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ISSUE No. 1703 || 22 - 28 February 2018 **COSTA BLANCA SOUTH » YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE, YOUR OPINION** WWW.EUROWEEKLYNEWS.COM

## Terror swoop

### 'Daesh recruiter' quizzed by police

A Moroccan man has been held in Murcia on suspicion of recruiting for Daesh.

According to reports, the 31-year-old has been active on the internet since 2014 and would regularly upload content supporting Daesh, including videos showing symbols of the organisation and also films including chants.

The suspect also posted images on social media showing the execution of US soldiers carried out by a Daesh sniper.

Police believe that the man had become increasingly radicalised over the past three years and had come to the point of being close to participating in a violent terrorist act.

He is believed to have used up to three different social media profiles to carry out his work and also posted videos directly produced by Daesh,



**MOROCCAN CONNECTION:** Police arrested the man at a property in Murcia.

promoting messages of hatred and violence against what they call the 'enemies of Islam' and inciting people to join the organisation.

Several of his followers are believed to have already been arrested for their links to the or-

ganisation in Morocco and Spain.

Since the Home Office raised Spain's Antiterrorist Alert (NAA) to level four (out of five) in June 2015, Security Forces and Agencies have arrested 224 individuals with links to Daesh.

## Expatriate fraud

FIVE people have been arrested in Los Alcázares on suspicion of fraudulently registering foreign nationals.

The Murcia division of the Guardia Civil first began investigating a potential issue in November when they were made aware of irregularities in the town's most recent census.

Known as 'Malace,' an operation was set up to investigate whether there could be any fraudulent dealings aimed at obtaining economic benefits in exchange for falsely registering foreign citizens had occurred.

The Guardia Civil quickly became aware that a considerable number of foreign citizens had obtained the housing certificates for properties that they were not living in.

» Turn to page 10

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## Hidden package

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**PROPERTY SPECIAL**

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The secret is revealed on page 39

**NEWS EXTRA**

**Pensioner blunder**

A 70-YEAR-OLD man has allegedly tested positive for alcohol after his vehicle was involved in an accident which saw him reportedly hit a lamppost head on, causing serious damage to the vehicle but leaving the driver uninjured.

**Fired up**

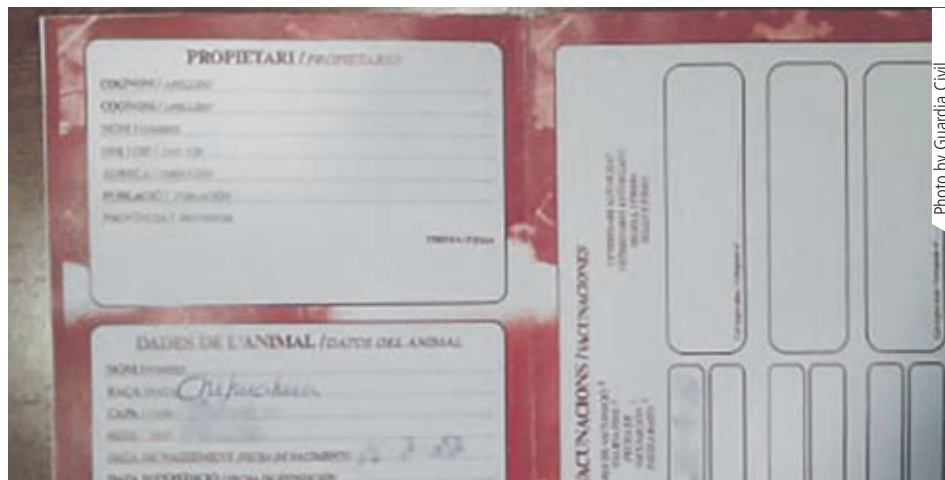
A FIRE has burnt out a flat in Santomera, Torrevieja, and is now being investigated by the Guardia Civil. Firefighters put out the blaze and the whole property has been evacuated.

**Crash victims**

THREE women and two young children have been left injured and taken to hospital after two cars were involved in an incident on the RM-414 which links Santomera with Abanilla close to the El Puerro restaurant.

**Holy smoke**

ALMOST one in four women in Alicante continues to smoke during pregnancy, despite warnings from doctors about the risks of premature births, light-weight babies, and spontaneous abortions.



FAKE: A 'health card' allegedly made by the woman.

**Old dog, new tricks**

by Benjamin Park

A 29-YEAR-OLD woman has been investigated by the Guardia Civil for allegedly forging health cards during the sale of dogs and cats online.

An investigation began after several vets in Orihuela and Santomera noticed irregularities in veterinary papers provided by several dog owners.

The vets noticed that the veterinary card included the dogs' pedigree and various vaccines and deworming but they did not possess the official regulated format and the data did not have

the signature or number of the veterinarian that supposedly supplied them.

Officers were able to trace the sales, which were made online to a Spanish woman in Orihuela.

As part of the investigation, the woman reportedly delivered two Chihuahua puppies to officers as part of their investigation with a fake sanitary card and false documentation regarding the dogs' vaccinations.

Police reportedly believe she could have been selling different breeds of both cats and dogs online for up to six years, and is now being investigated as the person allegedly responsible for documentary falsification.

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**Man held for violent behaviour**

THE National Police of Elche has arrested a 52-year-old man accused of violent and threatening behaviour with a large knife, while the victim's two-year-old son looked on.

Officers were alerted to the confrontation after an emergency call to the operations department of the police.

When two police officers arrived at the scene, they found

the suspect on top of his victim, pointing a 46cm kitchen knife at his abdomen.

In the body search that ensued, the officers seized €850 in cash that the suspect had taken from his victim.

It is believed that the victim was a tenant of the aggressor in arrears of his rental payments, and that this was the cause of the incident.

**Woman arrested trying to prostitute own niece**

by Tom Woods

THE National Police has arrested a 50-year-old woman in Elche for the alleged crime of prostitution, sexual exploitation and corruption of children.

According to police sources, a witness alerted them to a café in the town where the woman was reportedly trying to sell the sexual services of her 13-year-old niece to three men.

When the officers arrived at the scene they saw the woman, the girl, and the three men all sitting at a

table.

The suspect, of Spanish nationality, and her niece were transferred to police units while a formal investigation took place.

Statements were taken and when all relevant evidence had been gathered, the woman was arrested on February 15 for the aforementioned crimes.

An investigation continues as to whether these crimes could have occurred previously or if there is a network of child sexual exploitation behind this incident.

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**P60****MOTORING**

ALL THE LATEST CAR NEWS PLUS OUR WEEKLY TEST DRIVE

**P93**

## A cock and bull story

THE Valencian Superior Court of Justice has ruled that Villena Council lacks the competence to either authorise or deny the celebration of bullfighting. No bullfights have been held in the local square for four years and the council will now pay the court costs.

## Bus block

RESIDENTS of Montesol are demanding that the R-3 bus route be extended so that they don't have to walk more than two kilometres to the nearest stop. The council has responded that it is not feasible due to the increased transit time that would result.

## Going slow

FINES for speeding in Cartagena have fallen by half in the past year. Local Police caught 2,000 fewer drivers in 2017, which has been attributed to a greater public awareness of speeding dangers, as well as a fear of fines and points on their licence.

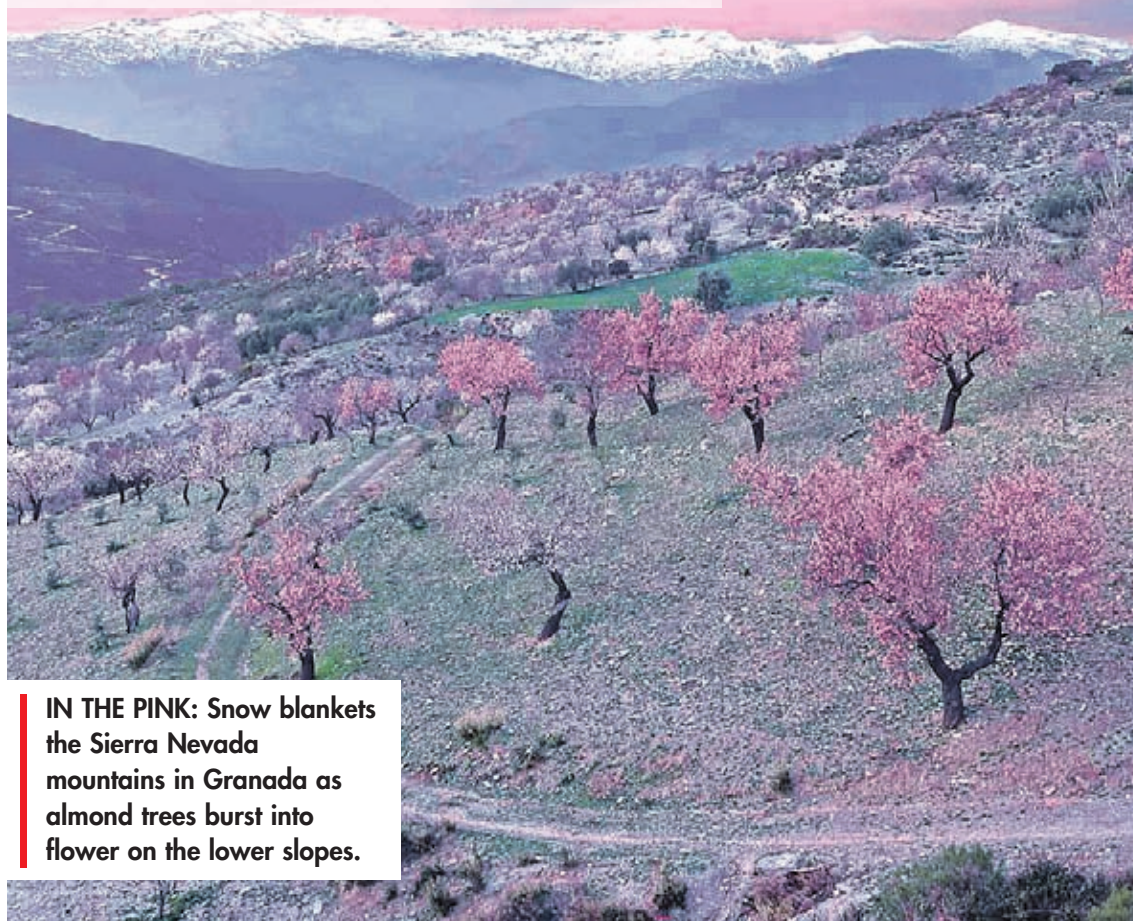
## Motor madness

A DRIVER has uploaded a video on social media of a car on the AP-7 motorway near San Pedro, making reckless manoeuvres on the road. Images show a white Peugeot getting up close to cars ahead, dangerous overtaking moves, and aggressive braking.

## Car collisions

TWO people have been left injured after being hit by cars in separate incidents. The first, a 20-year-old, was allegedly hit in the main street of Los Belones, while a 30-year-old man was later hit on the pier promenade at the Plaza Heroes de Cavite.

# Blooming gorgeous

**THE BIG PICTURE Nº 2**

**IN THE PINK:** Snow blankets the Sierra Nevada mountains in Granada as almond trees burst into flower on the lower slopes.

A MAGICAL display is taking place in the hills and mountains of Mediterranean Spain.

For a few weeks in January and February hundreds of thousands of almond trees erupt into blossom, with the countryside briefly transformed into a spectacular fairytale landscape of delicate pink and white hues.

Grown mostly in Andalucia, Aragon, Cataluña, Valencia, Murcia,

and the Balearic Islands, almonds form an important part of the local diet, being used to prepare everything from soups and sauces to cakes, pastries, marzipan and nougat.

Almonds form part of the Prunus 'stone fruit' genus along with plums, cherries, peaches, nectarines and apricots.

Native to the Middle East and Northern Africa, the trees were domes-

ticated around 3,000 BC and brought to Spain by the Moors.

And the country is now the world's second-largest producer of almonds after the United States.

More than 100 varieties are currently grown, but only five are produced on a commercial scale, with the marcona form - known as the queen of almonds - widely considered to be the best quality in the world.

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# 174

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1702 of the Euro Weekly News Costa Blanca South edition, including 55 local stories.

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# Spring watch



Photo credit: Jesus, iFlicker

**A Harramacho looks on and (inset) revellers gather in the village square.**

It is an ancient festival of unknown origin.

Taking place in the hamlet of Navalacruz in the foothills of the Sierra de Gredos mountains, Avila, the Los Harramachos ritual is thought to be a pre-Roman call to protect livestock and children and boost fertility at the onset of spring.

During the event revellers dress in fearsome-looking costumes made from sacking, animal skins and natural materials, concealing their faces with animalistic masks.

And a number of different characters are involved in the annual celebration, which took place last Saturday.

The Harramachos themselves are brash, masked individuals with a frightening appearance, although they do not participate in the ritual itself.

The Heifer is the incarnation of evil and wears a set of cow antlers and a bell at the waist, with three black crosses painted on his face.

He chases women and lifts their skirts with his horns, before fighting and 'dying' in the village square.

El Vaquero carries chorizo, wine and bread, and traditionally rewarded children who rang small bells.

The mayor is the highest-ranking of the Fifts - boys who turned 18 during the previous year - and can be recognised by his black cloak and long stick that is used to leap the Chico River several times at a point of his choosing during a key part of the ceremony.

He temporarily becomes mayor of the village during the festival.

## POLL OF THE WEEK

*Do you agree with the Balearics' decision to ban tourists from travelling to the islands in diesel or petrol cars?*

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**  
 Do you agree with Formula 1's decision to replace grid girls with grid kids?

**Yes 83%** **No 17%**

**EWN online this week**  
**137,231 Page views**

**TOP 5 stories**



- 8,806 views** Police warn of exact speeds that will trigger roadside radar cameras
- 3,987 views** Couple face fine after shooting adult film in national park in Spain
- 2,915 views** Brit 'crack head' arrested in Benidorm after stabbing British bar owner
- 2,706 views** Police stop overloaded car and can't believe what they find
- 2,491 views** Motor homes plague Costa Blanca beaches

*\*For week 12 - 19 February*

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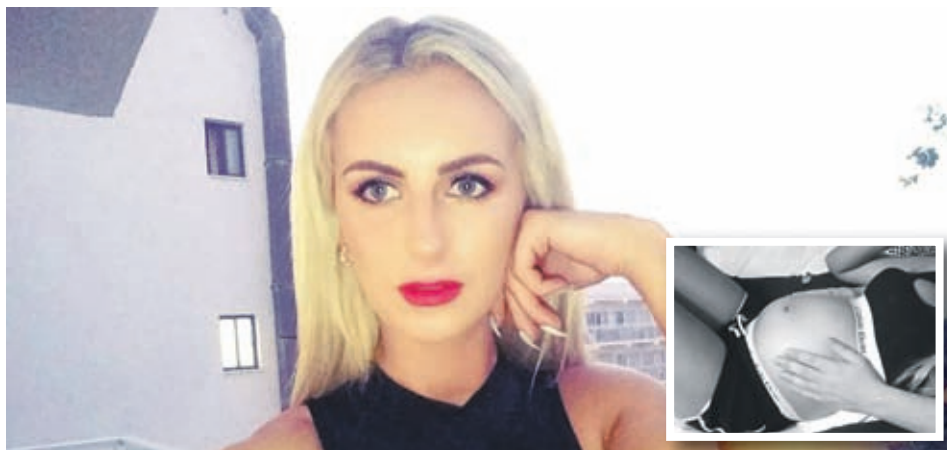
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**SUNNING:** McCollum, one of the infamous 'Peru Two,' flaunted her growing baby bump (inset) on a break to Alicante.

# Fun in the sun

EX-JAILBIRD Michaela McCollum has been spotted sunning herself in the Costa Blanca.

The now pregnant former drug mule from Northern Ireland flaunted her growing baby bump on a beach in Alicante after confirming her pregnancy to her 15,000 followers on Instagram.

The 24-year-old shot to notoriety in 2013 after her and friend Melissa Reid were arrested in Lima, Peru for drug smuggling. Dubbed the 'Peru Two' by

press outlets, the pair was arrested in August 2013 for attempting to smuggle €1.75 million worth of cocaine out of Peru.

The women, then aged 19 and 20, claim that they did not know each other prior to the event and were introduced to drug runners, who threatened their families if they didn't agree to smuggle cocaine.

They were sentenced to spend six years and eight months in jail at the notorious Santa Monica prison in Chorri-

lo, but McCollum was released on parole in March 2015, while Reid returned to the UK in June 2016.

Since returning to the UK, McCollum, a former model, has been spotted on several shopping trips and her agent has confirmed to British media that she is currently working on a documentary about her time behind bars.

She is also due to publish her first book, detailing her criminal exploits, which is expected to be available this summer.

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**Celeb focus**



**CHEEKY BUM TIME:** Chantelle shows off her new curves.

Chantelle Connelly/Twitter

### Life's a peach!

SHE'S never been shy of flaunting her surgically-enhanced assets on social media. And ex-Geordie Shore star Chantelle Connelly had even more to display after slipping into an orange thong to display the result of her new bum implants.

The 27-year-old jetted to Marbella on the Costa del Sol for the surgery, and captioned the saucy snap with a series of peach emojis.

### Dancing on ice

HE'S the Oscar-winning Spanish actor who married fellow star Penelope Cruz.

And dad-of-two Javier Bardem, 48, has revealed that his next film project will be to provide a voice-over commentary for upcoming environmental flick Sanctuary.

The project aims to draw attention to the plight of the Antarctic and create the world's largest nature reserve.

## Jess the ticket!

SHE recently finished fourth on Celebrity Big Brother after splitting from rugby player fiancé Denny Solomona.

And former Ex On The Beach star Jess Impiazzi, 28, certainly appeared to be living life to the full after hitting the beach at an unknown location in Spain.

The London-born beauty left little to the imagination after slipping into a barely-there swimsuit for a racy frolic in the shallows.

**IN THE PINK:** The stunner recently made the CBB final.



Jess Impiazzi/Instagram

## Strictly on beach duty

AFTER months of speculation they finally confirmed their romance on Valentine's Day.

And Spanish dancer Gorka Marquez, 27, and actress Gemma Atkinson, 33, are clearly head over heels after the pair posted a series of snaps after jetting to Tenerife for a blast of winter sun.

The loved-up couple were pictured enjoying a tanning session on the beach, with Gemma sporting a skimpy bikini and Gorka showcasing his rippling torso, after earlier uploading a video of themselves arm wrestling.

Although they had previously denied any romantic link, Gemma let the cat out of the bag on Valentine's Day as she posted a picture of them sat on a rock together with her head resting on his shoulder.

She captioned the shot: 'Here's to many more kid. Happy Valentine's Day @gorka\_marquez.'

Their idyllic getaway came after the pair wrapped up the Strictly Come Dancing live tour.



**LOVED UP:** Gemma and Gorka.

Gorka Marquez/Instagram

## Bad Baggies off hook over taxi raid



**CIRCLED:** From L-R, culprits Livermore, Barry, Evans and Myhill.

THE West Bromwich Albion players who allegedly stole a taxi from a Barcelona McDonald's have been let off by Spanish police.

Jonny Evans, 30, Gareth Barry, 36, Jake Livermore, 28 and Boaz Myhill, 35, were expected to face community service or a fine, but a court in the Catalan capital shelved the case due to 'a lack of proof.'

Instagram

The quartet reportedly broke a midnight curfew and returned drunk at 6am, leaving a set of taxi keys at reception before heading to bed. They were quizzed at a Local Police station and later released an apologetic statement via the club.

They had been staying in Cataluña for three days warm weather training ahead of an FA Cup fifth round game at home to Southampton, which they lost 2-1.

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**TRIGGER HAPPY:** The suspects had no licence for the guns.

## Evictees arrested for illegal gun possession

THE National Police has arrested a man and his wife in Elche for allegedly hiding three guns and ammunition without a licence.

The man, 39, and his wife, 46 (both Moroccan) had been evicted from the apartment where the firearms were found.

When the owner of the flat made a routine visit to it, he discovered it was full of the previous tenant's belongings.

He called the police when he found the three weapons

hidden in a drawer, who sent a uniformed patrol to investigate. An inquiry was launched by the Judicial Police of Elche, who began the search for the evictees.

During the operation it became clear that one of the suspects had used several identities to rent properties, making it difficult to track them down.

But the police finally located the couple who are accused of illegal possession of weapons.

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## Council invests €1 million to put railway back

ALICANTE Council has agreed to pay €1 million towards the cost of the development works of the AVE railway network.

An agreement has been reached with the ADIF, the state-owned company that manages most of Spain's railway infrastructure, for the payment to be made over 10 years.

Initial projections had total costs of work, including greater urbanisation of the area, coming in at €6 million.

However, after years of negotiations, the scale of the project has been downsized, resulting in an affordable deal being reached.

Mayor of Orihuela, Emilio Bascuñana said:

"It has been a difficult agreement with hard negotiations, but I want to thank the entire council and the technicians for their support."

## OUR VIEW

### Wildlife trade pledge smacks of tokenism

SPAIN has announced it is to tackle the illegal wildlife trade.

It is the country's first crack at confronting the issue, and comes after a gang of monkey traffickers were recently caged by Guardia Civil investigators.

Animal rights campaigners will be overjoyed at the news the country long-known as the gateway to Europe for poachers operating in Africa and the Americas is finally acting to address the problem. But will the government's measures make a difference?

The official plan speaks of increases in funds for awareness campaigns and the provision of alternative livelihoods for communities involved in poaching, but crucially, it does not have a specific budget.

Wildlife trafficking is among the most profitable criminal activities in the world, worth hundreds of millions of Euros per year.

Demand is unlikely to be stemmed by an educational crusade, while it will surely be difficult if not impossible to convince local people profiting from the trade that they should seek new employment. Conservation biologists say that in reality, Spain will need to spend millions to make even a small change.

And based on previous pledges by a Spanish government which has a long history of flouting or simply ignoring environmental laws, the level of investment is likely to be lacking.

While this week's announcement has been widely cheered by animal lovers, including many readers of the *Euro Weekly News* website, time will tell whether it is simply a token gesture.

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**NEWS EXTRA****Plague of insects**

RESIDENTS in Orihuela claim to be in a 'living hell' due to a plague of caterpillars in the area that cause painful itching, redness and spots. They are demanding that pine trees be cut down.

**Wage rage**

WITH the average salary in Murcia dropping to €200 less than the national average, a new report places the region in the country's top three most disgruntled communities.

**Wall damage**

TECHNICIANS have propped up a wall of the Mula Castle after weather wore some of the wall away and as a result, the Autonomous Community will invest more than €69,000 to construct secure foundations.

**Pipe problem**

A DRINKING water pipe in Canales del Taibilla that passes through Santiago de la Ribera has reportedly split which left flowing water leaking out that reached Mar Menor before being eventually stopped hours later.

**Drug dealers**

TWO people have been held after they were allegedly found to be using a building owned by the City Council to sell drugs, with police reportedly seizing marijuana, cocaine and €225 in cash from the premises.

**French visit**

TOURISTS from France comprised the second largest group of visitors to Murcia in 2017, with 153,660 visitors heading to the region to enjoy the warm climate and array of leisure facilities.

A 52-YEAR-OLD man has been arrested after allegedly threatening one of his tenants who was late on paying his rent with a knife.

According to reports, the alleged culprit was landlord of a premises rented to another man who was six days late on paying the rent of the property

A deal was already in place for the man to pay the rent owed, but in a vio-

**Tenant held up over rent**

lent turn of events, the owner then threatened him to pay up immediately.

The assault occurred in a local shop, as the tenant was selling some of his belongings which he had held in the rented premises when he was approached by the 52-year-old.

He entered the premises with a large, 46-centimetre knife and demanded that his tenant, who was in the presence of his two-year-old son, pay the money he owed.

Eight hundred and fifty euros was reportedly handed over to the man,

both from the tenant and others who lived on the premises out of fear.

Following the assault, police proceeded to surround the man's property which eventually led to him giving himself up after a short standoff.

The money taken by the man was seized by police and returned to its rightful owners, while the 52-year-old has subsequently been charged with robbery with force.

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# Fiddlers face bars

» From Front page

INVESTIGATORS found that around 30 foreign nationals appeared to be registered to just

two houses in Los Alcazares.

Police later discovered that three Spaniards, including owners of both the houses, had accompanied the foreign nation-

als to their respected municipal offices in order to present false lease documents, knowing that the alleged tenants would use the buildings.

Both parties received benefits due to the scam, as the homeowners would receive commission for their collaboration, while the false foreign tenants would receive health cards, social security and other benefits.

Following the discovery, of-

icers proceeded to arrest the three men, aged 38, 52 and 78, allegedly responsible for the crimes of fraud and falsification of documents.

During the course of the investigation police also reportedly found that there was a similar operation being run in the town, led by a foreign citizen and his daughter, who would allegedly offer other foreign nationals registration for €300.

The man is believed to have

found his 'clients' through two commercial establishments ran in the town, before later contacting them to provide the necessary documentation to obtain the corresponding certificate of registration.

Once they were identified, police proceeded to arrest the man, 45, and his daughter, 20 on suspicion of crimes against the rights of foreign citizens, fraud and falsifying documents.

## NEWS EXTRA

### New ITV site unveiled

THE brand new ITV facilities in La Hoya will be officially inaugurated on March 1, with the new facility capable of testing 300 cars a day and new software that processes data in real time.

### Pin problem

CYCLISTS in Yecla have reportedly found paths full of nails and thumbtacks, which they believe have been put in place to cause punctures to their wheels so that they are unable to travel through certain areas.

### Work pays

THE number of workers paying social security in Murcia stood at 210,773 last December, representing the highest recorded figure since July 2008, and a 0.58 per cent increase on November.



