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## ‘Left to die’

### Men who taunted homeless Brit jailed

by Matt Ford

Three men accused of the manslaughter of a British man who was found at Malaga Airport with his genitals resting inside an empty tuna tin and slices of ham on his buttocks have been jailed.

Irishman James O’Byrne, 59, from Cork, plus Finnish pair Jussi Petteri Munck, 41, and Mika Tapio Soininem, 48, pleaded guilty to the charge after agreeing a plea bargain with prosecutors.

They will each serve two-and-a-half years in a Spanish prison.

It comes after alcoholic and homeless Londoner Steven Allford died on a bench outside the Costa del Sol airport’s railway station on October 21, 2016.

His trousers were pulled down and plastic ties had been used to

bind his wrists and ankles.

Mr Allford had been drinking heavily and choked to death on his own vomit, but Santiago Calvo Cervera concluded that the ties may have contributed by stopping him from moving freely.

He said in a three-page ruling: “They didn’t just tie him to the bench, which Mr Munck made sure was done, but they filmed Mr Allford and were also laughing about his helplessness.

“They put a lit cigarette in his mouth after first wedging it between his buttocks and introduced his naked testicles into an empty tuna tin.

“They behaved as if they were presenting a news report and posted the video onto Soininem’s Facebook page after he filmed what was happening.

“When they had finished



**DEGRADING:** The victim was found semi-naked with ham on his buttocks and his genitals in an empty tuna tin.

laughing, they left Mr Allford to his fate.”

During the initial hearing, the two Finnish men repeatedly claimed that the stunt ‘was just a joke,’ and that they only wanted to make fun of the victim, with one recording it on his mobile phone before uploading the video to Facebook.

The footage, which was quickly deleted, led to detectives identifying the culprits and proved that Mr Allford was alive as he lay face down while being mocked.

O’Byrne was arrested in February 2017 as he slept rough in a tent in Algeciras, Cadiz.

## ‘Sex game’ gone wrong

A MAN accused of murder has told police his partner died in a sex game gone wrong.

The 53-year-old Danish man faces 15 years in prison and paying €200,000 in compensation to the deceased’s father following the woman’s death in 2015.

The accused claimed he had accidentally asphyxiated his 40-year-old partner in a consensual game during a holiday to Torre del Mar in June 2015. The man told jurors the couple practised sadomasochistic sex to ‘keep the spark alive.’

Admitting the pair had argued on the evening in question, the accused insisted they had later made up. He claimed the couple consumed alcohol and cocaine before he consensually throttled his partner with a phone charger cable as they had sex.

He claimed he then fell asleep before finding the deceased’s body the next morning and asking the hotel reception to call an ambulance.

The prosecution rejects this

version of events, however, claiming the defendant killed his partner at around dawn after they argued. Prosecutor Flor de Torres alleged the man waited until later in the morning to call an ambulance, using the intervening time to clear the crime scene and remove traces of his victim’s blood.

The trial continues.

See us on page 22



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**FIREFIGHTERS** in Almuñecar have put out a blaze on the Costa Banana urbanisation.

Local Police are now investigating what could have caused the fire and believe it could have originated in a

## Bush fire hits coast

flames which spread among the bushes. Residents

shack before spreading 500 square metres.

The blaze lit up the night sky as firefighters battled to extinguish its

at various points around the municipality were able to see the fire, which broke out next to the Jose Diaz materials store.

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**NEWS EXTRA****Mothering  
sin day**

A WOMAN has been accused of a crime against family relations after snatching her own child from the Malaga Materno Hospital without the doctor's permission.

**'No grounds'**

**THE mayor of Malaga has said he sees "no grounds" for current protests over development of land in Arraijanal. Mayor Francisco de la Torre says he is doing "everything" to consider the environmental impact.**

**River riot**

A POLITICAL PARTY is protesting the condition of the Guadalhorce River in the Junta de Andalucía. Party Ciudadanos say the river needs works to prevent flooding and flytipping.

# Death crash horror

## Teenager dies in moped smash

A 17-YEAR-OLD boy has died in a moped crash over the Easter weekend.

The victim, known only as JMN, was killed after his moped crashed into a parked car in the Las Nieves neighbourhood in Torrox on Good Friday.

Police say the resident of Nerja was riding with a group of friends before he lost control of his moped as he drove over a raised pedestrian crossing.

Workers from the Torrox health centre came to the boy's aid but were unable to save him after he suffered a head injury and fractured neck despite wearing a helmet.

Just weeks earlier another crash in Torrox left one person seriously injured following a three vehicle pile-up. The driver of one of the cars was left in a serious condition in hospital suffering from multiple injuries while two others are said to have been mildly injured.

The crash took place in the heart of Torrox Costa at a round-



Credit: Malaga/Twitter

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**LOST CONTROL: The  
recent crash in Torrox  
left three injured.**

about connecting the inland road to the coastal highway outside an Aldi supermarket. One man, the most seriously injured, was said to have lost control of his Renault Clio as he made his way along the road, hitting two cars travelling in the opposite direction.

The driver, aged around 30, was said to have been travelling downhill at high speed before losing control of his car.

# Sex abuser sent down

A MAN has been sentenced to two years in prison for abusing his partner's granddaughter.

In addition to his jail time, the man will not be able to come within 500 metres of his victim or communicate with her for five years.

The man is said to have got into bed with his 14-year-old victim at around 2am on July 7, 2017 as she stayed at her grandmother's house in Malaga.

The defendant began to sexually abuse the girl but stopped after the girl resisted.

Prosecutors originally requested five years in prison for the man but he was instead sentenced to two years and forced to pay €3,000 in compensation to

his victim.

Meanwhile in March police detained a 'cyber-predator' who allegedly groomed underage children online. The Madrid-based 40-year-old now faces trial for corrupting a minor after reportedly arranging to travel to Malaga to meet a boy aged under 12 for sex.

The computer scientist was arrested after the victim's mother told police her son had been engaging in explicit sexual conversations with the man on a social network who had encouraged him to provide pornographic photographs.

Officers made various attempts to find the accused, initially investigating three other people living in various parts of Spain.



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Readers' views on eclectic topics in print and online. **P30**

**MOTORING**

ALL THE LATEST CAR NEWS PLUS OUR WEEKLY TEST DRIVE

**P45****More jobs**

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY new jobs will be created following the expansion of the Los Patios shopping centre. The first ever shopping centre in Andalucía is currently undergoing improvement works to once again put it on the map, leading to creation of hundreds of new jobs.

**Reshuffle**

THE mayor of Velez-Málaga has reshuffled his governing team after side-lining former councillor for Human Resources, Ana Camos, in favour of Jose Antonio Moreno Ocon, who was previously expelled from his party. Mr Ocon had been a member of the Ciudadanos party but was removed in 2016.

**Boat auction**

THREE boats which had been abandoned at Caleta de Velez are being auctioned off. Prices range from €200 to €22,800 for the vessels which had been left at the port. A further 46 boats are being put up for sale in the rest of Andalucía in Almería, Cadiz and Huelva.

**Infrastructure woes**

IRRIGATION communities continue to criticise the Junta de Andalucía for a lack of infrastructure to ward off future droughts. Critics say, despite recent rainfall which has almost doubled the capacity of some reservoirs, Málaga's population continues to grow and so will its need for water.

**€500,000 green space**

VELEZ-MÁLAGA Council has said it will invest half a million Euros in the municipality's largest green space. The Maria Zambrano Park will undergo six months of works including the construction of several padel courts and general renovations.

**THE BIG PICTURE Nº 8****Tickled pink!****ON THE MARCH: Greater flamingo males.**

IT is Europe's second largest congregation of greater flamingos, and the only inland site where they breed.

And the courtship dance of 40,000 of the majestic birds is underway at Laguna Fuente de Piedra, one of the largest natural lakes in the Iberian Peninsula.

Measuring 6.5 kilometres long by 2.5 kilometres wide, the lagoon is set for a bumper year after drying up completely in 2017.

Recent rains have filled the shal-

low basin, serving up ideal conditions for the flamingos, which are attracted by teeming brine shrimp in the salty water.

The tiny crustaceans give the birds' feathers their pink hue, with those of youngsters plain grey.

Their courtship ritual sees many separate colonies form, with groups of 15 to 50 males at their centre.

They perform an elaborate dancing display with exaggerated neck stretching, head stretching and preen-

ing, plus group moves in which they march and turn as one.

And once the chicks hatch they are raised in a 'creche' watched over by many adults.

The dance of the flamingos can be seen throughout April both at Fuente de Piedra and other sites along Spain's Mediterranean coast, including Doñana National Park, Mar Menor in Murcia, Santa Pola in Alicante, and the Ebro Delta in Cataluña.

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**84**

The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1708 of the Euro Weekly News Axarquía - Costa Tropical edition, including 28 local stories.

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



**ANDALUCIAN PASSION:** Women wearing traditional flamenco dresses dance a Sevillana.

IT was voted number one in travel guide Lonely Planet's top 10 cities to visit in 2018.

And as the dust settles on Andalusian capital Sevilla's world famous Holy Week celebrations, the city is already gearing up for another of its internationally renowned events.

The week-long Feria d'Abril (April Fair) traditionally takes place a fortnight after the end of Easter, and this begins on Sunday April 15.

Women rock flamboyant, glamorous flamenco dresses, while men slip on their best attire and parade on horseback throughout the vibrant festivities, which feature plenty of eating, drinking and dancing the time-honoured Sevillana.

Dating back to 1847, the event was started as a livestock fair by two councillors from northern Spain, the Basque Jose Maria Ybarra and Catalan Narcisco Bonaplata.

Their idea was approved by Queen Isabella II - who ruled Spain from 1833 until 1868 - and the first fair took place at the Prado de San Sebastian on the outskirts of the city centre.

But just a year later the fair began to mutate, as the first three casetas, traditional wooden buildings

housing bars and eateries still used today, sprang up.

They belonged to the French Duke and Duchess of Montpensier, the city council and Sevilla casino, and their introduction eventually saw the event become an enormous celebration which today brings together more than 1,000 casetas and tens of thousands of people on a new site in the Los Remedios neighbourhood.

The casetas mostly belong to important local families, clubs, trade associations, political parties or groups of friends. They function as informal restaurants during the day but from around 9pm to 6am are filled with crowds of dancing revellers drinking sherry, beer and wine.

There is also a giant amusement park for families.

But the daily proceedings begin with a parade of carriages and horse riders carrying leading citizens to the La Real Maestranza bullring for the controversial daily bullfights.

For more information about this year's feria see the website: [www.feriadesevilla.andalunet.com/?lang=en](http://www.feriadesevilla.andalunet.com/?lang=en).

## POLL OF THE WEEK

**Do you think the new maximum €30,000 fine for animal cruelty crimes in Spain is sufficient?**

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**

Following his arrest in Germany, should former Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont be extradited to Spain?

Yes **50%**

No **50%**

## EWN online this week

**169,196 Page views**

**TOP 5 stories**

**EXCLUSIVE: 'Bargain-Loving Brits In The Sun' is packing Benidorm bags and heading to Costa del Sol**



**Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun is set to move to the Costa del Sol.**

- 10,225** views 'Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun' is heading to Costa del Sol
- 9,573** views 'He's a life saver' expat found by Easter holidaymaker
- 5,467** views "He's home" missing expat found safe but 'confused and distressed'
- 4,920** views Costa del Sol family issue urgent appeal for 'missing' man
- 4,604** views Spain's airports reduce the price of bottled water following outcry

*\*For week 26 March - 2 April*

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**CORRECTIONS**

At the EWN, we pride ourselves that reports are accurate and fair. If we do slip up, we promise to set the record straight in a clear, non-nonsense manner. To ask for an inaccuracy to be corrected. Email: [editorial@euroweeklynnews.com](mailto:editorial@euroweeklynnews.com)

**NEWS EXTRA**

**Beach sports**

THE beach in Torre del Mar will this summer benefit from a new sports area for people who are aged between 12 and 25 years old. The 1,500-square-metre area will host various activities.

**Fuel supply**

THE mayor of Velez-Málaga has signed a contract with the new diesel supplier for the council's vehicle fleet at a cost of €225,593.

**Autism aware**

AN association raising awareness of autism is working with Rincon de la Victoria Council to help 'break barriers for autism,' by lighting up the town hall for three days.

**OUR VIEW**

**Red faces over blue passports**

THERE seemed to be an incredible irony surrounding the decision to move back to blue passports to show that Britain was recapturing its true independence from Europe.

Firstly it appears that in actual fact the move to a red passport was only a strong recommendation from the European Union and had Britain decided that it wanted to keep the colour blue (or some argue black), then it could have done so.

The real controversy has raised its head with the fact production of these new passports has been put out to tender in accordance with EU rules which meant effectively any qualified printer in any member states could bid to undertake the work.

Almost predictably, the bid from British printer De La Rue - which currently holds the contract - was rejected as being too expensive and it appeared that the job would be given to a printer based in France and Holland.

Quelle horreur, this symbol of Britishness would for the first time be printed outside of Britain at a time when the country wanted to be seen as standing strong and outside of European domination.

It is suggested that the winning bid was £120 million (€137 million) cheaper than De La Rue, but the company has managed to win a respite of a further two weeks in order to allow them to challenge the decision, based on the fact that they believe that their product will be better and more secure.

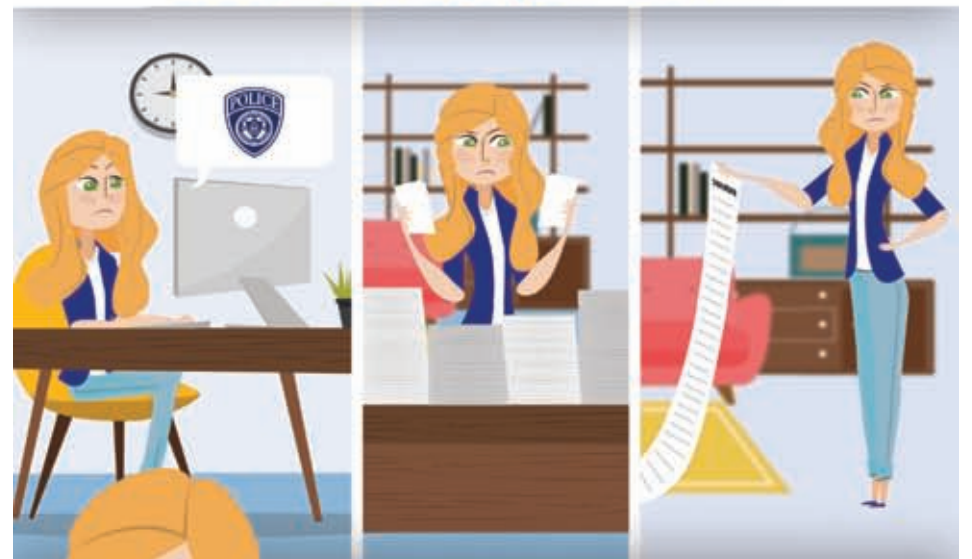
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**ARMED AND DANGEROUS:** Armed children are roaming the streets of La Goleta.

## Deadly weapons

TWO children aged under 13 have been found carrying flick knives in Malaga.

Police identified the youngsters among a group of older children as they walked around the La Goleta neighbourhood in central Malaga. On stopping one of the children, officers were told, "he was under 13 years old and that he knew they could not do anything to him."

Agents seized the weapons

and passed the case on to the Child Prosecutor's Office after observing the group at around 5pm. As the children walked away, the officers saw one of them had something behind their forearm.

The police got out of their vehicle and asked the child to open his hand before finding a 12-centimetre bladed knife. On searching another minor they found he also held an 11-

centimetre blade knife.

Last month, Malaga police reported they had removed hundreds of weapons from the streets in 2017. Among the items seized were 64 guns, three air weapons, 347 knives and 86 other weapons.

In total 431 people were reported as carrying a weapon last year in Malaga leading to several stabbings causing both injury and death.

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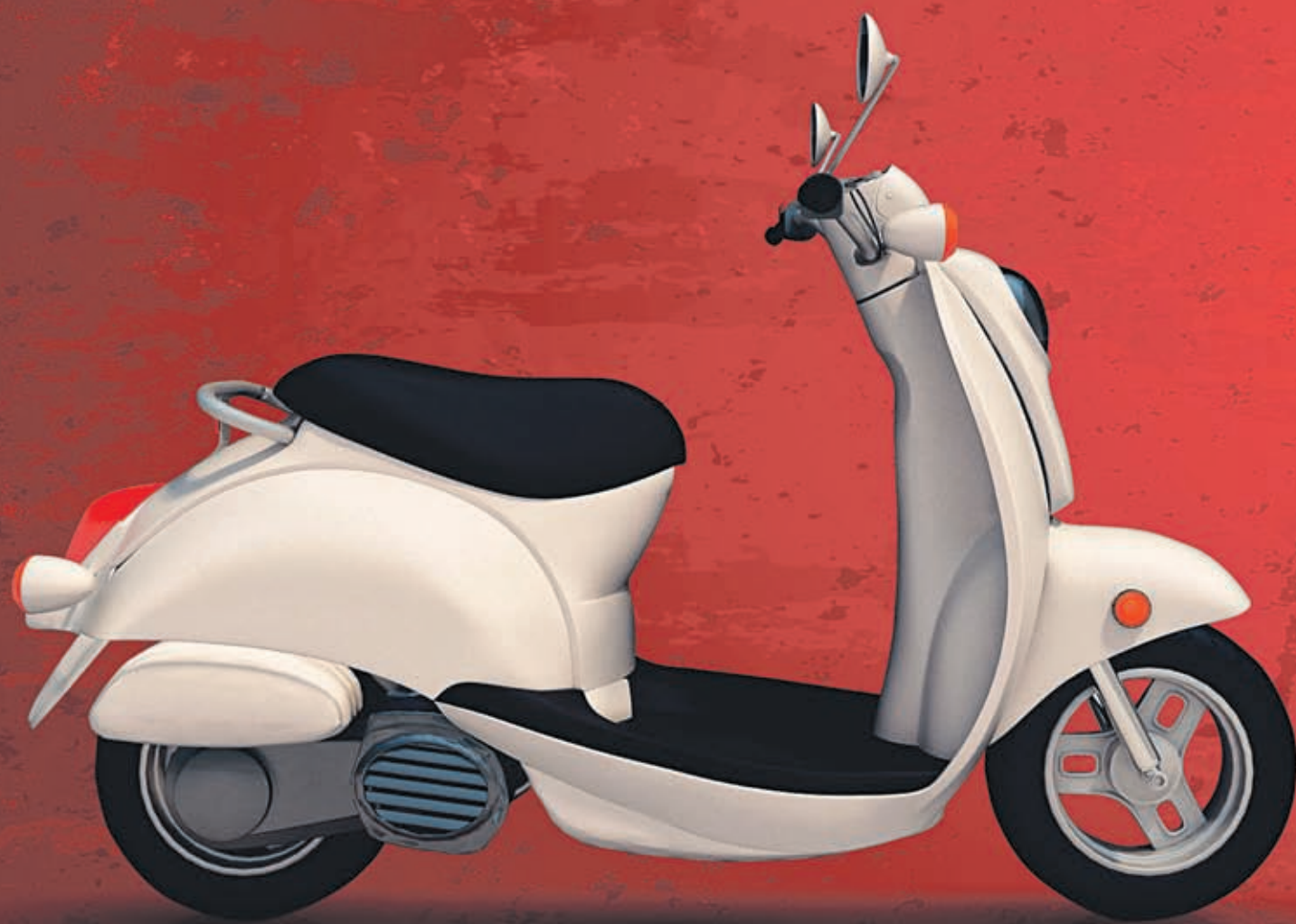


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## Harry's style goes Spanish

HE donned suits by Gucci and Givenchy at the recent Victoria's Secret Fashion Show.

And former One Direction singer Harry Styles, 24, became the new face of Andalusian designer Palomo Spain during his shows in Madrid and Barcelona this week.

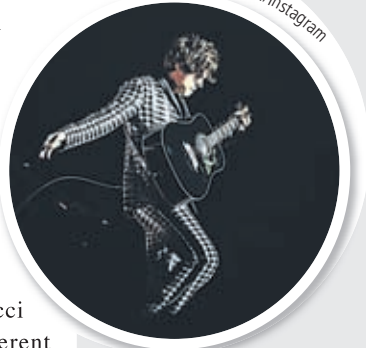
The *Sign of the Times* hitmaker temporarily dropped his signature Gucci style, slipping into a different black-and-white outfit by the Cordoba-based fashion house at each of the gigs.

