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Father speaks out

by Joe Gerrard

THE father of a British businessman killed after being knocked off his bicycle by a car in Menorca has spoken exclusively to *Euro Weekly News* in the wake of his death.

John Rasmussen, dad of father-of-three Phillip Rasmussen, said the one-year suspended prison sentence handed to American Bryan Leeds for manslaughter did not amount to justice.

“The guy that did this to our son gets off and we get a life sentence.

“To give a man who murdered another human being in this manner a 12-month suspended sentence is nothing short of a national disgrace for the Spanish,” he said.

He added the family would “never” get over the death of their son.

The court in Mahon heard during Leeds’ trial Phillip Rasmussen, 47, from Aberporth, was cycling between the village of Alcaufar and Sant Lluís when he was hit.

Paramedics were called but could they not keep him alive. Leeds later tested as being 10 milligrams over the legal alcohol driving limit.

His sentence came following a plea bargain agreement with prosecutors.



SPEAKING OUT: Phillip Rasmussen (inset) was killed when he was knocked off his bicycle near Sant Lluís.

See us on page 27

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Shock decision

Judge 'freezes' expat murder plot probe

EXCLUSIVE

By **Matt Ford**
and **Karl Smallman**

THE family of missing mum-of-one Lisa Brown have spoken of their shock after a Spanish judge shelved his probe against the prime suspect in the case.

Javier Garcia Ramila made the sensational decision just a week after Simon Corner, 35, was held at London's Heathrow Airport on a European Arrest Warrant.

Speaking exclusively to the *Euro Weekly News*, Lisa's stunned sister Helen Jordan said: "We are still shocked that this decision has been made after all the hard work but it's not over by any means."

"We were actually speechless when we heard the news.

"We don't take anything for granted but we didn't expect this.

Helen added, "This is a set-back but won't stop us, the investigation will still be continuing to find the truth.

"We're thinking positively... we have to or we would have given up long ago."

The judge reportedly made the move after state prosecutors requested that the two-and-a-half investigation be 'frozen.'

At the Court of Investigation in San Roque, Cadiz, he said in a 10-page written ruling: "This court has serious doubts Simon Corner is the person responsible for the crimes of homicide or unlawful detention being in-

vestigated.

"That is because of the testimony of the witness who says she saw Lisa Brown driving her Ford Focus near her home on the morning of November 6, 2015 [two days after police believe she was killed], and because there was no mater-

ial evidence he actively participated in Lisa's disappearance has been obtained despite multiple inquiries against Simon over the past two and a half years."

He added that he was legally obliged to take into account a "lack of concrete proof" and that the enquiry was "at a point of no return," although it can be reopened if fresh evidence comes to light.

Corner - who has never been formally charged - has now been freed from a London jail where he had been held since his arrest after stepping off a flight from South America.

He was expected to be extradited on charges of conspiracy to murder before facing trial in Spain after going on the run for a second time.



CASE CLOSED? Simon Corner and Lisa Brown.

Originally from Alexandria, Dumbartonshire, Scottish expatriate Lisa vanished from her Costa del Sol home in Guadiaro on November 4, 2015.

The alarm was raised when she failed to collect son Marco, then aged eight, from school.

Lisa worked in Gibraltar and detectives have said a 'violent episode' appeared to have taken place, but her body has never been found.

Five other Britons who have been quizzed on suspicion of obstructing justice over the alleged incident have also had their bail conditions lifted.

Liverpool-born yacht dealer Corner was held in Denmark in May 2016 on a European Arrest Warrant and extradited to Spain after fleeing the country in the wake of Lisa going missing.

He was released from an Algeciras prison on bail in April 2017 but he broke the terms of his agreement by failing to present himself at a Costa del Sol police station last month.

Lisa's family last month flew to Cadiz and offered a £100,000 reward in an appeal for new information at a press conference attended by Britain's ambassador to Spain Simon Manley.

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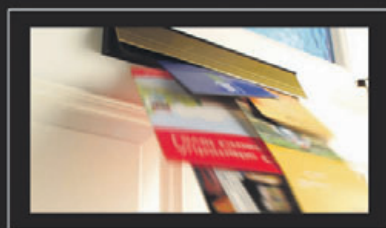
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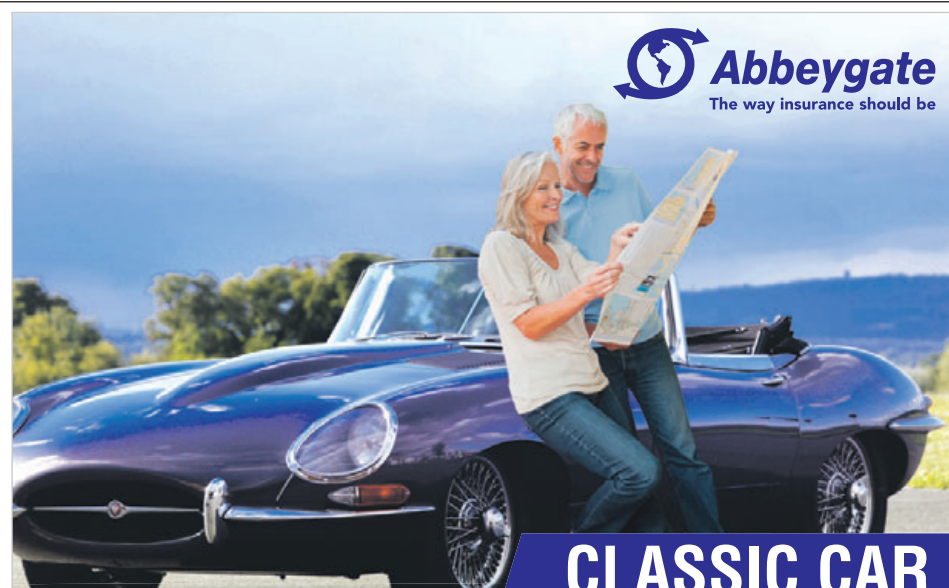
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ALL THE LATEST CAR NEWS PLUS OUR WEEKLY TEST DRIVE



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Jellyfish on beach

SEVERAL jellyfish have reportedly been spotted in waters near Cala Vinyes, Calvia, an area popular with bathers. The creatures are believed to have been carried across the Mediterranean from the Atlantic by ocean currents and they have also been found in several areas across the southern and eastern Spanish coast.

Drug busts

GUARDIA CIVIL and Local Police officers have taken part in an operation targeting sites believed to be points of sale for drugs in Andratx. Several patrols were reportedly deployed on Calle General Riera in the early hours of last Thursday, with several homes suspected of house illicit substances raided.