Chantelle Policia Nacional

CAUGHT OUT: Five residents in Los Alcazares were held for swindling foreign nationals.

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# Unfair play at patchy games



Credit: Twitter/inf\_vegabaja

**DANGEROUS PLAY:** The state of the playground is putting safety at risk.

CIUDADANOS Party councillor Paqui Parra has slammed the Alicante authority for placing hundreds of children in a "serious situation of danger" at Anchor Park in Torrevieja.

She has demanded that the council replace the rubber flooring and swings in the children's play area, which have been left in a poor condition for many years.

The park becomes one of Torrevieja's busiest areas in the summer and Ms Parra added that she did not understand why it "remains in disrepair for decades without any action taken, while children's games are ruined."

There has been wide demand for a complete renovation of the park, including the plantation of shrubs and decorative plants.

**€13.5bn** *The sum lost by failed Spanish bank Banco Popular last year according to government figures.*

## 17-year-old held for motorcycle theft

A 17-YEAR-OLD man has been detained in Alicante City on suspicion of stealing motorcycles and mopeds to sell for parts.

A police patrol reportedly stumbled upon the teenager who, along with an acquaintance, was found disassembling the vehicles in an old

warehouse on the Rabasa Polygon industrial site.

The officers asked to see the ID of the two youths and on further inspection of the parts, including engines and fuel tanks they found that one of the mopeds had been reported stolen the previous day at the Local Police station.

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# Killer nephew stays behind bars

By Joe Gerrard

A MAN who appealed his 20-year prison sentence for killing his 88-year-old great aunt and stealing from her house afterwards will remain in jail following a court ruling.

The defendant, Felix RS, 41, was found guilty of murder and theft by a court in Alicante City in October last year. The court heard that he had strangled the woman with the cable from a lamp while she sat in her chair waiting to have breakfast on October 5.

He then took €300, her jewellery and a television from her house before turning himself in at a National Police station five days later.

The man had originally pleaded guilty after confessing to the crime, but he argued that the 88-year-old had asked him to help her end her life, according to reports.

The prosecution had requested 24 years imprisonment for the defendant in the original trial, while the defence had argued for 15 years in light of the circumstances.



**CRIME SCENE:** The street where the man lived with his great aunt.

The court heard the man shared a home with his great aunt on the Calle del Pintor Aparicio in Alicante City and acted as her carer.

The defendant told the jury at the October trial his great aunt's ill health had led her to ask him to help her die.

"She told me many times that she was fed up, that she could not

do it any more and that she wanted to die.

"She did not leave the house, she could not get out of bed, and she was diabetic. She took 10 pills every day and she did her daily work on top of all that," he said.

"I strangled her in front of her, looking her in the face and not from behind as the prosecutors

claim," he added.

The court also heard from the defendant's sister who said she had overheard the 88-year-old had told him several times on the phone that she did not have any money.

The defendant's brother also testified and told the jury he was a "violent person" who had spent

time in prison before for abusing his wife.

A neighbour of the victim told the court he heard several arguments between her and the defendant.

One of them was reportedly to do with her living in the flat, which belonged to the man's deceased grandfather.

National Police officers who went with the man to the house after he turned himself in said in court he told them he killed her after she asked him to.

"During the trip to the house in the police car, he told us he killed her because he was tired of her, since she gave him a lot of work.

"But he said the woman had asked him to kill her," the police officer said.

The defendant was handed a 20 year and three month sentence for murder and theft at the October trial. The judge said he had exploited the circumstances and a woman in ill health.

The judge also applied mitigating circumstances because of his confession.

## Workshops

# Spanish inheritance tax and the effect of Brexit

Some Spanish regions have reformed their succession and gift tax rules for 2018. Looking ahead, Britain exiting the EU could also affect how British nationals are taxed on death and when making gifts in Spain.

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## Third time unlucky for thieves



Chantelle Policia Nacional

**KARMA POLICE:** The brazen thieves will finally face justice.

THE National Police has arrested two men who robbed the same bar in Alicante City three times in six weeks.

The detainees, aged 33 and 45, committed the first of the thefts during the Three Kings celebrations.

While a member of staff was closing the premises, the men (who were armed and wearing balaclavas) ambushed him and forced him back inside.

There they were free to raid the cash register, slot machines, and various goods worth

€2,000 in total.

During the robbery the men took the keys to the hotel, together with the electronic controls of the exterior shutter system.

Two weeks later the same individuals, with their faces again hidden under hoods, accessed the hotel using the remote controls and stole the contents of the cash register and slot machines again.

It was only during the third of the raids on February 6 that the robbers were caught out, as

newly installed CCTV cameras alerted the owner to their brazen behaviour.

He immediately notified the police whose speedy response led to the arrest of the criminals in the act of their audacious and ill-advised third attempt.

Investigators have been able to link the detainees with all three robberies, and they are accused of robberies with violence and intimidation, illegal possession of firearms and belonging to a criminal organisation.



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# PELLICER HEREDIA

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## MODEL 720 : DECLARATION OF ASSETS AND OWNERSHIP OVERSEAS

For those who are fiscal resident, please find below a reminder, in case you need to complete the 720 form this year.

### When does it apply?

The period for presenting the model 720: declaration of assets and rights located abroad (for the year 2017) is from 1 January to 31 March 2018.

### What information is needed?

Three distinct groups define this declaration:

- 1) Bank accounts
- 2) All types of financial assets
- 3) Real estate

### Who is obliged to submit the Model 720?

Those who have overseas assets that fit into any of these three groups and amount to or exceed 50,000€, and only for the group in which this amount is exceeded

If you require further legal advice on any tax, legal or administrative matters please contact us



### Do I need to submit it every year?

Once you have made the 720 declaration, regarding your assets overseas, you then only need to declare your overseas assets in subsequent years, when:

- 1) Any of the above 3 distinct sectors experiences an increase in value greater than 20,000€.
- 2) You are no longer the owner of the aforementioned assets (sale, transfer, etc... even if you made a loss).
- 3) In any of the 3 sectors, you did not previously have to declare that you had assets to the value of 50,000€, if you NOW do have assets to the value of, or exceeding 50,000€.

Failure to meet this tax liability might be penalised by the Spanish tax.

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# Criminal crew captured

FIVE members of an alleged criminal group, reportedly responsible for several thefts in La Union, have been arrested.

An investigation into the group reportedly began at the beginning of February after Guardia Civil officers became aware of multiple robberies with force in the municipality of La Union.

During their initial investigations, police believed that

the robberies were committed by the same specialised group of people.

Officers also believed that the group would focus their operations on commercial establishments and offices in order to steal cash and other items that could be quickly resold on the black market.

In collaboration with the Local Police, the Guardia Civil were able to set up a number of surveillance devices aimed at identifying the suspects who were thought to be acting in co-ordination in order to avoid being located.

Following several checks, they able to locate two young brothers, who had a sizeable criminal record between them, found residing in a building along with their mother, which police suspected may house a number of stolen items.

After receiving a search

warrant, Police reportedly entered the property and were able to seize several stolen items as well as take down a marihuana greenhouse being run in the home, recovering more than four kilos of marihuana.

The residents, both Spaniards aged 18 and 20, were arrested on suspicion of burglary and the cultivation and manufacture of narcotic substances.

In the process of the arrests, police also managed to recover several mobile phones, a bicycle and cash among many other items that have now been returned to their legitimate owners.

Subsequently, the boys' mother was also arrested along with another 19-year-old while a fifth individual was arrested for allegedly acquiring many of the stolen objects.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Firefighters aid

THE Provincial Council of Alicante has said it will offer financial help to towns with less than 20,000 people in paying for Fire Brigades, with €700,000 available to access by 116 local councils.

### Menu choice

THE kitchen service of the University General Hospital of Elche has begun to offer patients the ability to choose between several different dishes from a personalised menu.

### Hurt at work

A 46-YEAR-OLD man has been taken to the Virgen de la Arrixaca hospital after suffering a hip fracture when he was hit by a vehicle he was unloading while on a job in Alhama de Murcia.

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"What is the 720 Declaration?"  
"Spanish Inheritance Tax - How does it work?"  
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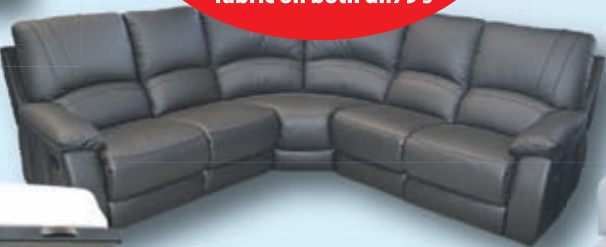


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**RECORD:** Alicante-Elche airport saw the best ever numbers last year.

## Best year on record!

MORE than 13 million passengers used the Alicante-Elche airport in 2017 as the airport recorded its best ever year.

According to data from AENA, a total of 13,713,061 travellers used the airport last year, which represented an increase of 11.1 per cent from 2016.

The figures also took the airport to fifth highest in Spain in terms of traffic, behind Madrid, Barcelona, Palma and Malaga.

Passengers from the United Kingdom used the airport the most, with more than 5.8 million flyers, followed by the Netherlands, Germany, Norway, Belgium and Sweden.

In terms of flights, a total of 95,322 flights were managed last year, represent-

ing a 9.4 per cent increase.

The airport is currently undergoing several developments and expansion works with the intention of providing an even better service this year and to also adapt the airport to new European Security regulations.

Works, which first began in October and are expected to be completed by June, will see the passport control area expand to 900 square metres of queuing area and new toilet facilities, which have received an investment of more than €1 million.

A second phase of improvement works, with a budget of €800,000, to increase passport control machines are expected to be completed at a later date.

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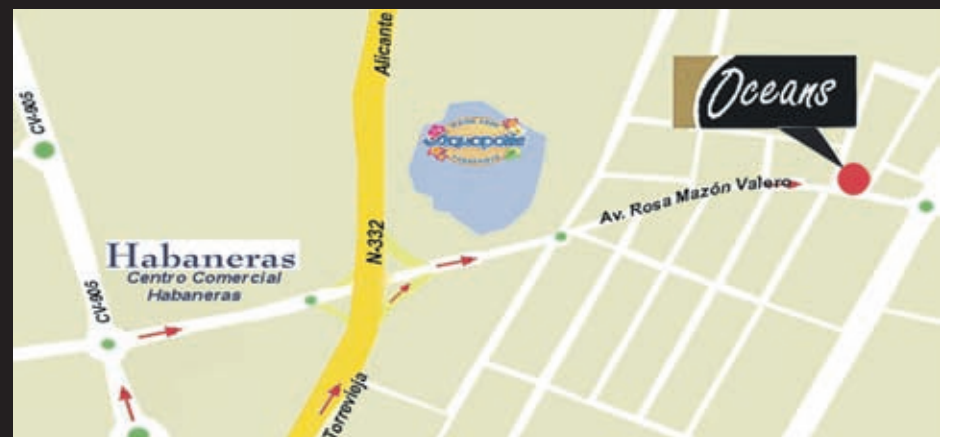
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## Would you like to save your loved ones that big inheritance tax bill?

By Sam Kelly, Managing Partner, Chorus Financial.



IHT (Inheritance Tax) planning is certainly not as simple in Spain as the UK, but there are solutions if you get the right advice.

A typical scenario here in Spain is that of my clients, a husband and wife, who have been retired here in Spain for 12 years, and own a property here. They also have 2 investment properties in the UK and savings and investments totalling approximately £300k. When they both pass away, they want to leave their entire estate to their two grown up children, who both live in the UK.

Their Worldwide assets will be subject to UK IHT, as they are seen as UK domiciled, and their Spanish based assets will also be subject to Spanish IHT (although with the double tax agreement, they can claim relief on this part of their UK bill).

As a couple, the first £650k will be free of UK inheritance tax. As their primary residence is not in the UK, they will not benefit from any primary residence tax relief in terms of their UK properties. The total value of their 3 properties will use up all their £650k UK tax free relief.

This means that their savings and investments of £300,000 will be fully

subject to UK IHT at 40%, which will leave a bill of approximately £120,000, potentially more if they hold some of these savings or investments in a Spanish bank or institution. The good news is, with proper planning, we can save their beneficiaries this entire £120,000 bill.

The key to Spanish IHT planning is that to avoid Spanish IHT both the

beneficiary and the asset must be outside Spain. Once you've ticked this off, your remaining issue is the UK IHT allowance. This is where trust planning comes into play.

What we were able to do with this couple is to place their savings and investments into a Spanish compliant investment bond, a bond recognised by the Spanish tax authorities, but crucially

based outside Spain, and then move this bond into a trust for their children.

In terms of the Spanish bond, this is a tax efficient plan designed for Spanish residents, which allows my clients, cautious investors, to target investment returns of around 4-5% per year. Despite being in trust, they can still make regular withdrawals to supplement their pension incomes, pay for holidays, a new car etc. When they both pass away, the trust element will mean the proceeds of their investment bond will be paid in full to their children without being subject to Spanish or UK IHT, saving that £120,000 IHT bill.

Even more reassuring for my clients was the fact that the institution I recommended for this solution is a FTSE 100 company with nearly 20 million clients Worldwide.

Whether you're looking to improve the returns on your savings or investments, explore your pension options, or come up with robust IHT planning solutions, a free consultation with Chorus is the best place to start.

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## Companies told to frack off

COMPROMIS councillor, Carles Mulet, has called for the immediate withdrawal of permits for hydraulic fracturing in Murcia, while demanding a new regulation preventing it in future.

"We strongly reject the fracking projects in Pais Valencia and what is being done in neighbouring communities," he said.

"We are talking about a province with a tectonic complexity proven by recent earthquakes, and to fracture the subsoil in this area is to put us all in danger."

Mulet rejects the case for fracking as a viable means of extracting fossil fuels and claims it is a "highly controversial technique of negative effects due to water pollution, emission of lethal gases, and propagation of seismic activity."

The councillor also criticises companies carrying out pilot tests, contaminating areas and endangering wildlife before deciding the work is not profitable enough to continue.

Known for his environmentalist campaigning, Mulet added that everyone is put in danger by fracking and that this sword of Damocles for fortune hunters should not be allowed to continue.

Compromis is advocating a permanent fracking ban across the country, and instead to place attention and investment in forms of renewable energy which represent a sustainable future.

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**NOISY NEIGHBOURS:**  
Nightclub revellers  
dancing to reggaeton.

Credit: Wikimedia

## Reggaeton riles residents

ELCHE Council is looking to clamp down on anti-social music volumes in the area, particularly in relation to reggaeton.

Reggaeton is one of the most popular genres of music in nightclubs at the moment, and while the young are clearly revelling on the dance floor, other residents are appalled at noise levels near their homes.

Responding to public concerns, the council will shortly be enforcing stricter regulations around noise pollution in an effort to protect those trying to get some quality sleep.

The main focus will be on making sure that any new premises in the area

have the necessary safeguards in place.

The council says it does not want to crush reggaeton, but to greater protect the wider community.

New measures will also include sound assessments being carried out in residents' living rooms, as well as their bedrooms.

This will enable the council to gauge noise levels in different areas, and in contrast to previous tests these will be done with the windows open, as most of the year they are rarely closed.

There will also be a decibel limit issued to all musical venues, to be strictly adhered to.

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**MONKEYING AROUND:** One lucky survivor of the illegal trade.

# Six primates rescued

AN investigation initiated by SEPRONA, the Nature Protection Service of the Guardia Civil, has resulted in the arrest of 11 people charged with trafficking in protected species.

The operation has been in place for one year after it was alleged that a number of primates whose sale under the CITES agreement was illegal were being offered on a selection of internet sites.

Those responsible were believed to be operating out of Alicante, Granada, Jaen and Sevilla and the SEPRONA office in Malaga City was detailed to control the operation.

In the event, officers managed to stop a num-

ber of sales and to rescue five marmosets as well as one tamarin estimated to be worth in excess of €12,500 on the black market.

Additionally, one of the accused was trying to obtain €3,000 for a pair of marmosets which he didn't even have, so he is to be charged with attempted fraud.

When the animals were recovered and passed to a veterinary centre in Malaga and a zoo in Fuengirola, they were found to be in a poor state, having been kept in unsanitary conditions but have now recovered and are settled in the APP Primadomus Foundation Centre for rescue of exotic animals in Alicante.



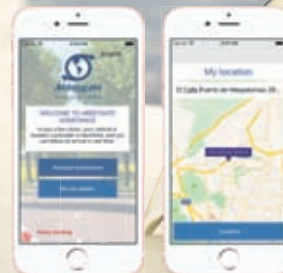
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# Hospital fire drill is just a warm up

By Tom Woods

THE University General Hospital of Elche has carried out a fire drill in its Intensive Care Unit, as a training exercise for staff.

The simulation included an evacuation of a patient through a window of the hospital, in preparation for real life cases of urgent medical need.

A fictional fire took place in ward six of the ICU, with patients being transferred to safe areas of the hospital.

Given the high-risk status of ICU patients, the hospital's focus on training and response times there is understandable.



Credit: EsRadioElche/Twitter

**LIFE SAVERS:** Firefighters at the hospital prepare for the drill.

A fire engine and ladder were deployed at the scene, to maximise the drill's realism.

The trial scenario was valuable to assess the suitability of

meeting points, the time necessary to reach those points in the event of a fire, and the time taken to evacuate outside.

In addition, the training helped members of the fire brigade have a better knowledge of the facilities of the hospital, and various assessments were made.

**€6,000** *The average difference in annual income between men and women in Spain, which reportedly saves companies €42 billion a year according to the UGT union.*



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# Costa kidnap trial

by Matt Ford

TWO British men charged with the disappearance of a woman from a nightclub are to stand trial 'within the next few weeks.'

It comes as lawyer Fernando Scornik Gerstein, prosecuting, reiterated earlier claims that the body of Latvian waitress Agnese Klavina "was thrown into the sea, most likely off the coast of Murcia."

The then-30-year-old vanished on September 6, 2014 after leaving a trendy Marbella nightspot with expatriates Westley Capper, 39, and Craig Porter, 35, who could each face 12 years in prison if found guilty of abduction.

CCTV footage shows Ms Klavina being bundled into a car by the pair around 6am, and she has not been seen since.

A doorman from the club will also stand trial after the video revealed that he held the car door closed as she tried to escape.

Investigators later swooped



Photo by Find Agnese Klavina/Facebook/YouTube

**MYSTERY: Agnese Klavina was last seen being bundled into a car by Westley Capper, and a snap taken on the night she vanished (inset).**

on a yacht owned by Capper and moored at the Tomas Maestre marina in La Manga.

They found that just a few hours after the victim's disappearance, Capper drove to Murcia to collect the boat before setting sail for Fuengirola on the Costa del Sol, arriving on September 8.

Early on September 10, Cap-

per, Porter and two unidentified individuals were captured on video as they dragged a heavy suitcase with large wheels aboard in Manilva.

On September 13 Capper and Porter set sail for Ibiza but ended up docking at La Manga again.

And on September 15 they returned to Marbella by car.

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# L of a plan

## Revamped driving test to be unveiled

NEW drivers taking their test in Spain will have to attend compulsory classes.

It comes as the Spanish government puts the final touches to a raft of traffic law amendments expected to be approved 'within days,' according to reports.

Director of the Directorate General of Traffic (DGT), Gregorio Serrano, confirmed that an official announcement is expected shortly.

"It is clear that we must change the way we examine and introduce new material, such as videos, which include real life traffic situations and not just answering a, b or c," he said while addressing Spanish Congress.

Under the new rules, learner drivers will not be able to sit the theory test



**TESTING TIMES:** The new rules come into force in May, according to Gregorio Serrano of the DGT (inset).

without attending a series of mandatory lessons.

According to the DGT, 'many' students show up to take the exam without any preparation, causing test

centres to 'collapse.'

And some of the new questions will involve writing down solutions to potential traffic issues, rather than picking a traditional multiple

choice answer.

New subjects introduced via the classes will include driving at night and the safe use of satellite navigation, plus risk assessment while at the wheel.

The DGT also plans to unveil a new system of sanctions for drug and alcohol offenders, making it more difficult for them to recover their licences.

More than 193,000 driving tests were cancelled last year in the wake of a slew of strikes by driving instructors locked in an ongoing pay dispute with the DGT.

The new rules - including previously announced changes to the ITV technical inspection - are set to be applied from May 20.

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## Car crash horror

A BRITISH woman, aged about 60 years old, has died after a multi-vehicle smash on the holiday island of Tenerife in Spain's Canary Islands, according to the regional government.

Three other people were injured in the three-vehicle pileup on the TF-46 in Guia de Isora. After the accident one vehicle caught fire. Firemen released four people who were trapped in two of the cars. And one woman died at the scene. An air ambulance airlifted another with a serious head injury to hospital.

Guard Civil traffic officers are investigating the fatal crash.



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# It's a fare cop

## Taxi meter fare fiddle probed



Credit: Twitter / @EmergenciasSev

**ON THE TAKE:** Meters may have been tampered with.

POLICE in Spain are investigating several taxi drivers who, it is alleged, have fiddled their meters to overcharge their customers.

Local Police offices in Sevilla in Andalusia, southern Spain, have also raided a workshop where it is claimed the electronic system was installed. Pressing a button, the electronic device allowed the taxi driver to manipulate the final price of the passengers' journeys on the official meter.

The button was located below the gear lever out of sight of the customer. When drivers changed gear they could easily press the button that bumped up the price on the meter.

The city council in Sevilla that licenses the taxis issued a statement saying it believed the fraud only affected a 'small group.'

A taxi drivers' spokesman said, "It is not a massive fraud, but confined to a small group."

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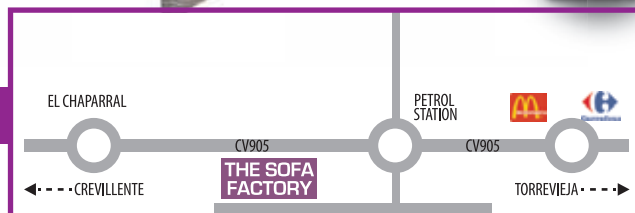


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RIGHT ON: Members from the UN Working Group will visit Spanish cities.

# Official business

## UN visit to probe human rights

OFFICIALS from a United Nations body are set to visit Spain to examine the human rights situation of people with African heritage.

The delegation of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent plan to visit Madrid, Barcelona, Almeria and Ceuta.

They are set to meet with communities, government representatives, civil society groups and people working on race relations issues during the visit.

Sabelo Gumedze, the head of the Working Group, said he and his colleagues would be assessing the human rights situation of Spain's African-descended population.

"We will collect information on any form of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, afrophobia and related intolerance," he said.

Gumedze, along with Marie-Evelyne Patrus-Barry and Ricardo Sunga are set to study measures to prevent racism and help protect the victims of it. They also plan to examine protection, integration and inclusion measures for migrants and refugees.

The group will present its findings to the UN's Human Rights Council next September. They are also set to promote the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024), a UN initiative to promote African culture and descendants.

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# Job market boom

## Unemployment falls to 2009 levels

THE number of people seeking work in Spain stood at almost 3.5 million at the end of January, according to government data.

Spending on unemployment reached more than €17 billion in 2017, the lowest amount since 2007.

The amount of those enrolled with the Public Employment Service was at its lowest level since 2009, around the time the last economic crisis began. The Spanish government spent 44 per cent less on unemployment benefits than it did almost 10 years ago, according to the Ministry of Employment.

Differences in spending were reportedly down in part to the number of people eligible to claim unemployment benefits falling. Around 58.6 per cent of those out of work received state subsidies last year compared to 80 per cent in 2009.

The number of those claim-



**FLIPSIDE:** While unemployment has fallen, wages have stagnated.

ing benefits that have had to request additional state help was more than half (56 per cent) in 2017, compared to 30 per cent in 2009. This was reportedly due to those who have been long-term unemployed exhausting their contributory benefits which means they had to request a government subsidy.

People claiming unemployment benefits spend less time receiving payments on average than they have done in previous years, which is another factor in spending being lower. Claimants spent an average of 15.1 months receiving state help, compared to 15.8 in 2009 and 17.9 in 2013.

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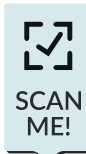


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# ‘Rock My Soul’

CRUZ AZUL’S fundraising event ‘Rock My Soul - Take Two’ proved a huge hit, raising €1,038 on the night for the charity, which helps with vet bills for pet owners on low incomes and works with local communities to control feral cat colonies in a humane way.

Las Claras Cultural Centre in Los Alcázares provided the venue for the event, which was organised by John ‘J J Soulman’ whose friends in the music business were keen to take part.

Rock My Soul was a sell-out event and guests were treated to some great performances by super comper and DJ, Paul Allen, Red Strokes, Eastern West duo and the great J J Soulman.

Thanks to the continuing generosity and support from the public and local businesses, the fantastic amount raised at this event and the growing success of the Donation Centre in San Javier, Cruz Azul can continue to



**FUNDRAISERS:** From left: Lyn Baines, Christine Newstead, Avril Tait and Lesley Taylor with Red Strokes and J J Soulman.

help more pets whose owners are on low incomes and continue its ‘Trap, Neuter and Return’ campaigns.

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IN HARMONY: The Velvetones.

# Change of direction

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The chorus, who sing four-part harmony, were delighted to come across Phil Molloy, who has been in choirs all

her life and some on the Costa Blanca!

After meeting up we agreed to alter times from Wednesday mornings to Thursday afternoons 5.15 to 7.45 at their usual venue, El Paraiso, near Carrefour, Torrevieja.

This friendly bunch of ladies, love the fun, companionship and to learn to sing well together. They welcome ladies of all ages

for this fabulous hobby. Make new friends, come and join us for a coffee and a chat, or just listen.