Harry rocked a houndstooth-style checked blazer with flared trousers in the Catalan city, then opted for a matching finely-striped outfit with white lapels in the Spanish capital.

Designer Alejandro Gomez Palomo has just turned 26 and was creating clothes for doll brand Barbie three years ago, but a meteoric rise has seen him open shows at Paris Fashion Week, with stars including the Rolling Stones, Beyonce, Miley Cyrus and Rita Ora buying into his whimsical style.

**SHE'S GOT FRONT:** The star chose to go braless.

Photo credit Paloma Spain/Instagram



**NEW DIRECTION:** The mega star in Barcelona.



Photo credit Eiza Gonzalez/Instagram

## Eiza does it!

SHE shot to fame in last year's hit action movie *Baby Driver*.

And Mexican actress Eiza Gonzalez, 28, has jetted to Spain to film new flick *Paradise Hills* in Barcelona.

The star set pulses racing after strolling to the set wearing just a loose-fitting t-shirt and skinny jeans.

She is rumoured to be dating *Transformers* star Josh Duhamel, 45, after the pair met at a Superbowl party.

## Eleven out of ten for new pay packet



Photo credit OK! Magazine

**STRANGER CHING:** Millie Bobby Brown.

MARBELLA-BORN actress Millie Bobby Brown is set for a giant pay rise.

The 14-year-old *Stranger Things* star has reportedly put pen to paper on a contract worth €2.6 million ahead of filming the third series of the hit Netflix series.

And while all the young stars of the supernatural drama have been rewarded with improved deals after the second series received rave reviews, Millie's agents

have negotiated the biggest salary.

According to US media reports she was due to receive €19,500 for each of the upcoming series' nine episodes, but will now take home at least €200,000, with some rumours suggesting she will be paid a whopping €285,000 per show.

That would put the Emmy-award nominated performer in the same wage bracket as cast-mate Winona Rider.

## Light as a feather

SHE recently revealed that she has lost two stone.

And *Loose Women* star Linda Robson, 60, showed off her toned figure as she posed in a swimsuit in Marbella.

The former *Birds of a Feather* actress was enjoying a sunshine break with son Louis and daughter Roberta, and she shared a series of snaps on social media.



Photo credit Linda Robson/Instagram

**TOP BREAK:** Linda Robson.

## Dyer straits

DANNY DYER'S daughter, Dani, has been spotted frolicking on a Costa del Sol beach.

Having recently being forced off the ITV2 show *Survival Of The Fittest* due to injury, the reality star, 22, was pictured in a range of skimpy swimwear as she enjoyed a spot of bat and ball on the sand.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Hot wax**

WORKERS are using hot water to remove wax residue from Velez-Málaga's streets following last week's Easter processions. The council hopes to reduce the risk of pedestrians slipping in the substance.

**Book worms**

WORKS to the Torre del Mar library are going to cost €60,000 more than expected due to structural problems with the building. The original project was expected to cost €261,203.

**Job op**

TORROX Council is offering 43 per cent more jobs this year than the last two years. Last year 268 contracts were offered by the council, each of them for three months or more.

A COUPLE has been arrested for burgling a security van.

The 25-year-old woman and 26-year-old man face trial for armed robbery after holding up a vehicle in Velez-Málaga as it transferred money collected from gaming machines.

Officers from the National Police arrested the pair when the man allegedly

**€31,000 stickup**

tried to assault two workers as they walked to their security van after collecting €31,000 from a game room.

The accused is said to have been wearing sunglasses and a wig as he approached the security guards. He is al-

leged to have threatened the men with a false gun before spraying them with pepper spray.

Following a struggle with one of the victims, the accused ran to a car parked nearby, dropping his gun on the way.

Police later found the car supposedly used in the robbery alongside the glasses, wig and sweatshirt allegedly used.

Officers arrested the 26-year-old man, who had previously worked in the game room in question, on suspicion of armed robbery. The 25-year-old woman is accused of waiting inside the car in which the man escaped.

**Unemployment down**

MALAGA'S unemployment figures decreased by 3,663 in March.

The reduction, which was the third largest in Spain, leaves more than 150,000 still unemployed in the province.

Experts have put the change down to the 'Semana Santa' effect in which increases in the tourism and hospitality sectors see employment boosted.

Despite the good news, Malaga Province maintains the third largest proportion of unemployment in Andalucia after Sevilla and Cadiz.

Last December, the number of people without work in Malaga grew for the fourth

month, leaving the province with more than 158,330 job seekers. The figure was the second fastest rising in Spain after the Balearic Islands.

The increase, which was the largest in November since 2012, was blamed on seasonal jobs made redundant after the summer season, although the rest of Andalucia was less affected.

Jobs were also lost in the construction sector, with 446 more people out of work, as well as in agriculture, with unemployment up by eight people. In contrast, 51 more people were employed in the industry sector in November than the month before.

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**Portfolio**  
Issue No. 3

**Take A Look Inside  
Out Monthly Across The Axarquia**

## Water deal rejected

BUSINESSES have rejected a proposal to transfer water from the Rio Chillar to La Viñuela.

The Association of Employers of Nerja (AEN) and communities of irrigators from Nerja and Frigiliana have said they may protest if the Junta de Andalucía regional government uses water from Chillar for subtropical fruit crops in Velez-Málaga.

The AEN claimed the Junta intend to extend an emergency measure to transfer nine cubic hectometres of water to La Viñuela each year and continue the policy indefinitely. The association explained this has “caused alarm,” due to the, “absence of an environmental impact report.”

The AEN continued despite the measure originally being billed as temporary, “the real intention is to supply water to the subtropical production in Axarquia from Nerja’s reservoirs.” The group claimed, “we cannot mortgage our present and future by allowing our water resources to be used to increase Axarquia’s subtropical fruit industry.”

The news comes after the Junta eased watering restrictions in Axarquia following heavy rainfall. Irrigators will now be allowed to water crops more freely, but still 25 per cent less than normal rates.

The Junta has told farmers they can use 11 cubic hectometres of water before September 30 after the La Viñuela reservoir almost doubled its water levels during March, gaining 30 cubic hectometres.

## Mess

SEWAGE leaks have threatened Torrox’s archives.

Water containing raw sewage has leaked into the building designed to house the Torrox Archive. The documents themselves have yet to be installed, saving years of historical information.

The town’s mayor, Oscar Medina, criticised his political opponents for voting to move the archives into the 50-year-old building which has leaked twice in the last two years. He complained his opponents were, “becoming a destructive and permanent blockade” to progress. Mayor Medina questioned, “what would have happened if we had moved all the historical documents the council has there?”

The furore over the town’s archives follows criticism of Torrox’s court house, which is allegedly in poor condition. Since 2008, workers have been protesting the facilities, saying they have to put up with humidity problems, ceilings supported by props, falling debris, and flooding.

In 2015, the dean of the Malaga Bar Association, Francisco Javier Lara, said, “as lawyers, it is our duty to demand decent headquarters for a legal institution which deals with the issues of eight municipalities

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# y business



**TORROX: An effluent little town. OSCAR MEDINA: Left to clean up the mess of his predecessors.**

(Algarrobo, Archez, Canillas de Albaida, Competa, Frigiliana, Nerja, Sayalonga and Torrox) and a total population of 60,000.”

He added, “currently, these courts process 8,000 records per year, a great volume of work which is carried out in shameful facilities.”



**PLAYING WITH FIRE: Two firemen had their fingers burnt for disrupting service.**

## Under fire

TWO firemen have been suspended and docked pay for “disrupting service.”

The workers will be fined 10 days’ wages after stopping work for around 20 minutes on April 23, 2017 at the same time as a demonstration held by staff.

The men were found to have left their jobs at the Martiricos station in Malaga City to check on hydrants before parking their vehicle next to a roundabout at Marques de Larios, leaving their hazard warning lights on.

Officials found this constituted a

serious infraction and the driver and a corporal were suspended while three others were given lesser punishments.

In March it was revealed a judge had declined to prosecute 60 fire-fighters accused of dereliction of duty. The firemen will now be able to return to work as normal following an investigating lasting almost a year.

The workers had been accused of the crimes of abandonment of public service and denial of assistance after refusing to attend to five fires on June 27 last year while on strike.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Foreign trade

THE Junta De Andalucia regional government is looking into ways to attract more foreign investment to Malaga, including signing an agreement with Sweden to secure more business.

### New home

MALAGA’S elderly population has received a new building following the rehabilitation of an 18th century site. Eight people aged over 65 will now have a new home in the building.

### €3m savings

MALAGA’S farmers are set to save millions of Euros following the approval of tax reduction on various crops including olives, Brazil nuts, grapes and avocados.



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**DESPERATE MEASURES:** Immigrants risk their lives to reach Europe.

## Missing people

MARITIME RESCUE officers are looking for a boat containing 50 people off the coast of Malaga.

Rescuers are using a helicopter, plane and boat to try to locate the vessel, which set off from Al Hoceima in Morocco.

The emergency services were warned after the boat was sighted around 20 kilometres west of Al Hoceima at around 7pm.

The incident follows a spate of immigrants trying to reach Spain by boat, including one containing 58

immigrants which was rescued off the coast of Malaga.

The migrants were said to be in good health after the 48 men and 10 women were picked up by the Salvamar Alnitak Salvage vessel around 45 miles off the coast of the city.

Last December a further 55 people were rescued from a boat off the coast of Malaga. Maritime Rescue officers intercepted the boat of Sub-Saharan immigrants after an airplane located it 42 miles southeast

of the city.

The dean of the Malaga Bar Association, Francisco Javier Lara, has said that Spain must pay "attention to immigrants and refugees and inequalities of all kinds, many of which are manifested with special cruelty when they affect women."

He added more than 1,900 people had risked "their lives at sea" to reach the province and confirmed the Malaga Bar Association was committed to defending their rights.

## Something fishy

MALAGA'S fishermen are up in arms over proposals to limit their catches.

The European Commission has told seamen they will only be allowed to catch certain numbers of red mullet, hake and Norwegian lobster to help recover population levels in the Western Mediterranean.

Fishermen are protesting the changes, however, saying their catch rate has already dropped by almost 70 per cent in the last 30 years. They are claiming this proposal and another surrounding the cleaning of molluscs before sale are ruining their livelihood.

Professionals say catch limits could lower the sector's turnover by around €2 million a year. They claim hake catches would be lowered by 107,639 kilos a year, while red

mullet would be decreased by 39,089, totalling an annual loss of €1,306,483. Additionally, the amount of Norwegian lobsters caught would be lowered by 24,870 kilos, representing a decrease of €700,088 a year.

Last year, Malaga's fishing industry was worth €22,334,566, with more than seven kilos of fish caught. In 1987, fisherman caught 21,404,000 kilos, however, totalling €32.6 million. Professionals say the only reason the figure has not fallen further is because the price of fish has increased from €1.53 30 years ago to €3.18.

The decline in catches from within Malaga Province has seen much of the fish consumed in the area imported from other parts of Spain, including Huelva, Alicante and Galicia, as well as other parts of Europe.

## NEWS EXTRA

## Road works

POLITICIANS in Lagos have requested works to fix the N340 road where it curves between Lagos and Mezquitilla. The road was damaged by last month's heavy rains.

## Work help

THE council in Rincon de la Victoria is offering workers the chance of €690 a month for 30 hours flexible work each week for six months under a scheme to help people into the workplace.

## Fire starter

A MAN has been arrested in Malaga for allegedly setting fire to his partner's home after previously threatening her with a knife. The woman was able to escape with her children.



Credit: Daniel Sancho/Flickr

UNDER PRESSURE: La Cala del Moral demands full emergency health services.

## Emergency services

POLITICIANS are demanding a full emergency health service in La Cala del Moral.

All political parties in Rincon de la Victoria came together to approve a motion urging the Junta de Andalucia to provide the services in the town's health centre.

The politicians claim the lack of radiography, ultrasound and other services forces residents to travel to Malaga for simple tests. Pedro Fernandez Ibar, a spokesman for party Izquierda

Unida (IU), said the move would help relieve pressure on Malaga's services which are "overflowing."

He claimed, "this worsens the situation in the summer months when the population multiplies."

The Junta has also been under pressure from politicians in Nerja and Torrox to expand and improve services there. Last month it was revealed the regional government had still not committed to a health centre in

Nerja one year after a site was picked out for it.

A delegate from the Junta has said they are now working on adapting the agreed plan and selecting a new location which may then be approved in 2019.

El Morche's expanded health centre is one step closer, however, after Torrox's mayor signed an agreement handing over office space to be used for the enlarged premises. He said, "it is the first step to expand the El Morche health centre."

## Animal abandonment down

THE number of animals given up in Malaga has fallen.

The Malaga Protectorate of Animals currently holds 889, with the number of animals brought in falling from 1,600 last year. The number of owners adopting pets has also fallen, however, leading to the shelter holding three times the animals it was built for.

Carmen Manzano, president of the shelter, warned it was "completely collapsed," after occupancy levels sky-rocketed. Ms Manzano explained while the number of animals brought in reduced each year, the number of owners willing to take them in had also declined and the centre was now suffering from "tremendous overcrowding."

Last year, the shelter saved 1,567 cats and dogs leaving numbers at the centre to reach 889, far exceeding its capacity of 300.

The shelter managed to rehouse 1,300 animals last year, including 802 dogs and 247 cats which went to new homes in Spain. A further 176 dogs and 13 cats were rehomed abroad. Twenty dogs and 14 cats were put down due to ill health, while 55 dogs and 33 cats died due to illness or old age.

The organisation worked with the fire services, nature protection services, National Police and Local Police to rescue 147 dogs and 40 cats which were identified due to their chips.

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# Holiday horror

## Irish boy, 10, killed in hit-and-run

TWO men have been held after a 10-year-old Irish schoolboy was killed in a suspected hit-and-run accident while on a family holiday in the Canary Islands.

Carter Carson, from Newtownabbey in County Antrim, described as 'a happy go lucky wee boy,' was on holiday with dad Stuart and his partner Claire when he was hit by a car in Adeje, Tenerife.

The little boy died from his injuries in the intensive care unit at hospital the following day.

The occupants of the red Alfa Romeo fled the scene and did not stop to offer assistance, with Spanish investigators later revealing that two Latvian men have been held in connection with the incident.

Initial press reports suggested the suspects were British.

In a statement Joanne Griffith, principal of Abbots Cross Primary School said, "The whole school community is



CREDIT: Guardia Civil

**TWO QUIZZED: The red car with black wheels allegedly involved in the fatal accident.**

deeply saddened by the sudden loss of one of our pupils, Carter Carson. "Carter was a quiet, hardworking boy with lovely manners and a gentle, caring nature. He loved a game of football and was an enthusiastic member of our school running club and our football club.

"He was recently our star pupil of the month and no one had a bigger smile than Carter when he received his Star Pupil Award.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with Carter's immediate and wider family circle and we, as a primary school family, will do all we can to support them and Carter's many friends in school in the weeks and months ahead.

Friends of the Carson family have been raising money to pay for the repatriation and funeral costs, and have incredibly now raised almost £12,500 after setting a £3,000 target.

# Well fuelled!

A 'DRUNK' British holidaymaker was held by Spanish police after stealing a Coca Cola delivery lorry in Benidorm.

Footage emerged online showing the unnamed man shouting in English while being pinned down by an officer as horrified pedestrians look on.

He reportedly made off in the vehicle while the driver and his colleague were making a delivery on the corner of Avenida Mediterraneo and Calle Filipinas, before crashing into a parked car.

The video was shot by one of the delivery men, who explains that "this drunk foreigner

stole our lorry and everyone is watching. We called the police and pulled him out before they arrived.

"It was just unbelievable."

The culprit reportedly refused to undergo a breathalyser test before he was taken away, but it is unclear if he has been held in custody.

As he protests one of the police officers is heard to say in English: "Don't move a bit, buddy."

Benidorm's security councillor Lorenzo Martinez told local press that the dramatic incident showed "once again how effective our police are."



Photo credit YouTube

**JACK KNIFE: The man careered into a parked car before being pinned down by police.**

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## Spanish firm wins UK deal

A SPANISH construction firm has landed a €161 million contract to build a motorway in the UK.

Madrid-based Sacyr beat off the competition to bag a 60 per cent slice of the €250 million scheme for the 26-kilometre A6 motorway between Dungiven and Durmahoe Dualling in Northern Ireland.

The stretch is part of the North Western Transport Corridor connecting Belfast and Londonderry, and the remaining 40 per cent of the project will be carried out by local Willis Bros.

# Summer cheer for TV fans

SOME of the UK's biggest television broadcasters have relaxed their online regulations.

Britons in Spain and mainland Europe are now able to access pay-TV subscriptions, including Premier League football, without breaking the rules due to a new European Union digital single market decree.

Firms including Sky, ITV, Netflix and Amazon have been forced to open up their online TV services Now TV, ITV Hub+ and Prime Instant Video to users on the continent since Monday.

By Matt Ford

Prior to the move subscribers were unable to legally access their accounts and were forced to miss their favourite shows or rely on illegal streams.

"The new portability rules for online content is great news for TV lovers everywhere," said Gidon Katz, managing director of Sky's Now TV service. "Holidays are all about unwinding and it is clear TV is a big part about how Brits relax, so it's great news that you can swap your sofa for a sunbed and your

cuppa for a cocktail and never have to worry about missing your favourite TV on holiday again."

Free TV service providers are not adopting the new measure, however.

The BBC says that its iPlayer registration system is not secure enough to stop non-licence fee payers accessing content, while ITV and Channel 4 currently rake in around €1.1 billion per year selling shows to European broadcasters, meaning they are unlikely to ever follow the recommendation.

## Airlines' €4m payout insult

MORE than 10,000 British travellers are being denied compensation from airlines totalling €4.6 million.

TUI, formerly known as Thompson, owes the most, with 5,000 passengers awaiting claims totalling €2.7 million, with budget carrier easyJet failing to reimburse more than 3,000 holiday-makers €1.7 million.

Travellers are entitled to compensation if their flight is more than three hours late, but law firm Bott and Co said that TUI in particular "displays ignorance" by disobeying court rulings.

### Quote of the Week

Under plausible assumptions, the de-leveraging process of the public sector towards levels considered safer will be very gradual in Spain... possibly taking up to several decades." Bank of Spain Governor Luis Maria Linde.



## MPs set to vote on delayed budget

THE Spanish government has presented its 2018 draft budget, six months late.

It comes after political instability in troubled northern region Cataluña delayed the process.

Finance Minister Cristobal Montoro said he forecasts a 2.7 per cent rise in gross domestic product and that unemployment will fall to 15.5 per cent this year.

State expenditure is to climb by 3 per cent to €327.9 billion, of which €246.28 billion will be set aside for pensions, payments to regional governments and unemployment benefits.

State income from taxes will soar by 6 per cent to more than €210 billion, the wage ceiling for income tax exemption has been boosted by €2,000 to €14,000 per annum, and there will be rebates for those earn-



**BETTER LATE THAN NEVER: Spain's finance minister Cristobal Montoro and President of the Congress of Deputies Ana Pastor Julian present the long overdue 2018 draft budget.**

ing less than €18,000 per year.

Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's cabinet has already approved the draft, which now faces a parliamentary vote amid calls for the leader's resignation should it fail to be passed.

### » BUSINESS EXTRA

## Bubble alert checked out

INDUSTRY experts have warned that Spain faces a 'supermarket bubble' after the total reached 20,100 by the end of 2017, up from 17,148 in 2008 and equivalent to 3.4 for each 1,000 citizens compared to a European average of 2.6.

## Pretty penne

SPAIN'S Ebro Foods - one of the world's leading rice producers - has snapped up 70 per cent of Italian filled pasta firm Bertagni, the world's oldest, for a fee in the region of €130 million, according to reports.

## Jobs boom

THE number of people registered with social security in Spain has topped 18.5 million for the first time since December 2008, but critics say that more than 80 per cent of employment contracts issued in March were temporary.

# Travel giant forks out

EUROPE'S largest travel and tourism firm TUI has splashed €110 million to buy back part of Spanish hotel room company Hotelbeds Group.

The sale includes the group's Destination Management division, which comprises the global brands Destination Services, Intercruises and Pacific World.