Three held

THREE people who allegedly trafficked a woman from Colombia and forced her into prostitution in Palma have been arrested. The two male and one female suspects, all from the country, reportedly used the promise of house work to convince her to come to Spain then confiscated her passport on arrival.

Murder trial

A 61-YEAR-OLD teacher in court accused of beating his wife before strangling her to death four months after their wedding said in the hearing he hit her with a teapot. The defendant, who claims to be mentally ill, told the ongoing trial hearing he did not realise what he was doing.

Food probe

FOOD safety officials said they will undertake around 1,400 inspections at bars, restaurants and other venues, with a focus on tourist areas. Margalida Buades, the authorities' health spokesperson, said hygiene standards had dropped recently and cited the recent outbreak of hepatitis A in one establishment as justification for the probe.



Photo credit Ronaldo Schemidt/World Press Photo Contest

WINNING SHOT: Ronaldo Schemidt's powerful image.

The year in focus

THIS is the incredible image that has bagged the 2018 World Press Photo of the Year gong.

It shows Jose Victor Salazar Balza, 28, on fire during violent clashes between Venezuelan protesters and riot police in May 2017, amid protests against the Venezuelan president, Nicolas Maduro.

Taken in capital city Caracas by local photographer Ronaldo Schemidt, 47, the shot was described by judges as 'instantly'

emotional and symbolising the idea of the country 'burning.'

The dramatic scene came after a motorcycle petrol tank exploded.

And the snapper explained how he acted on instinct as he said: "I felt the explosion behind me and I felt the heat, and at that moment I turned around, already shooting, but without seeing what was going on."

Competition organisers said that Salazar survived the incident with first and second-degree burns.

The humanitarian crisis sparked by President Maduro's authoritarian 'Bolivarian Revolution' in Venezuela has triggered a surge in asylum-seekers fleeing the South American country. Spain received more than 4,300 applications from January to July last year, up from 596 in the whole of 2015.

Winning images from the 61st annual staging of the prestigious contest were chosen from 73,044 images taken by 4,548 photographers from 125 countries.

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- 2011 Company of the Year - Costa del Sol Business Awards
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Petal power



BLOOMIN' LOVELY: The festival is an underrated gem.

THERE is no better way to celebrate the arrival of early summer than with a visit to Cordoba.

And preparations are in full swing as the historic city once again gears up to show its true colours during its dazzling patios festival.

The annual event features stunning flower displays as the doors swing open on more than 200 private patios - or courtyards - in a colourful contest backed by the council for almost 100 years, during which green-fingered residents battle to put on the most show-stopping display.

A typical feature of Cordoban homes, the courtyards tend to be the central feature around which each house is built, and normally have a fountain or well in the middle to collect rainwater.

This is a Roman design aimed at easing the oven-like summer temperatures typical of inland Andalucia, and was later adapted by Moorish conquerors who added features including a direct entrance from the street and

vast arrays of flowers planted in beds or pots to bring freshness.

The latter tradition has been continued ever since, with fabulous floral displays offering flashes of colour alongside stone mosaics, water features, antique furniture and ceramic decorations, mixed with the fragrant aromas of orange blossom, jasmine, and countless other flowers.

And in typical local style, the contest is soundtracked by enthusiastic live performances from renowned flamenco artists and other musicians throughout the city, while local wine and tapas are consumed en masse.

There are a number of different parts of the city to visit, each with a unique look and feel, with a map available at <http://patios.cordoba.es/en/patios>.

Entrance to the courtyards is generally free, but there is often a collection box for tips by the door. This year's extravaganza takes place from May 1-13, with visiting hours 11am-2pm and 6pm-10pm.

POLL OF THE WEEK

Should holiday rental websites do more to clamp down on false listings?

LAST WEEK'S POLL:

Was UK Prime Minister Theresa May right to order air strikes in Syria without consulting Parliament?

Yes **51%**

No **49%**

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TOP 5 stories



EASYJET: An earlier flight on the ground at Gibraltar airport.

- 6,804** views
Hundreds of angry passengers stranded as easyJet diverts flights to Spain
- 6,269** views
Strike warning as low-cost airline pilots call for four days of action
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Summer strike threat by air traffic controllers in Spain
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Three 'lapdancers' fight over booze on flight to Spain
- 3,461** views
Squatters refuse to leave expat's Spanish home

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Drug gangs busted



BUSTED: Four hundred agents stormed Mallorca slums as part of an anti-drug operation on Wednesday morning.

A MASSIVE narco-bust saw hundreds of Guardia Civil troops storm three Mallorca suburbs, raid scores of drug hubs and arrest 20 suspects.

Early on Wednesday morning, swarms of Guardia Civil troops stunned the Son Banya slum and quickly took the area, according to media sources.

The Guardia Civil troops then busted the Soledad and Son Gotleu areas. They raided 30 houses and arrested 20 suspects, now locked up in police cells.

One shouted: "I'm Pablo Escobar, I'm a narco," as he was taken towards an armed vehicle,

Spanish media reports.

A total of 400 officers from the Guardia Civil's Organised Crime Unit (ECO) and Algaida's Judicial Police participated in the effort to end operations in the last strongholds of this drug trafficking ring.

The raids formed the second part of Operation Ludar, which closed 30 drug sales points in Palma and Part Forana last month.

But officers from the Guardia Civil's Organised Crime Team (ECO) and Algaida's Judicial Police aimed to beat that record on Wednesday. The target was 60 drug sale points, half in San Banya and the rest in Son Gotleu and La Soledad.

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Denise ripe to shack up again

SHE recently revealed she is to move in with her boyfriend.

But TV personality Denise van Outen, 43, took some time out after making the announcement on ITV show Loose Women as she headed to Spain for a fashion shoot.

The actress was pictured in a figure-hugging one-piece floral swimsuit as she posed for retail brand Matalan alongside S Club 7 singer Rachel Stevens, 40, and ex-Pussycat Dolls star Ashley Roberts, 36.

Sharing a snap of the photo session on Instagram, the former Big Brother presenter wrote: 'Summer season @shopmatalan spain #theshow.'

It comes after Denise spilled the beans on her plans with partner Eddie Boxshall, who she has been dating after breaking up with ex-husband Lee Mead, with who she shares her seven-year-old daughter Betsy.

She told the Loose Women panel: "After four years finally me and Eddie are moving in together. It's happening!"

SMITTEN: Gorka and Gemma in Alicante.



LOOSE WOMEN: Denise on her Spanish Matalan shoot.

Photo credit Denise van Outen/Instagram



JACK THE LAD: Whitehall with co-star Rosie Perez.

Photo credit Jack Whitehall/Instagram

Strictly on hols

THEY confirmed their budding romance on Valentine's Day.

And Strictly Come Dancing stars Gorka Marquez, 27, and Gemma Atkinson, 33, showed they are still going strong during a romantic stroll in Barcelona.