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# Costa Blanca Labour supports 'Votes for Life'

THE Costa Blanca Labour International Branch has thrown its weight behind the Private Member's bill to get 'Votes for Life' for UK

citizens who live abroad. The second reading of the bill is to be heard tomorrow (Friday), proposed by Conservative MP Glyn Davies. If suc-

cessful, it will open the way to address the situation whereby UK citizens residing abroad for 15 years or more, are disenfranchised.

Acting Chair of the Branch, Malcolm Hardy said:

"We have always supported veteran Labour International member Harry Shindler's non Party political 'Votes for Life' campaign. The '15-year rule' is an affront to UK expatriates' democratic rights that will be further eroded once we leave the EU. Those affected may not even be able to vote in Spanish local elections."

Many of the Costa Blanca Branch members fall foul of the 15-year rule. They are concerned that Theresa May's weak and divided government could collapse at any time and trigger a general election in which they will not have a vote.

Added to which the odds are improving on the possibility of a second Referendum on Brexit.

# Freemason's donate food

LAST week of love saw the Brethren of Caledonia Lodge No 68 (Worshipful Master Sid Formby) make a donation of €500 worth of food to the Alimentos Solidarios of Torre Vieja. This money was raised from various social functions held throughout the year.

WBro Freddie Samrai, and his wife Carol, together with friends from Alimentos Solidarios went to the Dialsur Cash and Carry to buy the much-needed food. Dialsur were very helpful, giving a good discount on the purchase and also organising a free delivery to the centre.

Alimentos Solidarios provide a hot meal on a daily basis to the families in need in Torre Vieja and also supply food parcels. The centre is



**GENEROUS DONATION:** The Freemason's €500 food donation to the Alimentos Solidarios.

staffed entirely by volunteers who work in the hot kitchen preparing the meals all year round, come rain or shine.

Should you be interested in becoming a Freemason, please contact the following email address: [prensa@glpvalencia.com](mailto:prensa@glpvalencia.com).



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## Come and join the International Cofradia

THE processions in Torrevecija during Semana Santa (Holy Week) attract thousands of residents and visitors to the town to witness these spectacular events chronicling the Passion of Christ.

This year will be the 14th year that the International Cofradia has been involved in taking the paso of Jesus in the Garden of Olives (Cofradia de Nuestro Padre Jesus en la Oracion del Huerto de los Olivos) through the streets of Torrevecija during Holy Week. They take part in the Monday night and Friday night processions which this year will be on Monday March 26 and Friday March 30.

Each year they need to recruit new members to replace those who for one

reason or another are unable to take part. This is a fantastic opportunity to participate in one of the most important events in the local Spanish cultural and religious calendar.

You do not have to be super fit to take part; most of the members are retired. Neither do you have to be a member of a particular church. You simply have to have respect for the event.

If you are interested in taking part please contact David McLachan on 865 661 937 who can give you further details.

The first official meeting of the International Cofradia will be on Thursday March 1. This is principally for registration of existing and new members, but new members are welcome at any

of the practices. They will then be meeting on each of the following Thursdays March 8, March 15, and again on March 22.

The meetings will be held at the Semana Santa Museum on the outskirts of Torrevecija starting at 7.30pm in the evening.

If you are an existing member please make sure you come and attend the meetings and if you have not already done so why not bring along a friend to become part of this unique group of people.

If you are an existing member and are not taking part this year, please can you bring your uniform along to one of the meetings or contact Paul Mutter on 671 218 285 to arrange an alternative handover.

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## Crypto cash sweeteners

THE Spanish government is eager to attract companies using blockchain technology.

Conservative lawmaker Teodoro Garcia Egea has been tasked with preparing legislation to smooth potential deals, including possible tax breaks. "The level of digitalisation for companies is key," he said. "We hope to get the legislation ready this year."

According to Mr Garcia, it is in the country's interest to attract such firms as a driver for industries including finance, health and education.

# Sub crash trial goes on

By Matt Ford

A SENIOR British naval officer who cost the UK €2.4 million after crashing a nuclear submarine near Spain has pleaded guilty in court.

Commander Justin Codd, 45, was in charge of the €1.2 billion HMS Ambush when it collided with the tanker MV Andreas off Gibraltar.

The submarine was taken out of service for three months after suffering damage to its conning tower.

Commander Codd was leading a training course when the incident occurred, as the group practised observing shipping

movement while controlling the craft at periscope depth.

Captain John Atwill, prosecuting, said that the commander did not carry out observations himself, relying on those of the trainees, who focused on a nearby yacht and failed to spot the tanker. He added: "Commander Codd's decision to focus on teaching, not safety, compounded the error carried out by the students."

Captain Sean Moore, defending, said: "This is a failure that will live with him for the rest of his life.

"No officer becomes teacher of the Submarine Command Course because they are good enough, they must be the best the submarine service has to offer.

"Perisher is widely acknowledged as the toughest command course in the world."

Judge Advocate Robert Hill said while sentencing: "You have, save for this incident, an exemplary record. It was more in the nature of a momentary aberration than a careless attitude."

The case will reportedly affect Commander Codd's 'career progress' and €88,000 annual salary.

## A licence to print money

SPAIN wants to print money at a new location. And the government is pushing ahead with plans to build a new 'money factory,' after printing firm IMBISA - 80 per cent owned by the Bank of Spain - agreed contracts worth around €2 million.

More than half the cash will be handed to Spanish consultancy firm Everis for 'strategic design of information systems, with the remainder awarded to El Corte Ingles, best known for its chain of department stores, for 'development of new computer applications.'

### Quote of the Week

"The EU does not abandon those who face a tragedy." EU Policy Commissioner Corina Crețu announces Spain is to receive €32m in EU aid to help repair the damage caused by last year's devastating wildfires in the Galicia region.

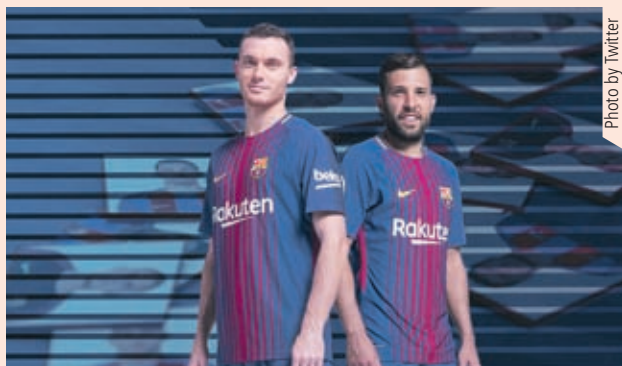


Photo by Twitter

**GREAT BARCA BEKO-OFF:** The firm has sponsored the club since 2014.

## €19m shirt deal for Turkish firm

FC BARCELONA has extended a sponsorship deal with a budget washing machine brand.

Turkish domestic appliance maker Beko has revealed it is to pay €19 million per season for the next three years after sealing a new deal with the Catalan club.

In return, the company's logo will continue to appear on the first team training strip plus the left sleeve of the official club shirt.

Having been a relatively small sponsor since 2014, Beko now becomes one of the historic club's most important backers.

A new deal with American sportswear behemoth Nike - FC Barcelona's most important patron - is reportedly set to land the club €100 million per year for shirt sponsorship plus a further €60 million for managing its dedicated stores.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

## The future is bright

SPAIN is set to be the second country to receive French telecommunication giant Orange's mobile banking service, with a full rollout planned for 2019 after the product dubbed Orange Bank launched in France last November.

## Pension pain

SPANISH pensioners will lose an average of €350 of purchasing power per month over the course of their retirement as a result of the latest government reforms, according to consultancy firm Analysts Financieros Internacionales [International Financial Analysts].

## Tasty profit

FOOD group Campofrio - headquartered in Madrid but owned by Mexican multinationals since 2013 - has revealed net sales shot through the €2 billion barrier in 2017, as the firm's Spanish sales soared by 22 per cent to €68.3 million.

# Spanish misery goes on

SPAIN has retained its position as the world's eighth most miserable economy. The country scored 17.3 on US technology firm Bloomberg's annual Misery Index, which ranks economies according to their rates of inflation and unemployment.

The company said in a statement: "The Bloomberg Misery Index relies on the age-old concept that low inflation and unemployment generally

illustrate how good an economy's residents should feel."

The league table was topped by Venezuela with a massive score of 1872, followed by South Africa (33.1), Argentina (27.1), Egypt (26.4), Greece and Turkey (20.6) and Ukraine (17.8) ahead of Spain, with Brazil (15.8) and Saudi Arabia (14.7) completing the top 10.



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# Hunt for Med October

## STATE-OWNED FIRM TO DESIGN WARSHIPS

SPAIN appears set to build new warships for the United States (US).

The news comes after the US government confirmed that it has chosen Spanish state-owned shipbuilding company Navantia to head the conceptual design of its massive multi-billion Euro frigate programme.

And the decision places the shipbuilder - the fifth biggest in Europe - at the head of the queue to construct the boats on behalf of the US Navy.

The programme, dubbed FFG(X), will see the first of the frigates completed by 2020, with a second due in 2021, after which the Navy will buy two per year until reaching a total of 20 at a cost of 'no more than \$950 million (€767 million) each,' according to a US Department of Defence report.

This timeframe does not allow for development of a completely new design, therefore the Navy has requested that the FFG(X) be based on an existing 'parent' ship, with the Australian Hobart-class destroyer, itself based on Navantia's F100/Alvaro de Bazan-class frigate, having been selected.

Having beaten off competition from four other firms, Navantia will now work alongside partner General Dynamics Bath Iron Works, a shipyard located on the Kennebec River in Bath, Maine, to design the frigates.

The US has ordered a warship that can keep pace with aircraft carriers, and the FFG(X) programme will equip the Navy with "sufficient capacity to achieve the objective of maritime security control and operations, as well as provide support to naval combat groups," Navantia said in a statement.

The frigates will be equipped with guided missiles and will have



**ART OF WAR: The new frigates will be based on Navantia's existing F100 blueprint.**

the capacity to destroy enemy ships over the horizon, detect submarines, defend convoys, employ electronic warfare systems, and defend against swarming small boat attacks.

The F100-class design has seen Navantia contracted to the world's largest warship programmes, including the Australian and Canadian fleets.

It last year agreed to work with Bath Iron Works on US military projects in a reverse of a relationship which began more than 40 years ago, when the American company helped provide technology to build ships for the Spanish Navy's Santa Maria-class fleet.

# FAST FOOD AND BREAKFASTS ON RISE

## Grub's up for restaurants

SPANISH diners are visiting more bars and restaurants than ever.

Sales in the catering sector increased by 2.5 per cent in 2017, with overall revenue topping €36 million, according to American market research company the NPD Group.

It is the third consecutive year that the industry has demonstrated positive growth, with the number of visits climbing by 1.3 per cent, or 98 million.

Each customer also spent an additional 1 per cent, an average of €4.88.

NPD Group Executive Director Vicente Montesinos said: "The improvement in an economic context has favoured recovery in terms of traffic, while the increase in visits and a growing average expenditure allowed the market to exceed €36 million in sales for the first time since 2011."

But the market has not yet recovered to pre-financial crisis levels, with the number of visits and expenditure both below the totals for 2005-2007.

The annual average number of visits per individual during that period was



**FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Spaniards are eating out more but increasingly prefer burgers and pizza, says NPD's Vicente Montesinos (inset).**

180, while the average for 2017 was 158.

And the latest statistics show that eateries serving products quickly are the main driver behind the growth, with fast food restaurants, tapas bars and coffee

shops representing 86 per cent of the increase.

There is also a trend away from traditional Spanish fare, with American-style hamburger and Italian restaurants outstripping their rivals.

Chains also eclipsed independently-owned businesses in terms of both the number of visits and the amount of money spent, accounting for 23 per cent of the overall catering market.

Breakfast and lunchtime demonstrated the greatest increases in diners during the week, while the number of people eating out at weekends also shot up.

Mr Montesinos added: "At the beginning of the [financial] crisis the first thing that was hit were breakfasts eaten outside the home, because unemployment increased and labour mobility decreased.

"Then, around two million people lost their jobs in 2009 and the lunch industry was hit.

"But with the economic recovery we are seeing more jobs and an increase in the number of people eating out, including breakfast, lunch and dinner."

## Spanish oil company inks €1.2bn 'mega deal'

SPANISH oil and gas firm Cepsa has announced a €1.2 billion mega deal with the United Arab Emirates.

The 40-year agreement will see the multinational bag a 20 per cent stake in the Umm Lulu and Satah al-Razboot (also known as SARB) offshore oilfields from the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company.

It is the biggest contract inked by the company since its €1.76 billion acquisition of South East Asian exploration and production company Coastal Energy in 2013.

Cepsa was bought by Abu Dhabi's International Petroleum Investment Company (IPIC) in a €267 million 2011 takeover.

IPIC was in 2016 merged with Mubadala Development Company PJSC, an investment vehicle owned by the Abu Dhabi government and classed as a National Wealth Fund.

## Minister to tour London

SPAIN has moved to quash Brexit fears.

Speaking to the national congress, Development Minister Iñigo de la Serna revealed that Spain continues to view the UK as one of 11 key construction and infrastructure markets despite voting to leave the EU.

The official went on to confirm that he has a trip to London lined up later this month, during which he will offer support to Spanish companies competing for major UK infrastructure contracts, including construction of the HS2 high speed train and expansion of Heathrow Airport.

The whistle-stop tour will see the official hold a series of key business meetings plus bilateral talks with his UK government peers, before he visits some existing Spanish-led projects.



# FLORIDA AND BALI CHEAPER THAN SPAIN Long-haul savings sky high

SPANISH hoteliers may have shot themselves in the foot.

Rising room prices, plus a weak United States dollar and competition from the Middle East mean it can now be cheaper to spend two weeks in far flung locations including Thailand, Dubai and Florida.

It comes after several years of record-breaking tourist figures, with 82 million holidaymakers choosing Spain in 2017.

But research by price comparison website TravelSupermarket has revealed that in 2018 various long-haul destinations are considerably more cost-effective than the Costa del Sol, Balearic and Canary Islands.

For example, over the upcoming May half-term, a week in a four-star Abu Dhabi hotel costs around €350 per person, compared with €620 in Menorca and €475 in Tenerife.

A similar break in Dubai - based on a seven-night stay for a



**BALI: Cheaper than Menorca (inset) this summer despite being more than 11,000 kilometres further away from the UK.**

family of four flying from London Gatwick on the last weekend in May - is priced at €350, while Florida costs €420.

In summer, Pattaya in Thailand and the Indonesian paradise of Bali are up to 20 per cent cheaper than Ibiza or Menorca, according to TravelSupermarket's Emma Coulthurst.

"People may think their holiday budget can only stretch to short haul and they can't afford

long haul, so don't consider it. "But the reality is, long-haul destinations can offer incredible

value this summer... it is really worth doing your research and comparing both to see what else you can get for your money.

"But, be realistic on weather. Florida, for example, is also coming up cheaper this July and August and offering some incredible deals - but the weather at that time of year is incredibly hot and humid."

US holiday firms have slashed prices by up to 35 per

cent due to the so-called 'Trump slump,' with travellers less-inclined to visit the country in the wake of his appointment.

Ms Coulthurst added: "Brits have always been one of the US's biggest markets and Florida, particularly Orlando, can't afford for us not to go there."

Abu Dhabi and Dubai have also made cuts of around 10 per cent, while Spanish hotel prices have increased by around 8 per cent since 2016.

It is however cheaper to eat and hire a car in Spain.

More than 20 million British holidaymakers visited Spain last year, the most of any country, but 2018 forecasts predict a fall in numbers.

The 2016 Spanish boom came in the wake of terrorist attacks in Turkey, Egypt, and Tunisia, although travel agent Thomas Cook recently announced that it will fly to the latter this year.

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## De Guindos fears raised in Brussels

HE appears set to be named vice-president of the European Central Bank.

But the European Parliament has raised concerns over the appointment of Spain's Finance Minister, Luis de Guindos, to the coveted role.

In government office since 2011, the conservative politician announced he will step down 'in the coming days' after Ireland's Philip Lane - his sole rival - pulled out of the race.

He has been slated to replace Portugal's Vitor Constancio for months, although it was Lane who most impressed senior members of the parliament's monetary and finance committee during a non-binding, closed-door hearing with the two candidates in Brussels.

He had little support from ministers, however, while De Guindos has been backed by influential countries including France and Germany. A final decision is expected in March.

# Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

**by Stone King**

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at [international@stoneking.co.uk](mailto:international@stoneking.co.uk)



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

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

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



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

### What is an LPA?

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

### Why should you get an LPA?

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

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

### Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

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

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



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# Something must be done quickly

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT**  
OTHERS THINK IT



THESE latest revelations of paedophilia and 'sex for aid' in OXFAM didn't surprise me one bit.

Frankly I also consider it merely the tip of the iceberg. I believe that just about all organisations that deal with children are positively riddled with these low life predators. After all, if I were a junkie I would go where the drugs are. If my habit was gambling I would seek out gambling joints.

It stands to reason that those who feel the need to prey on youngsters, go where they can find children. OXFAM. UNICEF. Football scouting. Church and teaching organisations. Dr Barnardo's homes. Children's hospitals and so on, all are vulnerable to the infiltration of these evil beings who destroy young lives before they have barely begun.

A recent report by an ex-UN official stated that UN aid workers, may not only have raped up to 60,000 people over the last 10 years, but are estimated to employ some 3,300 paedophiles in their worldwide operation.

One terribly sad result of these alarming, seemingly never-ending revelations, is that decent men and women, who sincerely want to



## OXFAM SCANDAL: The tip of the iceberg?

help and care for the young, are shying away and entering other professions, simply because they don't want to be regarded with suspicion by their peers. Even stating publicly that you love children can attract a 'funny' look in some circumstances. If this unacceptable situation is allowed to continue unchecked, sooner or later the majority of children's charity workers will all be sex abusers and paedophiles.

So where do you start? Well first of all there needs to be a worldwide easily accessible data centre, which holds a record of every worker who has been sacked for abuse of any kind.

This would ensure that these people at least could never get into any other organisation that involved children. Secondly, those at the very top need to be thoroughly vetted. After all it stands to reason, if they are rife with such

large numbers of offenders, some could quite easily be in board and management positions.

This would also explain the fact that there have been numbers of occasions where whistleblowers have been sacked, with their accusations stifled and pushed under the carpet.

Far from being vilified, these caring people need to be given every encouragement and complete anonymity while a thorough investigation of their accusations is conducted by an independent body set up by respective governments. I also believe the finances of these big charity companies should be more carefully looked into. It seems to me many of those 'at the top' seem to be living far too comfortably - for comfort - if you get my drift.

Well that's my three penneth, for what it's worth. All I know is something must be done and as quickly as possible. After all it is the children who are suffering at the hands of these monsters, and above all they must retain priority.

Thanks for all your wonderful mails after last week's piece. Fair warmed the ol' boy's cockles. Keep 'em coming, and whatever ya do.

*Always,  
Keep the faith,*

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

*Love Leapy. leapylee2002@gmail.com*

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

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**BBC one**

10:15am Winter Olympics  
2:00pm BBC News at One  
2:30pm BBC London News  
*The latest news, and weather from London.*  
2:45pm Doctors  
3:15pm The Coroner  
4:00pm Escape to the Country  
4:45pm Get Away for Winter  
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip  
*Antiques experts travel across the country, competing to make a profit at auction*  
6:15pm Pointless  
7:00pm BBC News at Six  
7:30pm BBC London News  
8:00pm The One Show  
8:30pm EastEnders  
9:30pm Would I Lie to You?  
10:00pm Death in Paradise  
11:00pm BBC News at Ten  
11:30pm BBC London News  
11:45pm Question Time  
12:45am This Week

**BBC TWO**

5:00am BBC News  
7:00am Winter Olympics  
10:15am Animal Park Summer Special  
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer  
12:00pm Bargain Hunt  
1:00pm The Daily Politics  
2:00pm Winter Olympics  
7:00pm Eggheads  
7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys  
8:00pm Winter Olympics  
9:00pm Sea Cities - Bristol  
10:00pm Girls on the Edge  
11:00pm The Mash Report  
11:30pm Newsnight  
12:15am Dragons' Den  
1:15am Millionaires' Ex-Wives Club  
2:15am Trouble at the Zoo  
3:15am Islam, Women and Me  
3:55am Royal Recipes  
4:40am Weather for the Week Ahead

**BBC FOUR**

4:55am This is BBC Four  
*BBC Four is the BBC channel for people who want more.*  
8:00pm Beyond 100 Days  
8:30pm Top of the Pops  
9:00pm Winter Olympics Extra  
10:00pm From Ice to Fire: The Incredible Science of Temperature  
11:00pm Richard Hammond's Wild Weather  
12:00am Storm Troupers: The Fight to Forecast the Weather  
1:00am Top of the Pops  
1:40am Top of the Pops  
2:20am Top of the Pops  
2:55am Soup Cans and Superstars: How Pop Art Changed the World  
4:25am The Art of the Impossible: MC Escher and Me  
5:00am This is BBC Four

**CHANNEL 4**

12:00pm Undercover Boss USA  
1:00pm Channel 4 News  
1:05pm Come Dine with Me  
2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers  
3:10pm Countdown  
4:00pm A Place in the Sun  
5:00pm A New Life in the Sun  
6:00pm Four in a Bed  
6:30pm Extreme Cake Makers  
7:00pm The Simpsons  
7:30pm Hollyoaks  
8:00pm Channel 4 News  
9:00pm George Clarke's Amazing Spaces  
10:00pm Married at First Sight  
11:00pm The Job Interview  
12:05am 24 Hours in Police Custody  
1:05am Working with Weinstein  
2:00am One Born Every Minute  
2:55am Joe Wicks: The Body Coach  
3:50am Dispatches  
4:20am The Question Jury  
5:10am China Between Clouds and Dreams

**CHANNEL 5**

8:50am Shimmer and Shine  
9:05am Floogals  
9:20am Digby Dragon  
9:35am Rusty Rivets  
9:55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom  
10:05am Mofy  
10:15am The Wright Stuff  
12:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors  
1:10pm 5 News Lunchtime  
1:15pm Cowboy Builders  
2:15pm Home and Away  
2:45pm Neighbours  
3:15pm NCIS  
4:15pm Killer Obsession  
6:00pm 5 News at 5  
6:30pm Neighbours  
7:00pm Home and Away  
7:30pm 5 News Tonight  
8:00pm The Wonderful World of Puppies  
9:00pm Police Interceptors  
10:00pm Dale Winton's Florida Fly Drive  
11:00pm Critical Surgery: Changing Lives  
12:05am Elizabeth: Our Queen

**4**

9:00am Baby Daddy  
9:30am Baby Daddy  
10:00am Melissa and Joey  
11:00am How I Met Your Mother  
11:30am How I Met Your Mother  
12:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
12:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
1:00pm The Goldbergs  
1:30pm The Goldbergs  
2:00pm The Big Bang Theory  
2:30pm The Big Bang Theory  
3:00pm Melissa and Joey  
3:30pm Melissa and Joey  
4:00pm Baby Daddy  
5:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
6:00pm The Goldbergs  
7:00pm The Big Bang Theory  
8:00pm Hollyoaks  
8:30pm Coach Trip  
9:00pm The Big Bang Theory  
9:30pm Young Sheldon  
10:00pm Celebs Go Dating  
11:00pm The Inbetweeners  
11:35pm The Inbetweeners  
12:10am The Big Bang Theory  
12:35am The Big Bang Theory

**sky sports main event**

6:00am Sky Sports News  
7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans  
7:30am Good Morning Sports Fans  
8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans  
8:30am Live European Tour Golf  
10:30am Good Morning Sports Fans  
11:00am Premier League Daily  
12:00pm Live European Tour Golf  
3:00pm Live Honda Classic Featured Grps  
8:00pm Live Premier League Darts  
11:30pm Live ATP 500: Rio Day four of the Rio Open in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.  
2:30am EFL Midweek Goals: Championship  
3:00am Sky Sports News  
4:00am Sky Sports News  
5:00am Sky Sports News

**itv**

4:50am ITV Nightscreen  
6:05am The Jeremy Kyle Show  
7:00am Good Morning Britain  
9:30am Lorraine  
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show  
11:30am This Morning  
1:30pm Loose Women  
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News  
2:55pm ITV News London  
3:00pm James Martin's American Adventure  
4:00pm Tenable  
5:00pm Tipping Point  
6:00pm The Chase  
7:00pm ITV News London  
7:30pm ITV Evening News  
8:00pm Emmerdale  
9:00pm Trans Kids: The Right Response? Tonight  
9:30pm Coronation Street  
10:00pm John Worboys: The Taxi Cab Rapist  
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather  
11:30pm ITV News London  
11:45pm UEFA Europa League Highlights  
12:45am Play to the Whistle  
1:35am Lethal Weapon  
2:25am Jackpot247

**itv2**

8:10am Dress to Impress  
8:55am Emmerdale  
9:20am Coronation Street  
9:50am You've Been Framed!  
10:25am The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
11:15am Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records  
11:30am Space Chimps  
12:30pm FYI Daily  
12:35pm Space Chimps  
1:10pm Emmerdale  
1:45pm Coronation Street  
2:15pm You've Been Framed!  
2:45pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show  
4:45pm The Jeremy Kyle Show  
5:55pm The Jeremy Kyle Show  
7:00pm Take Me Out  
8:30pm You've Been Framed!  
9:00pm Two and a Half Men  
9:30pm Two and a Half Men  
10:00pm Survival of the Fittest  
11:00pm Celebability  
11:50pm Family Guy  
12:15am Family Guy  
12:40am American Dad!  
1:10am American Dad!