TUI sold Hotelbeds for €1.2 billion in 2016, but CEO Fritz Jousen said that it had proven

impossible to split the company at the time, and that the purchase represents good value for money.

He added that the aim is to sell additional 'in-destination' activities to holidaymakers between them booking and leaving on their trips.

"That's a period where we can virtually exclusively offer these customers such services," the executive said.



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# Monetary policies driving the majors

## Ask the expert

Peter Loveday



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### EURO

EUR/GBP: Down from £0.89 to £0.87

EUR/USD: Up from \$1.21 to \$1.24

The outlook of the European Central Bank (ECB) has been a major source of movement for the euro in recent weeks amid discussions over when the bank would seek to begin raising interest rates.

While the ECB's March policy meeting saw the bank remove the easing bias from its policy statement, the news that the ECB would be winding up its stimulus programme was undermined by a dovish outlook from President Mario Draghi.

The euro also found its advance limited in March as more modest Eurozone economic data was seen as further evidence that growth in the bloc may have begun to level out in 2018.

Looking ahead, the ECB's path towards tightening monetary policy is likely to remain in the spotlight for EUR investors over the coming



### THE POUND: On the way up at the moment.

month, with the euro possibly spiking if the bank strikes a more bullish tone in April's policy meeting.

#### Pound

GBP/EUR: Up from €1.12 to €1.14

GBP/USD: Up from \$1.37 to \$1.41

Speculation of an upcoming rate hike from the Bank of England (BoE) was the main con-

tributing factor to the pound's advance in March, which saw GBP climb to its highest levels of 2018.

Some impressive UK wage growth figures saw most investors lock in a May rate hike from the BoE, limiting the impact of hawkish comments from policymakers in the wake of the BoE's March policy meeting.

Sentiment was also lifted by some positive progress in Brexit negotiations as the UK and EU were able to come to an agreement over a transition period.

Brexit developments are likely to continue dictating the direction of the pound over the next month, with market sentiment likely to dip again unless some positive progress is made towards a post-Brexit trade deal with the EU.

#### US Dollar

USD/GBP: Down from £0.72 to £0.70

USD/EUR: Down from €0.81 to €0.80

The Federal Reserve voted to raise interest rates again in March, with anticipation of the hike lending some underlying strength to the US dollar throughout the month, although a more cautious outlook from the Fed saw USD tumble in the immediate wake of the decision.

The US dollar has also faced considerable pressure in recent weeks as Donald Trump shocked markets by announcing blanket tariffs on steel, triggering concerns about the possibility of a US-led trade war.

The potential for further US political or trade uncertainty is likely to keep USD on its toes over the coming weeks, with any further shake up in the White House likely to reflect negatively on the US dollar.

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# 'HOLY GRAIL OF SHIPWRECKS' ROW GOES ON €14bn treasure hunters

THE Colombian government has sparked outrage after pledging to spend millions in public funds to raise a treasure-filled Spanish warship from the depths.

The galleon San Jose was found by an American search team in 1981 after lying at the bottom of the sea for more than 300 years.

The 60-gun Spanish navy vessel was transporting a six-year haul of gold, silver, and precious jewels back to Spain from the Americas in 1708, when it was attacked by the British Royal Navy.

But the ship was blown up after a battle broke out, with almost 600 Spanish sailors drowning as it sank in the Caribbean Sea near the Colombian port of Cartagena.

According to estimates, the booty on board is now worth €8-14 billion, and president Juan Manuel Santos last week revealed plans for a €57.5 million splurge

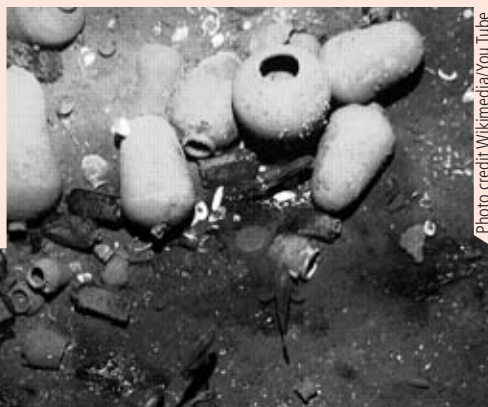


Photo credit: Wikimedia/YouTube

**GOLD RUSH: The wreck could be the world's richest and (inset) a painting by UK artist Samuel Scott shows the San Jose being destroyed by the British navy.**

to recover the precious cargo.

He said that some of the cash will be spent on building a laboratory and museum for preserving archaeological and cultural remains.

However there is an ongoing dispute between Spain, US-based salvage company Sea Search Armada (SSA), which found the wreck, and Colombia over who should claim the haul.

Madrid has always claimed that

the boat flew the state flag, was crewed by Spaniards and that the site is a Spanish war grave, a tactic it has successfully used to reclaim sunken warships in the past.

The SSA agreed to share details of the galleon's location with Colombia in 1984 on the understanding it would receive a 35 per cent cut of the treasure.

But the Colombian parliament failed to honour the deal, passing a law entitling SSA to a 5 per cent 'finder's fee' taxed at 45 per cent.

SSA sued, sparking an 18-year legal battle which ended in 2007, when the Colombian Supreme Court ruled that SSA should receive 50 per cent of the hoard.

In 2015, President Santos claimed that a Colombian team had located the wreck in a different location to that reported by SSA and reasserted ownership of the ship.

He appears set to push on with plans to raise the San Jose as the decades-long quarrel rumbles on.

## Built on deep foundations

A SPANISH banking foundation has been named the third-largest organisation of its kind in the world.

The Foundation of the Valencia-based La Caixa group is worth €24 billion, according to the Coordinadas Institute of Governance and Applied Economics.

The organisation - which manages social welfare body Obra Social - is beaten only by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which has assets valued at €32.8 billion, and the UK-based Wellcome Trust, worth an estimated €26.3 billion.

La Caixa also ranks third globally in terms of annual investment, having spent more than €500 million on philanthropic projects for the 10th consecutive year in 2017.

The Gates Foundation last year laid out €3.4 billion and Wellcome Trust €1.4 billion.



# High street battle goes on

## SUPERMARKET TAKES AIM AT ONLINE GIANTS

FRENCH supermarket giant Carrefour is to massively expand the number of products available to Spanish internet shoppers.

The retailer's offshoot Carrefour Spain wants to increase its range of goods by launching a digital marketplace open to third party suppliers.

And the move will see the firm's catalogue skyrocket from its current 100,000 items to more than two million.

It comes after the chain successfully opened online marketplaces in France and Poland, with a Belgian version in the pipeline.

Rafael Sanchez-Sendarrubias, director of ecommerce for Carrefour Spain, said: "We consider that it is a disruptive and quite interesting idea for our customers.

"The biggest advantage of a marketplace is the speed: to be able to have a wide offer in a very short time.

"A marketplace is a magical place that can bring together the interests of customers and sellers."

One intriguing aspect of the marketplace platform is the 'click and collect' service, allowing customers to pick up their goods from a local hypermarket or smaller outlet.

High tech digital terminals will also be installed in the firm's shops so customers can make online purchases if they are unable to find what they need in store.

As internet market leader Amazon proved after installing collection lockers in American supermarkets, introductions like these can increase footfall.

Carrefour's online offering is already established in Spain, attracting 87 million visits, 35 million unique users and around 320 million page views per year, according to figures from the National



Photo credit Carrefour

**ONE STOP SHOP: Carrefour hopes the new platform will send sales soaring.**

Institute of Statistics.

Carrefour says that third party suppliers will be able to list their products on the marketplace free of charge and with no fixed time limit, and will also consider selling popular products in its stores.

Business-owners can simply upload their products to the platform and wait for the orders to come in via email from the marketplace team.

They must then pack and send out the orders, before being paid by Carrefour, which will snap up an unconfirmed cut of each sale.

The move marks an increasing trend by brick and mortar retailers to increase their range by hosting third party suppliers online as they struggle to compete with Amazon and eBay.

### Power supplier scoops €770m mega contract

SPANISH multinational electricity firm Iberdrola has bagged a €770 million contract to link the United States and Canada.

The Bilbao-based company beat off competition from 45 rivals to win the 20-year agreement.

It will see a new 230-kilometre high voltage line built, which when complete will send electricity generated from 'clean' wind and water sources from Canada to Maine, New England.

The scheme is expected to generate 3,700 jobs and become operational in 2020 according to Iberdrola president Ignacio Sanchez Galan.

He added: "The awarding of this contract reaffirms our commitment to clean energy and long-term infrastructure projects... while also increasing our presence in the US, a key market for future investment."

The project is expected to supply 1.5m customers while reducing carbon dioxide emissions by the equivalent of 296,000 cars.



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# The cheats can cry all they like

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT**

OTHERS THINK IT



OH dear. Poor little dinkums.

Didn't the sight of all those weeping willow wielders fair bring a tear to your eyes? Well it didn't mine. These so called Australian 'sportsmen' were not sports at all. They were cheats. They weren't crying because they were repentant, they were crying because they got caught.

Had their underhanded, unsporting actions gone undetected, they would have been splashed across the media all butch bronzed and beaming - with eager sponsors queuing up to pour even more money into their already over-stuffed coffers. And there's the rub. These days sport is all about money. Gone are the glorious days of true sportsmen and women who competed against each other out of pure pride and sporting rivalry.

During the amateur days of yore, apart from a couple of countries who used events as propaganda exercises, I can't recall any accusations of cheating by the competitors or officials. Nowadays they are all at it. Doping, drugging, betting and game throwing are now regular features on the back pages of the nationals. Hardly any corner of the sporting world has not been infected by this



Photo credit: YouTube

**'CRYING BECAUSE THEY GOT CAUGHT': Australian cricketers Cameron Bancroft (left) and Steve Smith face the media in the wake of the ball-tampering scandal.**

greedy virus that leads to the 'win at any cost' attitude that prevails among the athletes of today.

And you know what really sticks in my craw. Sooner or later they all seem to wheedle their way back in. Even those who commit, what are to my mind unforgivable offences, are, after the authorities have considered their wrists have been

slapped hard enough, allowed back in to carry on as though nothing has happened!

Well, if I had my way, this unsporting bunch of arrogant manipulators would never be allowed to partake in any sporting event again. I also think they should be heavily fined and stripped of all past medals and winner's awards. After all, who

knows how long they have been at it? We must bear in mind, that they have also been cheating the public. When sports fans indulge in these events we like to think that everyone involved is competing against each other in an equally fair and legal manner, otherwise what's the point?

No, they can cry all they like. If it comes on top, they should all get the chop. Don't lie and cheat if you can't take the heat! That's my opinion anyway. After all it's just not cricket is it clobber?

Another pair of wailers this week were the despicable duo who were dubbed 'the Beatles' (I bet that pleased Paul and Ringo!), by their equally despicable Daesh leaders after they were quite rightly relieved of their UK citizenship.

'We don't belong anywhere' they simpered. 'We won't get a fair trial.'

'Who's going to campaign for us.' What?! 'Our Mums won't know where we are,' they drivelled on. You really couldn't make it up. Perhaps they should have thought of these things when they were sawing off the heads of journalists or torturing and crucifying innocent aid workers. I wonder what sort of a fair trial those poor victims got? Not a lot I'll be bound.

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

*Keep the faith.*

*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.*

**TECH FOR THE TIMID**



REMEMBER when computers were huge chunky towers with noisy fans, colonising vast areas of our desktop or floor?

Oh, how insensitive of me: yours still is. Forgive me if I've become slightly supercilious now that I have a tiny new desktop toy and have seen the future of computing.

A complete computer in a cube, it's barely a CD case on steroids, stuffed with the latest processor, memory and solid-state hard-drive, and it's light-years more powerful than many computer towers big enough to smuggle children across Checkpoint Charlie.

Welcome to the era of the Mini PC. Albeit a belated welcome, because while the rest of us have been getting on with life the universe and everything, Intel, HP, Asus, Gigabyte and scores of Asian innovators have been jumping on the Mini PC bandwagon. Indeed, the device I am now wooing is already in its sixth generation.

As fewer consumers buy traditional desktops, and with laptops dominating the new computer market, compress-

## Don't cry for me Argentina if something breaks, says Terence Kennedy

**Terence Kennedy discovers the joys of cubism in a big market for small computers**



**ANYONE FOR TENNIS? Big power, little footprint.**

ing laptop miniaturisation into a hybrid desktop version was inevitable.

Inside these compact cubes is a tightly-packed circuit board, a processor with or without an almost silent fan depending on its power, one or two RAM (memory) sticks, and either your own SSD (solid state hard-drive)

or an onboard one, depending on the model and price range.

Mini, or cube, or 'NUC' computers (Next Unit of Computing, a truly awful name Intel probably went with because no-one dared to contradict the boss) free your desk of the clutter of a monster machine. They can even be bolted to the back of the monitor, out

of sight and reach.

Less than a €100 buys you a basic Chinese mini (just add a keyboard, monitor or mouse), all the way up to several hundreds for one which could calculate Pi to several quintillion decimal places, make coffee and play an infinite number of cat videos.

They come ready-made, or as so-called 'barebones' systems where you choose and install your own memory, storage media and operating system.

They're also bought as fancy home theatre media centres, to power in-store marketing displays, and as the ideal solution for workers who 'hot-desk' between workplaces, just unplug the cube and pop it in your briefcase.

### Mini magic

**HARD** to believe you can buy a complete Mini PC for just €89 in a growing market for these tiny wonders.

**But beware:** for that you only get an 'Atom' processor (slow), 2 GB of memory (barely adequate for Windows 10) and 32 GB of on-board storage (which will soon fill up).

**Amazingly it does include a legitimate copy of Windows 10, whose licence alone would probably cost you that.**

**Far better to pony up for something better. This new love of my life has a quad-core processor, 8 GB of RAM and 240 GB of storage, and gave me change from €300.**

**Now you must excuse me while I pursue my latest affair. I wonder if it prefers flowers, chocolates or a bottle of Rioja?**

# Spanish Queen's peerless blue diamond at Noble Jewels sale

**Nick Horne** *The Rich Pick*

Freelance correspondent, London, England



AFTER the Wars of Spanish Succession were concluded more than 300 years ago; at Parma in Italy, Princess Elisabeth Farnese married Philip V of Spain.

While the intrigues of Europe swirled, a spectacular wedding gift was making its way from the Philippines to Madrid. Spain had issued instructions to the Governors of its colonies throughout its overseas empire that suitable wedding gifts were to be sent to Madrid.

A year later in August 1715 a fleet assembled and sailed from the island of Cuba. The Golden Fleet - 12 ships carrying a fortune in gold bullion and a casket of enormous emeralds - set sail for Europe and Spain. Unfortunately 10 days later a hurricane scattered and destroyed most of the fleet off the coast of Florida.

One vessel survived and escaped and she



**THE FARNESE BLUE: A historic 6.16 carat pear-shaped fancy dark grey-blue diamond.**

was carrying a pear-shaped blue diamond sent by the Governor of the Philippine Islands, a gift to the new Spanish Queen.

Blue diamonds were viewed as the ultimate royal gift, blue was identified as the colour of royalty - blue blood - and like the famous Hope and Wittelsbach diamonds the Farnese Blue was found in the Golconda mines of India, which was the sole source of

diamonds until the discoveries in Brazil in the 1720's.

As Elizabeth and Philip's descendants married into Europe's royal dynasties, Elizabeth Farnese passed the diamond to her favourite son Philip Duke of Parma (1720-1765), continuing down the line passing through four of Europe's dynasties.

Documented by Maria Anna von Habsburg (1882-1940) Arch Duchess of Austria, the wife of Elias Bourbon, Duke of Parma (1880-1959) created a detailed inventory of the family jewels such that a record exists charting the fascinating history of these jewels. Among them the Farnese Blue.

Each May in Geneva ever since, the famed sale of the Jewels of the Duchess of Windsor, Sotheby's auction house has held the Royal and Nobel Jewels sale, this year titled 'Magnificent Jewels and Noble Jewels.'

The fascination of pedigreed 'Nobel Jewels' and their desirability remains strong. Dr Philip Herzog von Württemberg, chairman of Sotheby's Europe said: "With its incredible pedigree, the Farnese Blue ranks among the most historic diamonds in the world. From the first minute I saw the stone, I could not resist its magic and as such it is a huge privilege to have been entrusted with its sale."

The peerless Farnese Blue a 6.16 carat pear-shaped blue diamond has an estimate of €2.99 to €4.28 million. But the story is priceless.

## Advertising Feature

# LPL strengthening their service

AS founders of LPL we are so pleased to see our Spanish representative Greg Bryan signing an agreement with the Administrador Fincas Colegiado which represents Administrators throughout the Alicante region.

This agreement gives a fantastic cost benefit to their membership. The members are made up of the bulk of community administrators in the region and there will be a direct benefit to the hundreds of communities represented by administrators when instructing LPL by paying fees for successful collection at a reduced rate.

It also allows us to meet regularly with the membership to discuss debt related issues in the UK, Spain and throughout Europe generally.

Of course LPL are pleased to also benefit from the services offered by the Alicante AFC by way of training, marketing, ongoing trends in the market place and as well as updates on Spanish law in particular.

LPL has been proud to also be associated with Malaga AFC with whom we have enjoyed a similar relationship for a number of years. Hundreds of communities in the Malaga



**SIGNING THE AGREEMENT: To further improve service to clients in Spain.**

region consistently benefit from lower costs and over the years we have had the opportunity to meet many administrators and their teams to understand the problems that all communities suffer from time to time.

I hope that the same benefits will

translate to communities in the Alicante region and beyond.

Suffice to say that whilst we would all prefer there to be no community debt, it is a sad fact of life that management fee debt will continue. It is a problem not only in Spain, but LPL

are also working for communities in Portugal, Cyprus and elsewhere, the problems are no different, it is just the language that changes.

It is worth noting that property laws and government controls on property purchase in Cyprus have, up until re-

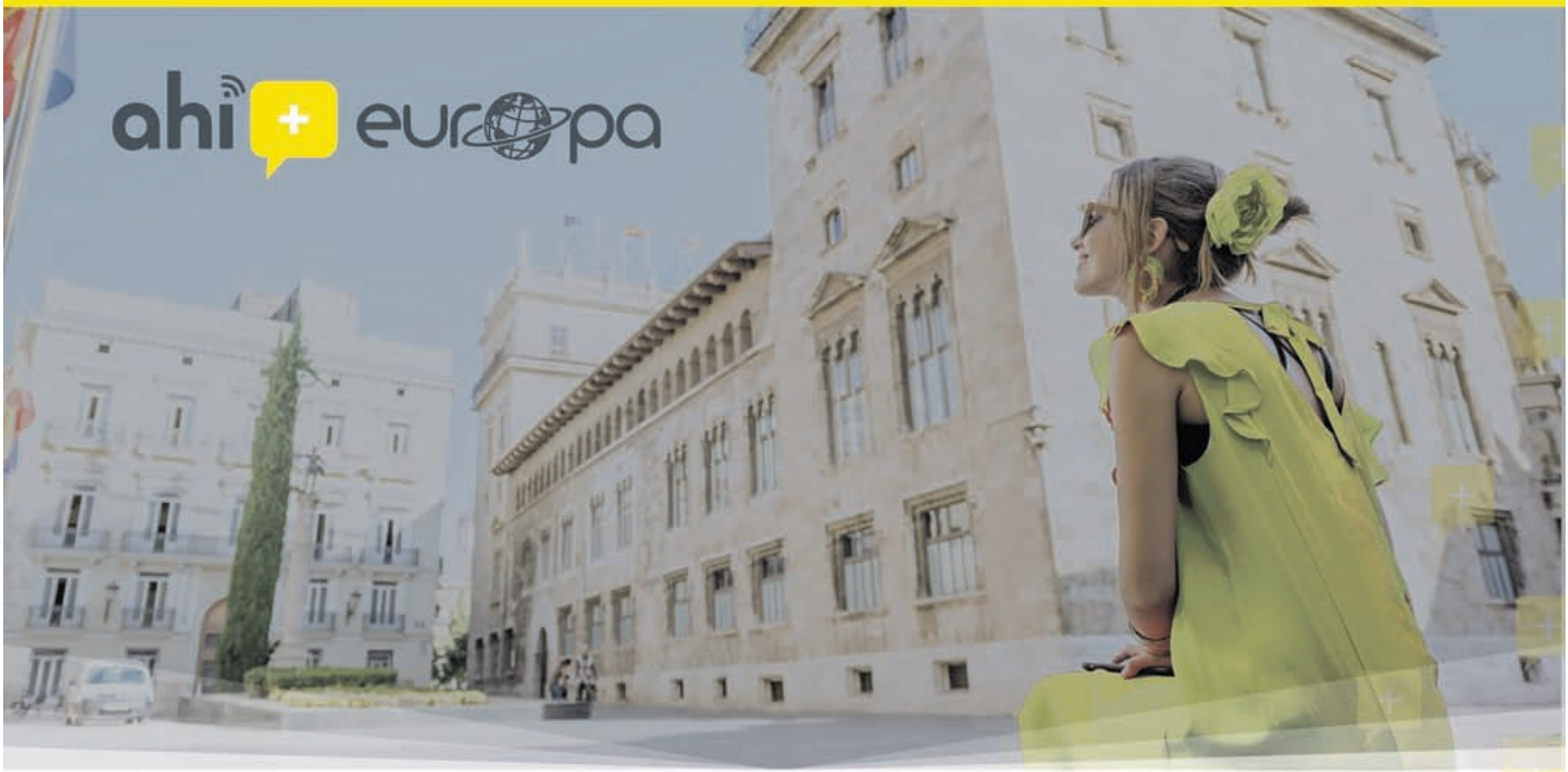
cently, been very lax indeed, allowing developers and land owners to take advantage of potential and future buyers. Obtaining high value deposits with no prospect of final build and also leaving other buyers obligated to pay high management fees on incomplete developments.