The couple were on holiday with friends from the popular show, including AJ Pritchard, 23, and Dianne Buswell, 28, plus English actor Anthony Quinlan, 33, with the group seen earlier in Alicante.

Photo credit Gemma Atkinson/Instagram

The show must go on

SHE has reportedly been axed as a judge on UK show The X Factor.

But American singer Nicole Scherzinger, 39, appeared carefree during a break in Catalan city Barcelona.

The Don't Cha hitmaker was spotted wandering around the regional capital's sights in the wake of rumours that Simon Cowell is set to shake up his talent contest to boost ratings.



AXE FACTOR: Has Nicole been dropped?

Photo credit Nicole Scherzinger/Instagram

Brit comedian in a league of his own

BRITISH comedian Jack Whitehall has been filming scenes for the new season of Bounty Hunters in Spain.

The 29-year-old co-writes and stars the Sky 1 series, with American actress Rosie Perez also a cast member.

And the pair were spotted filming scenes for the show in the Pescaderia neighbourhood of Almeria City.

The show follows the misadventures of

bookish Briton Barnaby Walker (Whitehall), who finds himself in trouble after taking over the family antiques business when his father falls into a coma.

At the start of the comedy drama, he handed over a stack of cash for a pair of statues looted from war-torn Syria, leading his sister (English actress Charity Wakefield) to call on her friend Nina Morales (Perez), a bounty hunter from New York.

Sister act

FASHION designer Lauryn Goodman and her Ex On The Beach star sister Chloe have been topping up their tans in Gran Canaria.

The curvaceous pair flaunted their enviable physiques while being pictured in a series of skimpy bikinis as they frolicked in the shallows while soaking up the sun.



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NEWS EXTRA**Balcony collapse**

HOLIDAYMAKERS were evacuated from several floors of Arenal's Hotel Encant after one of its terraces on the seventh floor caved in, with Palma firefighters called out and no injuries reported.

Bee swarm

FIREFIGHTERS were called out to Pere Garau, Palma and sprayed to death a swarm of bees which had formed a hive on a motorcycle, with the operation undertaken to prevent harm to passers-by.

Farm call

A WOMAN speaking at a round table discussion has called on the agriculture industry to develop machines more suited for female use, adding most farm tools were currently more suited to men.

Car crash

THREE people were taken to the Son Espases hospital after their car overturned while driving on the Valldemossa road, with police claiming the driver had tested positive for alcohol following a blood test.

Mugger held

A 44-YEAR-OLD man who allegedly drove up to pedestrians in his car, got out, assaulted and stole from them on at least three separate cases, has been arrested by National Police in Palma.

Toys seized

GUARDIA CIVIL officers have found some 5,000 toys in Palma stores destined for sale on market stalls which they claimed violated European Union safety standards, with police adding they contained toxic boric acid.

By Jay Emeny

A **BRITISH** couple in Mallorca have been held on suspicion of leaving their children with strangers so they could go out and get drunk while on holiday.

According to reports, the youngsters' mother was held after staggering home in the wake of a boozy session and assaulting another British tourist who agreed to look after them.

Amanda Wignall, 37, told UK me-

Parents slammed

Brits 'abandoned minors to go drinking'

dia she became 'extremely concerned' when she spotted the two girls dancing on their own.

The mother-of-two from Blackpool claims the children were left with four different families in just two days and

had to stay with the hotel's children's entertainer when the couple were arrested.

"When I left the hotel to go to the airport I couldn't stop crying," Mrs Wignall said "It could've been another

Maddie McCann story, they didn't know how much danger they were in."

A spokesperson for the National Police said that the carer was also under the effects of alcohol when the mother was arrested.

The two children, aged four and 11, were taken into emergency care after their arrest, but have since returned to the UK upon the mother's release.

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OUR VIEW

Our thoughts go out to family after cruel twist

THE decision by a Spanish judge to put the Lisa Brown murder investigation on ice has shocked the expatriate community.

Our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time as their unswerving efforts to achieve closure over the heart-breaking affair appear set to go on for some time yet.

The distress must be overwhelming, yet they continue to act with dignity and determination, and for that they deserve the utmost respect.

Shock decision - page 2

Be wary of rental cons

A BRITISH bride-to-be was duped out of several thousand euros over a bogus rental scam.

And her ordeal should serve as a warning to those seeking cheap holiday accommodation, since if she had paid via the online portal where she first came across the Ibiza property the fraudsters responsible would never have got their hands on her cash.

Official means should always be used when paying in advance, and rental properties MUST have an official registration number from their local councils. Put simply, if they don't have it, don't book it.

Aisle be damned - page 11

Now we want to hear your views.
YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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Rental breakdown

Spanish city first to ban private lets

by Greg Kirby

PALMA DE MALLORCA is set to become Spain's first city to ban tourist lets in flats.

The City Hall's decision will affect all apartments in the city from July onwards once the motion has been passed.

Antoni Noguera, Palma's mayor, said the ban was to "protect the residents" from soaring prices and a shortage of long-term lets. The measure is the first of its kind in Spain.

A Palma government study found rental prices in the capital had shot up by 40 per cent in recent years.

This makes Palma the second most expensive rental market after Barcelona, the deputy mayor, Jose Hila said.

He added, the trend is



AIRBNB BANNED: The new rules are to clamp down on unregistered landlords.

transforming European cities from one day to the next. "We have to bring order", he said.

The rental market analysis uncovered a link between the holiday let phenomenon and the rise in the residential let prices.

Almost half of holiday lets were occupied by tourists for at least six months, hitting the long-term let market hard, said Palma's government team.

There were 20,000 unlicensed holiday lets in 2017 - up 50 per cent since 2015 - compared to only 645 licensed lets.

The ban's exceptions include detached houses and chalets, but not properties in protected rural areas near the airport and industrial estates.

The Cataluña regional parliament passed the letting law last August, but it was up to the Palma Town Hall to decide where in the city to target.

A leftist government coalition - made up of the Partido Socialista (PSOE), Podemos and Mallorca's Mes party - are set to approve the new law in a municipal meeting today (Thursday).

The mayor said the decision was for the "general interest" and believes it could set a trend for other cities.

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by Matt Ford

A BRITISH bride-to-be who paid more than €3,400 to book a non-existent honeymoon villa in Ibiza has exposed the plot online.

Expatriate hairdresser Daizie Kerr, 27, who now lives in Australia after emigrating from Retford in Nottinghamshire booked the property via United States-based holiday rentals website HomeAway.

And she revealed how she had been scammed in a lengthy Facebook post.