**itv3**

7:55am Heartbeat  
8:55am The Royal  
10:00am Judge Judy  
10:25am Judge Judy  
10:55am Judge Judy  
11:20am Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green  
11:55am Tales From Northumberland with Robson Green  
12:25pm Love Your Garden  
1:30pm The Royal  
2:35pm Heartbeat  
3:40pm Classic Coronation Street  
4:15pm Classic Coronation Street  
4:45pm On the Buses  
5:20pm On the Buses  
5:50pm You're Only Young Twice  
6:20pm George and Mildred  
6:55pm Heartbeat  
8:00pm Murder, She Wrote  
9:00pm Agatha Christie's Marple  
11:00pm Unforgotten  
12:00am Unforgotten  
1:05am DCI Banks  
2:05am DCI Banks  
3:00am ITV3 Nightscreen  
3:30am Teleshopping

**itv4**

4:00am Teleshopping  
7:00am The Chase  
8:00am The Chase  
8:55am Ironside  
10:00am Quincy, M.E.  
11:00am Minder  
*Arthur plans to become a major player in the fitness industry.*  
12:05pm The Sweeney  
1:10pm The Protectors  
1:45pm Snooker  
*The second round of the World Grand Prix reaches its conclusion in Preston.*  
6:15pm The Professionals  
7:15pm Counting Cars  
7:45pm Snooker  
11:45pm World Boxing Super Series  
12:20am 8 Mile  
1:25am FYI Daily  
1:30am 8 Mile  
2:35am Car Crash Global  
3:35am Counting Cars  
4:00am Teleshopping

**sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE**

11:30am Saving Private Ryan  
2:30pm Once Upon a Time in Mexico  
4:30pm Captain America: Civil War  
7:00pm The A-Team  
9:00pm Saving Private Ryan  
12:00am Kiss of the Dragon  
1:50am 12 Rounds 3: Lockdown  
3:30am Once Upon a Time in Mexico

**sky CINEMA COMEDY**

5:40am The Grass is Greener  
7:35am Drillbit Taylor  
9:30am Three Amigos!  
11:25am Hail, Caesar!  
1:20pm Chips: Law and Disorder  
3:15pm Bridesmaids  
5:30pm How to Lose Friends and Alienate People  
7:30pm The Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final Insult  
9:00pm Chips: Law and Disorder  
11:00pm Bridesmaids  
1:10am Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping  
2:45am Juno

**sky CINEMA PREMIERE**

5:00am It Had to be You  
*Charming romantic comedy about a commitment-shy jingle writer who runs for the hills when her boyfriend proposes.*  
6:30am The Great Wall: Special  
7:00am After the Reality  
8:40am Dive Olly Dive and the Octopus Rescue  
10:05am Roxxy  
*Romance blooms between small-town loner Vincent and rebellious punk rocker Roxxy, but can the pair escape their troubled pasts?*  
12:00pm Fast and Furious 8  
2:25pm Freehold  
4:00pm Dive Olly Dive and the Octopus Rescue  
5:30pm Monster Family: Special  
6:00pm Killing Hasselhoff  
7:25pm Jarhead 3: The Siege  
9:00pm Fast and Furious 8  
11:20pm Freehold  
12:50am Killing Hasselhoff  
2:20am Roxxy

**sky sports football**

2:00pm League Cup Final 2014  
3:00pm Caraboa Cup Highlights  
3:30pm Caraboa Cup Highlights  
4:00pm League Cup Final 2015  
5:00pm Caraboa Cup Highlights  
5:30pm Caraboa Cup Highlights  
6:00pm League Cup Final 2016  
7:00pm Caraboa Cup Highlights  
7:30pm Caraboa Cup Highlights  
8:00pm EFL Matters  
8:30pm EFL Midweek Goals: Championship  
9:00pm EFL Rivalries  
9:30pm La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid  
9:45pm La Liga Icons  
10:00pm EFL Matters  
10:30pm EFL Midweek Goals: Championship  
11:00pm La Liga Show  
11:30pm EFL Matters  
12:00am EFL Midweek Goals: Championship

Advertising Feature

# An appetite to travel?

**Christina Sharp**



**GLOBELINK INTERNATIONAL**  
christina@globelink.co.uk

WE know that age doesn't slow down your appetite for travel to new, exciting destinations. We know that it's the mature generation taking holidays by storm and travelling more often and further afield than ever before.

An impressive 85 per cent of over 65's travel more than twice annually. And why not! With time and enthusiasm to discover the world, whether visiting family, friends, or taking a life time trip, there is no holding back this sea of change as holidays escalate up our 'essentials list' the older we get.

Older travellers tend to be more security and health conscious, yet it's sometimes increasingly difficult to get travel insurance the



**WINTER SPORTS: Cover is free on certain policies.**

older you get, especially for the over 80's.

At Globelink we like to think we work hard to develop and improve products in line with customer's feedback, particularly as we really appreciate how loyal you are, with a whopping 68 per cent of you repeat buying from us.

We believe that age shouldn't be a blocker when arranging Travel Insurance, that's why we're excited about Globelink's latest new product - Single Trip Travel Insurance for 85-89 year olds.

Thanks to the support of our insurance partner at Lloyds, we've introduced comprehensive cover

for this older age band, so spread the word to look further for a quality policy if you're aged up to 89.

We will also soon be offering long term Single Trip cover for up to 10 months for people aged up to 79 years, so there's no need to cut short those exotic adventures, or trips to family and friends.

Did you know that all our policies include Cruise Cover as standard, with no extra charge? Fourteen per cent of holidaymakers plan on taking a cruise this year and there's more choice than ever, especially river cruises, so avoid paying insurance hidden extras by choosing Globelink.

We know the older you get, the more likely you might have a medical condition, so we've doubled the number of Pre-Existing Medical Conditions covered as standard, including gastric reflux, diabetes, hypertension and more.

If you are an unashamed regular

traveller taking two+ trips a year, check out Globelink Annual Multi-Trip Cover available for people up to 79 years with longer trip durations than even before.

Thinking about taking a Winter Sports break to enjoy some of the best snow Europe has seen for years? We'll get you covered for Winter Sports up to 70 years. Winter Sports Cover is free on our Annual Policies if you are up to 65 years and buy our '45-day trip duration' option, or you get free Winter Sports cover within Europe on our Annual Multi Trip 45+ policies if aged between 66-70 years.

*Stay young at heart and enjoy your senior years exploring the world. For quality Travel Insurance that gives you essential peace of mind visit [www.globelink.co.uk](http://www.globelink.co.uk), or call (UK) +44 1353 699 082 or our Spanish link line 966 265 000.*

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**Advertising Feature**

# A hearing problem

ABOUT a third of adults older than 65 - and half of those older than 85 - have a hearing problem. It is the third most common chronic disease among older adults.

A hearing problem is usually a very gradual process, even unnoticeable. It's sometimes the people around us commenting that our hearing is not as good as we'd like to think, or you may have noticed you ask people to repeat what they've said.

Group situations or background noise make it more difficult to hear, so you switch off and don't join in with friends and family. You may even tell them they sound as if they mumble. When you can't hear well you lose your confidence to join in conversations and avoid situations.

*Common Signs of Hearing Loss*

- Playing the radio or TV too loudly
- Saying "what?" a lot during conversations, frequently asking people to repeat themselves, or saying "speak up a bit you must be mumbling"
- Having trouble hearing in noisy or busy places
- Not hearing something if the person is out of your range of vision

Let Apple Hearing & Healthcare help you. Hearing aids are the most common amplification devices. They can improve your ability to understand speech, particularly soft

**“ A discreet miniture hearing system will help you all day every day.**

speech and loud conversational speech.

It's best to get hearing aids in both ears because that helps you identify the direction of the sound, and most importantly improves understanding in noisy situations.

Don't wait until the loss is severe, getting a hearing aid early on can help you adjust to its use, and can reduce the psychological impact related to hearing loss.

Although you can buy hearing aids from many sources, including online, you should work with an audiologist or other healthcare professional trained in audiology. This way, you can make sure you get the right hearing

aid for your needs and be sure they are fitted and adjusted correctly.

No-one wants to wear a hearing aid, but a discreet miniature hearing system will help you all day every day.

They offer FREE no obligation hearing tests, 30 days free trial and lifetime aftercare service, with new aids starting from €795 and up to four years free warranty on selected models.

*Website - [www.applecares.eu](http://www.applecares.eu) booking online for a test could not be easier. Or if you prefer, drop into one of their centres or give Apple Hearing & Healthcare a call on 965 020 813 and check out how improved hearing can contribute to a happier and more fulfilled life. BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT NOW !!!*

*Tel: 965 020 813*

*Email: [info@applecares.eu](mailto:info@applecares.eu).*

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## Employment opportunity: Account Manager - Costa Blanca

Due to continued expansion, we are seeking an experienced Account Manager to join our existing team based in the South Costa Blanca.

Moneycorp has been trading in foreign exchange for over 38 years, with a track record second to none. This is a rare opportunity for a high calibre and mature individual to join an established team of professionals.

The role involves introducing new clients to our services and developing both new and existing business relationships within a targeted sector. The successful applicant will be expected to work with colleagues and other business groups of Moneycorp, to promote a high level of customer service to new and potential clients.

Applicants must fit the following profile:

- experienced sales person with a demonstrable track record
- experience in business to business account management
- results-focused, professional, resilient, energetic and able to work under pressure
- organised, articulate, honest and IT literate
- ability to speak Spanish is an asset

This post carries a full-time contract, good basic salary with bonuses and the use of a company car.

**To apply, please send your CV by email to: [employmentcostablanca@moneycorp.com](mailto:employmentcostablanca@moneycorp.com)**

**Closing date: 16th March 2018.**

**Interviewees will be notified by 23rd March 2018.**

Due to the high volume of responses anticipated, we regret that we will not be able to accept telephone enquires in relation to this advertisement.





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## BBC one

7:00am	Breakfast
8:30am	Match of the Day
10:00am	The Andrew Marr Show
11:00am	The Big Questions
12:00pm	Sunday Politics
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:10pm	Weather for the Week Ahead
2:15pm	Wanted Down Under
3:00pm	Money for Nothing
3:45pm	Get Away for Winter
4:30pm	Songs of Praise
5:05pm	Earth's Natural Wonders
6:05pm	Earth's Natural Wonders
7:05pm	BBC News
7:20pm	Regional News
7:25pm	Weather
7:30pm	Countryfile
8:30pm	Hold the Sunset
9:00pm	Call the Midwife
10:00pm	Strike - Career of Evil
11:00pm	BBC News
11:20pm	Regional News
11:25pm	Weather
11:30pm	Match of the Day 2
12:15am	Point Break

## BBC TWO

7:00am	Winter Olympics
12:00pm	Winter Olympics Closing Ceremony.
3:00pm	Athletics Coverage of the latest athletics championships and tournaments.
6:30pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Back in Time for Tea
8:00pm	Winter Olympics Today at the Games.
9:00pm	Top Gear
10:00pm	Life and Death Row Documentary series about the historic number of executions scheduled in Arkansas, USA.
11:15pm	The Mash Report
11:45pm	Top Gear Extra Gear
12:10am	Cleverman Dark Clouds. Series 2, episode 3.
1:00am	Women's Six Nations Highlights
1:30am	Question Time

## BBC FOUR

8:00pm	Only Connect Victoria Coren Mitchell hosts the series where knowledge will only take you so far.
8:30pm	University Challenge Cult student quiz show where two rival university teams battle it out to see who has the most superior intellects.
9:00pm	Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble
10:30pm	Clouds of Sils Maria
12:30am	From Ice to Fire: The Incredible Science of Temperature
1:30am	The Genius of Bert Jansch: Folk, Blues and Beyond
3:00am	The Enigma of Nic Jones - Return of Britain's Lost Folk Hero
4:00am	Art of France

## CHANNEL 4

7:15am	King of Queens
7:40am	King of Queens
8:05am	Everybody Loves Raymond
8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:00am	Frasier
9:30am	Frasier
10:00am	Frasier
10:30am	Sunday Brunch
1:30pm	Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
2:30pm	Jamie's Quick and Easy Food
3:00pm	The Simpsons
3:30pm	The Simpsons
3:55pm	Tooth Fairy
6:00pm	Ice Age: Continental Drift
7:35pm	Channel 4 News Includes sport and weather.
8:00pm	Posh Pawn
9:00pm	Hannibal's Elephant Army: The New Evidence
10:00pm	Homeland
11:10pm	Gogglebox
12:05am	Shutter Island

## CHANNEL 5

5:45am	House Doctor
6:10am	Divine Designs Paul Binski examines some of Britain's most fascinating religious artworks and artefacts.
6:35am	Wildlife SOS
7:00am	Milkshake! Programming aimed at children aged two to seven years old.
10:30am	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
11:00am	Football on 5 The Championship.
11:50am	Football on 5 Goal Rush.
12:20pm	The Bridge at Remagen
2:50pm	A Bridge Too Far
6:05pm	Where Eagles Dare
9:00pm	Football on 5 The Carabao Cup Final.
9:55pm	5 News
10:00pm	Trainwreck
12:30am	Sex Tape
2:15am	Super Casino

## 4

7:00am	Hollyoaks Omnibus
9:20am	Coach Trip The group land in Lanzarote. Brendan takes them sea trekking and for a spin on some quadricycles. But on this trip, all roads lead to the vote.
12:05pm	Rude(ish) Tube Shorts
12:20pm	The Goldbergs
1:20pm	Stuart Little
3:00pm	The Goldbergs
4:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
5:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
5:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
6:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
6:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
7:00pm	Young Sheldon
7:30pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Men in Black 3
10:00pm	Celebs Go Dating
11:00pm	Naked Attraction
12:10am	The Big Bang Theory
12:40am	The Big Bang Theory
1:05am	Gogglebox
2:10am	Celebs Go Dating

## sky sports main event

7:00am	Cricket New Zealand take on England at Seddon Park in Hamilton in the opening ODI in their series.
10:00am	Total Goals
11:00am	The Sunday Supplement From Wembley Neil Ashton hosts a discussion on the week's major football stories, joined by leading football journalists to give their opinion on all the latest news.
12:30pm	Goals on Sunday From Wembley
2:00pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
5:00pm	Live Carabao Cup Final
8:30pm	Live Fight Night: Jd Nxtgen
12:00am	Sky Sports News
1:00am	Sky Sports News All the news from the Premier League and beyond.

## itv

7:00am	CITV
10:25am	ITV News
10:30am	Love Your Garden
11:00am	Peston on Sunday
12:00pm	The Martin Lewis Money Show
12:30pm	The Voice UK
1:45pm	ITV News and Weather
2:00pm	Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway
3:30pm	What Would Your Kid Do?
4:30pm	Tipping Point
5:30pm	ITV News and Weather
5:50pm	Local News and Weather
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Dancing on Ice
9:00pm	Endeavour
11:00pm	ITV News and Weather
11:15pm	Peston on Sunday
12:15am	Rugby Six Nations Highlights.
1:10am	100 Year Old Driving School

## itv2

7:00am	You've Been Framed!
7:50am	Emmerdale Omnibus
10:35am	Coronation Street Omnibus
1:30pm	Mr. Bean
2:05pm	Mr. Bean
2:35pm	The Voice UK
4:00pm	Looney Tunes: Back in Action
5:05pm	FYI Daily
5:10pm	Looney Tunes: Back in Action
5:55pm	Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
6:55pm	FYI Daily
7:00pm	Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
8:00pm	Legally Blonde
9:00pm	FYI Daily
9:05pm	Legally Blonde
10:00pm	Ibiza Weekender
11:00pm	Survival of the Fittest
12:00am	Family Guy
12:30am	Family Guy
12:55am	Family Guy
1:25am	American Dad!
1:55am	American Dad!
2:25am	Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records

## itv3

7:00am	Murder, She Wrote Drama series about a sleuthing writer who solves murder mysteries.
8:55am	Heartbeat Drama, set in the North Yorkshire moors in the 1960's.
11:00am	Columbo
12:35pm	Lewis
2:35pm	A Touch of Frost
4:50pm	The Durrells Comedy-drama in which a family relocates to the Greek paradise of Corfu in 1935.
7:00pm	Midsomer Murders
9:00pm	Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs
9:30pm	Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs
10:00pm	Tonight at the London Palladium
11:00pm	Captain Corelli's Mandolin
1:35am	Life of Crime
2:30am	Blue Murder

## itv4

7:00am	Football Rivalries Short sports film about this compelling sporting rivalry.
7:15am	Ironsides
8:20am	Quincy, M.E.
9:20am	The Professionals Action-packed drama series about two criminal-intelligence agents.
10:25am	The Sweeney
11:30am	The Sweeney
12:35pm	Minder Modern-day re-imagining on the classic comedy-drama.
1:45pm	Snooker Coverage and reaction from the latest Snooker event taking place.
6:15pm	Storage Wars
6:45pm	The Chase: Celebrity Special
7:45pm	Snooker
12:15am	A Dangerous Man
1:15am	FYI Daily

## sky CINEMA ACTION &amp; ADVENTURE

9:45am	Independence Day: Resurgence
12:00pm	Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2
2:20pm	300
4:20pm	Independence Day
6:55pm	Independence Day: Resurgence
9:00pm	Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2
11:30pm	300

## sky CINEMA COMEDY

7:40am	Special
8:10am	Juno
9:55am	Dragnet
11:50am	Calendar Girls
1:45pm	Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie
3:25pm	Get Him to the Greek
5:25pm	Police Academy
7:10pm	Paul
9:00pm	Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie
10:40pm	Get Him to the Greek
12:40am	Paul

## sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am	Dive Olly Dive and the Octopus Rescue
8:30am	Fast and Furious 8
10:50am	Birth of the Dragon
12:40pm	Christine Powerful true-life drama about Christine Chubbuck, a Florida-based local news reporter who, in 1974, committed suicide live on air.
2:45pm	The Mummy After he inadvertently awakens an ancient Egyptian sorceress, renegade US soldier Nick Morton must race to save the world from her army of the undead.
4:40pm	The Mummy: Special
5:00pm	Fast and Furious 8
7:20pm	Birth of the Dragon
9:00pm	The Mummy
11:00pm	Christine
1:05am	Freehold

## sky sports football

7:00am	League Cup Final 2017
8:00am	Carabao Cup Highlights
10:00am	EFL Goals: Championship
10:30am	EFL Goals: League
11:00am	The Sunday
12:30pm	EFL Goals: Championship
1:00pm	EFL Goals: League One and League Two
1:30pm	La Liga Highlights: Barcelona
1:45pm	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
2:00pm	Football
4:30pm	Live Carabao Cup Final
8:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
8:40pm	Football
10:45pm	Carabao Cup Final Highlights
11:15pm	EFL Goals: League One and League Two
11:45pm	EFL Goals: Championship
12:15am	Carabao Cup Final Highlights

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## BBC one

11:00am	Homes Under the Hammer
12:00pm	Wanted Down Under Revisited
12:45pm	Caught Red Handed
1:15pm	Bargain Hunt
2:00pm	BBC News
2:30pm	Regional News
2:45pm	Doctors
3:15pm	Shakespeare and Hathaway
4:00pm	Escape to the Country
4:45pm	Get Away for Winter
5:30pm	Antiques Road Trip
6:15pm	Pointless
7:00pm	BBC News
7:30pm	Regional News
8:00pm	The One Show
8:30pm	Inside Out
9:00pm	EastEnders
9:30pm	Classic Mary Berry
10:00pm	MasterChef
11:00pm	BBC News
11:30pm	Regional News
11:40pm	Weather
11:45pm	Have I Got Old News for You
12:15am	The Graham Norton Show

## BBC TWO

7:30am	Get Away for Winter
8:15am	Escape to the Country
9:00am	Info not available.
10:00am	Victoria Derbyshire
12:00pm	BBC Newsroom Live
12:30pm	The Week in Parliament
1:00pm	The Daily Politics
2:00pm	Women's Six Nations Highlights
2:30pm	Perfection
3:15pm	Yes Chef
4:00pm	A Place to Call Home
4:55pm	More Creatures Great and Small
5:25pm	Simon Reeve Caribbean
6:25pm	Flog It!
7:00pm	Eggheads
7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys
8:00pm	Top Gear
9:00pm	Only Connect
9:30pm	University Challenge
10:00pm	Collateral
11:00pm	Two Doors Down
11:30pm	Newsnight
12:10am	Weather

## BBC FOUR

8:00pm	Beyond 100 Days
8:30pm	Handmade on the Silk Road
9:00pm	India: Nature's Wonderland <i>Travel programme revealing the wonder of India's natural world.</i>
10:00pm	The Art of Japanese Life
11:00pm	Mary Beard's Ultimate Rome: <i>Empire Without Limit Documentary asking new and unexpected questions about the Roman Empire.</i>
12:00am	How the Celts Saved Britain
1:00am	Singer Songwriters at the BBC
2:00am	Top of the Pops
2:35am	Top of the Pops
3:10am	The Art of Japanese Life
4:10am	Handmade on the Silk Road

## CHANNEL 4

7:45am	3rd Rock from the Sun
8:35am	Everybody Loves Raymond
9:30am	Frasier
11:05am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
12:00pm	Undercover Boss USA
1:00pm	Channel 4 News
1:05pm	Come Dine with Me
2:05pm	Posh Pawnbrokers
3:10pm	Countdown
4:00pm	A Place in the Sun
5:00pm	A New Life in the Sun
6:00pm	Four in a Bed
6:30pm	Extreme Cake Makers
7:00pm	The Simpsons
7:30pm	Hollyoaks
8:00pm	Channel 4 News
9:00pm	Dispatches
9:30pm	Food Unwrapped
10:00pm	24 Hours in Police Custody
11:00pm	Electric Dreams
12:05am	Married at First Sight
1:10am	The £1 Houses: Britain's Cheapest Street

## CHANNEL 5

7:00am	Milkshake!
10:15am	The Wright Stuff
12:15pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
1:10pm	5 News
1:15pm	The latest news coverage.
1:15pm	GP's: Behind Closed Doors <i>Documentary taking a look at what goes on in the consultation room.</i>
2:10pm	Access
2:15pm	Home and Away
2:45pm	Neighbours
3:15pm	NCIS
4:15pm	Killer Obsession
6:00pm	5 News
6:30pm	Neighbours
7:00pm	Home and Away
7:30pm	5 News
8:00pm	Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights
9:00pm	Extreme Winter Road Rescue
10:00pm	The Flying Scotsman
11:00pm	The X Files
12:00am	Elysium
2:00am	Super Casino

## 4

7:00am	Hollyoaks
8:00am	Coach Trip
8:30am	How I Met Your Mother
9:00am	Baby Daddy
10:00am	Melissa and Joey
11:00am	How I Met Your Mother
12:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
1:00pm	The Goldbergs
2:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
3:00pm	Melissa and Joey
4:00pm	Baby Daddy
5:00pm	Brooklyn Nine-Nine
6:00pm	The Goldbergs
7:00pm	The Big Bang Theory
8:00pm	Hollyoaks
8:30pm	Coach Trip
9:00pm	<i>On Gran Canaria, Brendan takes the group sofa boating and for an afternoon at down school.</i>
9:30pm	Young Sheldon
10:00pm	Celebs Go Dating
11:00pm	Celebrity First Dates Ep1
12:05am	The Big Bang Theory
12:35am	The Big Bang Theory

## sky sports main event

7:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
7:30am	Good Morning Sports Fans
8:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
9:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
10:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
11:00am	Live ATP 500: Dubai <i>Day one of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships from the Aviation Club Tennis Centre in Dubai</i>
3:00pm	Sky Sports News
4:00pm	Live ATP 500: Dubai
7:30pm	Sky Sports News at 6
8:00pm	Football <i>Crystal Palace take on Tottenham Hotspur at Selhurst Park in the Premier League.</i>
12:00am	Sky Sports News <i>All the news from the Premier League and beyond.</i>

## itv

7:00am	Good Morning Britain
9:30am	Lorraine
10:25am	The Jeremy Kyle Show
11:30am	This Morning
1:30pm	Loose Women
2:30pm	ITV Lunchtime News
3:00pm	James Martin's American Adventure
4:00pm	Tenable
5:00pm	Tipping Point
6:00pm	The Chase
7:00pm	Local News and Weather
7:30pm	ITV Evening News
8:00pm	Emmerdale
8:30pm	Coronation Street
9:00pm	The Martin Lewis Money Show
9:30pm	Coronation Street
10:00pm	Marcella
11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather
11:50pm	John Worboys: The Taxi Cab Rapist
12:50am	Serial Killer with Piers Morgan

## itv2

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

## itv3

7:00am	Classic Coronation Street
7:55am	Heartbeat
9:00am	The Royal
10:05am	Judge Judy
11:25am	The Cruise <i>Documentary exploring life on board one of the world's largest luxury cruise ships.</i>
12:25pm	Love Your Garden
1:30pm	The Royal
2:35pm	Heartbeat <i>Drama, set in the North Yorkshire moors in the 1960's.</i>
3:40pm	Classic Coronation Street
4:45pm	On the Buses
5:50pm	You're Only Young Twice
6:25pm	George and Mildred
6:55pm	Heartbeat
8:00pm	Murder, She Wrote
9:00pm	Lewis
11:00pm	DCI Banks
12:00am	DCI Banks
1:05am	Scott and Bailey

## itv4

7:30am	The Chase
8:30am	Ironsides
9:35am	Quincy, M.E.
10:35am	Minder
11:45am	The Sweeney
12:50pm	The Professionals <i>Action-packed drama series about two criminal-intelligence agents.</i>
1:50pm	Ironsides
2:55pm	Quincy, M.E.
3:55pm	Minder
5:00pm	The Sweeney
6:05pm	The Avengers
7:10pm	Storage Wars
7:40pm	Storage Wars
8:05pm	Pawn Stars
8:35pm	Pawn Stars
9:00pm	River Monsters
10:00pm	River Monsters
11:05pm	On Deadly Ground
12:05am	FYI Daily
12:10am	On Deadly Ground <i>Action-packed thriller</i>
1:10am	Car Crash Global

## sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

7:50am	2012
10:35am	Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice
1:20pm	John Wick: Chapter Two
3:35pm	2012
6:15pm	Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice
9:00pm	John Wick: Chapter Two
11:15pm	Babylon A.D.
1:00am	Hitman
2:45am	Fearless

## sky CINEMA COMEDY

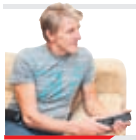
8:00am	Top Ten Show, the 2018
8:20am	The Love Guru
9:55am	Ghost Town
11:45am	Don Verdean
1:25pm	Top Ten Show, the 2018
1:45pm	Table 19
3:20pm	Bridesmaids
5:30pm	Liar Liar
7:05pm	Miss Congeniality
9:00pm	Table 19
10:35pm	Bridesmaids
12:45am	The Waterboy

## sky CINEMA PREMIERE

7:00am	Killing Hasselhoff
8:25am	Monster Family: Special
8:55am	Birth of the Dragon
10:45am	Christine
12:55pm	The Mummy <i>After he inadvertently awakens an ancient Egyptian sorceress, renegade US soldier Nick Morton must race to save the world from her army of the undead.</i>
2:55pm	The Mummy: Special
3:15pm	Larry Gaye: Renegade Male Flight Attendant
5:00pm	Birth of the Dragon
6:50pm	Christine
9:00pm	The Mummy
11:00pm	Larry Gaye: Renegade Male Flight Attendant
12:50am	Roxy

## sky sports football

9:00am	Football's Greatest
9:30am	Football's Greatest Teams
10:00am	La Liga Highlights: Barcelona
10:15am	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
10:30am	La Liga Greatest Games
11:00am	Football
5:15pm	La Liga Icons: Falcao
5:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
6:00pm	La Liga Highlights: Barcelona
6:15pm	La Liga Highlights: Real Madrid
6:30pm	Football Countdowns
7:00pm	20 Years of El Clasico
7:45pm	La Liga Icons Soccer A.M.
8:00pm	La Liga Icons
8:30pm	La Liga Greatest Games
8:55pm	Football
11:00pm	SPFL Round Up 2017/18
11:15pm	SPFL Greatest Games
11:30pm	MLS Preview Show
12:00am	La Liga Icons



**TV COUCH CRITIC**

THERE seems to be a concerted effort by the BBC to bring American football to the British sporting masses?