Fortunately the law is changing much along the lines of Spanish Horizontal law but if any of the readership have experienced problems in Cyprus, please let LPL know as we can put you in touch with specialist advisors who may be able to assist.

As some of you may know, LPL recently celebrated 40 years of successful collection. The recent contract signing with Alicante AFC is another milestone in our continued growth throughout Spain.

*If your community has any management fee collection problems, wherever you may be situated, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0044 205 514 019, direct to Greg Bryan our representative in Spain on 0034 689 408 412 or email gbryan@lplgroup.com.*





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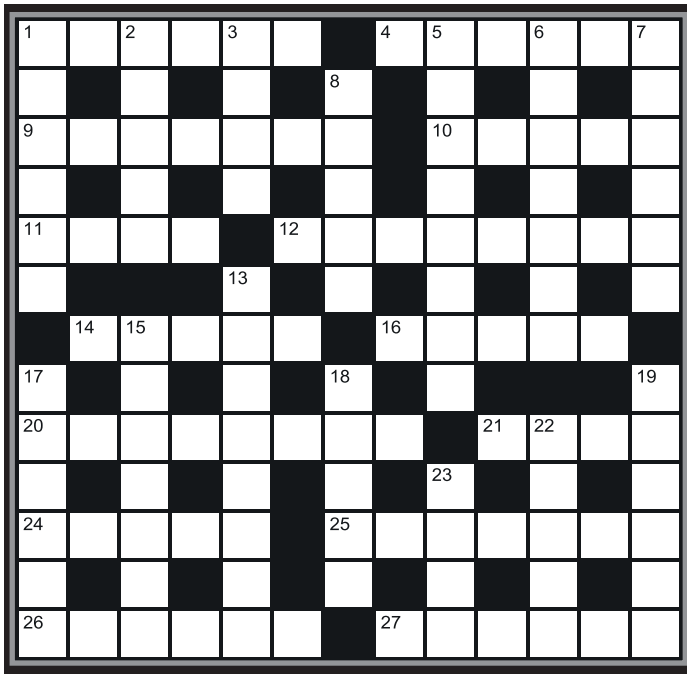


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Cryptic

Across

- 1 A model you can't miss (6)
- 4 Expel shoplifter finally discovered in store (6)
- 9 Trains with a different skilled worker (7)
- 10 Explicit about king in play (5)
- 11 Renown for Football Association and yours truly (4)
- 12 Leap made by old king around Fools' Day (8)
- 14 Exclusive portion of ice-cream? (5)
- 16 Some mix up about love for elk (5)
- 20 The Spanish notice changes of appointment (8)
- 21 Skilful Latin in Lincoln (4)
- 24 Prevent Ted returning to meet the Queen (5)
- 25 I get a pound after an argument about space (7)
- 26 Not as light as the remodelled red ark (6)
- 27 Customer with legal right to appear in court (6)



Down

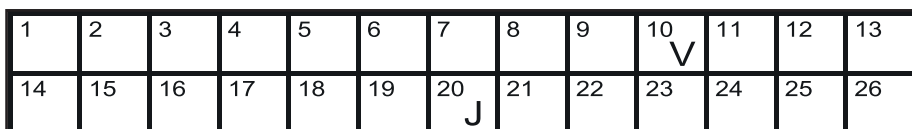
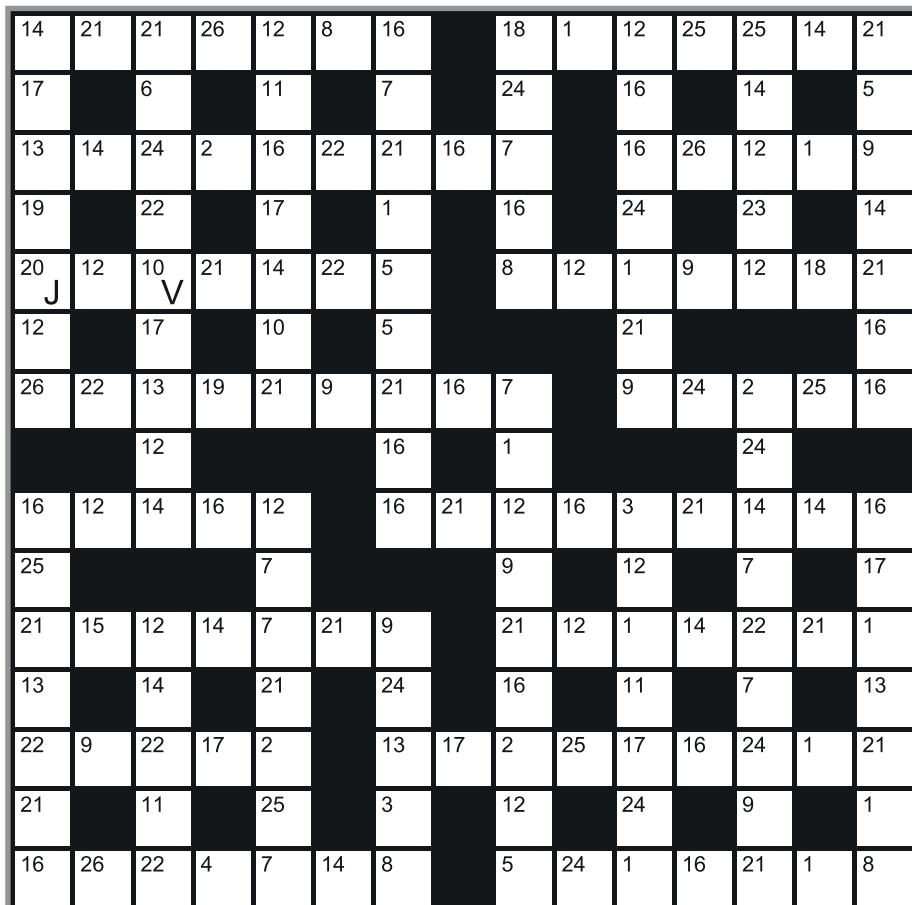
- 1 Stick with a Scottish island (6)
- 2 Add 'em up quickly to get a kind of pole (5)
- 3 Please, end with simplicity (4)
- 5 Get Oscar to change the French delicacy (8)
- 6 Plenty follow old church cats (7)

- 7 Jack has to fetch Mark (6)
- 8 Require sound massage (5)
- 13 Dreamy music is a night scene on canvas (8)
- 15 God involved a rector (7)
- 17 Repaired first of machines, then finished (6)

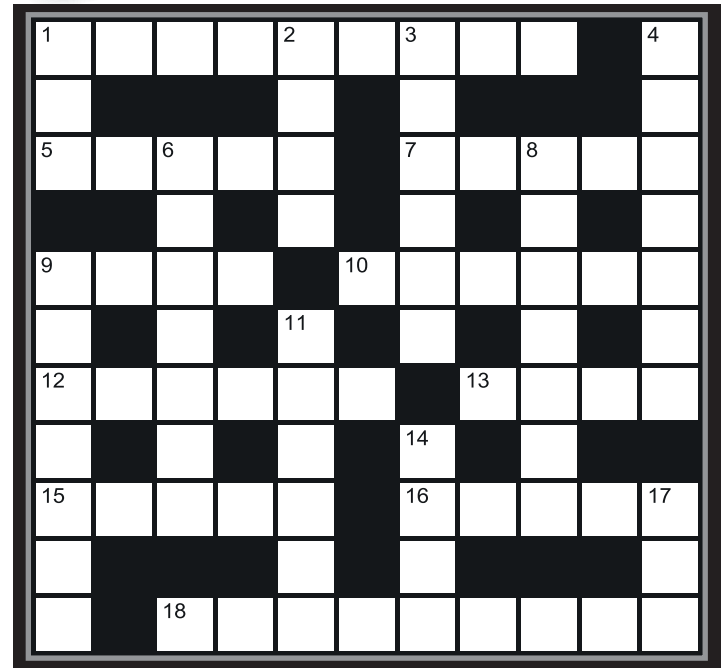
- 18 Police chase ends in the wood (5)
- 19 French water added to auction item, red wine (6)
- 22 Trees, we hear, that will cover billiard table (5)
- 23 Initially family approval is likely to go wrong (4)

Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 10 represents V and 20 represents J, so fill in V every time the figure 10 appears and J every time the figure 20 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

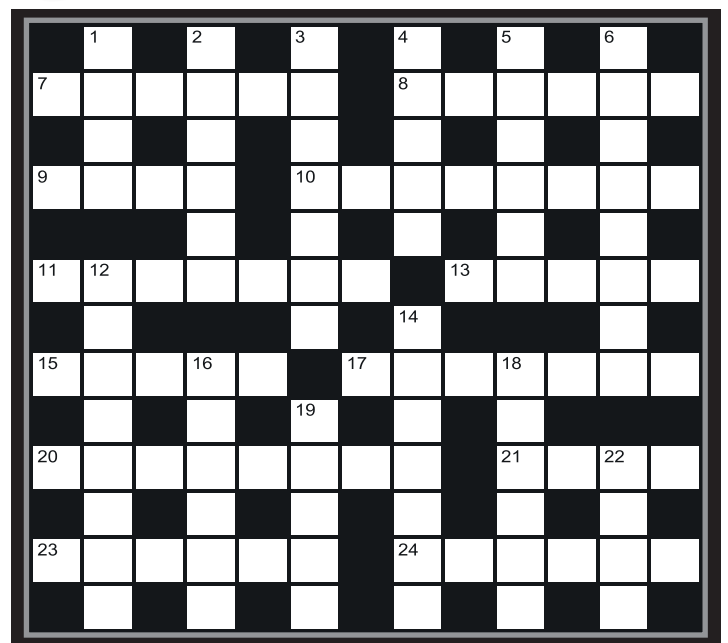
- 1 Failure to notice (9)
- 5 Thigh bone (5)
- 7 Private instructor (5)
- 9 Sound in mind (4)
- 10 Proceed slowly (6)
- 12 Address of a religious nature, usually during a church service (6)
- 13 Young horse (4)
- 15 Give out (5)
- 16 Malicious burning to destroy property (5)
- 18 Aroused to impatience or anger (9)

Down

- 1 See 17
- 2 Separate into lots or classes (4)
- 3 Rich cake (6)
- 4 Make right (7)
- 6 Inferior dog or one of mixed breed (7)
- 8 Tiresomely long (7)
- 9 Provide with nourishment (7)
- 11 Licensed medical practitioner (6)
- 14 Quick (4)
- 17/1 Fall asleep (3,3)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 7 Shoulder (anatomy) (6)
- 8 Kind (nice) (6)
- 9 Chiste (4)
- 10 Collar (joyería) (8)
- 11 Aquarium (7)
- 13 To believe (have faith) (5)
- 15 Fine (legal) (5)
- 17 Monstruo (7)
- 20 Dormitorio (8)
- 21 Kiss (4)
- 23 Flour (6)
- 24 Subibaja (6)

Down

- 1 Silly (person) (4)
- 2 Grandmother (6)
- 3 Uña de pie (7)
- 4 Partido (deporte) (5)
- 5 To dance (6)
- 6 Ojo morado (5,3)
- 12 Chops (culinary) (8)
- 14 Tener (poseer, disponer de) (7)
- 16 Nabo (6)
- 18 Envelopes (for letters) (6)
- 19 Real (de la realeza) (5)
- 22 Palmada (4)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THE WEATHER - HE'S ONE OF THOSE DIPLOMATS EXPELLED FROM RUSSIA!'

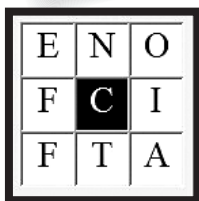
Kakuro

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



Nonagram

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



TARGET:

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

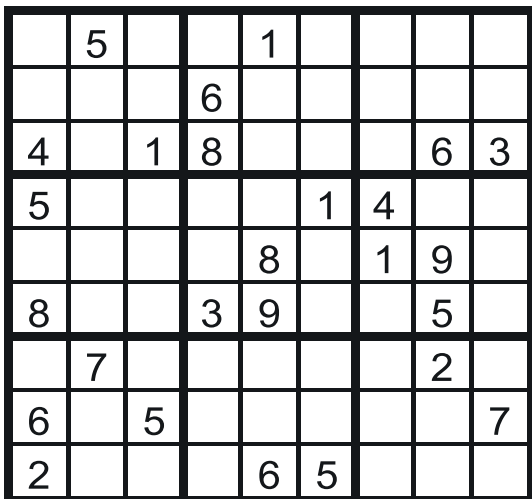
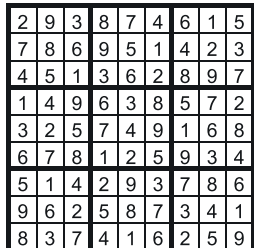
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

cere cert ever peer peri pert pier rete rice ripe rite rive tier tire tree trip veer vert citer creep crepe erie erect evert peter price recti reeve retie revet rivet terce trice tripe viper pierce privet recipe recite tierce receipt perceive RECEPTIVE

Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday March 31



IRISH LOTTO

Saturday March 31



EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday March 27



Friday March 30



EL MILLON: ZXL35128

LA PRIMITIVA

Thursday March 29



JOKER: 744 825

Saturday March 31



JOKER: 6 166 394

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday April 1



YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)

You are about to tackle some tough tests. Work and personal hurdles could preoccupy you, but after the weekend you'll be able to sort out the ice from the cream. No matter how awkward things seem on Monday or Wednesday, trust your ability to wait for the right moment, rather than risk spoiling your plans.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

Feisty Mars and the fiery Sun are warring with changeable Pluto, so avoid any tearaway temptations on Thursday or Friday. You could be emotionally vulnerable, or even lulled into a false sense of security. However confusing the planets may seem, even out the odds as best you can by ensuring your worries take second place.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

Hassles and battles are on the cards. If things don't happen as fast as you'd expected, or domestic and workaday blips assail your patience, transform them into an opportunity to show your special qualities. Potent planetary influences urge you to look, listen, learn and refuse to allow petty stumbling blocks to undermine your confidence on Tuesday and Thursday.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

Astrologically, it's not unreasonable to assume that when sparky Mars and the zesty Sun conflict with restless Pluto, life could become a tad frustrating. You might find it hard to tolerate hypocrisy and setbacks, but fortunately, it's all just a passing cloud. Regardless of any lack of continuity, concentrate on keeping going and prepare for next week's brighter outlook.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Punchy Mars and the heady Sun are set for a scramble with touchy Pluto. You've been there before, so despite any administrative bumps, gossipy whirls or curious rejections, don't be too sensitive. Add up what you've achieved, subtract your fears and keep your emotions under control.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Upfront Mars and the upbeat Sun will be at loggerheads with powerful Pluto. You might not appreciate some of Friday or

Saturday's antics, so be ready to use your charm, or perhaps your equally wicked sense of humour will do the trick.

LEO (July 24 - August 23)

This is an intense week, and if you get stuck with a particular issue, jumble your words, or just can't seem to do anything right, it might be worth finding out if the grass is greener on the other side.

LIBRA (August 24 - September 23)

Quirky planetary niggles will surface without warning. A variety of talks, news and last-minute changes surround your family members, friends or colleagues. No matter what affects your personal or occupational activities, stay focused, decide what your goals are and, just as importantly, find the easiest way to move forward without losing your healing sense of humour.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

Even the best-made plans can suddenly sink without a trace. Your dreams for a fresh start in one particular direction still need tender, cautious care, and you may equally need to be wary of overstepping the mark where money's concerned.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

You will need bucketloads of humour and understanding as impatient Mars and the sprightly Sun engage with touchy Pluto. Stay well clear if you want to escape potential power struggles.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

Storms in tea-cups need loads of sweet-talking. Of course, if you can't be bothered with it all, fair enough; keeping quiet could be the best way to deal with problems, glitches or sudden backfires. If you can't take a break, at least chill out with whatever or whoever brings you the greatest pleasure.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Sábado, 4 Espada, 9 Becerra, 10 Agree, 11 Otoño, 12 Esgrima, 13 Aerial, 15 Sphere, 18 Heating, 20 Ellas, 23 Muela, 24 Aliento, 25 Duster, 26 Hornet.

Down:

- 1 Sabio, 2 Bicho, 3 Derrota, 5 Slang, 6 Airline, 7 Average, 8 Baker, 13 Ashamed, 14 Readers, 16 Prefijo, 17 Igual, 19 Image, 21 Linen, 22 Short.

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Pledge, 4 Mousse, 9 Antonym, 10 Drill, 11 Stave, 12 Serious, 13 Feeble, 15 Status, 18 Scamper, 20 Basis, 23 Equip, 24 Preside, 25 Scenic, 26 Mullet.

Down:

- 1 Pears, 2 Extra, 3 Genteel, 5 Order, 6 Spin out, 7 Enlists, 8 Amuse, 13 Fosters, 14 Erasure, 16 Tableau, 17 Gripe, 19 Pepsi, 21 Skill, 22 Smelt.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Robust, 4 Gale, 8 Scare, 9 Shout, 10 Mouth organ, 13 Laboratory, 17 Crave, 18 Ruddy, 19 Shed, 20 Odious.

Down:

- 1 Rash, 2 Beano, 3/18 See red, 5 Among, 6 Extend, 7 Escort, 11 Tureen, 12 Slacks, 14 Brave, 15 Rodeo, 16 Eyes.

CODE BREAKER

1	F	Q	I	U	R	M	B	L	W	Y	X	O	K
14	J	D	N	V	Z	T	P	H	C	S	E	A	G

KAKURO



QUIZ: SLEEPY HEADS

- 1. Eric Coates' By the Sleepy Lagoon is the theme tune to which long-running BBC Radio 4 programme, which has been hosted by Kirsty Young since 2006?
- 2. First screened on Christmas Day 2003, Sleepless in Peckham was the title of the final episode of which popular BBC sitcom?
- 3. From which 1945 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical does the song When the Children Are Asleep come?
- 4. The American handed handed Leamas another cup of coffee and said, 'Why don't you go back and sleep? We can ring you if he shows up.' are the opening lines of which novel by John le Carré, first published in 1963?
- 5. The Sleeping Beauty, The Nutcracker and Swan Lake are all ballets written by which Russian composer?
- 6. The title character of which of William Shakespeare's plays speaks the line: "To sleep! perchance to dream; ay, there's the rub"?

- 7. The tropical disease commonly known as 'sleeping sickness' is caused by parasitic protozoans (trypanosomes) that are transmitted by the bite of which bloodsucking insect?
- 8. What was the name of the private detective played by actor Humphrey Bogart in the 1946 film version of Raymond Chandler's The Big Sleep?
- 9. Which 19th century American author wrote the short story The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, first published in 1820?
- 10. Which British pop group topped the UK singles charts in 1982 with The Lion Sleeps Tonight?