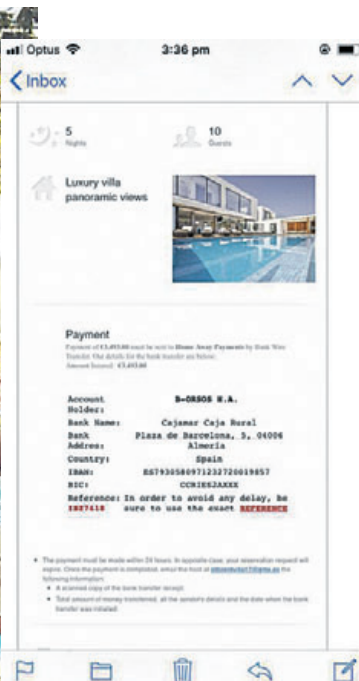
Due to wed fiancée and welder Thomas Myers, 27, in September, Ms Kerr wrote that when she tried to reserve the luxury property, a person posing as the owner told her she was eligible for an early booking discount if she paid direct.

But the messages dried up after she sent the money via bank transfer, before the website notified her that the property could be fake.

"I know that people aren't always as stupid as I have been but I just wanted to remind the public to always be cautious," she wrote.

Aisle be damned

Brit bride-to-be falls for rental con



SCAM ALERT: The victim has posted online in a bid to warn others.

"I recently went on HomeAway to search for a villa to stay at in Ibiza after our wedding. I inquired about a place and received a message from the owner, saying because I was booking so far in advance he could give us a discount and asked me to email his private email to sort his calendar.

"I then emailed him asking about the discount and minutes later I received a reservation request from what I believed to be HomeAway.

"The email looked legitimate and my app said the same as my other emails from this website at the head of their emails. It gave me a bank account to transfer the balance to in order to complete the booking request.

"The payment was sent and happy days we had a fabulous villa booked for our honeymoon with our friends! I kept

in contact with the owner who was very helpful and communicated well.

"Once the payment had left the bank two days later I emailed to see if he'd received it and he no longer replied.

"The next day I received an email from HomeAway saying they believed a listing to be fake and that if we had made any bookings to get in touch.

"I called them straight away and they said it states somewhere on their website that no payments should be made outside their website, however my fake email looked like their website so I didn't think anything of it.

"So please be aware of the big websites having fake listings, never personally email anyone and never ever bank transfer money online, even if the place is amazing and only offers bank transfer, choose somewhere else.

"We now have to try and replace that money to pay for our wedding because I was stupid."

HomeAway confirmed that to avoid problems all payments should be made via its website.

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Expatriate stab horror

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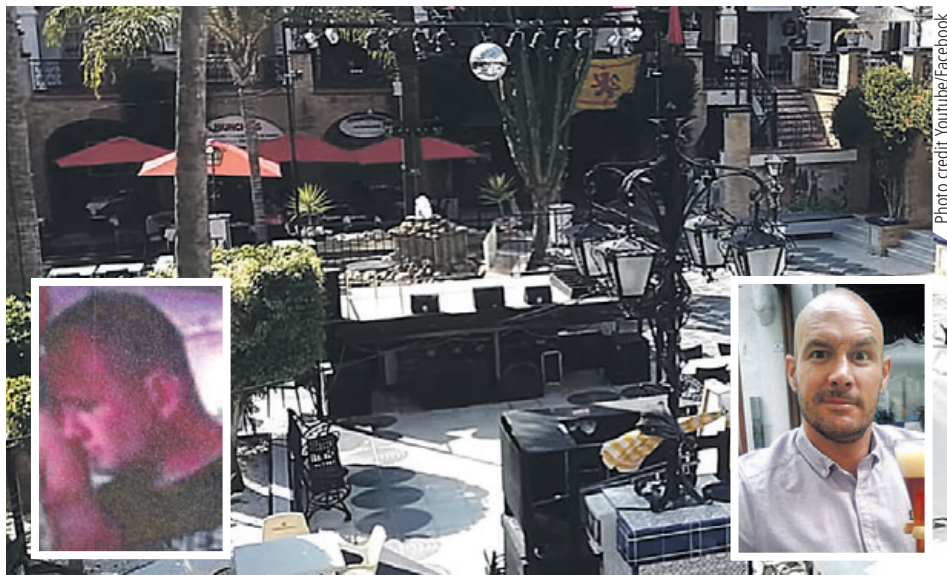
A BRITISH man could be sentenced to 13 years in a Spanish prison after being found guilty of a horror stabbing on the Costa Blanca.

Benjamin Da Costa, 30 was convicted of killing former army medic Scott Waring in the wake of a trial in Elche.

Prosecutors told a jury of nine people the dad-of-one, 40, died soon after being attacked with a 'glass or pint jug' following an argument with Da Costa.

Expatriate Simon Williams, landlord of the Hub Sports Bar in Villamartin Plaza, Orihuela Costa, has also been found guilty of trying to cover up the attack.

He cleared away the broken glass and told investigators that the incident hap-



'COVER UP': The attack took place in Villamartin Plaza, Orihuela Costa, victim Scott Waring (left) and bar owner Simon Williams (right), who was found guilty of 'hindering the investigation.'

pened outside his establishment "to help Da Costa and hinder the investigation," the court heard.

The victim, who earlier completed four tours of Northern Ireland, was working as a chef and had a

three-year-old daughter at the time of his death.

Scott's mum Susan reportedly told local media that

her son had spent nine years in the army and described him as a "troubled soul" who underwent counselling to help him cope with what he had seen on tour.

"He was an extremely kind person and never aggressive," she added.

"He idolised his daughter and couldn't do enough for her.

"I think he was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Neither of the two men was sentenced at the end of the four-day hearing, with a judge expected to deliver his verdict shortly.

Mr Williams is likely to receive a suspended prison sentence if he receives two years or less, while Da Costa faces up to 13 years behind bars for homicide.

Holiday 'hell' as flight axed

PASSENGERS flying from Malaga to Mallorca with low-cost carrier Vueling were left furious after a last-minute cancellation saw them spend the night at Barcelona airport.

The budget airline axed the direct flight with just a few hours' notice, offering travellers an alternative route via Sevilla.

But after travelling to the Andalusian capital by coach, some found they had not been allocated tickets.

One angry flier told Spanish media: "Vueling staff told us they had only just been informed that a bus-load of people from Malaga was on its way."

The aircraft eventually departed one hour late.

And when the group arrived at the El Prat hub they had no hotel rooms despite promises made by the airline.

Vueling reportedly offered them the chance to sleep in Gerona, an hour-and-a-half away.

The travellers eventually reached Palma de Mallorca at 8am in the wake of a 12-hour ordeal.

Vueling did not respond to a comment request.

AROUND 200 outraged students and teachers from Malaga

have threatened to sue a cruise ship firm over what has been dubbed a 'horror cruise' to Mallorca and Italy.