I applaud the coverage shown on Sunday at some ungodly hour for the Super Bowl, and I realise it's a big deal in America, but to headline it on the sports news the following day. Why? Not too many people are interested except the odd fan.

There is only one football and it doesn't have American before it! We also have rugby in two codes - union and league - both of which are much more entertaining and British.

I prefer The Voice (ITV Saturdays) to the X Factor. Although the judges are far more famous on The Voice they are also more humble and don't love themselves as much as the X Factor pretenders.

Will.i.am, Jennifer Hudson, Olly Murs and the great Sir Tom Jones come across as genuinely seeking singing talent that they personally like and can improve. The banter between the acts, with themselves and the audience really appeals.

I also love the ad-lib jamming that they all do and last week we had an impromptu rendering of 'It's Not Unusual' live by Tom which was fantastic. His own voice has lost none of its strength and he is held in awe by the three other judges as well as myself. Yes indeed Tom, a true legend!

What can you say about Casualty (BBC1 Saturdays)? Firstly, it's not my usual fare on Saturdays but



**HUMBLE:** The Voice judges Olly Murs, Jennifer Hudson, Tom Jones and will.i.am.



**FABULOUS:** Mary Berry.

**The Voice has the X Factor and Berry is a gem**

I occasionally watch it. It's been going so long the early operations were performed using ether as the anaesthetic, and they even had a contract with Burke and Hare for supplying specimens to practise on.

Good old Charley, (Derek Thompson) the only surviving original cast member on the show, was a sprightly young man at the series onset and him and Duffy (Kathy Shipton) seemed to always have a thing for each other so marriage was inevitable. Still, the hospital staff always go the extra mile, much further than a normal hospital in the UK would, but it seems there's a good following or the Beeb would have pulled the plug ages ago.

Who wouldn't want to stay at Mary Berry's house for a week or two? Her Saturday lunchtime cookery show on BBC1 has me drooling at the screen. Apart from her fantastic food recipes she comes across as a

nice person. The rack of lamb she produced last week had me scrambling to open a tin of beans as soon as the show finished. Still judging by the size of the house and gardens either her cooking or character has paid dividends, or her husband's not short of a few bob. Good luck to her whichever, she deserves it and is fabulous.

It's obvious Morse was as miserable in his early police career as he was in later life, judging by ITV's Sunday evening prequel, *Endeavour*. I have to admit his fledgling police career is more gritty and the nostalgia of early policing methods and the 60's feel swings it for me, even though there was only one John Thaw.

Shawn Evans plays the young Endeavour Morse well, and in this episode he had just been promoted to a DS before going about his business hunting

down murder suspects which are connected to a horror film set at the local flix. There's also an influx of racist attacks which seem to escalate.

Morse and Inspector Thursday hunt down their prey in a relaxed manner, ably assisted by the usual forensic scientist describing the victim's injuries in colourful detail after examining the bodies.

Not seen much of the *Winter Olympics* this time round (BBC1 and BBC2, various times), although I don't think many people have. The usual problem is that it's not cold enough and there's not enough snow, but Korea seems to be the opposite! Oh well, at least we have had a lessening of hostilities between the two warring factors north and south, both actually presenting a passable united front and sitting down to talk. Progress I hope.

*Critique: PM, San Fulgencio, Costa Blanca.*

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**BBC one**

**BBC TWO**

**BBC FOUR**

**CHANNEL 4**

**CHANNEL 5**

**4**

**sky sports  
main event**

7:00am Breakfast  
10:15am Murder, Mystery and My Family  
11:00am Homes Under the Hammer  
12:00pm Wanted Down Under Revisited  
12:45pm Caught Red Handed  
1:15pm Bargain Hunt  
2:00pm BBC News  
2:30pm Regional News  
2:45pm Doctors  
3:15pm Shakespeare and Hathaway  
4:00pm Escape to the Country  
4:45pm Get Away for Winter  
5:30pm Antiques Road Trip  
6:15pm Pointless  
7:00pm BBC News  
7:30pm Regional News  
8:00pm The One Show  
8:30pm EastEnders  
9:00pm Holby City  
10:00pm Shetland  
11:00pm BBC News  
11:30pm Regional News  
11:40pm Weather  
11:45pm Acid Attack: My Story  
12:30am Miranda Hart - My What I Call Live Show  
1:30am Weather for the Week Ahead

4:35am This is BBC Two  
7:00am Caught Red Handed  
7:30am Get Away for Winter  
8:15am Wanted Down Under Revisited  
9:00am Info not available  
10:00am Victoria Derbyshire  
12:00pm BBC Newsroom Live  
1:00pm The Daily Politics  
2:00pm The Super League Show  
2:45pm Plan it, Build it  
3:16pm Yes Chef  
4:00pm A Place to Call Home  
4:55pm More Creatures Great and Small  
5:25pm Simon Reeve Caribbean  
6:25pm Flog It!  
7:00pm Eggheads  
7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys  
8:00pm Sea Cities  
9:00pm Back in Time for Tea  
10:00pm Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby  
11:00pm Mum  
11:25pm The Archaeologists  
11:30pm Newsnight  
12:10am Weather  
12:15am An Island Parish  
1:15am Generation Gifted  
2:20am Royal Recipes

8:00pm Beyond 100 Days  
8:30pm Handmade on the Silk Road  
9:00pm Pedalling Dreams: The Raleigh Story  
10:00pm The Mafia's Secret Bunkers  
*Author and mafia historian John Dickie uncovers the truth about Italy's most powerful organised crime group.*  
11:00pm Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities  
12:00am Dreaming the Impossible: Unbuilt Britain  
1:00am Je t'aime: The Story of French Song with Petula Clark  
2:00am Top of the Pops  
*Simon Bates presents the weekly pop chart show, first broadcast on 6th May 1982.*  
2:35am Top of the Pops  
3:15am Pedalling Dreams: The Raleigh Story  
4:15am Handmade on the Silk Road

8:10am 3rd Rock from the Sun  
8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond  
9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond  
9:30am Frasier  
10:00am Frasier  
10:35am Frasier  
11:05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA  
12:00pm Undercover Boss USA  
1:00pm Channel 4 News  
1:05pm Come Dine with Me  
2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers  
3:10pm Countdown  
4:00pm A Place in the Sun  
5:00pm A New Life in the Sun  
6:00pm Four in a Bed  
6:30pm Extreme Cake Makers  
7:00pm The Simpsons  
7:30pm Hollyoaks  
8:00pm Channel 4 News  
9:00pm How to Get Fit Fast  
10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E  
11:00pm The FGM Detectives  
12:00am Before We Die  
1:15am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA  
2:00am It's a Weird World  
2:55am The Supervet

7:00am Milkshake!  
10:15am The Wright Stuff  
12:15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!  
1:10pm 5 News  
1:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors  
2:10pm Access  
2:15pm Home and Away  
2:45pm Neighbours  
3:15pm NCIS  
4:15pm Killer Collector  
6:00pm 5 News  
6:30pm Neighbours  
7:00pm Home and Away  
7:30pm 5 News  
8:00pm Loch Lomond: A Year in the Wild  
9:00pm Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh  
10:00pm Elizabeth: Our Queen-the Crown Under Attack  
11:00pm Return to the Wild  
12:05am Sinkholes  
1:05am Weather Terror  
2:00pm Super Casino  
4:10am Cowboy Builders  
5:00am My Mum's Hotter Than Me!  
5:45am House Doctor

9:00am Baby Daddy  
9:30am Baby Daddy  
10:00am Melissa and Joey  
10:30am Melissa and Joey  
11:00am How I Met Your Mother  
11:30am How I Met Your Mother  
12:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
12:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
1:00pm The Goldbergs  
1:30pm The Goldbergs  
2:00pm The Big Bang Theory  
2:30pm The Big Bang Theory  
3:00pm Melissa and Joey  
3:30pm Melissa and Joey  
4:00pm Baby Daddy  
4:30pm Baby Daddy  
5:00pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
5:30pm Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
6:00pm The Goldbergs  
6:30pm The Goldbergs  
7:00pm The Big Bang Theory  
7:30pm The Big Bang Theory  
8:00pm Hollyoaks  
8:30pm Coach Trip  
9:00pm The Big Bang Theory  
9:30pm The Big Bang Theory  
10:00pm Celebs Go Dating  
11:00pm Tattoo Fixers  
12:05am The Big Bang Theory  
12:35am The Big Bang Theory  
1:00am First Dates

6:30am Tennis Archive  
6:45am Tennis Archive  
7:00am Good Morning Sports Fans Bitesize  
7:30am Good Morning Sports Fans Bitesize  
8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans  
9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans  
10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans  
11:00am Live ATP 500: Dubai  
3:00pm Sky Sports News  
4:00pm Live ATP 500: Dubai  
7:30pm Sky Sports News at 6  
8:00pm Sky Sports Tonight  
8:30pm Live Checkatrade Trophy  
*A semi-final from the Checkatrade Trophy.*  
11:00pm The Debate - Live  
12:00am Sky Sports News  
1:00am Sporting Greats  
*A look at the career of one of sport's all-time greats.*  
1:30am Cricket  
*New Zealand take on England at the Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui in the second ODI in their series.*

**itv**

**itv2**

**itv3**

**itv4**

**sky CINEMA  
ACTION & ADVENTURE**

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PREMIERE**

**sky sports  
football**

4:55am ITV Nightscreen  
6:05am The Jeremy Kyle Show  
7:00am Good Morning Britain  
9:30am Lorraine  
10:25am The Jeremy Kyle Show  
11:30am This Morning  
1:30pm Loose Women  
2:30pm ITV Lunchtime News  
3:00pm James Martin's American Adventure  
4:00pm Tenable  
5:00pm Tipping Point  
6:00pm The Chase  
7:00pm Local News and Weather  
7:30pm ITV Evening News  
8:00pm Emmerdale  
8:30pm 100 Year Old Driving School  
9:00pm What Would Your Kid Do?  
10:00pm 100 Years Younger in 21 Days  
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather  
11:45pm Through the Keyhole  
12:45am Sunday Night at the Palladium  
1:35am Jackpot247  
4:00am Loose Women

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

7:00am Classic Coronation Street  
7:25am Classic Coronation Street  
7:55am Heartbeat  
9:00am The Royal  
10:05am Judge Judy  
10:30am Judge Judy  
11:00am Judge Judy  
11:25am The Cruise  
11:55am The Cruise  
12:25pm Love Your Garden  
1:30pm The Royal  
2:35pm Heartbeat  
3:40pm Classic Coronation Street  
4:15pm Classic Coronation Street  
4:50pm On the Buses  
5:20pm On the Buses  
5:55pm You're Only Young Twice  
6:25pm George and Mildred  
7:00pm Heartbeat  
8:00pm Murder, She Wrote  
9:00pm Midsomer Murders  
11:00pm Scott and Bailey  
12:00am Scott and Bailey  
1:05am A Touch of Frost  
3:00am ITV3 Nightscreen  
3:30am Teleshopping

7:00am The Protectors  
7:35am Pawn Stars  
*The sharp-eyed Harrisons head to Utah to cut deals on historic firearms*  
8:00pm Pawn Stars  
8:30am Ironside  
9:30am Quincy, M.E.  
10:30am Minder  
11:35am The Sweeney  
12:40pm The Avengers  
1:50pm Ironside  
2:50pm Quincy, M.E.  
3:55pm Minder  
5:00pm The Sweeney  
6:05pm The Avengers  
7:05pm Storage Wars  
7:35pm Storage Wars  
8:05pm Pawn Stars  
8:35pm Pawn Stars  
9:00pm World Superbike Highlights  
10:00pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow  
11:00pm The Game of Death  
12:00am FYI Daily  
12:05am The Game of Death  
1:05am On Deadly Ground  
2:05am FYI Daily  
2:10am On Deadly Ground  
3:10am The Americans  
4:00am Teleshopping

4:45am Rocky II  
7:00am The Matrix  
9:20am The Matrix Reloaded  
11:40am The Matrix Revolutions  
2:00pm Kong: Skull Island  
4:00pm The Matrix  
6:20pm The Matrix Reloaded  
8:45pm The Matrix Revolutions  
11:00pm Kong: Skull Island  
1:00am Battle for Moscow  
10:55am Top Ten Show, the 2018  
11:10am City Slickers  
1:10pm Chips: Law and Disorder  
3:00pm Top Ten Show, the 2018  
3:20pm Fist Fight  
5:00pm Stuck on You  
7:00pm Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous  
9:00pm Chips: Law and Disorder  
10:45pm Fist Fight  
12:25am Stuck on You  
2:30am Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo

5:35am Dive Olly Dive and the Octopus Rescue  
7:00am Birth of the Dragon  
*A young Bruce Lee looks to make a name for himself in 1960s San Francisco, soon challenging Shaolin master Wong Jack Man to an epic showdown.*  
8:40am Larry Gaye: Renegade Male Flight Attendant  
10:35am Monster Family: Special  
11:05am The Mummy  
1:10pm Christine  
3:15pm Hard Target  
5:15pm Larry Gaye: Renegade Male Flight Attendant  
7:10pm Birth of the Dragon  
9:00pm The Mummy  
11:00pm Hard Target  
12:50am Christine  
3:00am Freehold  
4:35am Killing Hasselhoff

12:45pm SPFL Greatest Games  
1:00pm SPFL Round Up 2017/18  
1:15pm SPFL Greatest Games  
1:30pm Soccer A.M. - The Best Bits  
2:00pm La Liga Icons  
3:00pm SPFL Round Up 2017/18  
3:15pm SPFL Greatest Games  
3:30pm Soccer A.M. - The Best Bits  
4:30pm Football's Greatest Teams  
5:00pm Scottish Cup Greatest Games  
5:15pm Scottish Cup Greatest Games  
5:30pm La Liga Greatest Games  
5:45pm La Liga Greatest Games  
6:00pm MLS Preview Show  
6:30pm Football Countdowns  
7:00pm Revista de la Liga  
7:30pm Eredivisie  
8:30pm Football  
11:00pm The Debate - Live  
12:00am La Liga World  
12:30am MLS Preview Show

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.

**Nora Johnson**  
*Breaking Views*

Nora is the author of popular psychological suspense and crime thrillers and a freelance journalist. To comment on any of the issues raised in her column, go to [www.euroweeklynews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson](http://www.euroweeklynews.com/3.0.15/nora-johnson)

# What a state Britain's in - how did it get to this?

WHAT'S going on in the UK?

We read that the NHS was forced to pay £1,500 for a £2 pot of moisturiser, people have been extortionately fined for putting cardboard boxes in the wrong recycling bins, plus there's been a torrent of false rape allegations.

First up, the owner of the high street chemist, Boots, charged the NHS £1,500 for a £2 moisturiser.

The case is among thousands where it looks as if the NHS has been overcharged for drugs called specials: custom-made for patients who need non-standard medicines, mixtures of skin creams for eczema etc and drugs in liquid form for those unable to swallow pills.

This speaks volumes about poor management at the NHS. Are they totally blind to the blatant abuse of the

system by unscrupulous suppliers, who must have knowledge of pricing and policies, but choose to exploit them for their own gain?

Next, a woman was fined £600 for putting one cardboard box into the wrong recycling bin. When she complained, she was warned she'd face an even larger fine, possibly a prison sentence unless she paid up. The fine was imposed by a company, employed by the council, that provides enforcement to councils free of charge and makes money from all these fines. Really?

Then, the false rape allegations. A teenage schoolboy, Liam Allan, was cleared of rape after his lawyers uncovered key evidence proving his innocence but missed by



**EXTORTIONATE:** Boots ripped the NHS off £1,500 for a £2 moisturiser.

police and prosecutors.

Expelled from school after his arrest, on bail for two years, he's the youngest vic-

tim of the disclosure scandal engulfing the CPS.

But are other innocent men behind bars less 'lucky' than

young Liam? Has the pendulum against men swung a bit too far?

Let's take another exam-

ple. The UK, as elsewhere, is confronted by threats of a world order; Putin's Russia on the prowl, terrorists galore, Trump's America not completely dependable anymore. Meanwhile, what sort of questions were the British media hurling at the defence secretary in response recently? Why, all about his past sex life, of course. 'Nuff said.

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

*All profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity.*

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BBC one

Table of BBC one TV schedule with times and program titles.

BBC TWO

Table of BBC TWO TV schedule with times and program titles.

BBC FOUR

Table of BBC FOUR TV schedule with times and program titles.

CHANNEL 4

Table of CHANNEL 4 TV schedule with times and program titles.

CHANNEL 5

Table of CHANNEL 5 TV schedule with times and program titles.

4

Table of channel 4 TV schedule with times and program titles.

sky sports main event

Table of sky sports main event TV schedule with times and program titles.

itv

Table of itv TV schedule with times and program titles.

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itv3

Table of itv3 TV schedule with times and program titles.

itv4

Table of itv4 TV schedule with times and program titles.

sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE

Table of sky CINEMA ACTION & ADVENTURE TV schedule with times and program titles.

sky CINEMA PREMIERE

Table of sky CINEMA PREMIERE TV schedule with times and program titles.

sky sports football

Table of sky sports football TV schedule with times and program titles.



**Advertising Feature**

# At last, superfast internet access at decent prices

FOR residents and those with holiday homes, P&N TV Services are going to be offering some great upgraded internet options at the end of March.

Now customers will be able to obtain the following speeds at very affordable prices; 6mb download and 6mb upload will cost €15.45. 12mb download and 12mb upload is just €25.75.

The mega deal however is a whopping 30mb download and 30mb upload for only €30.90.

That is not all however, as the pay as you go package will be upgrading to a 12mb package at the same tariff with no reconnection charges.

In addition, P&N TV Services will now be able to offer holiday TV packages ranging from one week to a whole month, offering all of your favourite channels in a range of languages. It is perfect for your holiday home or rental property and there will be no reconnection charges.

Whether you are renting out your property or staying in rented accommodation, pay as you go internet has become an even more attractive option.

There is nothing more irritating than recon-



**IT'S A MUST: High speed internet connection.**

nection charges, minimum yearly usage limits and the inability to allow tenants to pay for the internet directly, so P&N TV Services' pay as you go internet package offers an ideal solution.

Now you or your tenants can enjoy convenient internet access without an expensive out-

lay even without the need to install a Telefonica line.

If you need television, internet, phone or any combination of all three, P&N TV Services can satisfy all of your communication needs, especially as one of the requirements for holiday

rental registration in some areas includes internet connection.

P&N TV Services which is owned and run by Nicky and Peter Savage, can offer advice on what is best for your particular situation.

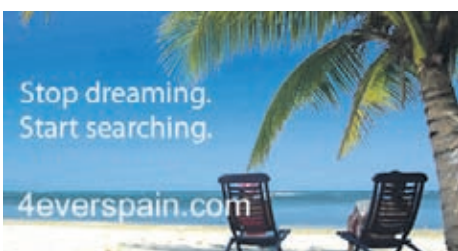
They can even offer customers a telephone service with either a UK telephone number, which can be adjusted to the region that you came from, or a Spanish telephone number or even both.

You do not require a Telefonica landline connection especially as P&N TV Services call rates are more competitive with calls to the UK, Spain and other European destinations costing just cents per minute.

Their coverage is from Piñar de Campoverde to Pilar De La Horadada, to Playa Flamenca, La Zenia, Narajos, Villa Martin and most areas in between.

Feel free to visit the store in Avenida de las Especies, Pinar de Campoverde which is open from Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm and Saturday 10am to 2pm in order to discuss your particular needs.

*Alternatively, email them on [pandntvservices@hotmail.com](mailto:pandntvservices@hotmail.com), call them on 965 064 350 or 622 448 381 or check out their helpful and informative website at [www.pntvservices.com](http://www.pntvservices.com).*



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# If 'Send to All' really existed...

If you really want to play the Michael McIntyre game, practise safe sending

## TECH FOR THE TIMID



LAST year a friend sent my email address a joke.

Now I'm deluged with offers to augment the male anatomy, retrieve my winnings from a lottery I didn't enter, or enjoy the charms of ladies called Anushka or Anastasya.

And all because my friend took a leaf from the Michael McIntyre show by using his equivalent of that 'Send to All' game to pass on his innocuous joke.

What email etiquette did he contravene? His emailed joke was openly addressed to everyone in his address book. I could see all his dozens of friends' addresses, and they could all see mine. In this age of easy digital pilferage that put all our addresses out there in the wild, it's easy pickings for the spammers.

So here's this week's tiny but vital email etiquette tip: when you want to forward the funniest thing since seg-



**EMAIL OVERLOAD: To BCC or not to BCC.**

mented whole wheat, hide the addresses of your inflicttees.

Here's how:

- 1) Compose your email.
- 2) Address it to your own email address.
- 3) Then add your recipients one by one with the BCC button.

BCC officially means 'Blind Carbon Copy'. It's the subversive variant of the CC 'copy' function, responsible single-handedly for swamping workplaces with avalanches of digital

sludge.

BCC is a really sneaky way to copy someone into correspondence without the original addressee being aware of it. All BCC addresses are hidden from all other recipients, so no one can harvest valuable contact details from your address book.

By addressing an email to yourself and then BCC-ing your recipients, their details remain sacrosanct and they'll only hate you for the inanity of your joke, not for revealing their email

addresses to all.

While we're at it, here's another obvious but surprisingly common email fault: keeping everything in your Inbox.

My immortal beloved eventually had several thousand emails in her groaning, treacle-slow Inbox until she finally saw the light and was saved.

All it takes is to make folders/directories in your email program's left-hand navigation column, and every day drag your dealt-with emails from the Inbox into their respective folders: Business, Friends, Lovers, Potential lovers, Final demands, Absolutely final demands, whatever folders suit your particular needs. It makes finding the email you want a whole lot easier too.

One more tip: delete those huge attachments from your emails once you're done with them. In some programs you just right-click the attachment symbol and choose delete.

Your email program will become much more responsive without the burden of all those forwarded cat videos. So do it right miaow.

## Scorched earth

RATHER than clean my lodgings as a student, it was often easier just to keep moving somewhere else.

Sadly it's not that simple with email, though some of us do indeed just give up when spammers overrun our accounts, and endure the 'scorched earth' hassle of starting a new address.

Hitting an 'Unsubscribe' link at the bottom of an email often works. But sometimes it has the opposite and unintended effect of confirming to the spammer that he has reached an actual live recipient, and the invasion ramps up.

For extreme cases you can actually train your program to recognise junk mail and move it to a junk folder automatically. Or you can use a proper spam blocker. I had 30 emails advertising one in my Inbox last week...

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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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Views expressed and opinions given are not necessarily those of the EWN publishers. No responsibility is accepted for accuracy of information, errors, omissions or statements.

## It seems crazy that the Spanish government makes some things so difficult

I LIVE in Spain, needing to fit a much-needed body-part to my car that would help my wife to enter and exit - especially as she has advancing mobility problems.

But so help me, the very expensive and robust stainless-steel side-steps I bought from Poland cannot be fitted as it doesn't include a Homologated Certificate. Where the heck does it all end?

Spain is a great country, with a population that is welcoming, friendly and warm; so why the Spanish government is so short-sighted, blinkered and blatantly stupid when it comes to allowing individuals to fit replacement or new parts to their cars is unbelievable?