Not a lot of people know that... in general, exercising regularly makes it easier to fall asleep and contributes to sounder sleep. However, exercising sporadically or right before going to bed will make falling asleep more difficult.

Answers:

- 1. DESERT ISLAND DISCS. 2. ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES (there was another episode, but it was only a Spot Relief special in March 2014).
- 3. CAROUSEL. 4. THE SPY WHO CAME IN FROM THE COLD. 5. PYOTR ILYCH TCHAIKOVSKY. 6. HAMLET - it is part of his To be or not to be speech. 7. TSETSE FLY. 8. PHILIP MARLOWE. 9. WASHINGTON IRVING. 10. TIGHTFIT.

## A brief introduction and an Italian classic

By Andy Harding  
columnists@euroweeklynews.com

THIS is what I hope will be the first of many cookery columns I will be writing for the Euro Weekly News.

The name of this column will I hope, explain the ethos behind my cooking. Simply put, you are what you eat. I cook with pure ingredients, I know what goes into my food, there is nothing hidden or harmful, and as a result my family and I enjoy good health.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. You already know my name, so let me tell you the rest. I am a retired dentist and have lived in Marbella for three years, prior to that we had a holiday home here since 2006. I have three grown up children, who, with my wife, live in Newcastle upon Tyne. When I started university I couldn't cook, but one night 39 years ago I decided to impress a new girlfriend (who hated cooking) by doing something I had never done before; cook a meal from basic ingredients. She must have been impressed, a year later we were engaged! I have cooked for her and our family ever since.

I hope you enjoy this column and all comments good or bad are welcome.

Happy Reading!

## Recipe of the week: Spaghetti Bolognese

Eat Well  
to Live Well



1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 medium onion, chopped  
30 grams bacon, chopped  
200 grams beef, minced  
2 whole garlic cloves (add more if you want to), chopped  
250 millilitres red wine  
1/2 teaspoon celery salt  
2 teaspoons dried mixed Italian herbs  
2 whole bay leaves, whole  
1 tin chopped tomatoes  
1 tablespoon tomato paste  
1 whole beef stock cube, crumbled  
125 grams mushrooms, sliced  
Black peppercorns (ground), to taste  
1 litre water, boiling  
2 teaspoons salt  
180 grams dried spaghetti  
2 teaspoons olive oil  
60 grams parmesan cheese, grated

**Servings: 2**

**Preparation Time: 15 minutes**

**Start to finish: 1 hour 30 minutes**

In a suitably sized saucepan gently sauté the onion and bacon in olive oil, add garlic and continue to sauté continually stirring until the garlic has taken on a golden hue. Add the



**SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE: Serve with freshly grated parmesan cheese.**

minced beef and stir until browned. 2/3 hob heat is the hottest required for the sauce, any higher and it will burn.

Add the red wine and simmer until the smell of alcohol has disappeared and it has reduced by about 1/2.

Add the herbs, tinned tomatoes, tomato paste and the beef stock cube continually stirring, turn the heat to 1/3 for 45 minutes. If the pan has a lid, just leave it on, if not occasionally top up with water. The sauce needs to have a similar consistency to a bowl of old fashioned rice pudding.

Add mushrooms and stir, bring back to a

light simmer for 10 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Discard the bay leaves.

At the same time, add a teaspoon of salt and two teaspoons of olive oil to a pan of boiling water on the highest hob setting, add spaghetti.

Cook until it is slightly al dente with a slight resistance when biting, drain in a colander. The Bolognese sauce should be ready at the same time.

Serve on a pre-warmed plate with freshly grated parmesan cheese.

**Serving Ideas: Slices of garlic bread.**

**Suggested Wine: A full bodied Red, Italian or Spanish.**

*Weekly tip Use Extra Virgin Olive Oil, it does cost more, but it has a better flavour and consistency, so less can be used.*

# No-show diners take big bite out of restaurants' piece of the pie

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)

NO-SHOWS, the curse of many UK restaurants, are now so commonplace that some name and shame them online like local papers once did to paedophiles.

Over one single weekend a Peterborough restaurant lost £3,000, while over a month an Edinburgh chef had 450 no-shows and cancellations. Apparently, people book several restaurants, making a final choice on the night.

Perhaps it's all down to impersonal online booking systems making it too easy to 'ghost' without blame?

Similarly, no-shows for

house viewings with estate agents are also common across the industry. Sadly, this is how many people behave these days and actually think it's OK.

Maybe one solution for restaurants is non-refundable deposits - or like an increasing number of restaurants especially in hipster Hackney, decline all bookings and simply open the doors? And if it gets full, just turn 'em away.

No shows at restaurants are bad enough, but in the NHS, they come at a huge cost - last year alone they cost the NHS £1 billion - and take away appointments from those really in need.

As for 'ghost' appointments, I know of someone who regularly books a GP's appointment a month in advance, then if she doesn't need it, simply cancels. Which is one way



**GOES ON AND ON: Empty chairs at empty tables.**

round the problem of not being able to get an appointment, I suppose - and sums up today's '#me, me, me' culture.

While a no-bookings system

clearly wouldn't work in today's NHS, it's not unknown.

One GP's surgery, I read about decades ago, had benches. You arrived, took your seat

and slid along onto the bench in front as patients were seen, until you were next in line.

Finally, heard about the waiter fired for rudeness in

Canada claiming he was 'just being French'? But rudeness is hardly a uniquely French trait, is it? Many European countries, umm, serve up something similar.

Perhaps he should be 'time-travelled' back across the pond to Torquay, and have a stint at that bastion of politeness, Fawlty Towers. Question is: would he get his just desserts there from Basil?

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

All profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity.

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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

Letters should be emailed to [yoursay@euroweeklynews.com](mailto:yoursay@euroweeklynews.com) or make your comments on our website: [www.euroweeklynews.com](http://www.euroweeklynews.com)

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.

## The yolk's on us says sharp eyed reader

RELUCTANT as I am to suggest that there is egg on Leapy's face, BUT 'the yolk's on him'!

Please would someone kindly tell him (or the beleaguered proof reader) that yolk is 'the yellow part of an egg that nourishes the young before it hatches'?

Methinks he means yoke, 'a wooden crosspiece fastened over the necks of two oxen and attached to a plough or wagon,' ie a symbol of oppression.

However, 'the yolk of fascism' does conjure up surreal images - in the style of Monty Python - of a bizarre episode of Celebrity Master Chef, with Mussolini et al, competing in a pancake tossing competition.

I could go on but I do not want to over egg the pudding!

A sad typo loving person who really should get out more...

Rae McLucas, Cabopino

### Brexit is final live with it

DAVID WORBOYS says in his letter (*Issue 1707*) 'what we all know is that a majority in the UK now favour Remain.' He sounds very sure of this, so perhaps he could tell us where he gets his information.

Only last Friday the result of a substantial poll by BMG Research showed that 57 per cent agreed with the following statement 'The government should get on with implementing the result of the refer-



Credit: David Davis Twitter

**BREXIT: Theresa May and David Davis getting on with it.**

endum to take Britain out of the EU.' Only 22 per cent disagreed

with this statement.

Jenna Baker, Arroyo Cauche

### Very cross

THE letter published in the 1708 edition from Edmund Taylor has made mine

and everyone else's blood boil.

You sir are an ignorant pompous man.

Animals cannot help themselves. Humanity can, but chooses not to. They

would rather take their frustration out on defenceless animals or eat them.

You had better hope I never meet you or it will be one injection time for you.

Trisha, Almeria

### Water resource

WE have had a lot of recent rainfall so the water levels in reservoirs, rivers and such are not too bad but come early

May to early October, we have hardly any rain and they again become depleted, and this is a time when farming and tourism (and evaporation) uses most of the water.

Is it not time to build some desalination plants around the coast so we do not have to keep our eyes on falling stocks of water every summer? It is in and near coastal areas that a greater part of the population lives, so the fresh water would be where it is needed.

Michael Hill, Torre del Mar

### Gimme shelter

THROUGH the column of your esteemed newspaper I would like to draw attention to the concerned authorities that there is need of a bus shelter and bench for tourists at C/Gerona in front of Hotel sol Pelconos Benidorm.

The spot has been identified and functional for tourists in Benidorm. The tourist bus arrives every one hour and 15 minutes for a tour of Benidorm.

The said bus stop without bench and shed has and is causing lot of inconvenience to adults/old age people, mostly tourists.

Furhat Subla, Benidorm

### 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).

## Airports to reduce price of water

Nice to see someone is doing something about the ridiculous price of water in airports. Let's hope other countries follow, especially France where a 50cc bottle will cost you 3.65€ unless you can reach to the top shelf of the self serves and get the 'discounted' water at 2.50€ at CDG. The airport does have the odd drinking fountain where you could fill an empty bottle, but how many people carry an empty bottle!

Saya Sendiri

Give us water fountains then we can fill them before we board. Simple.

Elizabeth Bennett

In Dublin airport it is piled high in the corridor just past security with an honesty box for €1 beside it. I've watched and never seen anyone take them for free.

Jackie Fitzgerald

Hopefully airports in England will also do the same as I don't think it's exclusive to Spain.

Mark Rainey

### 'Drunk' Brit held after stealing lorry

Luckily the VAST MAJORITY of us are decent people who

### Comments from EWN online

just want to enjoy this lovely country. This man has NOTHING to do with me!

Anne Whitfield

Thank goodness he didn't kill anyone. I hope he gets charged.

Ann Rudkin

Lucky it was a car he drove into and not people. Should lock him up and throw away the key.

Coral Simpson Tasker

### Cyclists - know the law in Spain

Maybe cyclists using the public roads should be made to take a test as I've never seen one that adheres to rules. Or make it simple and introduce a few classes in schools at the age of 16 (as I wouldn't let anyone under that age ride a bike on the road).

Jennifer Knowles

I ride a bike regularly on the roads here and I see motorists breaking the law especially using mobiles and have no respect for the laws about passing cyclists. I too drive a car and a motorbike and adhere to the laws.

Peter Anthony Boland

They ride all over the road, cycle across the crossings, pull out and never stop at crossings. One just missed my husband down by the beach front.

Christine Thomas

### One dead in bull-running festival

Stupid tradition and what is probably worse is that the bull is killed afterwards! Sorry for family, but do wish they stopped this.

Sian Foster

It's time to stop these stupid events. People are dying because they are too drunk even to walk.

Fran Ramirez

It may be a tradition set up many moons ago, but in this day and age when I feel strongly against cruelty to animals there is no place for this particular tradition or bull fighting.

Gillian Evans

### Vexogram

MY wife Christine and I were Page 1 Pinups on *Issue 1355* in 2011. The headline was 'Pickpocket trickster ruins couple's day.'

We were in Spain recently for one of our regular visits to our holiday home near Vera, when your *Issue 1705* took a leaf out of that pickpocket's leaf and also ruined my day! I noticed that the Hexogram puzzle had disappeared from your puzzle page and it's not returned!

Please bring it back! I'll be over again in late May for a few weeks and will look for it! Please don't let me and many other readers down... bring it back and leave it back!

Rex Martin, Vera

**Editor's note**

**Rex, thank you for your observation. Unfortunately, the size of any free paper is dictated by the number of adverts received which means that some weeks editions are thicker than others. This therefore means that the puzzles section can be either two or four pages. When four pages, there is a Hexogram puzzle and when two it is dropped.**

# LEGALLY SPEAKING

## New speed radars approved for use

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



Photo credit: Guardia Civil

**BRAKING THE LAW: A Velolaser in situ and (inset) a close-up of the new device.**

THE DGT has taken delivery of around 60 new portable speed detecting units, Velolaser, which have undergone extensive testing around the country. These devices have now been approved for use and can enter service protecting the country's roads.

The Director General of Traffic, Gregorio Serrano, announced the certification just in time for one of the most intense road planning periods, the Easter holiday.

Small enough to fit in the panniers of a motorcycle, the units can be set up in seconds, either on a tripod, a vehicle mount, or on roadside features such as crash barriers. It should be noted, despite many speculative reports to the contrary, these devices are not mounted on the motorbikes but are carried to locations where they are set up on tripods or similar mounts.

The device manufacturers say that the units obtain the best results in sensitive urban areas (zone 30, schools, parks, children's areas, etc), and thanks to their versatility they can work using vehicles available at any time, in any area,

including those places otherwise inaccessible, and, most importantly, in a minimum time.

The simple, ingenious and innovative solution provides a new way to control speed in a wide variety of situations, on both urban and interurban roads. The devices can monitor vehicles at speeds of up to 250 kilometres per hour, covering two lanes, monitoring both directions of travel, and can distinguish between different types of vehicles, knowing the difference between a car and a lorry, for example.

The units can connect over 3G or 4G telephony, or via WiFi, providing simultaneous monitoring of several devices at the same time, recording information on internal or external storage.

As well as monitoring speed, the devices are clever enough to calculate safety distances, and can operate both day and at night.

They are designed and manufactured in Spain, and come in a range of colours, although the units delivered to the DGT carry the distinctive colours and labelling of the Guardia Civil.

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

## Was the election legal?

**Q.** We have just had our Community AGM. When it came time to elect a president, two committee members put themselves forward. Neither was formally proposed and seconded. Is this a necessary step

for the AGM? The successful candidate is a local builder and is currently tendering for work in the community. Is there 'conflict of interest' in Spain? If so, what is the solution?

S H (Costa Blanca)

**A.** The short answer is that you have a number of irregularities here, but nothing that invalidates the election of the president. It is not necessary for a candidate for president to be nominated in advance, although this would be the proper procedure.

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



Yes, the concept of 'conflict of interest' exists in Spain, and it certainly seems to exist in your example. However, if the

majority of the community voters accept the situation and elect the builder as president, there is no legal reason to challenge the vote. If it later comes to light that the builder-president awards himself the contract and charges twice the going rate, then you would have a case.

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 think it's a liberty!

**Mike Senker**  
In my opinion



Views of a Grumpy Old Man

I WAS having a chat with a friend of mine and we were discussing bank charges here and I was moaning about charges that appear now and again. It's nothing monstrous but just like, in my case, I hadn't spent enough on my debit card over three months so they 'fined' me.

My friend then proceeded to tell me a horror story and asked my advice. I'm now going to tell you and I hope someone out there can let me know if this is common practice. I can't tell you the name of the bank but here's the story.

He was selling his house to buy a flat - all very simple, no mortgages involved, just straightforward payments in and out. He paid a deposit on the flat of €19,500 and the bank charged him €78 for that which is 0.4 per cent.

He then paid €379,637.82 into to the bank, a bank he has, by the way, been with for 17 years. They charged him €759.35 for paying the money IN to his own account. They then charged another €300 for him to pay €217,646.38 for his new place then another €150 for paying €37k to his lawyer. So, all in all, for making three payments and paying some money in they charged him just under

€1,288. Why? What we don't understand is the charge for paying the money in to your own account - it's horrendous. The charge for the bank transfers are also too high but I appreciate there must be some charge.

When my friend queried these charges the bank refunded €300 but said 'you should have discussed it beforehand.' I think it's a liberty. Has anyone else come across this? He was told, off the record, because interest rates are so low, the banks are instructed to get money off customers any way they can which sounds like when I used to work the markets years ago.

This then brought me on to the subject of cancelling stuff here. Some time ago I got a reminder that my house insurance was due next month - with the same bank as it happens. So I looked around to make sure I was getting the best deal and guess what - I wasn't. We decided to cancel and go with a new company.

The bank then informed us that we can't do that as we have to give three months' notice to cancel the policy! What a joke! When I asked why all I got was the usual 'it's in the terms and conditions, page 105, sub section 96, blah blah.' Anyway we cancelled it and told them to sue us if they want to. We were even told we could get blacklisted. Nothing ever happened and we are now with a new company.

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

Email me your similar experiences: [mike.senker@gmail.com](mailto:mike.senker@gmail.com).



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**THURSDAY - 5 APRIL**

**FRIDAY - 6 APRIL**

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
3:30am Commonwealth Games 2018	4:20am BBC News	4:55am This is BBC Four	7:45am 3rd Rock from the Sun	9:20am Floggals
7:00am Breakfast	7:00am Commonwealth Games 2018	8:00pm Beyond 100	8:10am 3rd Rock from the Sun	9:35am Digby Dragon
10:15am Commonwealth Games 2018	10:15am Oxford Street Revealed	8:30pm Top of the Pops	8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:55am Rusty Rivets
2:00pm BBC News at One	11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	9:00pm Commonwealth Games Extra	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	10:05am Mofy
2:30pm BBC London News	12:00pm Street Auction	10:00pm Putin, Russia and the West	9:30am Frasier	10:15am The Wright Stuff
2:45pm Moving On	12:45pm Claimed and Shamed	11:00pm Inside Porton	10:00am Frasier	12:15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
3:30pm Escape to the Continent	1:15pm Bargain Hunt	Down: Britain's Secret Weapons	10:35am Frasier	1:10pm 5 News
4:30pm Money for Nothing	2:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018	Research Facility	11:05am Ramsay's Hotel Hell	1:15pm Lunchtime
5:15pm Flog It!	6:15pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	12:00am Timewatch	12:00pm The Simpsons	1:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	1:00am Al Murray's Great British Spy Movies	12:30pm The Simpsons	2:15pm Home and Away
7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:30pm Today at the Games	2:00am Top of the Pops	1:00pm Channel 4 News	2:45pm Neighbours
7:30pm BBC London News	9:00pm Big Cats	<i>Peter Powell and Dixie Peach present the pop chart</i>	1:05pm Come Dine with Me	3:20pm NCIS
8:00pm The One Show	10:00pm Civilisations	<i>programme, first broadcast on 15 August 1985.</i>	2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers	4:20pm Concrete
8:30pm EastEnders	11:00pm Match of the Day		3:10pm Countdown	Evidence: A Fixer Upper Mystery
9:00pm MasterChef	11:30pm Newsnight		4:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	6:00pm 5 News at 5
10:00pm Not Going Out	12:15am Top Gear		5:00pm A New Life in the Sun	6:30pm Neighbours
10:30pm Still Game	1:20am MasterChef		6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away
11:00pm BBC News at Ten	1:50am Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby		6:30pm Star Boot Sale	7:30pm 5 News Tonight
11:30pm BBC London News	2:50am Back in Time for Tea		7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm The Yorkshire Vet Casebook
11:45pm Unsolved	3:50am Weather for the Week Ahead		7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords
12:45am Close Calls: On Camera	3:55am BBC News		8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
1:15am Commonwealth Games 2018			9:00pm Location, Location, Location	11:00pm Undercover: Nailing the Fraudsters
4:30am Commonwealth Games 2018			10:00pm Indian Summer School	
			11:00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody	
			12:05am First Dates	

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
7:00am Breakfast	7:00am Commonwealth Games 2018	8:00pm World News Today	8:10am 3rd Rock from the Sun	9:05am Paw Patrol
10:15am Commonwealth Games 2018	10:15am Oxford Street Revealed	<i>The latest national and international news, exploring the day's events from a global perspective</i>	8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:20am Floggals
2:00pm BBC News at One	11:00am Homes Under the Hammer		9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	9:35am Digby Dragon
2:30pm BBC London News	12:00pm Street Auction		9:30am Frasier	9:55am Rusty Rivets
2:45pm Moving On	12:45pm Claimed and Shamed		10:00am Frasier	10:05am Mofy
3:30pm Escape to the Continent	1:15pm Bargain Hunt	8:30pm BBC Young Musician 2018	10:30am Frasier	10:15am The Wright Stuff
4:30pm Money for Nothing	2:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018		11:00am Ramsay's Hotel Hell	12:15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
5:15pm Flog It!	6:15pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	10:00pm Forever Young: How Rock 'N' Roll Grew Up	11:50am The Simpsons	1:10pm 5 News
6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm BBC News at Six	11:00pm Billy Fury: The Sound of Fury	12:20pm The Simpsons	1:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors
7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:30pm BBC London News	<i>Documentary which recounts the story of Billy Fury and the birth of British popular music.</i>	12:55pm Formula 1	2:15pm Home and Away
8:00pm The One Show	8:30pm Sounds Like Friday Night		4:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	2:45pm Neighbours
8:30pm EastEnders	9:00pm Room 101	10:00pm The City and the City	5:00pm A New Life in the Sun	3:15pm NCIS
9:00pm MasterChef	10:00pm MasterChef	11:00pm Episodes	6:00pm Four in a Bed	4:15pm A Father's Guilty Secret
9:30pm Not Going Out	10:30pm Have I Got News for You	11:30pm Newsnight	6:30pm Star Boot Sale	6:00pm 5 News at 5
10:00pm Still Game	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	12:05am Front Row	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours
11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:25pm BBC London News	12:35am The Assassination of Gianni Versace - American Crime Story	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away
11:30pm BBC London News	11:35pm The Graham Norton Show		8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm Channel 4 News
11:45pm Unsolved	12:25am Today at the Games	1:25am Rehab: Addicted Lives	9:00pm Location, Location, Location	8:00pm I Don't Like Mondays
12:45am Close Calls: On Camera	12:55am Commonwealth Games 2018	2:45am Civilisations	10:00pm Indian Summer School	8:00pm Rob Beckett's Mondays
1:15am Commonwealth Games 2018	5:00am Commonwealth Games 2018		11:00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody	10:00pm Gogglebox
			12:05am First Dates	11:00pm Lee and Dean
				11:35pm 8 Out of 10 Cats
				12:20am Rob Beckett's Mondays
				1:30am Jools Holland
				2:30am Forever Young: How Rock 'N' Roll Grew Up
				3:30am Billy Fury: The Sound of Fury
				4:55am This is BBC Four

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





**TV COUCH CRITIC**

by Adam Whalley-Lewis

FANS of *Saturday Night Take Away*, *Saturday ITV* might have wondered how the show would feel with Dec flying solo for the final programmes. The show is after all Ant & Dec's Take Away and we all know that the Two Ronnies wouldn't have been the same with just one pair of enormous black rimmed glasses.