It comes as Italian company

GNV has reportedly 'failed to address' claims from passengers over their 'disastrous and unpleasant' experience.

The group, which joined 1,400

others from other parts of Andalusia and Castilla-La Mancha on board, say that food was "meagre and rotting," cabins "dirty," and that the vessel provided "was a

demanding that the €750 fee paid by each passenger be returned, and their lawyer confirmed that a civil suit will be filed should they fail to get their money back.

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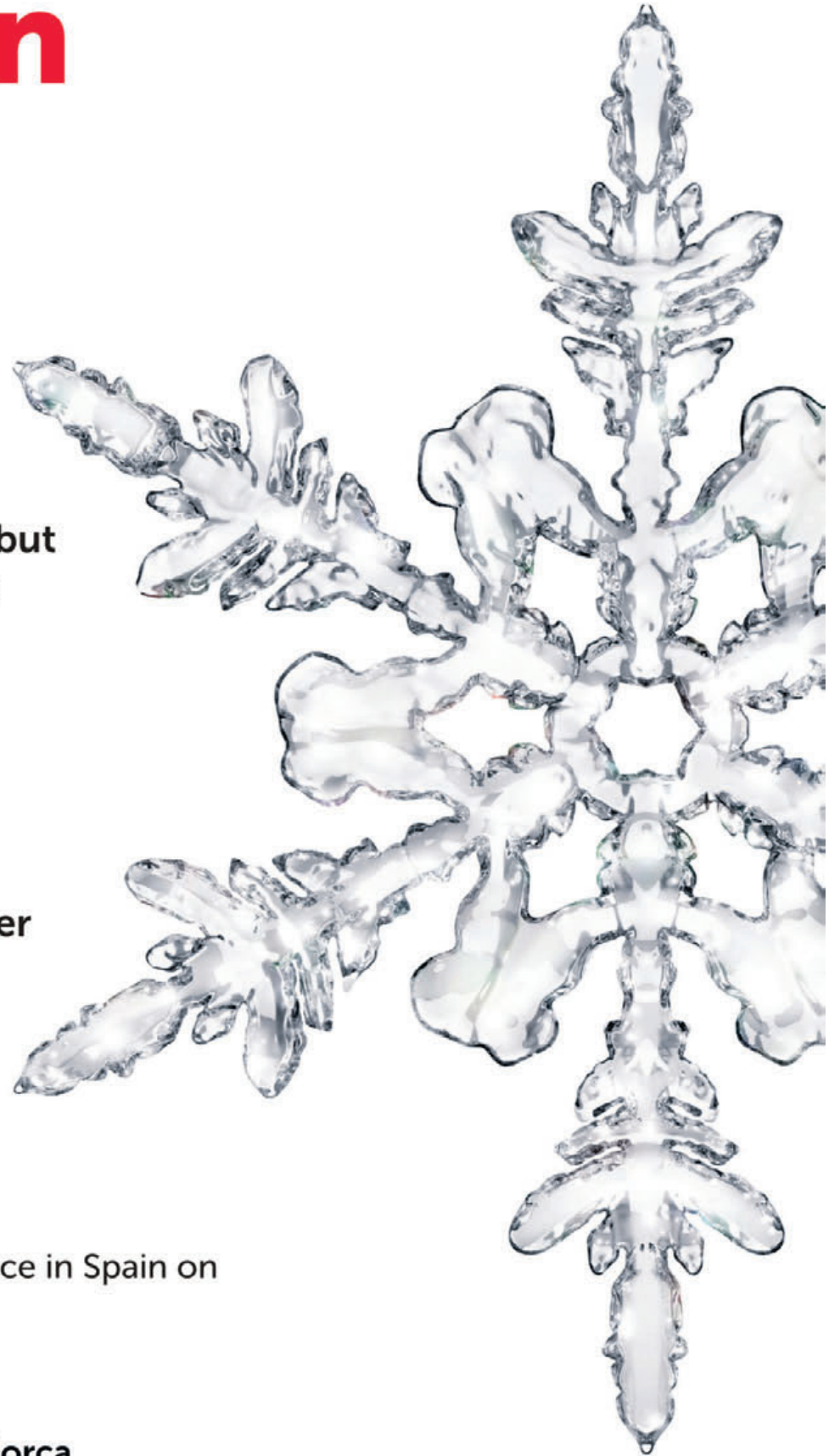
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NEWS EXTRA

Worker injured

A 41-YEAR-OLD man has been left injured in Caimari after falling from a height of two metres when the roof of a house he was working on collapsed underneath him.

Drug bust

AT least 10 people have been arrested in Andratx as part of a Guardia Civil operation against drug trafficking which saw officers seize various amounts of cocaine, hashish and money.

Thief caught

A 60-YEAR-OLD man, who has been allegedly living in Spain illegally since 1992, has been arrested in Palma on suspicion of committing several robberies, including a violent robbery, in homes across the city.

A DEFENDANT has appeared in court in Palma charged with intimidating witnesses called to testify against Bartolome Cursach in his separate ongoing trial.

The hearing before the Investigative Court Number 12 comes as Cursach was bailed after posting a €1 million bond to authorities last week.

He was previously remanded in custody for 13 months before proceedings began earlier this year over allegations of bribery, illegally possessing firearms and other charges.

The defendant accused of intimidating witnesses appeared before the court for around six hours on Tuesday morning for cross-examination.

He has pleaded not guilty following his arrest for allegedly breaching a court order preventing him from contacting the witness.

The court heard the man was previously employed by the Cursach Group at its Tito's nightclub venue in Palma.

The witness who claimed the defendant was intimidating him also worked at the club. He said he was pressured to change a statement in which he claimed



ON TRIAL: The defendant in the witness intimidation case worked at Cursach's Tito's nightclub.

Cursach cases in court

Local Police officers had been invited to Cursach Group-owned venues for parties where prostitutes were also present.

The defendant denied the accusation and told prosecutors during cross-examination the witness had tried to intimidate him. He added the witness, who is currently under legal protection, was 'obsessed' with him.

The news comes as Bartolome Cursach was bailed

with charges after a court partially upheld an appeal from his lawyer over him being held in custody in a separate hearing.

The court ordered Cursach to provide them with his home address and he must appear there regularly while legal proceedings continue.

As part of his bail conditions, it was also ruled his passport be confiscated to prevent him from leaving Mallorca or Spanish

territory without approval from the judge.

Cursach stands accused of a total of 16 crimes. These include bribery, extortion, threats, belonging to a criminal organisation, money laundering, murder, the corruption of children and possessing prohibited weapons.

The businessman appeared in court in March to answer to charges of illegal weapons

possession. National Police claimed they found an unregistered carbine rifle and several rounds of ammunition under his bed during a search of his home.