Towing arms, bull-bars, air-horns, etc are all included. And lots more too! Whoever made this stupid rule a law needs to reconsider it, I reckon. Maybe Gibraltar should close its borders to the Spanish! That would cause a storm-and-a-half!

The fact that anything fitted to a car that is seen as modifying it (?) has to be checked by an experienced Trained Tester at an ITV Centre before it is added to the relevant vehicle's paperwork for legality.

So why-oh-why is there such a palaver when it comes to fitting something? Either it's done properly or not at all. If not at all,

### A honeymoon and now their forever home

WE originally came here in 1985 on honeymoon (age 23 and 22 years old), we have been back a few times since then but back again this year, 2018 (some 33 years later!).

It was always a dream of ours to come back to our beloved Benalmadena and for two months now we have been doing the groundwork, planning out the next chapter of our lives. On the right is us in 1985 on the prom. This is us in the same place, today: 33 years later!

Anne Currie,  
Benalmadena



it will fail. It doesn't need a flimsy certificate. It doesn't necessarily need a so-called professional mechanic to fit it. It's only a few nuts and bolts, in most cases! It fails or it passes. What could be simpler?

Scotty Mackay, Alcaucin

### Sangria explained

SANGRIA was originally produced and consumed only during Easter and its name refers to the blood of Christ.

It was produced on Easter Saturday from red wine, lemonade, lemon slices, cloves, cinnamon and a shot of brandy, no more, no less.

It was left in a bowl to simmer overnight and was consumed on Easter Sunday.

Oscar Gonzalez, Marbella

### Road rules

RE Issue 1701, cyclists are governed by the same traffic laws that apply to any vehicle using the roads in Spain. The traffic law also states cyclists must now use head-phones when using a mobile phone or when listening to music. They also should dismount before using a crossing.

Hope this helps.

John Dale, Los Dolses

### HAVE YOUR SAY

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

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

## Motor homes plague Costa Blanca beaches

Live and let live. The vast majority are tidy people, some of the motorhomes cost more than a bungalow in Torrevieja. Plus, most of the 'beauty spots' around Costa Blanca look like wasteland anyway.

Marcus Tipa

If the town hall got their heads together, found them some wasteland, charged them a nominal fee and supplied electricity, water, toilets etc. They could then ban them from the beaches.

Maureen Rush

How is it that they don't use all the campsites on the Costas? Or are they too tight?

George R Carman

Some of us 'motorhomers' do not enjoy getting stacked like sardines into campsites. We pour the grey water into drains and the WC waste into disposal spots. Mostly we stay two or three nights and spend money in shops and restaurants, a lot of them owned by the very people moaning about our existence.

We do appreciate that in winter it is a different ball game than in summer and would expect to use official sites then, if only because all those areas will be full of Spaniards coming down to the coast and there is no room.

### Comments from EWN online

But I would hope that the money spent in the local economies is worth way more than minor inconveniences caused by a few.

Edda Stentiford

### Exact speeds that trigger radar cameras

Wish there were more signs posting the correct speed, too many ups and downs as it is!

Justice Christopher

What about when they hide in a full car park in an unmarked car, that's entrapment surely!

Amanda Allen Wheatley

What about people who drive far too slow? Surely that is just as bad, and dangerous?

Tricia Harrington

### Political party members face jail over protest

They might change their minds if the Brits did go home and their money stream dried up.

Richard Gus Warren

Would be replaced by a better Quality of tourist Richard! Ones that spend real money! Like the Russians and the Scandinavians that don't want to come and see drunk Brits vomiting all over the place falling off balconies!

John William Roberts

I have several (seven) friends who live there most of the year John. They spend 'mucho dinero' there. They have all lived there for 15 to 20 years each. That's a lot of spending power. This mob of terrorists 'Arran' (check the definition of terrorist) need to be locked away for a few years till they grow up. They are the NF of Mallorca.

Richard Gus Warren

Arran is CUP. This is not about tourism, it's Catalan nationalist 'kale borroka.'

Peter Harvey

### Poll position

I THINK we should keep grid girls provided they are not forced to be there.

As grid children will be all boys that will start another argument as grid girls will come under the ban.

Anyway, the grid girls provide a touch of glamour to a male dominated sport. I am an F1 fan and vote for the status quo.

Derek, La Marina

### Suits the Spanish

IT always amazes me how very popular crowded, noisy events are with the Spanish people.

This is not a criticism, but maybe a cause for grudging admiration from a 'stiff upper lip Brit' who wouldn't dream of dressing up as a pirate and wandering around town during carnival.

Having said that however when you see hens and stags in fancy dress, they do actually look like idiots, but the Spanish seem to have a naïve charm which makes their bizarre costumes seem common place.

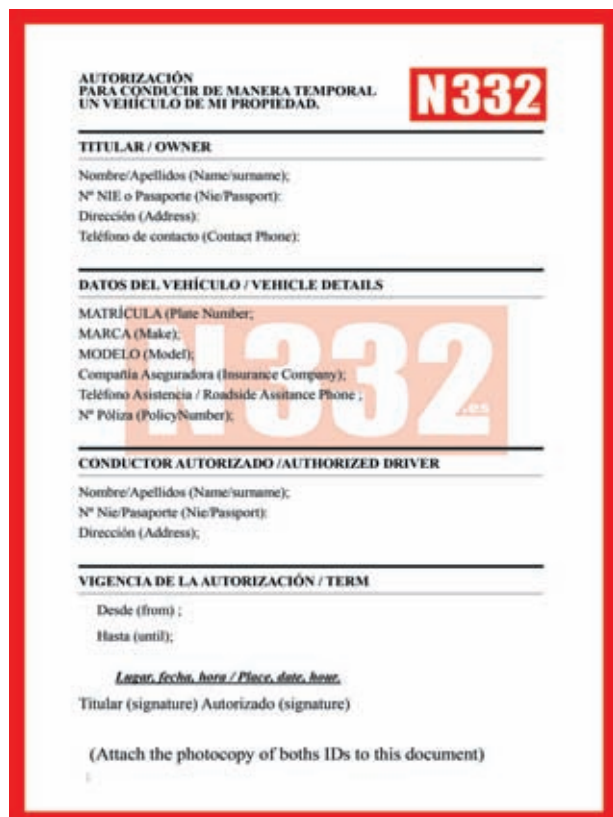
Perhaps the fact that they join in as groups of family and neighbours rather than a pack of drunken foreigners helps!

Brian Cox, Sabinillas

# LEGALLY SPEAKING

## Permission to use your vehicle

**WE** answer some common driving questions, kindly provided by members of the Guardia Civil based in Torrevieja, Costa Blanca, who set up the N332 website and Facebook page to help break down barriers.



ASSUMING your insurance covers multiple drivers, you may allow any qualified driver to use your vehicle. However, in order to avoid problems if the driver is stopped, it is recommended that the vehicle driver is given a document proving that they have the owner's permission to drive the vehicle.

This may seem like an inconvenience, but it is for your protection. If the vehicle is stopped, the officers who come across a vehicle driven by somebody other than the registered keeper will question the legalities of the driver, which is in your best interest, as if it is stolen they will find out very soon.

Otherwise, if a vehicle is stolen but not yet reported as such, there could be no reason for the

Guardia Civil or police to doubt the person driving the vehicle has the owner's permission, and so it could otherwise go unchecked. But of course there could be a genuine reason for somebody other than the registered keeper to drive the car, which is what this document would help to prove.

Simply download the document and complete it, or complete the online version and print it, and attach a copy of both the owner's driving licence, and a copy of the licence of the person given permission to drive. It should be completed in full, including a term of validity, and then dated and signed.

Download, print and complete the following document: <http://n332.es/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/authdriver.pdf>.

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

## What is rental registration?

**Q.** To a recent enquiry about noisy renters you replied that the landlord must include a registration number on his advert. Does this apply to companies that manage properties for rental for the

landlord? I ask because I never knew this and I have not seen it on any adverts. Where would the registration be placed and how many digits should it have?

*M F (by email)*

**A.** Good question. The regulation of short-term tourist lettings is handled by each one of Spain's 17 autonomous regions, so the rules are different from Andalusia to Valencia to the Balearic Islands. Furthermore, most of the regulations are quite new and the land-

**David Searl**  
You and the Law in Spain

lords may have up to a year to comply in some areas. My own quick search showed that practically no one is in compliance yet. There have been

many bureaucratic delays in obtaining the registration but it has been made easier in some areas so you should find the numbers used before too long. And, yes, the letting agencies will be required to include the registration number for each property they advertise on the internet.

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

## I am 'Relentless'

**Mike Senker**  
In my opinion



Views of a Grumpy Old Man

THERE is nothing that makes me grumpier than dealing with ignorant, stupid people. Ryanair has recently introduced a 'live chat' facility which, after never being able to actually speak to a human being, is a good alternative. But this is the conversation I had with one of their agents today:

'Hello Michael - how may I help you?'

'I have booked a flight and paid to carry hand luggage. I am disabled and travel with my own wheelchair and I have just read in your FAQs that disabled passengers can take their hand luggage free of charge so I'd like to arrange a refund please.'

After going through the usual security questions she comes back with, 'There is no refund with priority boarding. Is there anything else I can help you with today?'

Well a) she hadn't actually helped me with anything and b) now she's offering to not help me with something else.

I explained again that I don't need priority boarding as I always have Special Assistance due to my disability but, because of their new

luggage policy, I felt I had no choice other than to pay for priority boarding. Nowhere on their luggage details do they state that passengers using Special Assistance are able to keep their hand luggage with them free of charge.

I only discovered that little gem buried in their FAQs. Is it so hard to make it easy for people to know that or is it, as I suspect, an easy way to nick more money?

She confirms again there is no refund as they are 'a non-refundable airline'! What the hell does that mean??? I asked to be transferred to a supervisor at which point she says, 'I can't transfer you to a supervisor, if you're not happy fill out a form, goodbye'. And then she disconnects our chat!! And that was the end of my chat. How rude. This is not 'customer service' - this is 'customer alienation'.

Ryanair boast about how they are 'making things better' for their passengers. Really??? I then get a box come up asking me to fill in a survey regarding my experience. I asked them to send me copy of the chat so if anyone thinks I'm exaggerating I have the proof. I'm sure that nowhere on the booking page or the priority boarding does it say Special Assistance passengers do not need to pay. My nickname is 'Relentless' so I won't let this go and it's not even about the money, it's the principle.

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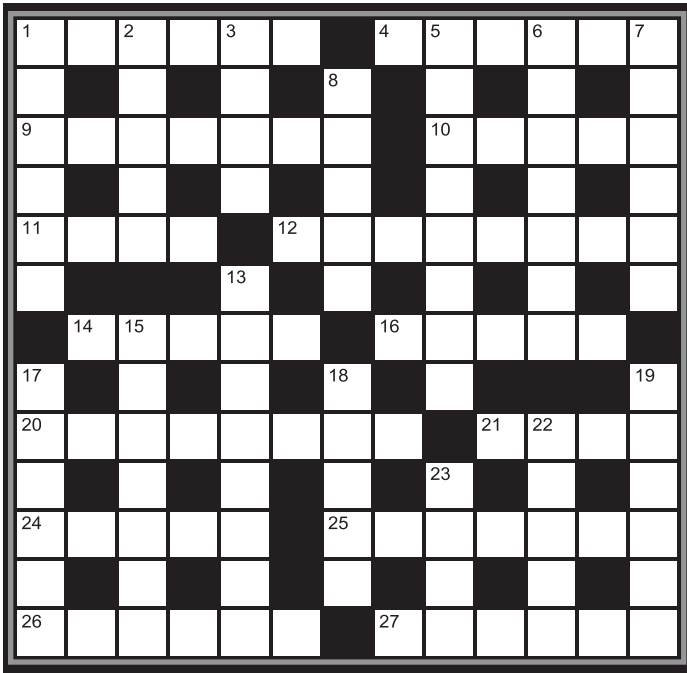
**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Stop translating Sartre (6)
- 4 Prepared sauces for the campaigns (6)
- 9 First class rider takes a tumble in Scotland (7)
- 10 Swap jazz key (5)
- 11 Rotate tea boiler (4)
- 12 Fine head start with British Airways, perhaps (8)
- 14 Harbour with own pole (5)
- 16 It's torture putting silver on Yankee (5)
- 20 Risk money, a pound, after some light shopping? (8)
- 21 Funny ditch (2-2)
- 24 Play doctor and a graduate (5)
- 25 Crush the star characters (7)
- 26 Something glossy for a teen's dance (6)
- 27 Love means nothing for such players (6)

**Down**

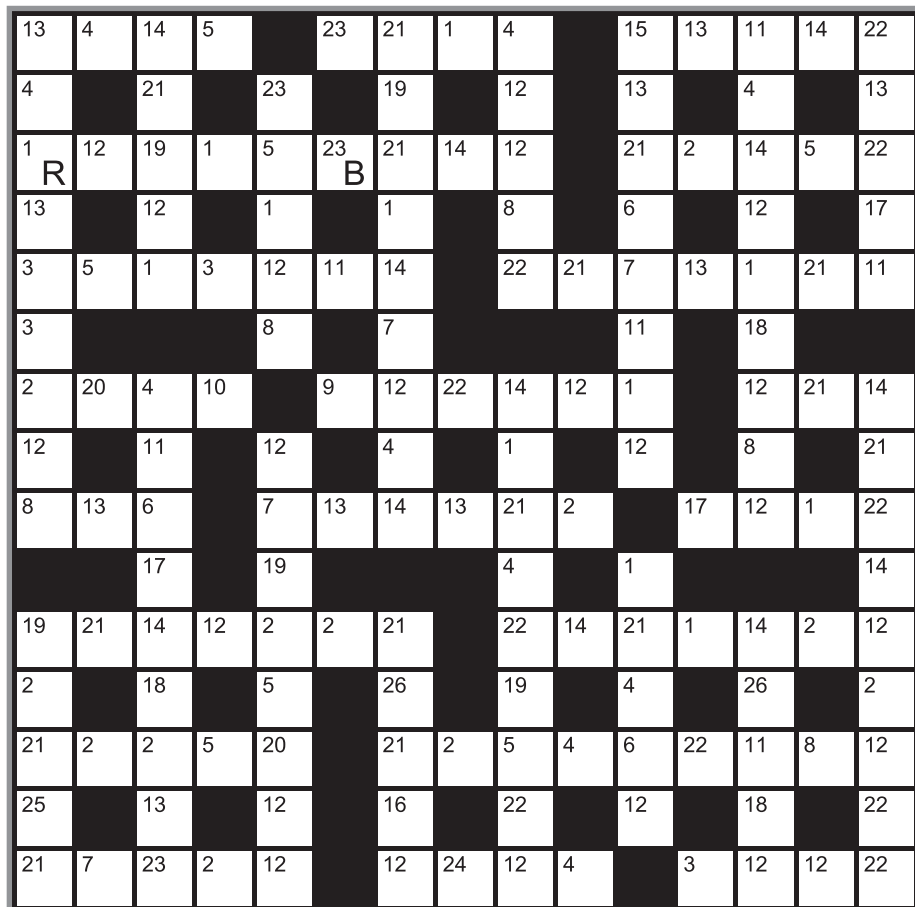
- 1 Changes Pat's ad about (6)
- 2 More uncommon rubles are registered (5)
- 3 Agile secret agent creeping round the ringleader (4)
- 5 Modify, for example, ring for a confidant (5,3)
- 6 One's position is not changed at the inside (7)
- 7 Metal pin crook finally found in waste pipe (6)
- 8 Keep out of French watering



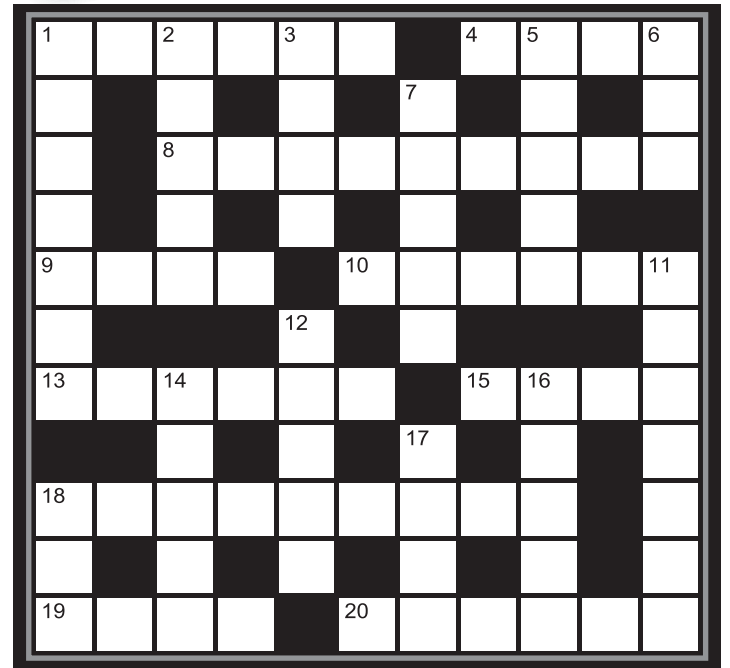
- hole (5)
- 13 State risk accepting European jurisprudence (8)
- 15 After a time, the pamphlet will entice (7)
- 17 Remains in taxicab I'd escaped in (6)
- 18 Squander, say, part of the body (5)
- 19 Mother, doctor and a Sikh leader are all from Chennai (6)
- 22 Continue performing in part of West London (5)
- 23 Cabbage is an ingredient of cock-a-leekie soup (4)

**Code Breaker**

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 1 represents R and 23 represents B, so fill in R every time the figure 1 appears and B every time the figure 23 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**

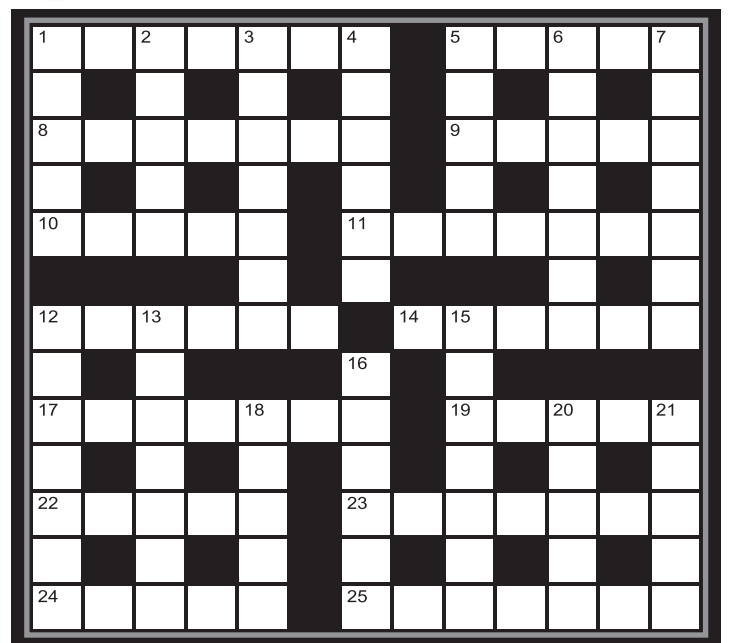
- 1 Come or go back (6)
- 4 Prison (4)
- 8 Variety of peach with a smooth skin (9)
- 9 Gemstone (4)
- 10 Rely on (6)
- 13 Stable units (6)
- 15 Capital of Norway (4)
- 18 Sweets on sticks (9)
- 19 Nesting insect (4)
- 20 Have an ambitious plan or a lofty goal (6)

**Down**

- 1 Unpleasantly loud and harsh (7)
- 2 Friendly Islands (5)
- 3 Wealthy (4)
- 5 Nimble or active (5)
- 6/18 Hide out (3,3)
- 7 Ship of the desert (5)
- 11 Bishop's jurisdiction (7)
- 12 Ordinary (5)
- 14 Collection of maps in book form (5)
- 16 Japanese food (5)
- 17 Chief or leader (4)
- 18 See 6

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1 Desafortunado (7)
- 5 Toads (5)
- 8 Gaviota (7)
- 9 Parrots (5)
- 10 Thirteen (5)
- 11 To obtain (7)
- 12 Cubo (balde) (6)
- 14 Geese (domestic) (6)
- 17 Reign (7)
- 19 Arches (5)
- 22 January (5)
- 23 Pendiente (joya) (7)
- 24 Sheep (5)
- 25 Cantantes (7)

**Down**

- 1 Alterado (5)
- 2 Key (door) (5)
- 3 Dummy (for baby) (7)
- 4 Amarillo (6)
- 5 Hendidura (corte) (5)
- 6 Padres (7)
- 7 Tailors (7)
- 12 Barber (7)
- 13 Chino (7)
- 15 Scorpion (7)
- 16 Toallas (6)
- 18 Now (at this time, immediately) (5)
- 20 Delito (5)
- 21 Señales (indicaciones) (5)



**Nick Horne** *The Rich Pick*

Freelance correspondent, London, England



SEARCHING for a discreet yet fabulous holiday? One that is a destination and a conveyance at one and the same time? Need to take the whole family, several friends and their families too? Looking for the height of luxury, the epitome of service, huge interior spaces as well as a close and intimate connection to the ocean? May I suggest the yacht NIRVANA.

Completed by Oceanco and delivered to her owner in the spring of 2012, then presented to the world at the Monaco Yacht Show (the premier superyacht show of the world) that September.

NIRVANA at 88.50 metres is a striking, elegant and exclusive mega yacht with modern lines and contemporary style. NIRVANA features six enormous decks and offers an impressive 150 square metre owner's suite comprising study, lounge, lobby and private exterior deck area with whirlpool. A further five guest cabins, a 3-D cinema, a fully equipped gym, a 7.5-metre long oval pool and whirlpools with panoramic views are just a few of the massive superlatives of this superyacht.

NIRVANA's six decks are connected by the main stairwell and an extraordinary six-person glass lift, which is entwined in a striking Balinese stainless-steel woven art piece resembling a bubbling whirlpool. This sculptural feature is a focal point from all levels of the yacht.

Two vivariums act as room dividers - be-

# This is what a €900,000 a week holiday looks like



**TRULY OPULENT: NIRVANA at sea.**



**EATING IN STYLE: The al fresco dining area.**



**SIX DECKS: A view from above.**



**WATER SPORTS: The garage houses jet skis and a speedboat.**

tween the salon, dining room and a cosy separate sitting room - and are home to live and active reptiles, a chameleon, water dragons, bearded lizards, turtles and exotic frogs.

The timeless Sorgiovanni-designed interior mixes various distinctive and exceptional materials, including bamboos and textured leathers, in imaginative and inspiring ways.

NIRVANA accommodates an experienced crew of 24 in an exceptionally friendly layout, enabling the efficient and discreet fulfilment of any and all her guests' requirements.

Guests are close to the sea and the excitement and involvement is enhanced through the garage, which can hold a large array of tenders and water sports equipment.

A watersports room holds diving equipment and a drying cabinet for wetsuits, with immediate access to the sea through the lower lobby access.

Charlie Birkett and Gary Wright together with their professional team at Y.CO ([www.ycoyacht.com](http://www.ycoyacht.com)) are the brokers for numerous mega yachts as well as NIRVANA.

This winter NIRVANA is cruising in the Indian Ocean, and can be yours for a charter of €900,000 per week.

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# Lathering in lavender



**PURPLE GAIN:** Lavender has been proven to reduce emotional stress and nervous tension.

LAVENDER oil is extracted from the flowers of the lavender plant, usually using steam, and is often used in beauty and health products such as aromatherapy oil, lotions and soaps.

The essential oil also works well when blended with other essential oils such as pine, cedar wood, geranium and nutmeg.

The health benefits of lavender oil have been raved about for centuries. It has the ability to relieve pain, enhance blood circulation, get rid of nervous tension, disinfect the skin, enhance blood circulation, and treat respiratory problems among others.

It also works as an effective bug repellent and has anti-inflammatory qualities that help to reduce the irritation if you do get bitten.

Lavender oil has been used for centuries to induce sleep and can be used to treat insomnia. Studies on elderly people have revealed their sleep regularity increases when they place some lavender essential oil on their pillows due to its relaxing impact.

For this reason it also helps to calm the nerves and ease anxiety.

The stimulating aroma has been proven to get rid of nervous exhaustion and restlessness while increasing mental activity at the same time. This, therefore, makes it effective in treating depression, headaches, emotional stress and nervous tension.

One study revealed that people taking exams suffered from less anxiety if they inhaled lavender and rosemary oil before taking the test.

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# Get kicked into shape



IF you're bored of jogging or Zumba and are looking for a new workout to keep you motivated, you should consider adding kickboxing to your routine. Kickboxing combines heart-pumping cardio with martial arts, giving an effective, well-rounded workout and helping you to reach your fitness goals in no time.

**KICK IT:** Add some excitement to your workout routine.

The exercise could help to

reduce stress as an hour of punching and kicking your way to a healthier life can help to resolve many of life's small problems. It also releases endorphins which will help boost your mood and confidence.

The key kickboxing moves work out several core muscle groups so will help you get toned and fit in no time. Your legs and glutes are worked doing front, side and round-

house kicks while the upper arms, shoulders and chest get toned from doing all the punching and jabbing.

It could also improve your posture and coordination as it helps to improve your reflexes and strengthen your core.

The workout will give you an energy boost as it helps you to sweat out toxins and breathe harder, increasing your oxygen intake.



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UNTIL recently, the links drawn between mental and physical health had been tenuous at best.

Many scientists and doctors would chalk any connection between the two up to a behavioural domino effect, such as drinking alcohol when feeling depressed, which then leads to liver disease.

However, new research has revealed that seemingly unrelated mental and physical illnesses could actually be connected. This link can also go both ways: physical health problems can also result in mental health issues, and vice versa.