So, the big question was something like 'will Dec cope without Ant'? Answer, Yes. There were the predictable mutterings in some of the Sunday newspapers about Dec's body language showing he was nervous and him speaking more quickly than usual, but I didn't notice any problems. Of course there was an Ant-shaped gap for most of the show, but it lost none of the energy and bounce fans tune in for.

The penultimate show was packed with a gaggle of stars including Davina McCall and Paloma Faith and didn't Paloma look stunning in red leather? The 'This Time Next Year' segment featured Davina wearing enormous white boots, rather than shoes and a lovely Mum who was poorly on Mother's Day weekend so was surprised by her children last Saturday.

Her son Paul sang with the Jersey Boys, daughter Katie conquered her fear of flying

# A take away on Saturday evening, a fondue set and a cuddly toy



Photo credit: YouTube

**JOB WELL DONE: Dec flies solo for the first time.**

with some therapy and a packet of hob-nobs (who knew?) and second son Craig sat so far away from Davina on the sofa I think they must have had competing aftershave and perfume on - clearly someone was worried about them getting too close. Oh and Craig introduced Mum's half-sister who nobody had seen for 30 years.

Cilla would have been proud. The final Take

Away of the current run is on ITV on April 7.

In TV news this week, Ben Fogle claims he was sacked from *Countryfile* because he sounded too posh. Well, the sacking was in 2009 and I don't think him sounding too posh was the real issue, do you? The Island with that Bear bloke is back and social media went into meltdown when the contestants were split into two groups according to their income.

The 'rich' team didn't want to engage with the 'not so rich' team - I didn't want to engage with any of them to be honest. Picture you knowing you are on a TV show, on an island and your outfit of choice is a black bikini top under a wet, white t-shirt and you are half way there. Oh, and the *Have I Got News for You* team are ramping up for yet another series of this never-ending show by claiming female politicians are not robust enough to host the show. Bull, red rag, you do the maths.

Another duo in the form of Mel and Sue have brought *The Generation Game* back to *BBC1* on Sunday evenings, albeit for a very short run. I'm not sure what some people were expecting, but a show born and raised in the 1970's was always going to look just a little bit naff in 2018 and rely on some canned laughter. We still have the conveyor belt of prizes and if you are old enough to remember Sir Bruce and the cuddly toy, you probably weren't disappointed.

Finally this week, BBC TV is covering the 21st Commonwealth Games until April 15. If the opening ceremony was anything to go by, we are in for a sporting treat. *Happy viewing.*

# Astrology: get ready, set, go!

**Sally Trotman**

www.sallytrotman.com

*Sally Trotman is a qualified Counsellor who works with Astrology, Numerology and the Tarot. Each month she will deliver the forecast as an intuitive tool to aid increased self awareness.*



**SUN in Aries:** The fiery influence of this sign throughout most of April helps you to feel motivated and inspired to reach your goals.

Be confident and bold in your approach. As Aries is the first sign of the zodiac, consider where you need to take the lead this month. Take the initiative in love, work and socially to feel confident and positive about yourself!

On April 20 the sun moves into the more earthy and steady sign of Taurus. Later in the month use this energy to make practical plans to ensure your vision stands the test of time.

**Get in tune with the moon:**

The new moon in Aries on the 16th of the month will help you to plant the seeds for your vision. Now is the perfect time to create a vision board



(pictures

from newspapers and magazines of your dreams to a cork board) and seize opportunities that present themselves to help you create your desires. Aries is a sociable sign, so make fun a priority!

Say yes to parties, lunches and

**ARIES: The first sign of the zodiac.**

weekends away. At the end of the month the full moon in psychic Scorpio will help you to discern what is working for you and what needs to change in your life.

This sign of rebirth can be intense and transformative, so prepare to make changes in any area of your life which may have become a little stagnant. Graciously release the old and become open to embracing the new.

**Numerology: go with the flow**

Number 4: This number brings your attention to the structure of your life, your daily routines and home. Is there anything you would like to change in these areas?

This would also be a good time to add something new into your routine, perhaps taking up a new hobby, making your fitness regime more of a priority or improving your home.

Is your daily routine serving you or do you need to make some simple changes, such as getting more rest or drinking more water? Take some time this month to make lifestyle changes which will help you to feel happier and healthier.

**The Emperor: assert yourself**

The Emperor is represented in the tarot deck as a mature man in charge of his destiny. He represents power and authority, whilst assuring protection and security. He also reminds

you to balance your head with your heart.

Listen to your inner voice this month and blend this with practical action to help you reach your goals more quickly and easily.

Who are the influential males in your life? Consider who is an important role model to aspire to, and become the very best version of yourself.

*Repeat this affirmation throughout the month to help you: I am clear, confident and calm in my approach to life.*

**Your 2018 forecast**

Astrology, Numerology and the Tarot are ancient tools of divination which aid self-awareness. By looking at the unique numbers and planets in your date of birth, I will intuitively guide you to become clearer, calmer and more confident about your direction for the year ahead.

I offer consultations by Skype, Facetime, WhatsApp video and email. Sessions cost £30 for 30 minutes, £40 for 45 minutes or £50 for an hour. Contact me at [sally.trotman@btinternet.com](mailto:sally.trotman@btinternet.com) to book in and visit [www.sallytrotman.com](http://www.sallytrotman.com) for more information.

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SATURDAY - 7 APRIL

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

7:00am Breakfast	4:35am BBC News	8:00pm Insect Worlds	7:15am Mobil 1	7:00am Milkshake!
11:00am Commonwealth Games 2018	7:00am Commonwealth Games 2018	8:30pm Commonwealth Games Extra	The Grid.	11:00am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
1:00pm Football Focus	11:00am Robot Wars	10:00pm Below the Surface	7:45am Motorsport	11:35am The Gadget Show
2:00pm BBC News	12:00pm Homes Under the Hammer	10:45pm Below the Surface	8:40am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:30pm Traffic Cops
2:10pm Weather	3:45pm Property experts visit three properties before they go up for auction.	11:30pm Top of the Pops	9:05am Everybody Loves Raymond	1:30pm Traffic Cops
2:15pm Golf	1:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018	11:30pm Mike Read and Steve Wright present the pop chart programme, first broadcast on 23 May 1985.	9:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	2:30pm Aviva Live Premiership Rugby: Bath v Leicester
3:15pm Commonwealth Games 2018	3:15pm MasterChef	12:00am Boy George and Culture Club: Karma to Calamity	10:05am Frasier	5:15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
5:30pm Final Score	3:45pm MasterChef	1:00am Young Guns Go For It	10:35am Frasier	6:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
6:15pm A Question of Sport	4:45pm Escape to the Country	1:00am Documentary series examining the music and the musical icons of the 80s	11:05am Frasier	7:05pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
6:45pm Doodlebugs	5:15pm Money for Nothing	1:30am The Man Who Brought the Blues to Britain: Big Bill Broonzy	11:35am The Big Bang Theory	8:00pm The Secret Life of Owls
7:00pm Ready or Not	6:00pm Big Cats About the House	2:30am John Williams at the BBC	12:05pm The Big Bang Theory	9:00pm Everest: World's Greatest Mountain
7:30pm BBC News	8:30pm Golf	3:30am Trad Jazz Britannia	1:00pm The Simpsons	9:55pm 5 News
7:40pm Regional News	1:00am Having You		2:00pm F1: Grand Prix Practice 3 Live	10:00pm Football on 5
7:45pm Weather	2:30am Civilisations		3:35pm F1: Grand Prix Qualifying Live	11:00pm Football on 5 Goal Rush.
7:50pm Pointless	3:30am Weather for the Week Ahead		6:45pm Channel 4 News	11:30pm 20 Moments That Rocked the 90s
8:40pm Who Dares Wins	3:35pm BBC News		7:40pm Coastal Railways with Julie Walters	1:00am Super Casino
9:20pm Casualty			8:00pm Britain's Most Historic Towns	4:10am The Other Guys
10:10pm Troy: Fall of a City			10:00pm Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter	5:55am Great Scientists
11:10pm BBC News			2:30am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	
11:25pm Weather				
11:30pm Match of the Day				
12:55am Commonwealth Games 2018				
5:00am Commonwealth Games 2018				

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky sports main event

10:05am Adventure Time	6:50am ITV2 Nightscreen	5:35am Murder, She Wrote	8:30am BRDC Formula 3 Championship Highlights	7:00am Live Rugby 7s: Hong Kong
10:25am ITV News	7:00am Totally Bonkers	6:25am Judge Judy	9:30am British Superbike Highlights	8:40am Rugby Archive
10:30am Saturday Morning with James Martin	7:25am Emmerdale	6:50am ITV3 Nightscreen	10:30am ITV Racing: The Opening Show	8:50am Rugby Archive
12:25pm Who's Doing the Dishes?	10:10am Coronation Street	7:00am Judge Judy	11:30am The Big Fish Off	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
1:20pm The Harbour	12:55pm Ant and Dec's Saturday Night	7:20am Omnibus	12:30pm Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment	10:00am Masters Breakfast - Live
1:50pm ITV Lunchtime News	2:30pm Britain's Got Talent: Top 10	8:00am Omnibus	1:30pm FYI Daily	12:30pm Football Live Premier League
2:00pm Info not available	3:30pm LOL Moments You've Been Framed!	8:00am The second spin-off from the popular comedy television series	1:35pm Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment	1:30pm Football Live Premier League
2:30pm Change Your Tune	4:35pm The Smurfs	8:00am On the Buses	2:20pm Football's Greatest	1:35pm The Merseyside derby returns as Everton host Liverpool at Goodison Park in the Premier League.
3:30pm Britain's Brightest Family	5:35pm FYI Daily	8:00am This bold, bawdy and brash sitcom hit British screens in 1969.	2:30pm ITV Racing: Live from Kempton	4:15pm Gillette Soccer Saturday
4:00pm Tenable	5:40pm The Smurfs	9:00am Murder, She Wrote	5:00pm Red River	6:00pm Football
5:00pm Tipping Point	6:40pm Scrambled! Mr Bean	10:05am A Touch of Frost	6:05pm FYI Daily	6:30pm Football
6:00pm The Chase	7:40pm Scrambled! Mr Bean	12:00pm A Touch of Frost	6:10pm Red River	9:00pm Masters - Live
7:00pm ITV Evening News	8:30pm The Amazing Spider-Man 2	2:10pm Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind	7:40pm Live and Let Die	1:30am Football
7:15pm Regional News and Weather	9:30pm The Amazing Spider-Man 2	4:20pm Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind	8:45pm FYI Daily	3:35am Live Rugby 7s: Hong Kong
7:30pm You've Been Framed!	9:35pm The Amazing Spider-Man 2	6:00pm Midsomer Murders	10:05pm Live and Let Die	Day three of the HSBC World Rugby Sevens Series stage at the Hong Kong Stadium in Hong Kong.
8:00pm Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Take Away	11:10pm Celebrity Juice	8:00pm Midsomer Murders	11:10pm FYI Daily	
9:30pm The Voice UK - Live Final	12:00am Family Guy	10:00pm Midsomer Murders	11:15pm Lethal Weapon 2	
11:10pm ITV News		12:00pm Vera	12:25am The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford	
11:30pm Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows		2:00am Road to Avonlea		
		3:00am ITV3 Nightscreen		
		3:30am Teleshopping		

SUNDAY - 8 APRIL

BBC one BBC TWO BBC FOUR CHANNEL 4 CHANNEL 5

8:30am Match of the Day	7:00am Commonwealth Games 2018	8:00pm Only Connect	8:30am Everybody Loves Raymond	5:55am Great Scientists
10:00am The Andrew Marr Show	10:00am Commonwealth Games 2018	8:30pm University Challenge	9:00am Everybody Loves Raymond	6:20am Wildlife SOS
11:00am The Big Questions	12:00pm Saturday Kitchen	9:00pm Commonwealth Games Extra	9:25am Frasier	6:50am Access
12:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018	1:30pm MasterChef	10:00pm Folk Awards 2018	10:00am Frasier	7:00am Milkshake!
2:30pm BBC News	2:30pm MasterChef	11:00pm The Sky at Night	10:30am Sunday Brunch	10:45am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
2:40pm Weather for the Week Ahead	3:00pm The Secret Helpers	A look at the world of astronomy.	1:45pm The Simpsons	11:20am Football on 5
2:45pm Commonwealth Games 2018	4:00pm Emma	11:30pm Horizon	2:15pm The Simpsons	12:15pm Football on 5
5:30pm Songs of Praise	6:00pm Today at the Games	The story of how our solar system will be transformed by the ageing sun before coming to a spectacular end in about eight billion years.	2:45pm The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer	12:50pm Traffic Cops Oliver!
6:05pm Celebrity Mastermind	7:30pm Golf	12:30am Conversations	4:00pm F1: Grand Prix Live Build Up	4:40pm The Deep End of the Ocean
6:35pm BBC News	8:00pm Countryfile	1:30am When Wrestling Was Golden: Grapples, Grunts and Grannies	4:45pm F1: Grand Prix Live	6:50pm Marley and Me
6:50pm Regional News	9:00pm The Generation Game	2:30am Revolution and Romance: Masters of the 19th Century	7:20pm F1: Grand Prix Live Reaction	9:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
6:55pm Weather	10:00pm Ordeal by Innocence	3:55am Holby City	8:00pm Escape to the Chateau	9:55pm 5 News
7:00pm The Big Painting Challenge	11:00pm BBC News	4:55am Weather for the Week Ahead	9:00pm Jesus' Female Disciples: The New Evidence	10:00pm When Live News Goes Horribly Wrong
8:00pm Countryfile	11:20pm Regional News	5:00am BBC News	10:00pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	12:55am Football on 5: The Checkatrade Trophy
9:00pm The Secret Life of Owls	11:25pm Weather		11:05pm Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy	1:50am Britain's Greatest Bridges
9:55pm Everest: World's Greatest Mountain	11:30pm Match of the Day 2		12:00am Shubb Mangal Saavdhan	2:05am Super Casino
10:00pm Football on 5	12:30am Commonwealth Games 2018		4:15am KOTV Boxing Weekly	4:10am Resident Evil: Afterlife
11:00pm Football on 5	5:00am Commonwealth Games 2018			5:45am House Doctor

itv itv2 itv3 itv4 sky sports main event

9:30am Spy School	4:00am Teleshopping	7:25am Carry on at Your Convenience	7:00am Storage Wars	3:35am Live Rugby 7s: Hong Kong
10:05am Adventure Time	7:00am The Planet's Funniest Animals	9:05am Heartbeat	7:25am Storage Wars	7:00am Live Rugby 7s: Hong Kong
10:25am ITV News	7:15am Emmerdale	10:10am Heartbeat	8:25am Pawn Stars	10:00am Masters
10:30am Love Your Garden	9:55am Coronation Street Omnibus	11:10am Agatha Christie's Marple	8:55am Pawn Stars	10:00am Breakfast - Live
11:00am The Voice UK - Live Final	12:40pm The Voice UK - Live Final	Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind	9:20am Pawn Stars	1:00pm Goals on Sunday
12:40pm Info not available	2:30pm Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang	A Touch of Frost	9:50am Pawn Stars	2:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
1:40pm ITV Lunchtime News	3:30pm FYI Daily	5:00pm Vera	10:20am Pawn Stars	5:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
2:00pm Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Take Away	3:35pm Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang	7:00pm Lewis	10:45am Pawn Stars	Super Sunday
3:30pm Info not available	4:40pm Smurfs 2	Larry Grayson: Shut That Door	11:15am MSA British Touring Car Championship	Live Nissan Super Sunday
4:00pm Tenable	5:40pm FYI Daily	Larry Grayson was one of the biggest television stars of the 1970s and 1980s.	7:15pm Snooker v Darts Sports short film.	Chelsea meet West Ham
5:00pm You've Been Framed!	5:45pm Smurfs 2	An Audience with Victoria Wood	7:55pm The Big Fish Off	United at Stamford Bridge in the Premier League.
5:30pm ITV Evening News	6:45pm Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	11:00pm An Audience with Victoria Wood	8:55pm Mr. Bean	Bridge in the Premier League.
5:45pm Regional News and Weather	7:50pm FYI Daily	12:10am Carry on Dick	9:25pm Mr. Bean	8:00pm Masters - Live
6:00pm Tipping Point	7:55pm Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Inspector Morse	10:00pm An Audience with Billy Connolly	1:30am Steel Magnolia: Willett's 2016
7:00pm The Chase: Celebrity Special	9:00pm Spectre	3:55am Blue Murder	11:05pm Conan the Destroyer	Relive all of the drama with a look at Danny Willett's 2016 Masters win.
8:00pm Change Your Tune	10:00pm FYI Daily	5:10am Murder, She Wrote	12:10am Conan the Destroyer	2:00am Sky Sports News
9:00pm The Durrells	10:05pm Spectre	In the early 1900s a young rich girl is sent to live with relatives on Prince Edward Island.	1:15am Six Bullets	3:00am Sky Sports News
10:00pm The Good Karma Hospital	11:55pm Family Guy		2:15am FYI Daily	4:00am Sky Sports News
11:00pm ITV News	12:25am Family Guy		2:20am Six Bullets	
11:20pm Info not available	12:50am Family Guy		3:25am The Protectors	
1:15am 100 Year Old Diving School	1:20am Family Guy		3:55am ITV4 Nightscreen	
	1:50am American Dad!		4:00am Teleshopping	
	2:20am American Dad!			