Cursach denied ever using the weapon and said it belonged to a deceased friend. He had also asked police to help him register the firearm during their visit to his home.

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Police bust Brit bar crawl

LOCAL POLICE in Calvia have stopped an unauthorised British bar crawl in Magaluf's popular Punta Ballena as they continue to clamp down on public

drunkenness in the region. The 90-strong group, all wearing 'Spring Break Invasion' t-shirts, was led by two Irish guides and was promised drinking games,

an open bar, a bucking bronco and even a wet t-shirt competition.

They were visiting just the second bar of their pub crawl on the popular Punta Ballena strip in the city when police shut the event down.

Following the event, a council official confirmed: "Local Police officers in Calvia have stopped an organised group that carried out a pub crawling route through two Punta Ballena pubs as neither the guides nor the premises had the corresponding authorisations."

New rules put into place by the municipal council state that pub crawls can now only be carried out between eight and mid-



Credit: Twitter

PARTY OVER: Police stopped the Punta Ballena pub crawl.

night, while the maximum number of participants wearing a t-shirt that identifies them as group members is restricted to just 20 people.

It is also now forbidden to advertise any event that encourages the consumption of alcohol or the practice of sexual games and pub crawl 'guides' must

also have the correct insurance and several other documents before it takes place

As a result, those in charge of the crawl now reportedly face charges of €3,000 each for not obtaining the correct licences, while a pub could also be given a €1,500 penalty.

NEWS EXTRA

Tax evasion case closed

PROSECUTORS have withdrawn a €2.6 million tax evasion case against Acasa SA water services company because evidence could only be pinned on the ex-suspect's father, who is now dead.

Fire back

MAYORS, councillors and other officials from Raiguer de Mallorca towns have participated in forest fire prevention training as part of the Ministry of Environment's week-long initiative, said government authorities.

Car flips

A DRIVER who overturned his car and crashed off the MA-19 road to Can Pastilla early last Saturday morning tested positive for alcohol, according to Palma Local Police.

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Ryanair makes it four

FOR the first time four airlines will compete to transport passengers from Zaragoza to Mallorca.

Ryanair has decided to join Air Europa, Vueling and Volotea on the route, offering tickets from just €17.78. The price undercuts competitors by at least €8.

Until recently Air Europa and Vueling were the only airlines to charter to Palma.

Now Ryanair has followed



QUIDS-IN: Passengers boarding a Ryanair flight at Zaragoza airport.

Volotea into battle, offering flights every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from June until late September.

Ryanair set up stall in Zaragoza in 2007 but hasn't flown to the Islands until now.

It's latest move is part of a broader Mallorca strategy which will also see the airline charter new flights from Santander and Valladolid to Palma.

Fair ferry to France

THE Mega Express Two ferry docked in Alcudia port on Sunday, marking a new sea route between Mallorca and France.

Corsica ferries will operate the passage twice a week between Mallorca and Toulon port in the south of France.

The 176-metre Mega Express Two ferry which was built in 2001 will link the ports, carrying up to 1,756 passengers and 550 vehicles.

The boat will initially set sail from Mallorca on Sundays at 7.30am and Thursdays at 6.30pm, but departure times will change as the season progresses.

The yellow vessel which can reach a speed of 29 knots boasts a swimming



ALL-ABOARD: The Mega Express Two ferry now travels between Mallorca and France.

pool and shops as well as a restaurant. The firm has linked France's Corisca and Italy's Sardinia since 1968.

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CAN ESTADES

Holidaymaker fears car thefts

EXCLUSIVE

By Joe Gerrard

A BRITISH woman staying in the Calvia area of Mallorca has spoken out after returning to her car to find its wing mirrors missing.

The source, who wishes to remain anonymous, exclusively told *Euro Weekly News* she suspected thieves

were responsible for the disappearance and for other similar cases in Portals Nous.

The woman, who is staying with her son who lives in the area, said: "I was so devastated. If another lady in my position came here and had the same thing happen to her it would be terrible."

She said she got in her

blue Mini Cooper S and saw the wing mirrors missing as she was about to leave her driveway last Friday. Her son has since contacted the police, she added.

"Now I can't drive my car. I'm totally stuck."

The woman said it appeared her wing mirrors had been turned on their hinges exposing wiring and screws which were then cut and

taken out to get them off.

She added she suspected a group of people was targeting high-end cars in the area and taking parts off them to sell on.

"I heard a BMW was also damaged. There could be others out there targeting more people."

"I just hope some good can come of this. People need to be aware," she said.

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NETHERLANDS

Weed limits

CANNABIS lovers may have to change their holiday destination as cities across the Netherlands clamp down on smokers after complaints from locals about its 'strong smell' and 'noise from its users.'

Gas gone

FOR the first time ever, the Netherlands imported more gas than it produced in 2017 because of earthquake-related problems at its Groningen fields which will be closed completely in 2030.

Crime tips

AN anonymous tip line, Meld Misdaad Anoniem, makes around €500,000 per year by selling crime tip offs to insurers, energy companies and even tax authorities, according to a Dutch magazine.



GOOSE CHASE: Migrating geese are causing havoc for Dutch drivers.

Goose chase

GEESE flocking to their favourite breeding spot in Europe in Gelderland

are causing havoc for drivers who have been warned to watch out for hundreds of the birds on motorway junctions and verges.

GERMANY

Hands up

POLICE commandos have raided brothels and flats in 12 states across Germany, arresting more than 100 suspected people traffickers who targeted hundreds out of "boundless greed," said the Interior Minister.

Big bomb

BERLIN construction workers have found a 500-kilo Second

World War bomb near the city's main railway station, which is likely to spark travel chaos when it is defused, the government warned.

Racist rap

A RAP DUO - Kollegah and Farid Bang - whose best-selling songs allegedly contain anti-Jewish lyrics about the Holocaust has won

an Echo award, among the country's most important.

Marx and spender

THE city of Trier is printing 'ZE-RO-EURO' souvenir notes to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Karl Marx's, communism's founding father and it's most famous resident, who famously disliked money.

FRANCE

Autism behind

PRESIDENT Macron has launched a plan to improve the way the education system includes autistic children in the country that has long struggled to care for its estimated 700,000 sufferers.

Spy off!

A HEAVILY-ENCRYPTED French version of WhatsApp will be launched for government officials by summer in response to fears in response to an increased hacking risk, according to a government official.

Blue Brits

NEW blue British passports are to be made in France after British firm De la Rue dropped an appeal against making them in the European Union, according to British media.

History made

FORTY-THREE-YEAR-OLD Jerome Hamon has made history as the first man ever to have had two face transplants and told French media that he is feeling well three months after the groundbreaking surgery.