The immune system reportedly plays a big part in this. Inflammation is the immune system's natural healing response to any threats but if this process doesn't stop once the threat has been taken care of, the immune cells will continue to target healthy ones which can cause an overactive nervous system and other serious illnesses, as the mind and body keep sending distress signals to each other.

The good news is those with mental illness are more likely to be counselled about eating well and doing enough exercise, which keeps symptoms of physical and mental health problems at bay.

If you don't make regular trips to the doctor, but are suffering from both

# What the body keeps in mind...



**IN PAIN:** Mental and physical ailments are reportedly linked.

mental and physical difficulties, book an appointment to make sure that everything is under control before it leads to any more serious illnesses.

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## HOW A DENTAL IMPLANT SOLUTION CAN HELP YOU

### Why tooth loss matters

A missing tooth or teeth can take away from the smile that's really you, but tooth loss can have many negative effects on your oral health, including:

- Bone loss
- Shifting and drifting teeth
- Bite changes
- Chewing difficulty
- Wearing down of remaining teeth
- Changes in the jaw joint



### Implant or bridge



Unlike dental implant treatment, traditional bridges replacing a single tooth or several teeth use adjacent healthy teeth, which must be ground down, for support. Moreover, implant solutions stimulate the underlying jawbone, resulting in preserved bone and gums.

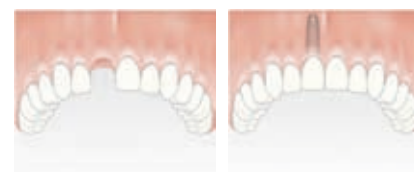
### About implant treatment

Dental implants are nothing new. They have been used to permanently replace teeth since the mid 60s. Dental implants have many advantages compared to traditional crown and bridge solutions:

- They look, feel and function like your natural teeth.
- Healthy teeth do not need to be ground down to support the dental implants.
- Anchoring dental implants in the jawbone stimulates bone tissue and gums, ensuring an attractive, esthetic result while helping to maintain facial structures.
- Dental implants do not require any adhesives to hold the new teeth in place.
- They eliminate the discomfort and insecurity of loose, ill-fitting dentures.
- You have a secure, permanent tooth replacement.

### Replacing one tooth

A crown mounted on a dental implant is the best choice if you have a tooth missing in the upper or lower jaw. The need to replace a missing tooth could be the result of an accident or because there was no predisposition for a tooth at birth.



### Replacing several teeth

If you have lost several teeth there are two solutions: separate crowns on dental implants or a bridge attached to several dental implants.



### Replacing all teeth with dental implants

If all of your teeth are missing in the upper or lower jaw, dental implants are the best solution. You can choose a full bridge that is attached to several dental implants. Another option is a removable prosthesis that is attached via anchoring devices to two or more dental implants. The prosthesis remains securely in place in your mouth – yet it is easy to remove.



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# Thyroid in check

SUPERMODEL Gigi Hadid recently hit back at critics who berated her on social media for being 'too thin.'

Hadid claimed her body has changed over the years because she was diagnosed with Hashimoto's disease, a condition which affects the thyroid gland in the neck.

She said that those who called her "too big for the industry" when she first started were seeing "inflammation and water retention" due to the condition.

Since she was treated, she lost the fluid she was retaining, and the puffiness went down, giving the appearance she had become skinnier.

So what exactly is Hashimoto's disease, and how can it be treated?

The disease means your immune system forms antibodies that attack your thyroid gland, which may lead it to become less active over time causing a condition called hypothyroidism.

Hypothyroidism is fairly common and easy to treat, but can cause symptoms such as fatigue, issues with your metabolism and a heightened sensitivity to cold.

Hashimoto's reportedly runs in families, if a mother has it, daughters have about a 50 per cent chance of daughters having it but if a father has it, the chance is even higher that all offspring have it.

Doctors can test for the disease with a simple blood test and treatment involves taking a synthetic thyroid hormone pill once a day usually for the rest of your life.



**GIGI HADID:**  
 Diagnosed with Hashimoto's disease.



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# The benefits of quinoa

QUINOA hit the foodie headlines several years ago as being the super grain you should add to your diet.

It's possible to find quinoa products in most health stores but its recent popularity means many supermarkets now stock them too.

It is believed humans first started consuming the grain three to four thousand years ago when the Incas discovered the quinoa seed was suitable for consumption. It seems they were onto something as this super food is packed with lots of good stuff that make it good for you.

Quinoa is packed with protein, which is essential for repairing muscle tissue and keeping the body in ship shape.

It also contains around twice as much fibre as other grains, which is essential in aiding digestion and could also help to prevent heart disease as it keeps blood



Photo by Unsplash

**I SUPER FOOD: Quinoa 'was the gold of the Incas.'**

pressure at healthy levels and prevents the risk of developing diabetes.

The super grain also has a good level of iron which is needed to keep our red blood cells healthy.

It also increases brain function because the brain absorbs around 20 per cent

of the oxygen from our blood.

It is also rich in magnesium and manganese, essential nutrients needed to relax blood vessels, therefore preventing migraines, promote healthy blood sugar control and protect cells from free radicals.



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Photo by Unsplash

WARMING: Steep herbal tea in a covered vessel to preserve the essential oils.

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IF you're suffering from bloating, nausea or even just feeling a bit under the weather, instead of rifling through the medicine cabinet, perhaps reach for a herbal tea bag instead.

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made from the tea plant of course; it's an infusion of plant leaves, roots, seeds or bark, which provides all the benefits of the plant in an easy-to-digest form.

If you drink herbal tea every day, it can make a significant difference to your skin, your mood, and your energy levels.

Peppermint tea is effective at relieving muscle spasms, as well as the symptoms of nausea and bloating. However, you should avoid it altogether

if you suffer from indigestion or heartburn.

Fresh ginger tea is also great at solving digestion problems and is a powerful cold-fighting remedy when you add lemon and honey.

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# Los del Rio perform to help a young boy

THERE will be a very important charity concert at the Auditorium and Conference Centre El Batel in Cartagena next Monday to raise funds for Andresito, the local boy who is suffering from major problems with his eyes.

With the support of the local council and donation of their time by a number of acts, it is hoped that the charity gala will raise funds so that his parents are able to pay for treatment in Belgium which will help the young man to fight his condition.

The gala will start at 8.30pm and ticket prices range €15 to €25.

In addition to the city of Cartagena, Bullfighter Orte-

ga Cano has worked with the council to organise this special event which will be hosted by Rosa Benito.

Taking part on the evening will be Los del Rios of Macarena fame alongside a large cast which includes Jorge and César Cadaval (Los Morancos), José Mercé, Fran Tornero, Paco Arévalo, Vicente Ruíz 'El Soro,' and Rosario Mohedano with support by the band Cartagena 1990.

Tickets can be obtained from the El Batel box office or through its website.

LOS DEL RIO: Will perform.



Photo Credit: Alberto Acerete/Twitter



Photo Credit: Compañía Estudio Lirico de Madrid

CLASSIC: A scene from the current production.

## Opera pulls at the heartstrings

IL TRAVIATA the classic opera by Verdi will be performed at the Teatro Circo in Orihuela on Saturday.

This performance which will be in Italian with Spanish subtitles is an extravagant look back to the past and is performed in three acts by Compañía Estudio Lirico de Madrid y La Orquesta Filarmonica Mediterranea.

The plot of La Traviata was based on 'The Lady of the Camellias,' by Alexander Dumas, and was the third opera by Puccini composed in this great century of romanticism.

Tickets for this performance which starts at 8pm cost from €24 to €26 with significant discounts for students and card holders.



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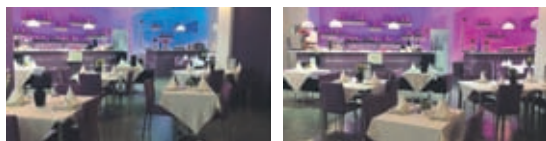
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# Two contrasting pieces of classical music

AS part of an ongoing programme of classical concerts, the Alicante Provincial Council will be presenting works by de Falla and Beethoven on Saturday March 3.

The Torre Vieja Symphony Orchestra will present *The Love of the Warlock* (El Amor Brujo) the music for a ballet composed by Spanish composer Manuel de Falla.

Enter the world of the Andalusian gypsies in a truly haunting story which revolves around ghosts and witchcraft in a story which has endured since first being composed in 1915 and which has been adapted for film as well as being given the jazz treatment by the late Miles Davis.

In counterpoint, *Symphony No 7* by Beethoven which was composed in 1812 was said by him to be one of his best works and was originally scored for two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, two trumpets, timpani, and strings.

This entire work which was praised by Wagner should last for about 40 minutes



Photo Credit: Torre Vieja Symphony Orchestra

TORREVIEJA SYMPHONY: An earlier concert by the orchestra.

and is in four movements.

Main performers accompanying the orchestra have been announced as Josep Vincent, David Romero and Ginesa Ortega, with part of the presentation including the screening of a number of unpublished images by the comic artist

Sagar Fornies.

You can expect to see a mixture of light, sound (both symphonic and vocal) and dance at this exciting concert being presented at the Torre Vieja International Auditorium starting at 7pm with tickets costing from €7 to €20.

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Photo Credit: Facebook Carmen and Matilde Rubio

FREE SPIRIT: A scene from the ballet.

## A traditional version of the ballet Carmen

DESPITE the fact that there have been a number of performances of Carmen which have tried to update the ballet, the original concept is still very popular.

This story of the gypsy cigar maker Carmen by Bizet will be performed at the Torre Vieja Auditorium on Wednesday April 4 in a show adapted by Carmen and Matilde Rubio for the Spanish Ballet of Murcia to

show the free spirit that is the young gypsy girl.

The story unfolds as Carmen becomes involved with first one and then another lover making sure that the eventual outcome of this love triangle is bound to be tragic.

Tickets for this timeless classic which is performed to the highest standard cost a very reasonable €15 to €22.



Photo by Niño de Elche Facebook

NIÑO DE ELCHE: The artist in contemplative mood.

## A very special multi-dimensional artist

NIÑO DE ELCHE is a former flamenco singer who now combines genres and disciplines such as flamenco, electronica, literature, performance, phonetic poetry, rock, song writing and contemporary music.

He has become a successful record producer but still finds time to become involved in World Music and has taken part in a range of festivals such as Womex, Manchester Jazz Festival, Les Transmusicales, Womad and Sonar.

His latest project directed by

the artist Pedro G Romero and produced by Raúl Fernández entitled Refree which will be released next March is being promoted under the title of Heterodox Flamenco Anthem.

Comprising 27 pieces, this anthology harks back to the flamenco influences of the singer but is experimental as it recognises the works of Manuel de Falla as well as contemporary composers such as Crumb, Shostakovich, Luigi Nono, Tim Buckley and Mikel Laboa.

This release sees him working with singer Israel Galván,

guitarists Diego de Morón and 'Pájaro,' organist Juan de la Rubia and pianist Alejandro Rojas-Marcos, but in this new show he will be accompanied by Raúl Cantizano on guitars (flamenco and acoustic) and percussion, and Susana Hernández 'Ylia' on keyboards, synthesizers and electronics.

This eclectic artist will be appearing at the Auditorio de Torre Vieja on Saturday presenting a two-hour show which runs from 9.30pm to 11.30pm with tickets costing €15.

## Holy Week gastronomy and walking the dogs

ALTHOUGH Lent is traditionally the time of fasting, there will be a number of gastronomic days in Orihuela in the run up to Semana Santa (Easter).

The events will be held tomorrow (Friday), in Las Salesas convent, Friday March 2, in El Carmen convent, Friday March 16, in San Francisco convent and Friday March 23, in the Bishop's Palace.

For further information or to make a booking, email [reservas@semanasantaoriuela.com](mailto:reservas@semanasantaoriuela.com) or call 966 744 089.

Also this Sunday, there is a great opportunity to join in a dog marathon with a 3.1 kilometre walk along the Pau 8-Canal Norte urbanisation.

The meeting point will be at Villamartin Plaza at 10am, where there will be several stalls representing different animal protection associa-



Photo Credit: L.C.N. Rudash

DOG MARATHON: A great opportunity.

tions who will be hoping to attract support and donations.

All those who take part will be rewarded with a small gift by way of thanks for showing their support for the animal groups.

If you wish to participate, you will need to confirm at the Tourist information offices in Orihuela Playa (telephone 966 760 000 ext 32) or Orihuela Centro (965 304 645/965 302 747).

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# Expo Torrevieja returns in March

IF you enjoy the finer things in life and have a penchant for improving your quality of life while living on the Costa Blanca, don't miss the opportunity to visit the region's premier International Life-

style event: Expo Torrevieja.

More than 10,000 people attended the first two years of Expo Torrevieja and next month the event is moving to the spectacular foyer of Torrevieja's International

Auditorium.

Expo Torrevieja III takes place over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, March 10 and 11, with the exhibition's doors open to the general public, from 10am until 3pm.

Admission and parking are free, the entire location has excellent facilities for those who have mobility difficulties and with over 70 exhibitors at the event, it offers something for everyone.

Expo Torrevieja is an innovative concept in lifestyle events. Taking place in one location, in the heart of the community, where you can shop, dine and socialise as you have the chance to discover a collection of products and services that unequivocally define 'quality of life and luxury living' in the most beautiful of venues that's available in the entire southern Costa Blanca.

The event weaves a tapestry of products and services spanning the scale from the



**EXCELLENT FACILITIES:** The large internal space at Torrevieja International Auditorium.

large: luxury and vintage automobiles, to those on a more modest scale such as solar energy, telecommunications, contemporary fine art, fashion and design, fine wines and the most innovative in home décor and technology.

The International Auditorium is located beside Hospital QuironSalud and offers more than 700 car parking spaces in the auditorium's car parks.

Bring your sense of discovery and appreciation of

the exquisite and enhance your quality of life on the Costa. The entire event takes place indoors so you don't have to worry about wind, rain or inclement weather.

For more information visit [www.ExpoTorrevieja.com](http://www.ExpoTorrevieja.com).

## What's on!

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# Return of the Jets and Sharks



Photo Credit: Twitter

WEST SIDE STORY which is based on Romeo and Juliet was one of the great musical successes of the 1950's with a score composed by Leonard Bernstein.

Unusually, an audience is invited to see the final 25 who have been chosen to audition for Victor Ullate's version of the musi-

cal and those who attend will be invited to cast a vote for their favourite dancers.

The event takes place on Sunday March 4 at 7pm, with tickets costing from €5 to €12 at the Teatro Principal de Alicante and will benefit from a performance from the much respected Marchu Lorente.

# The Musicians of Bremen

FOUR very angry characters chase their animals which have escaped and don't intend to be caught.

Pupi is a fearful dog who likes to sing, Misina is a vegetarian cat who likes to dance, Kiriko is a sleepy rooster and rocker and Bartolo is a poet donkey who refuses to work in the field.

Once they get out of the forest they meet up with each other, become friends and form a rock band.

This is the story behind the children's puppet show The Musicians of Bremen based very loosely on a story by the Brothers Grimm and performed by La Estrella Teatro tomorrow (Friday) at 10am in La Llotja rooms in Elche.



Photo Credit: La Estrella

PUPPET SHOW: The main characters in the story and a friend.

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## Upcoming wine region

PRIORAT, as one of the upcoming Spanish wine regions, has recorded an extraordinary leap in quality and reputation over the last decade.

### BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi



PRIORAT: On the march.

This small area which qualifies as Denominación d'Origen Qualificada (DOQ) is in Tarragona Province in Cataluña and is one of only two regions - alongside Rioja - to qualify as DOQa, the highest qualification.

It produces mainly red and powerful wines. Characterised by a terroir of volcanic origins with black slate and quartz soil known as llicorella, with vineyards on terraces at 100m - 700m, the area has low yields due to the rocky soil which does not allow water accumulation.

Wine production in the area dates from the 12th century, when monks from the Monastery of Scala Dei introduced viticulture and the prior ruled as a feudal lord, giving rise to the name Priorat.

At the end of the 19th century, the phylloxera pest devastated the vineyards and replanting was undertaken only in the 1950's. In the 1980's bulk wine production was phased out

and bottling of quality wine was introduced. The traditional grape variety in El Priorat is the red Garnacha tinta, which is found in all the older vineyards. Other red varieties are Garnacha Peluda, Cariñena, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah. White varieties are Garnacha blanca, Macabeo, Pedro Ximenez and Chenin.

The traditional reds are a single grape bottling of Grenache and Carignan, or a blend of these with French grape varieties including Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, or Syrah. Usually aged in oak barrels for 18 months followed by six months in the bottle, Priorat wines have a consumption optimal two years later.

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# PROPERTY SPECIAL

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By **Kat Ashton**

**T**HE purchase of Spanish homes by foreign buyers is sky rocketing.

And the real estate market has recovered faster since the financial crisis than most of the country's other industries.

The Spanish Mediterranean coast remains among the top destinations for those on the hunt for luxury homes, complete with pristine golf courses and, above all, sea views.

According to the latest data published by Spanish notaries, there were more than 50,000 purchases by foreign investors in the first half of 2017, marking a 13.4 per cent year-on-year increase.

And while Spanish housing market figures have shown a consistent improvement since 2014, they have boomed in recent months.

The southern Spanish coast remains one of the preferred destinations year after year for foreign buyers looking for a luxury home.

Sea views are reportedly among the top priority for these buyers, closely followed by distance to the nearest golf course and their own swimming pool,



# Lap of luxury

Costa is class act for high end sales

**LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION:** The Mediterranean coast is leading the luxury property drive.

according to a new report by a leading estate agent. The agency claims that these buyers are looking for properties built using the latest materials and technology, but are also energy efficient. Smart homes are the latest trend among foreign upmarket buyers, which com-

bine state-of-the-art technology with energy saving features. However, foreign buyers reportedly prefer a house further away from the coast, so long as they have a good pool, are closer to the golf course and still have great views of the sea, while homes sought by Spanish

buyers tend to be closer to the beachfront. The typical "foreigner looking for a house in Spain is usually Nordic or British, who buys the property as a holiday home first and often ends up spending his retirement there," explained the agency.

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**C**OSTA BLANCA had a record 6.3 million foreign visitors in 2017, and Spain's 'White Coast' has also grown in popularity among those outside the country looking for holiday homes.

Figures show that the biggest buyers of houses in the region were foreigners, with more than 4,900 sold in the third quarter of last year. That's a 7.5 per cent rise compared to the same time in 2016, according to data from the Ministry of Development.

The average price for a property in Alicante Province is around €225,000 (£200,000). Homes in hotspots such as Torrevieja and La Marina are priced at an average of €132,000 (£117,000) and €148,000 (£130,000) respectively, according to the house buying website Kyero.com.

The average house in England now costs around €274,000 (around £243,000), making a home in Spain comparatively cheaper to British equivalents.

# Brits look to Costa Blanca for second homes in the sun



Marc Pritchard, of Taylor Wimpey España, said British buyers were looking for quality homes that offered great value.

"The Costa Blanca remains very much at the top of the list for British second home buyers. Spacious, beachfront homes are the biggest winners and when you can buy the same house for half the price overseas, it makes you think twice," he said.

Taylor Wimpey, which has been active in Spain for 60 years, has two new developments on the Costa Blanca.

La Villa Paradis, an apartment complex with two bedroom flats, is located in Villajoyosa around 20 minutes from Alicante. Apartments there are priced from €269,000 + VAT.

Arenal Dream is made up of 47 two to three bedroom units with gardens and terraces, a communal swimming pool, parking, air conditioning and storage. Prices start from €239,000 for apartments in the complex situated in Javea.



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# Record-breaking year for hotel investment

**H**OTEL investment in Spain reached record levels in 2017.

According to a report by the Insights on the Hotel Investment Market in Spain 2017, a record €3.9 billion was spent in 2017, beating the previous record of €2.6 billion set in 2015.

A total of 182 hotels changed hands last year, in comparison to 147 sold the previous year, while the average price per room also rose to an estimated

€119,000.

Most of the recorded investment came in the resort sector, which saw a 69 per cent increase and outperformed the urban sector, which still rose by 31 per cent.

Investment was also more widely distributed in Spain last year.

Malaga accounted for 15 per cent of the country's total with 18 hotel sales, totalling €516 million, while the Canary Islands were the country's top investor destination seeing €939

million invested, contributing 27 per cent of Spain's total.

International investment continued to play a major role in the country's market growth, with overseas investment reportedly ac-

counting for more than 60 per cent of investments at €2.3 billion.

Looking ahead to this year, real estate consultancy Irea's hotel division expects hotel investments to remain high in 2018, but

the uncertainty caused due to the unrest in Cataluña may prevent the investment in Spain from reaching last year's totals.

Miguel Vazquez, partner of Irea's hotel unit, told *Property Magazine Interna-*

*tional*: "As in 2017, this year has started with a considerable number of deals in the latter stages of negotiation, which, if completed, could produce €600 million of investment in the first quarter of 2018."



**RECORD YEAR: Madrid's Metropolis hotel.**



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## Moving home from Spain? Make your money go further

If the sun is setting on your time in Spain and you need to transfer savings or the proceeds of a property sale back to the UK, it's important to consider your currency options.

Picking the best time to transfer your funds and having the support of a specialist provider can leave you thousands better off. Intrigued? Read on to discover the key things you should be looking out for...

### 1. Exchange rate volatility

Exchange rates are the value of one currency relative to another, and they can move in reaction to all manner of economic, political, social and even environmental stimuli.

The EUR/GBP exchange rate, for example, has shifted significantly over the last few years.

Back in 2016 the EUR/GBP exchange rate was around £0.75 - meaning one euro was worth 75 pence. But then Brexit happened. The UK's unexpected vote to leave the EU sent the pound reeling, and the broad-based weakness in Sterling helped the EUR/GBP exchange rate jump as high as £0.92 - 17 pence stronger.

17 pence might not sound like much (it couldn't even buy you half a Mars Bar these days) but the exchange rate shift meant that people making larger currency transfers from the Eurozone to the UK were thousands better off than they would have been pre-vote.

Although the EUR/GBP exchange rate has since eased away from its post-referendum highs, it's still substantially stronger than it was a couple of years ago - making now a good time to transfer money back to Britain.

However, exchange rates can move by as much as 5% in a matter of weeks, so it's worth keeping an eye on what the currency market's up to if you want to transfer your funds at the best time.

If you aren't sure where to find the latest currency news, sign up to receive market updates from a leading currency broker and they'll send the information you need to know right to your inbox.

The type of provider you use can also make a massive difference to how much you receive, with currency specialists tending to offer far more competitive exchange rates than banks.

### 2. Transfer charges

While currency providers like Currencies Direct will manage your currency transfers fee-free, many other providers (and most high-street banks) will charge for the service.

The fee will vary, but no matter how much it is, it's still money you don't need to spend. Make

sure you check how much a provider charges before using them to move your funds back home.

### 3. Transfer options

When it comes to transferring currency overseas, there are a number of different options to choose from...

If you need to make an immediate transfer, a spot contract allows you to move the money quickly at the current exchange rate.

Meanwhile, if you don't need to move money at the moment but you're worried the exchange rate might change in the future, you can use a forward contract to lock in the rate for up to a year.

You can even use a stop loss order to set a worst-case rate, or use a limit order to target a rate higher than the current market level.

Currencies Direct offers all these options, and their teams of currency experts will be able to talk through your requirements and help you pick the best solution for you.

Currencies Direct also have a relationship with CaixaBank that means anyone selling a property in Spain can deposit the banker's draft in their euro account without incurring all the usual fees.

*At Currencies Direct, we've helped over 210,000 customers save on their currency transfers since 1996. Just pop into your local Currencies Direct branch or give us a call to find out more about how you can save money on your currency transfers.*

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# Tiny mobile homes making their mark

**T**HE trend is yet to hit Spain, but the popularity of the Tiny House movement is sweeping across the US, and other countries are taking notice.

People are embracing a vision about mobile homes that takes in a lifestyle immersed in nature, but that can be near urban areas or even in a green area in the middle of a city.

For many it has been a day-dream to escape the stress and frantic pace of urban life, with an energy saving home that you can take where you want, with less expenses and less chores.

But the Tiny House social movement was born out of this vision, and to promote the reduction of built-up urban sprawls.

The case was there to be made that it is not necessary to live in houses of more than 200 square metres, in which owners spend a



PHOTO BY TWITTER @ARCHITECTS\_MAG

**BRANCHING OUT:** The Tiny House movement is spreading internationally.

third of their income over many years on the mortgage.

The Tiny Houses do not usually exceed 20 or 30 square metres, and have all the comforts of a normal home, with a bathroom,

heating, appliances, but combined with a stylish minimalism.

Those who are curious about the concept can even start with a rental arrangement, or a week-end getaway.

## Real estate sales go through the roof

MALAGA is the fourth most popular province in the country to buy a home, according to the National Institute of Statistics.



**BUILDING CONFIDENCE:** Malaga Province is enjoying a real estate boom.

It is surpassed only by the two flagship cities, Madrid and Barcelona, and by Alicante.

Between January and November 2017 a total of 27,941 homes were sold in Malaga, representing a growth of 13.1 per cent over the previous year.

The data confirms the view that the real estate sector is enjoying its strongest period in recent years, with November alone posting the best figures since 2007.

Malaga alone counts for a third of all sales in the Andalusian region, owing to its popularity with foreign buyers.

The scale of Malaga's real estate performance can be seen in the fact that the January-November period saw it sell twice as many homes than both Galicia and the Basque Country.



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**Advertising Feature**

## Seven benefits of window tinting

WHY have window film installed on your home or office?

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Today's solar control window films are highly efficient in reducing the amount of heat that passes through your windows into your home or office. Clear, untreated glass blocks only 14 per cent of the sun's energy while solar screen films reject 75 per cent increasing the comfort of your property. Don't forget you will save money too.