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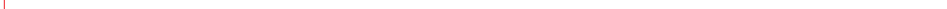
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MONDAY - 9 APRIL

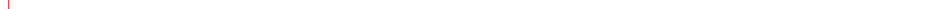
BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
2:00pm BBC News	12:00pm Britain's Home Truths	8:00pm Beyond 100 Days	2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers	1:10pm 5 News
2:30pm Regional News	12:45pm Dom on the Spot	8:30pm Nature's Microworlds	3:10pm Countdown	1:15pm The Gadget Show
2:45pm Doctors	1:15pm Bargain Hunt	9:00pm Commonwealth Games Extra	4:00pm A Place in the Sun	2:10pm Access
3:15pm 800 Words	2:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018	10:00pm Art Lovers Guide	5:00pm Escape to the Chateau: DIY	2:15pm Home and Away
4:00pm Escape to the Country	6:15pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	11:00pm David Hurn: A Life in Pictures	6:00pm Four in a Bed	2:45pm Neighbours
4:45pm Money for Nothing	7:00pm Eggheads	11:40pm Cinema Through the Eye of the Storm	6:30pm Star Boot Sale	3:15pm NCIS
5:30pm Flog It!	7:30pm Today at the Games	12:35am Dan Cruickshank: At Home with the British	7:00pm The Simpsons	4:15pm Newlywed and Dead
6:15pm Pointless	9:00pm Only Connect	1:35am Top of the Pops	7:30pm Hollyoaks	6:00pm 5 News
7:00pm BBC News	9:30pm University Challenge	2:10am Top of the Pops	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours
7:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Secret Agent	2:40am Nature's Microworlds	9:00pm Britain's Diesel	7:00pm Home and Away
8:00pm The One Show	11:00pm QI	3:10am Art Lovers Guide	9:00pm Scandal: Channel 4 Dispatches	7:30pm 5 News
8:30pm Fake Britain	11:30pm Newsnight		9:30pm Travel Man	8:00pm Aviva Premiership
9:00pm EastEnders	12:10am Weather		10:00pm The Island with Bear Grylls	8:00pm Rugby Highlights
9:30pm Panorama			11:00pm Kiss Me First	9:00pm Springtime on the Farm
10:00pm MasterChef			12:05am Indian Summer	10:00pm Paddington
11:00pm BBC News			1:05am Lee and Dean	10:00pm Station 24/7
11:30pm Regional News				11:00pm Police UK: Armed and Deadly
11:40pm Weather				



5:00pm Tipping Point	2:45pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show	8:55am The Royal Judge Judy	2:50pm Quincy, M.E.	9:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
6:00pm The Chase	3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	10:00am Inspector Morse	3:50pm Minder	10:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
7:00pm Regional News and Weather	5:50pm Judge Rinder	1:35pm The Royal Heartbeat	4:50pm The Saint	11:00am Premier League Daily
7:25pm Party Election Broadcast	6:50pm Take Me Out	3:40pm Coronation Street	5:55pm The Avengers	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm You've Been Framed!	4:50pm On the Buses	7:00pm Storage Wars Texas	12:30pm Sportswomen
8:00pm Emmerdale	8:30pm You've Been Framed!	5:55pm You're Only Young	7:30pm Storage Wars Texas	1:00pm Sky Sports News
8:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Two and a Half Men	6:25pm Rising Damp	8:00pm Pawn Stars	2:00pm Sky Sports News
9:00pm The Kyle Files	9:30pm Two and a Half Men	6:55pm Heartbeat	8:25pm Pawn Stars	3:00pm Sky Sports News
9:30pm Coronation Street	10:00pm Family Guy	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	8:55pm Mr. Bean	4:00pm Live Indian
10:00pm Marcella	10:30pm American Dad!	9:00pm Lewis	9:30pm Mr. Bean	4:00pm Premier League
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	11:00pm Family Guy	11:00pm DCI Banks	10:00pm Rambo: First Blood Part II	8:30pm Sky Sports Tonight
		1:05am Scott and Bailey	11:05pm FYI Daily	9:00pm How the 2018 Masters Was Won
		3:00am ITV3 Nightscreen	11:10pm Rambo: First Blood Part II	11:00pm The Debate - Live
		3:30am Teleshopping	12:00am Sky Sports News	12:00am Sky Sports News

TUESDAY - 10 APRIL

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
7:00am Breakfast	12:00pm Britain's Home Truths	8:00pm Beyond 100 Days	11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	12:00pm Undercover Boss USA
10:15am Commonwealth Games 2018	1:15pm Bargain Hunt	8:30pm Nature's Microworlds	12:00pm Britain's Home Truths	1:00pm Channel 4 News
2:00pm BBC News	2:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018	9:00pm Commonwealth Games Extra	12:45pm Dom on the Spot	1:05pm Come Dine with Me
2:30pm Regional News	6:15pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	10:00pm The Story of the Jews	1:15pm Bargain Hunt	2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
2:45pm Doctors	7:00pm Eggheads	11:00pm Majesty and Mortar: Britain's Great Palaces	2:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018	3:10pm Countdown
3:15pm 800 Words	7:30pm Today at the Games	12:00am Chivalry and Betrayal: The Hundred Years War	2:45pm Escape to the Country	4:00pm A Place in the Sun
4:00pm Escape to the Country	9:00pm Only Connect	1:00am Francesco's Italy	4:45pm Money for Nothing	5:00pm Escape to the Chateau: DIY
5:30pm Flog It!	9:30pm University Challenge	2:00am Top of the Pops	5:30pm Flog It!	6:00pm Four in a Bed
6:15pm Pointless	10:00pm Secret Agent	2:30am Top of the Pops	6:15pm Pointless	6:30pm Star Boot Sale
7:00pm BBC News	11:00pm QI	3:00am Secret Knowledge: Stradivarius and Me	7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm The Simpsons
7:30pm Regional News	11:30pm Newsnight		7:30pm Regional News	7:30pm Hollyoaks
8:00pm The One Show	12:10am Weather		8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Channel 4 News
8:30pm EastEnders			8:30pm EastEnders	8:00pm Channel 4 News
9:00pm Holby City			9:00pm Holby City	9:00pm Class of Mum and Dad
10:00pm Come Home			10:00pm Come Home	10:00pm Seven Year Switch
11:00pm BBC News			11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm Gogglebox



5:00pm Tipping Point	3:35pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	10:00am Judge Judy	1:50pm Ironside	8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
6:00pm The Chase	4:40pm The Jeremy Kyle Show	11:20am Inspector Morse	2:50pm Quincy, M.E.	8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
7:00pm Regional News and Weather	5:50pm Judge Rinder	1:35pm The Royal Heartbeat	3:55pm Minder	11:00am Premier League Daily
7:25pm Party Election Broadcast	6:50pm Take Me Out	3:40pm Coronation Street	5:00pm The Saint	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm You've Been Framed!	4:50pm On the Buses	6:00pm The Avengers	12:30pm Sportswomen
8:00pm Emmerdale	8:30pm You've Been Framed!	5:20pm On the Buses	7:05pm Storage Wars Texas	1:00pm Sky Sports News
8:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Two and a Half Men	5:50pm You're Only Young	7:35pm Storage Wars Texas	2:00pm Sky Sports News
9:00pm The Kyle Files	9:30pm Two and a Half Men	6:20pm Rising Damp	8:00pm Pawn Stars	3:00pm Sky Sports News
9:30pm Coronation Street	10:00pm American Pie	6:55pm Heartbeat	8:30pm Pawn Stars	4:00pm Live Indian
10:00pm Marcella	11:10pm American Pie	8:00pm Murder, She Wrote	9:00pm River Monsters	4:00pm Premier League
11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	12:00am Sky Sports News	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	10:00pm Lethal Weapon 2	8:30pm Football
		11:00pm Scott and Bailey	11:05pm FYI Daily	11:15pm The Debate - Live
		11:15pm American Pie	11:10pm Lethal Weapon 2	12:15am Revista de la Liga
		12:00am Scott and Bailey	12:20am Conan the Destroyer	12:45am La Liga Icons: Zidane
				1:00am Sky Sports News

WEDNESDAY - 11 APRIL

BBC one	BBC TWO	BBC FOUR	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5
7:00am Breakfast	7:00am Commonwealth Games 2018	8:00pm Beyond 100 Days	7:45am 3rd Rock from the Sun	10:15am The Wright Stuff
10:15am Commonwealth Games 2018	10:15am Oxford Street Revealed	8:30pm Nature's Microworlds	8:35am Everybody Loves Raymond	12:20pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
2:00pm BBC News	11:00am Homes Under the Hammer	9:00pm Commonwealth Games Extra	9:30am Frasier	1:10pm 5 News
2:30pm Regional News	12:00pm Britain's Home Truths	10:00pm Bacchus Uncovered	11:05am Ramsay's Hotel Hell	<i>The latest news coverage.</i>
2:45pm Doctors	12:45pm Dom on the Spot	11:00pm The Plantagenets	12:00pm Undercover Boss USA	1:15pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors.
3:15pm 800 Words	1:15pm Bargain Hunt	12:00am The Mayflower Pilgrims	1:00pm Channel 4 News	2:10pm Access
4:00pm Escape to the Country	2:00pm Commonwealth Games 2018	<i>Documentary exploring the Pilgrims' journey west across the Atlantic in the early 17th century.</i>	1:05pm Come Dine with Me	2:15pm Home and Away
4:45pm Money for Nothing	6:15pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	2:30am Top of the Pops	2:05pm Posh Pawnbrokers	2:45pm Neighbours
5:30pm Flog It!	7:00pm Eggheads	3:00am Top of the Pops	3:10pm Countdown	3:15pm NCIS
6:15pm Pointless	7:30pm Today at the Games	3:30am Bacchus Uncovered	4:00pm A Place in the Sun	4:15pm McBride: Murder Past Midnight
7:00pm BBC News	9:00pm The Secret Helpers	1:00am Chef v Science: The Ultimate Kitchen Challenge	<i>Series on holiday homes abroad.</i>	6:00pm <i>The latest news coverage.</i>
7:30pm Regional News	10:00pm The Assassination of Gianni Versace - American Crime Story	2:30am Top of the Pops	6:30pm Star Boot Sale	6:30pm Neighbours
8:00pm The One Show	11:30pm Newsnight	3:00am Top of the Pops	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away
9:00pm MasterChef	12:10am Weather	3:30am Top of the Pops	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:30pm 5 News
10:00pm DIY SOS the Big Build	12:15am Hospital	1:15am The Queen	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm World Rally
11:00pm BBC News			9:00pm The Supervet	9:00pm Springtime on the Farm
11:30pm Regional News			10:00pm One Born Every Minute	10:00pm Housing Yorkshire: Somewhere Called Home
11:40pm Weather			11:00pm First Dates	11:00pm Restless Legs Syndrome: Can't Stop Twitching
11:45pm A Question of Sport			12:05am Gogglebox	

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.

# Japanese thinking

IF you haven't heard of the Danish lifestyle concept called Hygge yet, you've probably been living under a rock for the last year.

Somewhat fittingly, 'Hygge' means living with a certain quality of comfort that makes you happy, and has gained global recognition. The concept is slowly creeping its way into homes all over the world, and encourages surrounding oneself with soothing things like a fresh cup of tea or soft, woolly socks.

However, for those not satisfied with indulging in the homely comforts offered by the Danes, perhaps copying the Japanese will better help you pursue happiness instead.

In Japan, it is widely considered that everyone has 'Ikigai' - which, roughly translated, means a reason to get out of bed in the morning.

So instead of surrounding yourself with material things to make you happy, you should instead be hunting for your life's purpose; your *raison d'être* if you will.

The concept is said to have originated on the Japanese island of Okinawa, which is reportedly home to the world's largest population of centenarians.

So Ikigai may not only help you find happiness, but could also help you to live longer.

If the concept of finding your life's purpose seems somewhat overwhelming, never fear, it's apparently a lot simpler than you think. It all comes down to starting small and accepting yourself. Connect with the world around you, by finding small joys with other people and in your environment, and seek the here and now. Easy peasy.



GO EAST: To find contentment

# The honey to cure all that ails you

MANUKA honey is one of the most beneficial and healing varieties of honey out there. Produced in New Zealand by bees that pollinate from the Manuka bush, the honey is used to cure a range of ailments - from sore throats and digestive problems to healing wounds.

Manuka is different from other honey mainly as a result of the incredible range of nutrients that are packed into it. It's a rich source of calcium, iron, potassium and zinc - to name a few - which give the honey its healing and immune-boosting properties.

Manuka actually has four times the amount of nutritional content than normal honey. It also has a higher level of antibodies, which makes it particularly good at fighting infection.



MANUKA: Honey has never tasted so good.

Whatever your health issue, a spoonful of Manuka could help the symptoms go down. Doctors have used the stuff to treat tooth decay, IBS, sore throats, allergies and eczema.

It could also help you get a better night's rest. Manuka honey slowly releases

glycogen which is needed for essential bodily functions during sleep - giving a

whole new meaning to drinking some hot milk with honey before bed.

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# Hot nights of cool jazz

THE Ventana Abierta Jazz Club will be hosting two nights of exceptional jazz at the Hotel Plaza Cavana in Nerja over the next six weeks.

Friday April 20 sees an appearance of the Atsuko Shimada and Juan Galiardo Trio consisting of Atsuko and Juan each playing piano and José Luis Gómez on drums.

Then on Friday May 25, the same venue welcomes the Three Blue Sounds, another trio made up of singer Eva Jiménez, guitarist Eneko Alberdi and Francis McNulty playing tenor saxophone.

*Tickets cost €12 seated on a bar stool or €15 on a sofa (with a 15 per cent members discount) and may be booked online at the website <http://www.ventana-abierta.es/jazz.html>.*

*Both performances commence at 9pm.*



**EVA JIMENEZ:** Will appear on May 25.

## A dry pleasure

### BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi



**SHERRY PICKER:** There are several different varieties.

SHERRY, an anglicisation of the Spanish Jerez, is a fortified wine from white grapes grown near Jerez de la Frontera in Andalucía.

After fermentation the wines are fortified with grape spirit to increase the final alcohol content. Wines suitable for ageing as Fino and Manzanilla are fortified until they reach a total alcohol content of 15.5 per cent. As they age in barrel, the wines develop natural yeast known as flor, that helps protect them from excessive oxidation.

Wines chosen to undergo ageing as Oloroso are fortified to reach an alcohol content of at least 17. They do not develop flor and oxidise slightly as they age, giving

them a darker colour.

Because fortification takes place after fermentation, most sherries are initially dry, with any sweetness added later.

Jerez has been a centre of viticulture since Phoenician times in 1100 BC, with the Moors - after conquering the region - introducing distillation and producing brandy and fortified wine.

During the Moorish period, the town was called Sherish, from which both Sherry and Jerez are derived.

By the end of the 16th century, sherry had a reputation

as the world's finest wine and both Christopher Columbus and Ferdinand Magellan took it on voyages to the New World.

Because sherry was heavily exported to the UK many of the Jerez cellars were founded by British families.

Wines from different years are aged and blended before bottling, so sherry bottles do not usually carry a specific vintage year.

Sherry is traditionally drunk from a copita or catavino, a special tulip-shaped glass.

*Happy tasting.*

## Tapas Route returns

THE fourth Tapas Route will take place in Almuñecar from April 19 to 21 and then April 26 to 28 with selected tapas and a beer priced at €2.50 in a variety of bars and restaurants.

As customers visit each establishment participating in the event they will be able to have a passport stamped and once completed may be included in a draw for a special prize and invited to vote for their favourite establishment.

## Modernist art in Periana

PHILLIPINO artist Noel Villafuerte who has exhibited all over Asia and Europe has a number of his thought provoking modernist paintings on display in Periana.

The exhibition will be open this Friday, Saturday and Sunday at La Galeria, Priana. Call 951 139 153.

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# Messi strikes to land luxury hotel

LIONEL MESSI has purchased an incredible €600 a night hotel in Ibiza, as he develops his MiM brand.

The 30-year-old Barcelona star has bought the stunning Hotel Es Vive, located on the Figueretas beach, and the 52-room property boasts a luxury pool and rooftop bar.

Last summer the footballing icon started his hotel splurge with a €30 million swoop for the four-star hotel MiM Sitges.

Following that, this exclusive resort will be managed by the Majestic Hotel Group, with prices starting from €257 per night.

Management company Gemini Group Evisca confirmed the takeover, and it has since been renamed MiM Ibiza Es Vive.

Sean Cochrane, a British design-



Credit: twitter @Ebenezerberg54

**REGAL RESORT:** The palatial hotel will attract high society.

er, redesigned the hotel in 2014 in a 1940's-inspired Art Deco style.

Real Madrid rival Cristiano Ronaldo recently announced his business plans for the popular island, but it appears he has been again pipped by Messi.

The 33-year-old's Pestana CR7 chain of hotels had revealed last year that they were looking for a suitable property in Ibiza, with the help of JLL Hotels and Hospitality Group.

Ronaldo is already well versed in the hotel business, having bought establishments in Lisbon, as well as his hometown of Funchal.

# West sees renting go through roof

SPAIN is no longer among the top 10 countries in the EU for house ownership.

According to European Statistical Institute (Eurostat), 77.8 per cent of people living in Spain have a property, putting it at number 13 in the rankings.

The European average is 69.2 per cent and so the Spanish figures remain high, although each year the ratio of landlords to tenants changes in the latter's favour.

"In Spain, property ownership falls slightly each year due to economic conditions and the difficulty of accessing a mortgage," explains Jose Garcia Montalvo, Professor at Pompeu Fabra University.

"The price of housing rentals is also on the rise due to increased demand, and the decline in housing ownership is unlikely to reverse despite increases in income."

In 2017, the average price of renting in Spain grew by 8.9 per cent, the highest in-

crease since real estate platform Fotocasa began collecting data in 2006.

Data from 2016 showed Romania with an incredible home ownership rate of 96 per cent, and other eastern European countries were not far behind.

For example, Lithuania was on an ownership rate of 90.3 per cent, Croatia posted 90 per cent and Slovakia was on 89.5 per cent.

Moreover, countries with supposedly far stronger economies have a significantly smaller proportion of home owners, with Germany the lowest on 51.7 per cent.

Austria is next with home ownership of only 55 per cent, and Denmark on 62 per cent, with the increase in renters sweeping western Europe in general.

**RENT RISE:** House prices are forcing western Europeans to rent for longer.





**DICK HANDSCOMBE**



## It's a small world

Mini gardens within gardens and on terraces add interest and pleasure

MOST house gardens and apartment terraces in Spain benefit from being designed as a series of interesting mini gardens. Preferably each with its own soul and style, but integrated into an overall holistic landscape that enables great living and garden wanders all the year round.

Even only four to six metres on one or two sides lends itself to five distinct gardens. One on each side and a fifth under a covered terrace. The latter can be attractive all year round with shade from the high sun in summer and the warmth of the low winter sun. Such a terrace garden immediately integrates the house into the garden.

Success in having a number of integrated mini gardens is in choosing what to have in each area and how you separate them. Possible types of mini garden include the following:

- ♦ The pool or jacuzzi garden surrounded by shrubs and trees to give privacy and a sense of being in a natural glade when cooling off or sunbathing. Also this is a good way of hiding the pool away during the non-pool months. So many gardens are dominated by a pool in the most prominent spot where it adds no real interest.
- ♦ Seasonal flower gardens.
- ♦ A Japanese raked chipping or water and rock-based garden.
- ♦ A water garden with fountains and fish ponds.
- ♦ A dry cacti and succulent garden.
- ♦ A rockery or embankment garden.
- ♦ A container garden with 50 to 100 plants in containers of various shapes, sizes and colours.
- ♦ A specialist mini botanical or collector's garden.
- ♦ A rose garden with a collection of



### LITTLE TO THE IMAGINATION: A planted garden pond or small vegetable gardens.

climbers, standards and bush forms.

- ♦ A mini orchard with perhaps a secret garden hidden in the centre.
- ♦ A vegetable garden planted in the soil or in raised beds or containers.
- ♦ An oasis garden mainly planted with palms or a dry riverbed garden.
- ♦ An Arabic style garden incorporating coloured ceramics in the floor walls, water

features, containers etc.

- ♦ A water plant garden around a pond.
- ♦ A desert garden with plants planted through sand or stone chippings layed over black plastic.
- ♦ A lily garden glowing with masses of lilies during late spring and summer.
- ♦ A greenhouse and potting shed garden for those who like to grow from seeds and

cuttings.

- ♦ A herb garden which can be interesting and relaxing all year round as well as yielding continuous harvests of culinary and medicinal herbs.
- ♦ A vineyard with grapes growing on walls and over arches or covered walkways.
- ♦ A citrus garden perfumed by the flowers of a perpetual flowering and fruiting lemon tree.

♦ A wild garden of natural herbs, shrubs and trees allowed to grow fairly wild like a miniature L'Arbarda garden, as can be visited near Pedreguer in the Alicante region.

There are so many possible styles to choose from.

If you came to Spain for the sunny weather then get out to enjoy it in a garden created to draw you outside so that you live in it in preference to the house for much of the year.

## How to make your home look unique

IT'S easy, when trying to copy the latest design trends, to fall into the trap of decorating your house to look like a model home.

While this no doubt still looks stunning, it's the unique touches that correspond to your own personal taste which make your house feel like a home, and they also help create good talking points for when you have guests over.

If you're stuck on how to achieve this, investing in a good

work of art is always a good place to start. Whether it's a beautiful watercolour painting from a talented local artist or a large print by one of your favourite photographers, art is an investment and speaks volumes to your taste so be sure to choose wisely.

Another easy way to make your home look unique is to juxtapose antiques with more contemporary pieces.

