indianapolis 500, a feat that only Graham Hill has managed thus far.

He has already won the Monaco Grand Prix twice and raced competitively at last year's Indy 500 before his engine failed in the closing stages of the race.

Speaking after the announcement, Alonso said: "We tried for Indy last year, came close, but

Fast and Fer-ious

Alonso confirmed for Le Mans

just missed out. This year, I have the chance, thanks to McLaren, to race for the win at Le Mans.

"It is a big challenge, much can go wrong, but I am ready, prepared and looking forward to the fight."

Alonso will miss October's WEC round in Japan as it clashes with the US Grand Prix which begins with the Spa Six Hours on May 5.

The Japanese WEC race is reportedly the only one that will clash with a Grand Prix during the 2018 season, while the 2019 F1 calendar is yet to be released but no clashes are expected.

McLaren executive director Zak Brown said: "It's no secret that Fernando has wanted to

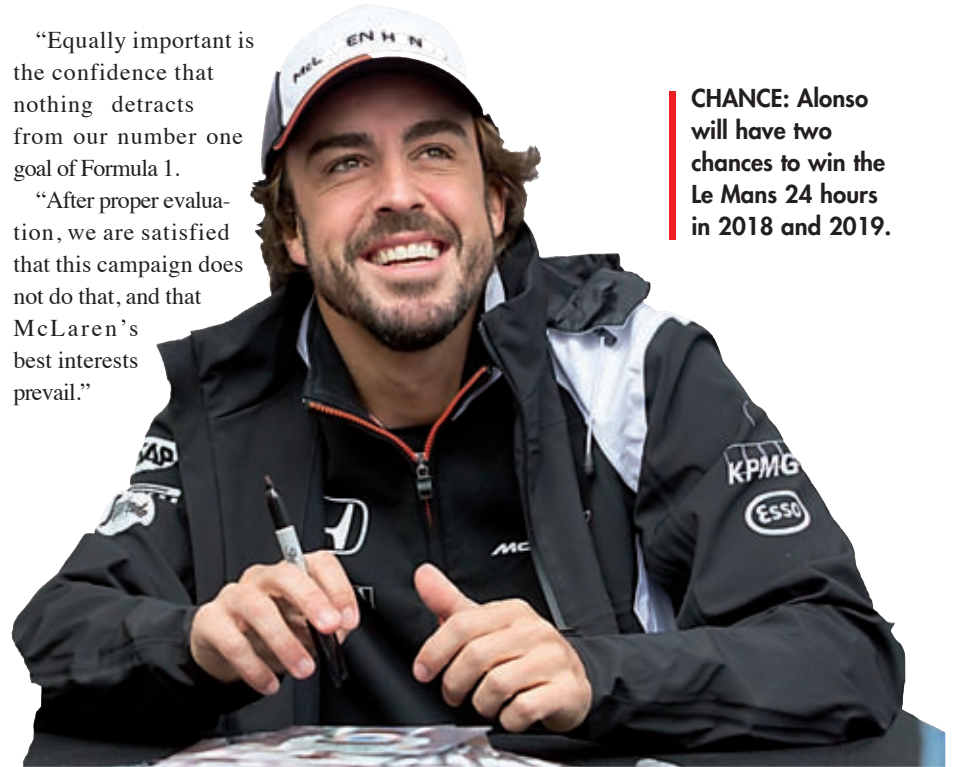
contest the Le Mans 24 Hours. I think everybody within our organisation appreciates that a motivated, hungry and happy world-class driver such as Fernando is a formidable asset for any team in F1.

"Last year, we came to the joint decision to go racing with Fernando at the Indy 500 rather than at the Monaco Grand Prix. But we've always said that we would consider each opportunity on a case-by-case basis, and we both know that, in 2018, our core priority is success in Formula 1.

"Like Fernando, at McLaren we're racers at heart, and our team is built on a brave heritage of competing and succeeding in different forms of the sport.

"Equally important is the confidence that nothing detracts from our number one goal of Formula 1.

"After proper evaluation, we are satisfied that this campaign does not do that, and that McLaren's best interests prevail."



CHANCE: Alonso will have two chances to win the Le Mans 24 hours in 2018 and 2019.

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