BELGIUM

Assad aid

BELGIUM has reportedly broken EU sanctions by shipping 96 tonnes of a substance used in Sarin nerve gas to war-torn Syria, which the UN accuses President Assad of using to kill civilians.

Comfy troops

TO lower the average age of soldiers, the Belgian Army is considering allowing new recruits to go home at weekends instead of roughing it in barracks, according to government officials.

Human zoos

BRUSSELS anniversary celebrations of its 1958 world fair will not include a 'human zoo' of black people living in 'native conditions' present at the original event, according to British media.

Lana attacked

A FAN is reported to have attacked Canadian popstar Lana del Rey as she left the stage at one of her European tour concerts in Antwerp, according to reports.

SWEDEN

On the run

ICELANDIC police are tracking a thief suspected of stealing 600 computers to create untraceable bitcoin currency, who has since broken out of prison and is believed to be on the run in Sweden.

Park boom

TWENTY mainly ex-Yugoslav war hand grenades have exploded in a rise of gang related violence in 2017 and one also killed a passer-by in a Stockholm park earlier this year, according to the BBC.

Wind war

WIND FARMS and warplanes are competing for space after the government decided to reserve more low-fly zones for the air force, with the move criticised by the expanding wind power sector.

Special visit

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi was the first Indian Premier to visit Sweden in three decades after meeting with Swedish counterpart Stefan Lofven.

NORWAY

Road-sex ban

THE government has warned that its high-school graduates not to have sex on roundabouts during their post-graduation 'russ' celebrations because it's "too much of a surprise" for shocked drivers who could crash into them.

Hitting back

INDONESIA's Trade Minister Enggartiasto Lukita has claimed that Norway's planned palm oil ban is a declaration of trade war, and has threatened to hit back by banning its fish imports.

Frozen favourite

THE Grandiosa frozen pizza brand has been dubbed Norway's unofficial national dish, producing over half of the 47 million frozen pizzas munched by 5.3 million Norwegians per year, according to industry reports.

Please stay

NORWAY may ask US marines stationed in the country to stay longer to deter Russia after a Marine Commander reportedly said during a visit that he could see 'a big-ass fight' coming.

DENMARK

Waste not

FOOD waste across the country is 14,000 tonnes lower than in 2011, thanks in part to waste awareness campaigns, according to a new report from the Miljøstyrelsen environmental authority.

Yummy starfish

DANISH MARINE PROTEIN is set to build the world's first starfish factory in the city of Skive and will use the invertebrates to make animal feed more organic, the firm said in a statement.

Nazi sub

MUSEUM researchers have unearthed a Nazi submarine off the coast of Skagen, which was sunk in 1945 by British forces on the day Allied Forces liberated the country from the Nazi German occupation.

Too rich




THE country is too rich for its own good and doesn't have enough debt, burdening its central bank - which has more than €27 billion in its coffers - with negative interest rates.



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Dirty cash fear sparks inquest

THE Spanish High Court has revealed that it is probing the country's third-largest lender Caixa-bank.

A written ruling said that employees and directors at 10 branches of the Valencia-based institution are suspected of helping criminals to transfer €99 million of dirty money to China and Hong Kong between 2013 and 2015.

It added that the cash was moved under an agreement with the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, already under investigation for alleged recycling of dirty money in Madrid.

EC chief backs Brexit veto

A SPANISH construction firm has been accused of holding Australian city Sydney to ransom over a €1.25 billion light rail project.

It comes as New South Wales (NSW) Transport Minister Andrew Constance revealed that the disastrous scheme, scheduled to open in March 2019, is now running a year behind schedule.

And he blames Madrid-based subcontractor Acciona, which he claims is deliberately delaying work as it remains locked in a €750,000 legal battle with the NSW state government.

"We will ensure as best as possible

by *Matt Ford*

that they ramp up their activity - they are on a 'go slow,' anyone walking the city can quite clearly see," Mr Constance said.

"They have construction zones where there is no workforce on the ground doing the work."

Acciona has filed a Supreme Court lawsuit against Transport for NSW, which it argues has behaved in a 'misleading and deceptive' way, claiming it entered into the contract under a 'false premise.'

The fiasco has brought traffic on one

of the east coast city's busiest thoroughfares to a standstill, and NSW Labor deputy leader Michael Daley said the government must share responsibility.

"They are going slow in this project because things are seriously wrong and they have been wrong from day one," he said.

But Mr Constance disagreed, as he replied: "ALTRAC [the consortium responsible for the bungled project] and Acciona need to meet the requirements of the contract, and the NSW government will not be held to ransom."

No pipe dream for gas guzzler

DOUBTS have been raised about the economic viability of a giant gas pipeline project between France and Spain.

The €3 billion Midi-Cataluña (Midcat) project has been backed by the European Commission and Spanish EU Climate Commissioner Miguel Arias Canete, with French gas grid Tenega and Spanish counterpart Enagas keen to invest.

But an independent analysis of Midcat's first phase concluded that it is unlikely to be cost effective, with critics having long questioned the need for it.

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Quote of the Week

"It's an honour for me to lead a candidacy to recover Madrid from the mafia."
Iñigo Errejón of left-wing party Podemos launches his campaign to replace Madrid regional leader Cristina Cifuentes, accused of faking her Master's degree.



Amazon primed in redundancy battle



WAREHOUSE OF HORRORS: Inside the firm's Madrid facility.

E-COMMERCE giant Amazon has been slammed for firing more than 100 employees who were striking for improved working conditions.

The firm claims that the decision not to renew temporary contracts was due to a lack of consumer demand, but the CGT labour union accused the company of victimising staff at its biggest Spanish warehouse in San Fernando de Henares, Madrid.

The workers have been organising strike days since March in protest at proposed new employment terms, which are set to see salaries for existing staff frozen indefinitely and sick leave payments slashed.

Spain's largest online retailer usually gives notice when contracts are not renewed, but those laid off told Spanish media that they were informed by email the same day their existing agreements expired.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Remark stirs probe doubt

THE Spanish Supreme Court judge probing the Catalan independence referendum has asked Spain's finance minister to clarify why he said no public money was used to fund the poll when ex-leader Carles Puigdemont is under investigation for misuse of state funds.

What a catch

VALENCIA-BASED supermarket chain Mercadona has opened its first commercial office in the UK in Harrogate, Yorkshire, which is set to manage purchasing of North Sea fish and negotiate deals with new British suppliers.

Payback time

SPAIN'S Official Credit Institute has returned €1 billion borrowed from German public bank KfW in 2013 and 2014 to finance small and medium-sized businesses as they emerged from the financial crisis, with the repayment five years ahead of schedule.

Gib firms set to rock on?

A SPANISH mayor has offered to help more than 60 insurance firms based in Gibraltar to remain in the European Union (EU) single market post Brexit.