The great thing about antiques is

that you're guaranteed none of your friends will find the same marble coffee table in the local furniture shop and they help to add character.

Play around with colour and textures.

Don't be afraid to go bold if you think it's something you can live with.

After all bright colours add vibrancy to your surroundings, and can be a real mood booster.



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# Training tips

MOST of my readers are aware that I have been involved in the canine industry for over 60 years having covered most aspects from police work, Air Sea Rescue film work and most importantly teaching the public how to bring up their dog. Running all types and levels including agility and flyball at all levels.

Looking at the dog training industry today I, and many of my colleagues, are appalled that so many young people are starting up classes with no experience and have never entered a 'proper' competition apart from their local animal shelter etc. This goes on in many countries especially the USA, UK, Australia, etc.

It is so simple today to join organisations run by bogus individuals who sell certificates over the internet which suggest you have passed many exams and have had hands on experience.

I wonder if they could present their own dog to demonstrate how good they



**TRAINING DAY: A good trainer is important to make sure your pet stays well behaved.**

are? However you must not be impressed by this, as they may not have trained the dog. Let them show you what they are able to do with your dog.

Today whilst writing this article I received an email from my friend David

Davies who was an instructor in the UK Police force:

'I am afraid everything is about money these days.'

The canine world is going bonkers here in the UK. There are new trainers,

behaviourists, walkers, creches etc opening up everywhere.

Most are run by youngsters who have only been around dogs a few years, months in many cases. What I struggle to accept is when this involves

creatures. No one can be involved at a senior level with animals until they have many years' experience. I mean experience, not simply had a few dogs, cats etc. One must have worked with them in a very diverse and involved way beforehand.

There is a young man opening up near me. He has minutes of experience and is running a workshop on how to train your dog using motivation, he seems to think [believe] he has invented this concept.

How do you start? Talk to your vet who will be aware of the trainers in the area. In fact many vets now run schools at their premises like Pointer Clinic East.

Take a look at as many schools as you are able to but do not take your pet.

Explain to the 'instructor' that you're thinking of having lessons. Now you can see what goes on, shouting and rough handling is out.

It is also an idea to have a chat with those attending with their dogs to see if they have advanced in training and behaviour.

Look before you book as you would with your children.



**HOT CROSS BUNS: Potentially lethal for animals.**

## Keep your dog safe

MOST people think of hot cross buns as a tasty, Easter treat; however, dog owners are now being warned to keep their dogs away from the simple snack as it could potentially poison them.

This is because hot cross buns typically contain ingredients such as sultanas, raisins, lemon zest and the spice nutmeg, which are considered toxic to animals.

While most dog owners are aware of the dangers of giving

chocolate to dogs, the dangers of other poisonous foods, such as hot cross buns, are less well known by the public according to experts.

Raisins and sultanas can reportedly cause kidney failure in dogs and cats, as there's a toxic compound in the fruit which also causes vomiting, diarrhoea, and extreme fatigue.

Hot cross buns also sometimes contain nutmeg, which

contains Myristicin. This compound is toxic to dogs if consumed in large amounts and can cause hallucinations, increased heart rate, abdominal pain and seizures.

Meanwhile citrus fruits, such as lemons, can cause vomiting, diarrhoea and depression in both dogs and cats.

If you suspect your pet has consumed something toxic, consult a vet immediately.

## Owners save by joining a network

ARE you the owner of multiple pets, and need help when you travel or go on holiday? If you are afraid of moving your pets away from home for the time you are planning to be away and concerned about the stress this might cause, think about joining *HouseSitMatch.com*.

*How do you benefit as a home and petowner?*

By joining the HouseSitMatch membership network you can meet experienced and checked sitters safely online. For a small annual fee you can meet sitters online, and make arrangements for them to look after your pets and property while you are away. What is more, the sitters do not charge a penny, they look after your pets for free in exchange for free accommodation.

*Why join a network like HouseSitMatch?*

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*Client testimonial -*

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*~David ~ Home and pet owner, Granada, Spain*

(Reviews in Trustpilot)

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**MOTORING FACT**



*The world's first speeding ticket was issued to a motorist in 1896. The limit at the time was 2mph and he was driving at 8mph.*

PEUGEOT'S best-selling car of all time, the Peugeot 206, celebrates its 20th anniversary this year.

The original 206 was launched in the form of a hatchback in 1998 and had seen over 5.4 million global sales by December 2005.

The car remains Peugeot's best-selling vehicle to date with 5.1 million sold in Europe and 8.3 million globally.

In celebration of the landmark anniversary, Peugeot took on the challenge of recreating one of the most iconic 206 adverts, 'The Sculptor.'

The advert was originally filmed in Jaipur, India, in 2003 and depicted a young man converting his Ambassador into a 206 after seeing the car in a newspaper advert. The man makes the modifications by repeatedly crashing his Ambassador into a wall and encouraging an elephant to sit on it to make it resemble the Peugeot 206.

In homage to this, the French carmaker recreated the advert, by converting a Hindustan Ambassador into the Peugeot 208 GTi, using a team of engineers at Ajeenkya D Y Patil University, based in Pune, India.

Mark Pickles, Peugeot marketing director, said: "It's been 15 years since 'The Sculptor' advert appeared on TV screens and as Peugeot has recently acquired the

# 20 years on

## Peugeot celebrates 206 anniversary



Credit: Peugeot/twitter

Ambassador brand, it seemed a fitting way to mark the 206's anniversary year.

"The outstanding work that the Ajeenkya D Y Patil University team has put into the vehicle modification has been incredible to watch.

"The anniversary of the Peugeot 206 is a great opportunity to recognise the vehicle's success in becoming Peugeot's best-selling model of all time. On sale between 1998 and 2008, the 206's reliable build and iconic design made it a popular choice of vehicle."



**ICONIC:** Peugeot's 2003 'the Sculptor' advert (inset) has been recreated as part of the celebrations.

# Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross

**ROAD TEST**

by Nick Fletcher

THE Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross is a new small SUV offering smart styling, cabin versatility and the reassurance of a five-year warranty.

The sector is highly competitive - rivals include the Peugeot 3008 and SEAT Ateca - but Mitsubishi has a strong reputation for reliability which is a big plus-point, as is the striking look of the Eclipse Cross in an image-sensitive marketplace.

Priced from €24,277 (£21,275), this newcomer offers several trim levels and either two-wheel drive or four-wheel drive depending on model. All variants are powered by a 1.5-litre turbocharged petrol engine, mated to six-speed manual or all-new eight-speed CVT automatic transmission.

Standard kit includes Smartphone connection compatible with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto,

touch-pad controller, rear view camera, DAB radio, climate control, LED daytime running lights, and alloy wheels.

Safety features include lane departure warning and forward collision mitigation, which uses radar technology to detect collision risk.

Eclipse Cross looks and feels a good package for the money, and its interior space makes it very family-friendly.

The rear seats slide for variable load/occupant versatility and they do fold flat.

The cabin has an upmarket look, the controls are well-placed and the seating is very comfortable. My only negative is that the tailgate screen has a central bar which though hardly impeding vision, is mildly distracting.

My test model was a flagship version adding extra kit including leather upholstery and panoramic sunroof. With manual gearbox and front wheel drive, this model costs €28,504 (£24,975).

The 1.5 litre 161 hp turbo-petrol engine is smooth and eager, with a top speed of 204 kph (127 mph) and a 0-60 kph time of 10.3 seconds. Fuel economy is 15.2 kpl (42.8 mpg), with emissions at 151 g/km.

Ride quality is excellent and the Eclipse Cross proves composed on cornering and the steering has good feedback. The car looks good, drives well and should give the Mitsubishi brand a real boost.



**RED HOT:** The new Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross.

# Lancia rally car set for comeback

LANCIA has announced a limited run of new Stratos cars 40 years after the original went out of production.

The car, known for its success in rally racing, is set to be revived in three different models: a supercar, a GT racer and a Safari rally version.

The company has planned a 25-car run with each model expected to fetch around £600,000 (€676,000), although this has not been confirmed.

It will feature a short wheelbase, an angular nose and a rear spoiler lip all reminiscent of the 1970's Stratos which made its name during rally's golden age.

A Ferrari V8 has been floated as the engine which can produce around 550bhp.

The new Stratos will also have a lightweight body with suspension tuned for tight roads.

Each model is set to be styled according to buyers' tastes.

This means you could completely recreate the 1970's version, provided you have the money.

The interior harks back to the original Stratos with its stripped-back dashboard design and even includes storage for race helmets on the inside of the doors.



COMEBACK KID: The new Stratos pays homage to the famous Lancia rally car of the 1970's.

# Dyson set to enter electric car market

ELECTRONICS maker Dyson has announced it has earmarked £2 billion (€2.25 billion) for an electric car project.

The company is planning on a starting range of three vehicles but it will not include its 'solid-state' battery in the first design, according to British media. Dyson declined to confirm this.

The first of the three new cars will reportedly have a limited production run in the single digit thousands before output is ramped up for the latter two.

Sir James Dyson, the firm's founder, said the first model would look different to anything on the market when the company first unveiled the project last September.

He added he was confident the company would meet its target to have the



ELECTRIC DREAMS: Sir James Dyson said they were aiming to get the first electric car to market by 2021.

new car ready for sale by 2020/2021.

Dyson is weighing up whether to include lithium ion batteries in the first car. There are plans to use solid-state ones in the latter two,

according to sources quoted in the *Financial Times*.

The company has been developing solid-state batteries for years. They are able to charge faster and last for longer.

# New Mercedes C-Class comes with 'well-being' features

MERCEDES has unveiled its new C-Class model which is equipped to pump sounds and smells into the inside and massage the driver.

Comfort control settings that play music to best fit a given mood and changes in lighting to set the atmosphere are also set to be included.

The car will be available as a saloon or estate when it makes its debut later this year.

It is also set to include self-driving technology that originally featured in the company's S-Class model. The system consists of cameras and radars capable of

seeing up to 500 metres that then help the car adjust its speed for roundabouts, junctions or sharp bends.

The multimedia system is controlled through a 10-inch central screen mounted on the dashboard. This will be touch-based, with some features also compatible with voice control.

The 3D Sat Nav will warn the driver about weather as well as giving information on petrol stations, parking and tourism as part of a 'concierge service.'

Prices are expected to start at around £30,000 (€33,000) when the first cars are delivered in August.

CREATURE COMFORTS: The car includes mood music and lighting and an onboard computer assistant.



## La Liga Preview

## Real host Atletico in Madrid derby

REAL MADRID host rivals Atletico in the Madrid derby on Sunday, with both sides looking to strengthen their positions in this year's top four.

Atletico moved to within nine points of leaders Barcelona after a 1-0 victory against Deportivo on Saturday, with Kevin Gameiro's goal enough to separate Atletico and the struggling side.

They travel to a Real side who themselves come into the game off the back of some good form, having won all of their La Liga games in March and got themselves up to third in La Liga.

A win for Real will see them move to within just a point of their Madrid rivals, but a win for Atletico would see them move five points clear and all but guarantee Champions League football for next season.

Elsewhere, Barcelona will look to continue their unbeaten run in La Liga against Leganes after they extended it even further in dramatic fashion during a 2-2 draw with Sevilla last weekend.

The Champions-elect looked to be heading for their first La Liga defeat since 2017 after goals from Franco Vasquez had hosts Sevilla 2-0 up with just five minutes to go.

But it was not meant to be for Sevilla as Barcelona scored two in the final two minutes of the game through Luis Suarez and Lionel Messi to ensure their record run continued.

Barcelona can now make it 38 games unbeaten in La Liga as they host Leganes on Saturday almost a year to the day since they last suffered defeat in the league; a 2-0 loss to Malaga on April 8, 2017.

Tomorrow (Friday), Malaga travel to Deportivo in a battle at the bottom of the league, having registered their first win of 2018 last time out against sixth placed Villarreal.

Chory Castro's penalty was enough to give the Malaga boss his



Credit: Twitter

### GOALLESS: The reverse fixture between Real and Atletico in November ended in a 0-0 draw.

first win since taking over the side in January and register Los Boquerones' fourth win of the season, but was not enough to take them off the bottom of the table.

Clarence Seedorf's Deportivo La Coruña find themselves in a similar position, struggling to survive and have picked up just one win in their last 16 La Liga matches.

Elsewhere, Sevilla will look to get back into the Europa league spots against Celta Vigo after being leapfrogged by Real Betis, who went into sixth following their win against Getafe.

The Champions League quarter-finalists have slipped out of the top six having picked up just one point from their last three games.

In the weekend's other fixtures, Real Betis host Eibar on Saturday, Sunday sees Levante play Las Palmas before Real Sociedad take on Girona and Villarreal face Athletic Bilbao on Monday.

## SPANISH LA LIGA 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	PI	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 • Barcelona	30	23	7	0	76	15	76
2 • Atlético	30	20	7	3	50	14	67
3 • Real Madrid	30	19	6	5	76	33	63
4 • Valencia	30	19	5	6	58	31	62
5 • Villarreal	30	14	5	11	40	34	47
6 • Betis	30	14	4	12	50	53	46
7 • Sevilla	30	14	4	12	39	46	46
8 • Girona	30	12	8	10	44	43	44
9 • Celta	30	11	7	12	46	43	40
10 • Eibar	30	11	7	12	36	43	40
11 • Getafe	30	10	9	11	35	28	39
12 • Athletic	30	8	12	10	30	34	36
13 • Espanyol	30	8	12	10	26	37	36
14 • Leganés	30	10	6	14	25	36	36
15 • R. Sociedad	30	9	7	14	51	52	34
16 • Alavés	30	10	2	18	26	45	32
17 • Levante	30	5	13	12	26	44	28
18 • Las Palmas	30	5	6	19	21	61	21
19 • Deportivo	30	4	8	18	26	61	20
20 • Málaga	30	4	5	21	17	45	17

Champions L.

Europa L.

Relegation

## PREMIER LEAGUE 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	PI	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 • M. City	31	27	3	1	88	21	84
2 • M. United	31	21	5	5	60	23	68
3 • Liverpool	32	19	9	4	75	35	66
4 • Tottenham H.	31	19	7	5	62	26	64
5 • Chelsea	31	17	5	9	53	30	56
6 • Arsenal	31	15	6	10	58	41	51
7 • Burnley	31	12	10	9	29	27	46
8 • Leicester City	31	11	10	10	47	43	43
9 • Everton	32	11	7	14	38	53	40
10 • Bournemouth	32	9	10	13	39	51	37
11 • Watford	32	10	7	15	41	57	37
12 • Newcastle United	31	9	8	14	31	40	35
13 • Brighton	31	8	10	13	28	42	34
14 • West Ham Utd.	31	8	9	14	39	57	33
15 • Swansea City	31	8	7	16	25	44	31
16 • Huddersfield Town	32	8	7	17	25	53	31
17 • Crystal Palace	32	7	9	16	31	50	30
18 • Southampton	31	5	13	13	29	47	28
19 • Stoke City	32	6	9	17	29	61	27
20 • West Bromwich	32	3	11	18	25	51	20

## Premier League preview

## Derby day could see Citizens crowned

MANCHESTER CITY can officially wrap up the Premier League title with six games to spare if they beat bitter rivals Manchester United at the Etihad on Saturday.

Pep Guardiola's side moved to within just one win of the title after a 3-1 victory over Everton on Saturday as they became just the third Premier League side to beat all other teams in a single Premier League season.

First half goals from Leroy Sane, Gabriel Jesus and Raheem Sterling were enough to blow away the Merseysiders on the day, despite a 63rd minute consolation from Yannick Bolasie.

The result means just a win against United at the Etihad on Saturday will be enough for City to wrap up their third title in the past seven years and the earliest title ever to be won in Premier League history.

Elsewhere, Liverpool will look to overtake Manchester United into second place as they host Everton at Anfield in the Merseyside derby.

The Reds come into the game in scintillating form having lost just one of their last eight games as they continued their good run of results with 2-1 win over Crystal Palace.

Having fallen behind to an early Luka Milivojevic penalty, Sadio Mane equalised early in the second half be-



### RECORD BREAKERS: City could seal the title in record time on Saturday.

fore Mo Salah's 29th Premier League goal of the season secured the result for Liverpool.

On Sunday, Chelsea face West Ham in a London derby looking to bounce back from their heavy defeat to top four rivals Tottenham last weekend.

The Blues are all but assured not to finish in this season's top four after the damaging 3-1 defeat to Spurs as Dele Alli scored a brace and Christian Eriksen's stunner were enough to condemn Chelsea to their ninth defeat of the season.

The result leaves them eight points behind Spurs in the table with just seven games left to play in the race for the top four.

Tottenham themselves head to Stoke on Saturday looking to consolidate

their position in fourth, while their opponents are desperate for points in the fight against relegation.

Stoke are in real danger of relegation from the Premier League this season and currently sit in 18th place, eight points away from safety following last week's heavy defeat to Arsenal.

Elsewhere, West Brom play Swansea City at the Hawthorns and will be desperate for a result after they slumped to a record eighth successive league defeat at the hands of Burnley on Saturday.

In the weekend's other fixtures, Watford play Burnley, Bournemouth host Crystal Palace, Brighton face Huddersfield Town, Leicester City are against Newcastle and Arsenal take on Southampton on Sunday.

## Spain's RWC decision delayed

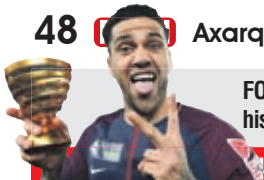
GOVERNING body Rugby Europe has again delayed a decision on the outcome of the Spain vs Belgium World Cup Qualifying match.

The Spanish Rugby Federation (FER) has asked Rugby Europe to look into their final qualifier after they lost 18-10 to Belgium which meant Romania qualified for next year's World Cup instead of Spain.

The FER had requested that the officials be changed prior to the match, due to the potential conflict of interest, and have now asked for the game to be replayed on account of 19 decisions they feel were unfair against them.

A Rugby Europe referees' selection committee had an initial meeting in Poznan following the match, which included the Spanish Rugby Federation President, Alfonso Feijoo, before a conference call between the Rugby Europe Board of directors was set to take place on Thursday last week.

It had been thought that a decision would be imminent following the conference call, but that call has now been rescheduled due to the need to 'gather, clarify and share all the additional information' before making an accurate decision.



FORMER Barcelona defender Dani Alves has officially become the most decorated footballer in history after PSG's victory in the Coupe de la Ligue gave the 35-year-old his 36th official trophy.

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# Garcia going for Masters glory

SERGIO GARCIA returns to Augusta National this weekend looking to become just the fourth man to win back-to-back Masters' titles.

The Spaniard enjoyed a fantastic season last year, winning three times on the European Tour including his maiden major win, becoming just the third Spaniard behind Seve Ballesteros and Jose Maria Olazabal to win the coveted Masters green jacket.

He was subsequently named European Tour Golfer of the Year in December but despite his amazing season last year, Garcia's name doesn't appear among

the favourites to take the title this time around.

Dustin Johnson, Rory McIlroy, Justin Thomas, Jordan Speith and a resurgent Tiger Woods head the list of favourites for Augusta, but ahead of this week's competition, which begins today (Thursday), Garcia has admitted that it doesn't bother him where he is placed going into the tournament.

He told *Sporting Life*: "That doesn't really matter to me because at the end of the day I know what I'm capable of and I know how I'm playing."

"Obviously I feel like my game is in good shape. I'm really

happy with all my new equipment. I've had a couple of good weeks so I'm excited to go back there and defend my title as well as I can be and as well as I can do.

"If I'm looked at as a favourite or not it doesn't really matter, because it depends on myself and what I do and on what I believe."

Garcia heads into the competition on the back of marrying his long term partner last year, while the couple also welcomed their first daughter.

They decided to name her Azalea after the flowers which bloom around the Augusta Na-

tional course and on his return to the Masters' famous course earlier this week, the 38-year-old told *USA Today*: "It is so special."

"The drive down Magnolia Lane, it's a different feeling, a special feeling. To have Azalea come and see where the idea of her name came from is unbelievable. It's an amazing combination of feelings and sensations."

"I've had a great career and an amazing life, and now it's even better. Winning the Masters, marrying my best friend, an amazing woman like Angela, seeing beautiful

Azalea every day. We can't wait to see what the future holds for us."



**RETURNING CHAMPION:** Sergio Garcia will look to become just the fourth man to win back-to-back Masters' titles this weekend.

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