**Protection from the UV: by 99 per cent**

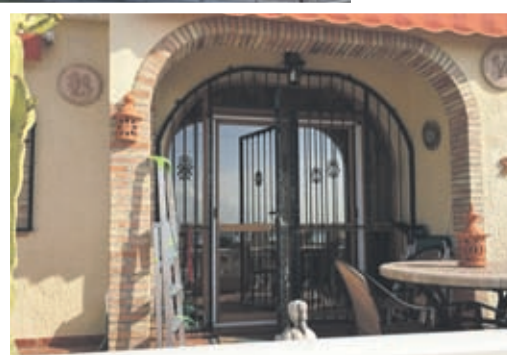
Solar control film blocks 99 per cent UV rays. Don't let the sun ruin your home! Window tinting protects your furniture from fading so you can enjoy it for longer.



**COOL GLASS TINTING: Some of the great improvements enjoyed with window film.**

**Reduce annoying glare: by 85 per cent**

Allowing a good amount of sunlight into your home is nice but direct glare from the sun through your windows can be really strong. It is annoying and unpleasant, and de-



pending on how your furniture is laid out in your home it may be im-

possible to escape.

If you are using a computer or watching the TV, the reflection of this glare on your screen can also cause headaches and distractions but who wants to draw the curtains in the middle of the day?

**Enjoy energy savings:**

Solar control film can significantly reduce air conditioning bills plus wear and tear of your A/C units saving you money on your electricity bills.

**Increase privacy:**

Stop prying eyes from seeing into your property through the day. With the mirror finish film you can see out and no one

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**Enhance appearance:**

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At Cool Glass Tinting owner, Mark is fully qualified and trained with Ultimate Tinting in the UK before moving to Spain nine years ago. Mark operates a competitive pricing policy and offers free, no obligation quotations and advice on the type of tinting required.

Solar Screen film applied by Mark of Cool Glass Tinting is easy to clean, requires no special maintenance and lasts for 10 years or more.

Contact Cool Glass Tinting  
Tel: 608 100 610, for Spanish and Dutch 699 441 876 or e-mail [info@coolglasstinting.com](mailto:info@coolglasstinting.com) or visit [www.coolglasstinting.com](http://www.coolglasstinting.com).

## Bird lovers paradise, a garden for the birds

**GRAEME TYRRELL**

ATTRACTING birds to your garden is easy if you have the right plants that will provide water, food, shelter and protection from predators.

Birds do best in gardens with multiple storeys of plants from ground covers, shrubs as under storeys, to taller tree canopies as an upper storey.

Providing water in the dry months in safe places for birds to drink, is the sure way to have birds attracted to your garden. A steady, reliable source of water is a primary need, even more than food, if other sources of water are not nearby.

If you provide water, birds will visit regularly, if you provide food plants, they will stay longer and if you provide safe shelter as well, native birds may start to nest in your garden. Migratory birds will only visit but are more likely to visit if you have a food source as well as water.

There are many plants that

can provide food for the birds. As different bird species have different requirements of seed, nectar or insects, a variety of different plants are needed to attract the bird species you wish to support in your garden.

The best way to provide food is to use a lot of native plants and have a wild zone for allowing naturally occurring non-invasive native plants - even the plants considered weeds in the ornamental and vegetable garden - to go through their full

life cycle. Many plants considered weeds are useful plants for birds to feed on for the flowers, nectar and seeds.

Birds usually prefer to arrive onto the upper storey to survey a garden for food and dangers before entering, and different species build their nests in the upper storey for safety from ground based predators.

Each bird species has different needs however, so many smaller birds will look for nest-

ing places in the under storey that has dense thickets to prevent larger predators from entering. So to attract a wide range of birds, having a wide range of plants that give good protection is important for diversity.

Plants that provide nectar include Sages (Salvia species), Grevillea species, Torch lilies (Kniphofia species), Lobelia species, Penstemon species, Verbena species, Sunflowers (Helianthus), Thyme (Thymus species), Lavender (Lavandula species), Honeysuckle (Lonicera species), Ice Plant (Sedum species), Firethorn (Pyracantha species) and Barberry (Berberis species).

Seed plants include Sunflower (Helianthus species), Coneflower (Echinacea species), Aster species, Zinnia species, Cumin (Cuminum species), Calendula species and many others.

Attracting birds can just be a matter of widening the range of plants that you normally grow,

which may provide even more interest to your garden as many bird food plants are very attractive.

Hedges and thickets of plants will provide safe nesting places for smaller birds, and tall trees

can have nesting boxes installed to make trees a ready-made nesting place.

Applying natural mulches around your garden will help birds find materials to build the nests.



Ana Aguirre Perez Shutterstock

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# Training day is vital

OVER the past 60 years I have seen many changes, some excellent but many not suitable. I frown upon the harness as I do not know anyone that can train a dog in a harness which was designed for tracking, rescue and for the blind and disabled.

Those that use the flexi cord should be aware they were designed for people who live in apartments to enable dogs to be taken down to the garden to relieve themselves.

Those that use them in the streets are not aware of the danger these can cause since there is no control when they are extended and again this is not a suitable tool for training. I have known many people to trip and indeed get hurt.

The standards of training have certainly diminished. Most 'trainers' have been to a training school themselves for four to six months, then give themselves a title 'I am a dog trainer'.

Some join American organisations on the internet which give out certifi-



**GOOD JOB:** These dogs know how to behave.

icates without putting the person through a test to see how they handle dogs. Note I use the word 'dogs', every type of dog is different to handle and so much depends on the breeders and pup-

py school teachers, best to look before you book!

All good schools will spend at least half the time explaining to owners many aspects of the dog including,

most importantly, feeding the correct type of dried food, as food affects behaviour and many skin problems. Today one does not need to march around in circles as owners need information

and help on feeding, grooming and their general attitude towards their pet.

Dogs must be respected by children who in turn need educating and taught that this is not a furry baby or toy, it is a canine live creature.

Young married couples must think hard before taking on a dog as one must think of their lifestyle including a future family, since everything changes once the lady gets pregnant. Dogs do get jealous and a good trainer will explain about dangers etc. Many of you reading this article may not realise that I never trained a dog! (I educated people.)

Never forget children need to be taught to respect animals. It is always a good idea to allow them to feed the dog and explain we never touch the dog or bowl when the dog is eating.

Before training a dog one must do research and understand how much work, cost and time is needed, plus the most important fact that dogs should never be allowed to be on their own for more than two hours.

## Dangers of a 'butcher's dog' diet

IN the vein of the clean eating health food trend that involves going back to basics and consuming raw, unprocessed food, some dog owners are re-

jecting traditional pet food and going back to a more old-school 'butcher's dog' diet consisting of raw meat.

This food is still often

bought pre-prepared so it can be easily served and frozen for convenience.

However, a recent study has suggested these raw meat products could contain bacterial and parasitic diseases, which are not necessarily a problem for dogs - although they can suffer from food poisoning - but they can become carriers of the bacteria.

This can then be spread through their faeces, which could then make their owners seriously ill.

Storing the meat at -20°C could help to kill the bacteria and handling the food sensibly should help minimise the risks.

Always make sure to wash your hands with hot water and soap after handling the dog food and picking up your pet's faeces.

You should also keep your cutlery and bowls separate from your dogs and try to keep him out of the kitchen if possible.

## House or pet-sitters required?

THE online network HouseSitMatch offers home and pet owners a safe way to connect with checked house-sitters online, to make arrangements for someone to care for homes and property in their absence.

### How this benefits you

By registering on our HouseSitMatch network it means you can get to know people who would like to visit your area of Spain and would house-sit for free in exchange for free accommodation. It is an exchange of services. A barter if you like in old fashioned terms. Registered members of the network help each other. It saves both members a lot of money, no hotel fees for the house-sitter, and no pet or paid sitter fees for the owner.

Use the discount coupon code PERFECT20 when you register online to get the 20 per cent off any registration plan.

### What do you need to do?

- If you have pets and need house-sitters - Register on our site as a 'homeowner' and provide photos and general information about your location and your assignment. If you register as a Premium Homeowner for £79 per year we help you at every step.

- If you have experience with home and pet care and want to house-sit in Spain or abroad - Register as a 'house-sitter,' build a profile with



### Find Housesitters with HouseSitMatch.

photos and describe how you think you can help homeowners with pets. Choose a Premium plan for £79 per year and you can build a large profile with more prominence online.

### Client testimonial -

*This company have been excellent from start to finish in finding a house-sitter for us in Andalusia. They have checked up at all stages and also after the event. This gives us confidence in using the system.*

~ Nina JP, Gibraltar ~ Home & Pet owner  
(See more reviews in Trustpilot)

**Do you need a house or petsitter? Get in touch. House-sitting can be a win-win for both parties, free house and petsitting, and the experienced and checked sitters get free accommodation! Register as either housesitter or homeowner now with a 20% off introductory offer using coupon code PERFECT20. To find a house pet-sitter go to [www.HousesitMatch.com](http://www.HousesitMatch.com)**

To find a house or pet-sitter go to [www.HouseSitMatch.com](http://www.HouseSitMatch.com)  
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Recently K9 took in these two magnificent cats from Almoradi. Both have been really well cared for and clearly been given much love and affection. Tragically their owner became very ill, consequently was unable to care for them. Both these girls are very placid, affectionate and love people. They are both talkative, Betty-Boop is the more outgoing, she is the "Snow Shoe Type" and is very intelligent. Lilah, the pale grey/lilac long haired is the quieter one.

Both these girls are indoor cats and are used to living in an apartment. We think they are about 2/3 years old. Ideally we would like to home them together but this is not essential.

If you would like to adopt these cats then call

**600 84 54 20** [www.k9club.es](http://www.k9club.es)



### Pets in Spain

Oreo is 1 of 4 Chihuahuas we recently rescued from a puppy farm. She is around 4 years old and is a very timid little girl so will need a home with patience to help her overcome what she has been through. She is chipped, vaccinated and good with other dogs.

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TORREVIEJA Christian Fellowship (TCF) is an English speaking lively church located at Avenida de las Valencianas 68, Torrevieja 03183. Residents and holidaymakers are welcome to attend our services with communion and 'kids church' each Sunday at 10.30am. We have a Fellowship Meeting (Bible Study) each Wednesday at 6.00pm. For further information see our website www.tcf-spain.org or tel 966 700 391. (95464)

THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION COSTA BLANCA BRANCH. Former & serving aircrews of the UK or Allied Armed Forces are welcome to join this convivial & friendly organisation, now in its 21st year. www.aacostablanca.org or call the Secretary on: 966 495 042 (95465)

STROKE ASSOCIATION Spain (formally known as Torrevieja stroke support) meet every

Wednesday and Friday 2.30pm until 5.00pm. Our new address is Casa de Cultura, Calle Francisco Ribera Perez Benijofar. Our aim is to help and support stroke survivors and their carers. With rehabilitation, speech therapy, OC therapy and a very active social group. For info please contact 654 801 260 or email strokesupportgroup@hotmail.com, website: torreviejastroke-support.org. We are always looking for volunteers who have the skills and knowledge to support our groups and activities. (95474)

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INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY, TORREVIEJA Calle Urbano Arregui, 23, Torrevieja 03185, Alicante Evangelical non-denominational church. All nationalities welcome. Sunday service 11.00 a.m.; Sunday school; Prayer meetings; craft and computer clubs. Ladies Bible Study: Thursday 11.00 a.m. Church Bible Study: Thursday 1.30 p.m. House groups in Torrevieja, La Siesta, La Zenia - Contact 966 752 543 / 617 215 463. For other church matters Phone: 966 799 273 / 966 752 543 / 617 215 463 www.icatorrevieja.org (95476)

ROYAL MARINES ASSOCIATION (Costa Blanca) The aim of the Association is to bring together not just ex Royal Marines, but ex Service personnel with an affinity to the

Royal Marines. We meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 5.30. For further details Hon Sec 692 938 664

FREEMASONRY. Are you aware that Freemasonry is thriving on the Costa Blanca? There are various lodges meeting up throughout the Valencia region. If you already are a Mason or simply wish to know more about Freemasonry in Spain please contact Harry Palmer Membership Committee. Tel: 966 712 326 or email: palmers.quesada@yahoo.co.uk (95477)

**ROYAL AIR FORCES Association Branch #1359 Costa Blanca.** The Branch meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the El Paraiso Restaurant located close to the Carrefour Supermarket in Torrevieja. The meeting starts at 1430 hrs. You do not have to be an ex-member of the RAF to join this friendly Association, which supports the welfare of the RAF family and provides a social hub for ex RAF members and their friends. For further information about the Association and its activities please contact the Chairman on 692 508 916 or the Welfare Officer on 615 048 892 or visit our website: www.rafa.org.uk/costa-blanca (238593)

THE PATIENCE LODGE No 2177 of the R.A.O.B meets every Sunday morning at the Sacko's Bar, El Limonar near Las Siesta at 10am. We are always looking for new and lapsed members to join us. Please call Secretary Dave Tonge on 688 704 091 for further information. (253807)

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# Bond bombshell!

## Limited edition Aston up for sale

A LIMITED edition Aston Martin, owned by James Bond actor Daniel Craig, is expected to sell for more than €450,000 when it is put up for sale.

Craig's very own customised Vanquish is being put under the hammer to raise money for his youth project.

The 2014 model, aptly numbered 007, can reach speeds of up to 320 kmph and has a spec chosen specifically by the Hollywood A-lister.

It features left-hand drive with a denim and dark interior, and deep blue, leather, hand-stitched seats based on Craig's personal choice.

On his decision to let the car go, Craig told British media: "This Aston Martin Vanquish is a tour de force of automobile engineering and a distinct pleasure to drive."

"While I will miss it, I am keen to further the very important work of The Opportunity Network with its sale."

The car was personally designed by Marek Reichman, Aston Martin's Chief Creative Officer, who was also responsible for the DB10 in Spectre.

It is capable of doing 0 - 100 kmph in roughly four seconds and reach 320 kmph thanks to its 5.9 litre V12 engine.

The famous Aston will officially head to auction on April 20 in Christie's, The Exceptional Sale.

Along with purchasing the car, the winning bidder will also be offered a behind-the-scenes tour of the Aston Martin headquarters in Gaydon, Warwickshire, England.

Becky MacGuire, director of The Exceptional Sale, told British media: "We are thrilled at the chance to support Daniel Craig's generosity to The Opportunity Network with the offer of this unique and gorgeous sports car."

"With its pristine condi-



**BEAUTIFUL:** The limited edition Aston, owned by Daniel Craig (inset).

tion, luxury materials, exceptional craftsmanship and impeccable provenance, the Aston Martin fits perfectly into Christie's masterpiece sale."

Auctioneers have estimated that the car will fetch between €320,000 and €480,000, with all proceeds going to The Opportunity Network.

The Opportunity Network,

which Craig is an avid supporter of, is a non-profit organisation that aims to help young people into higher education and support career development.

## B-AUDI-lona

FC BARCELONA'S players have all picked out brand new Audis thanks to a deal with the German car giants.

The deal with Audi sees Barcelona's squad able to select any top-of-the-range model they want each year for their daily car, available with every extra possible.

The pick of this year's choices saw Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Ger-

ard Pique decide on more family orientated RS6 Avants, worth roughly €146,000 each, while January signings Philippe Coutinho and Yerry Mina both opted for an Audi Q7 TDI, valued at approximately €73,000.

On the deal, Audi's Christian Guenther told British media: "The Barca players are expected to use their car to get to and from training."

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## La Liga Preview

# Malaga on the brink

by Ben Park

MALAGA'S relegation to the Segunda division could be all but confirmed by next week as they face a tough La Liga double header in the space of three days.

Los Boquerones were much the better side in their last match against Valencia, and led for a large period of the game thanks to Brown Ideye's first goal since joining on loan in January.

But a late collapse saw them concede two goals in the final 10 minutes and lose Ignasi Miquel to suspension after picking up a red card, as they fell to yet another loss.

They first face a Bilbao side on Saturday that is desperate for a win themselves, having picked up just three points from a possible 15 in their last five La Liga games.

Following the trip to Bilbao, they host Sevilla at home in what will be considered as a must win game if the side have any hope of surviving the drop to Segunda B.

Elsewhere, Atletico Madrid will look to cement their position in second but face a difficult match as they travel to Sevilla on Sunday.

Madrid closed the gap on Barcelona

last weekend as they swept aside Athletic Bilbao 2-0 thanks to goals from Kevin Gameiro and Diego Costa.

Following the Sevilla match, Greizmann and co host Leganes at the Wanda Metropolitano and will be confident of a win.

Barcelona will continue their push towards the title and look to keep up their unbeaten record as they host Leganes at the Camp Nou.

The Catalan giants sit seven points clear of Atletico at the top of La Liga following their 2-0 win over Eibar last weekend and are still yet to lose in the league this season (W19 D5).

Valencia remain locked in a battle with Real Madrid for third place and will be confident of grabbing all six points from their La Liga double header as they first host Real Sociedad on Sunday before heading to Athletic Bilbao next Wednesday.

Madrid will also be hopeful of getting all six points but may suffer from fatigue as their schedule begins to hot up.

After travelling to Leganes yesterday (Wednesday) Real Madrid host Alaves on Saturday before playing their third game in six days against Espanyol on Tuesday.

Villarreal remain in the driving seat for Europa League qualification and will hope to get back to winning ways after last week's 1-1 draw with Espanyol as they first host Getafe before travelling to Eibar, who are also in the hunt for a Europa League spot, on Wednesday.

## Full week's fixture list

### Tomorrow (Friday)

Deportivo La Coruña vs Espanyol

### Saturday

Celta Vigo vs Eibar

Real Madrid vs Alaves

Leganes vs Las Palmas

Barcelona vs Girona

### Sunday

Villarreal vs Getafe

Athletic Bilbao vs Malaga

Valencia vs Real Sociedad

Sevilla vs Atletico Madrid

### Monday, February 26

Levante vs Real Betis

Tuesday, February 27

Espanyol vs Real Madrid

Girona vs Celta Vigo

### Wednesday, February 28

Athletic Bilbao vs Valencia

Getafe vs Deportivo La Coruña

Malaga vs Sevilla

Atletico Madrid vs Leganes

Eibar vs Villarreal

**STRUGGLING:**  
Malaga are yet to win under Jose Gonzalez.



Credit: @ChampionsLeague/Twitter

## SPANISH LA LIGA 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	PJ	PG	PE	PP	GF	GC	PT
1 • Barcelona	24	19	5	0	62	11	62
2 • Atlético	24	16	7	1	36	9	55
3 • Valencia	24	14	4	6	47	28	46
4 • Real Madrid	23	13	6	4	55	26	45
5 • Sevilla	24	12	3	9	31	35	39
6 • Villarreal	24	11	5	8	35	29	38
7 • Eibar	24	10	5	9	32	36	35
8 • Girona	24	9	7	8	34	30	34
9 • Getafe	24	8	9	7	29	21	33
10 • Betis	24	10	3	11	41	50	33
11 • Celta	24	9	5	10	41	37	32
12 • R. Sociedad	24	8	5	11	46	45	29
13 • Leganés	23	8	5	10	20	25	29
14 • Athletic	24	6	10	8	24	27	28
15 • Alavés	24	9	1	14	22	33	28
16 • Espanyol	24	6	9	9	22	32	27
17 • Levante	24	3	11	10	21	38	20
18 • Las Palmas	24	5	3	16	18	52	18
19 • Deportivo	24	4	5	15	24	53	17
20 • Málaga	24	3	4	17	15	38	13

## Premier League preview

## United host Chelsea in top four clash

MANCHESTER UNITED welcome Chelsea to Old Trafford as the Premier League returns this weekend in what could be a huge game in the quest for automatic Champions League places.

The Red Devils were all at sea during their last fixture against Newcastle, as Matt Ritchie's goal was enough to secure a memorable win over Mourinho's men.

They host a Chelsea side on Sunday, who returned to winning ways with a 3-0 win against West Brom, following a string of bad results to ease the pressure on boss Antonio Conte and could climb up the table with a win.

If Manchester United were to lose by several goals, they could drop down as low as fourth in the Premier League table by the end of the day.

That is provided that Liverpool, who thrashed Porto 5-0 in their Champions League match last Tuesday, beat West Ham at Anfield.

The Hammers have found a bit of form in recent times, registering a 2-0 win against Watford in their last game, but it is hard to see anyone stopping in-form front three Mohammed Salah, Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino at the moment.

At the other end of the table, West

**RESULT: Alvaro Morata scored the only goal of the game the last time the two sides met.**

Bromwich Albion host Huddersfield Town in a tie that could be vital for both team's seasons

Premier League new boys Huddersfield currently sit just a point above the relegation zone and a win could give them some breathing space between them and the bottom three, while a loss for West Brom may all but seal their drop to the Championship.

Fellow strugglers Swansea seemed to have turned a corner since bringing former Sheffield Wednesday boss Carlos Carvalhal into the frame, with big wins against Arsenal and Liverpool followed up by a 1-0 victory against Burnley

They travel to Brighton and Hove Albion on Saturday, who themselves will be buoyed by the result in their last Premier League fixture, a big 4-1 win over Bournemouth.

In the weekend's other fixtures Leicester host Stoke, Newcastle travel to Bournemouth, Burnley are at home to Southampton, Watford take on Everton and Tottenham travel to Crystal Palace on Monday.

## Full weekend fixtures

### Saturday

Leicester vs Stoke City

Bournemouth vs Newcastle United

Brighton and Hove Albion vs Swansea

Burnley vs Southampton

Liverpool vs West Ham United

West Bromwich Albion vs Huddersfield Town

Watford vs Everton

### Sunday

Crystal Palace vs Tottenham Hotspur

Manchester United vs Chelsea

Champions L.

Europa L.

Relegation

## PREMIER LEAGUE 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	PI	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 • M. City	27	23	3	1	79	20	72
2 • M. United	27	17	5	5	51	19	56
3 • Liverpool	27	15	9	3	61	31	54
4 • Chelsea	27	16	5	6	49	23	53
5 • Tottenham H.	27	15	7	5	52	24	52
6 • Arsenal	27	13	6	8	51	36	45
7 • Burnley	27	9	9	9	21	24	36
8 • Leicester City	27	9	8	10	39	40	35
9 • Everton	27	9	7	11	32	46	34
10 • Bournemouth	27	8	7	12	31	41	31
11 • Watford	27	8	6	13	37	47	30
12 • West Ham Utd.	27	7	9	11	34	46	30
13 • Newcastle United	27	7	7	13	25	36	28
14 • Brighton	27	6	10	11	22	36	28
15 • Crystal Palace	27	6	9	12	25	42	27
16 • Swansea City	27	7	6	14	20	37	27
17 • Huddersfield Town	27	7	6	14	23	47	27
18 • Southampton	27	5	11	11	28	40	26
19 • Stoke City	27	6	7	14	27	53	25
20 • West Bromwich	27	3	11	13	21	40	20

AFTER going 160 games without a goal for Arsenal, January signing Francis Coquelin opened his goal-scoring account for Valencia at the weekend. Coquelin scored the equaliser in Valencia's 2-1 victory over Malaga.

Costa Blanca's best guide to local sport

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## One step closer

### Spain edge nearer to Rugby World Cup

SPAIN took a huge leap towards qualifying for the 2019 Rugby World Cup after beating top-of-the-table rivals Romania 22-10 in Madrid.

Los Leones haven't qualified for a World Cup tournament since 1999, but moved top of the table after overpowering the Oaks at a packed Estadio Nacional Complutense in Madrid.

Early tries from Benat Auzqui and Sebastien Ascarat eased the pressure on the hosts, as Brad Linklater also kicked



Credit: Federacion Española de Rugby

**BATTLE: Spain fought hard for their victory against Romania.**

four successful penalties in front of almost 16,000 fans.

Spain now sit one point clear of Romania on 21 points at the top of the group following the victory and two wins from their remaining fixtures against Germany and Belgium in March will guarantee Spain's place at the World Cup.

The winner of the group will

qualify outright for the Tokyo World Cup next year and will go into Group A alongside Ireland, Scotland and Japan as well as the winner of a play-off.

Los Leones host Germany in their next group game on March 11, before heading to Brussels to face Belgium in their final group game on March 18.

## Open de España returns to European Tour

THE Open de España, one of the oldest and most celebrated tournaments in Continental Europe, will return to the European Tour in April.

After its absence from last year's, the 91st edition of the Open de España will be held at the Centro Nacional de Golf in Madrid, the home of the Royal Spanish Golf Federation, from April 12 to 15.

The €1.5 million tournament will fulfil a pledge created by European Tour Chief Executive Keith Pelley made during a visit to Spain's capital last year when he promised the event would return to the European Tour in 2018.

Pelley said: "I am delighted to announce the return of the Open de España to our

schedule. The roll call of champions reads like a Who's Who of the game itself and we look forward very much to seeing who will add their name to that illustrious list in a couple of months' time.

"Our game thrives on prestigious national championships such as the Open de España and we thank everyone at the Royal Spanish Golf Federation and the Madrid Golf Federation for helping us to make this happen."

The Open de España was officially the first tournament played in the European Tour's inaugural season in 1972, with home favourite Antonio Garrido crowned as champion.

Several Spanish greats followed onto the Roll of Honour including Seve Ballesteros with three victories, Sergio Garcia, Alvaro Quirós and Miguel Ángel Jiménez.

Other prestigious winners include Major Champions Bernhard Langer, Sir Nick Faldo, Padraig Harrington, Charl Schwartzel and the late Arnold Palmer among many others.

Gonzaga Escauriaza, President of the Royal Spanish Golf Federation, said: "The Open de España is back on the European Tour International Schedule, which is great news for Spanish golf and we are doubly delighted to be welcoming it back to our home at the Centro Nacional de Golf."

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