Juan Franco of La Linea de la Concepcion, which borders the Rock, has invited firms to set up offices in his town so they can continue to serve EU clients after Britain leaves the

bloc in March next year.

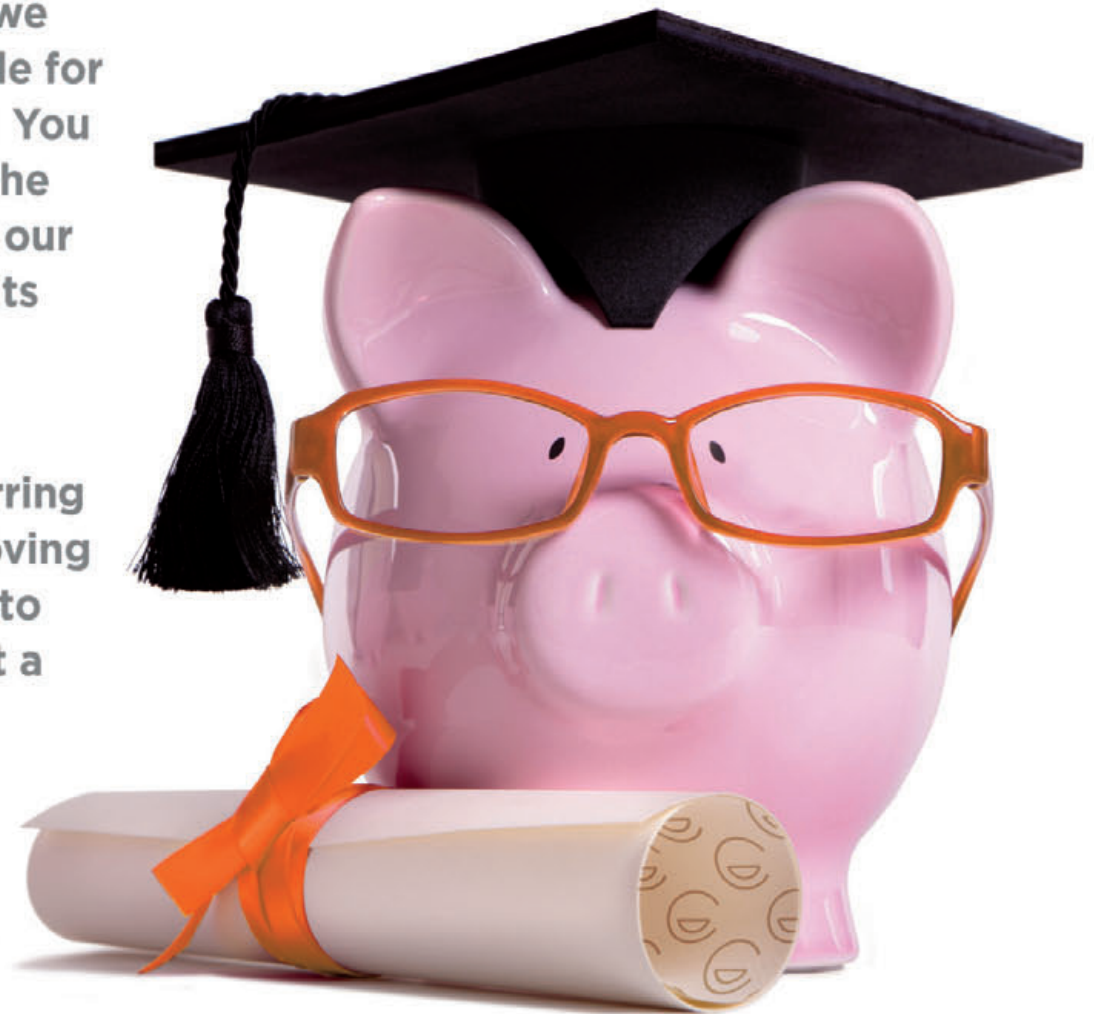
And he has indicated that the council is willing to take unusual measures to do so.

"If necessary we could adapt the convention centre to host the companies temporarily," said Franco in a telephone interview. "Other measures can be explored in the longer term."

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

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LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES APRIL 23

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,785.50	18.30	1.04	25,052.61
Associated British Foods	2,592.50	-38.50	-1.46	20,931.87
Admiral Group	1,874.00	-123.00	-6.16	5,681.45
Ashtead Group	2,075.00	4.00	0.19	10,177.93
Antofagasta	958.30	5.50	0.58	9,485.91
Aviva	517.50	-4.50	-0.86	21,114.74
AstraZeneca	4,957.50	-18.50	-0.37	62,765.85
BAE Systems	554.50	-46.50	-7.74	18,888.97
Barclays	209.00	-6.50	-3.02	36,631.47
British American Tobacco	3,745.00	45.00	1.22	83,718.27
Barratt Developments	519.90	-39.70	-7.09	5,599.37
Berkeley Group Holdings	3,925.00	-41.00	-1.03	5,299.19
British Land Co	670.50	4.50	0.68	6,494.93
BHP Billiton	1,467.00	-67.40	-4.39	32,116.16
Bunzl	2,129.50	0.00	0.00	7,118.49
BP	505.00	-13.20	-2.55	103,083.08
Burberry Group	1,638.50	-96.50	-5.56	7,171.33
BT Group	246.25	4.45	1.84	23,842.33
Coca-Cola HBC	2,548.00	52.00	2.08	9,204.15
Carnival	4,885.00	212.00	4.54	9,514.11
Centrica	147.00	0.80	0.55	8,160.87
Compass Group	1,422.50	-80.50	-5.36	23,595.86
Croda International	4,587.00	0.00	0.00	6,016.09
CRH	2,525.00	0.00	0.00	20,408.24
DCC	6,892.50	67.50	0.99	6,138.47
Diageo	2,520.00	55.00	2.23	60,621.60
Direct Line Insurance Group	382.00	9.30	2.50	5,072.38
Evrax	401.90	-5.40	-1.33	5,857.10
Experian	1,573.50	-33.00	-2.05	14,453.48
easyJet	1,580.00	-23.00	-1.43	6,387.11
Ferguson	5,635.00	5.00	0.09	13,768.47
Fresnillo	1,311.50	13.50	1.04	9,590.67
G4S	237.50	-21.00	-8.12	4,038.80
GKN	461.00	-6.90	-1.47	8,209.57
Glencore	380.10	-0.55	-0.14	54,525.52
GlaxoSmithKline	1,428.50	-1.50	-0.10	69,792.44
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,736.00	0.00	0.00	8,234.17
Halma	1,230.00	0.00	0.00	4,669.59
HSBC Holdings	700.00	-1.20	-0.17	138,778.60
International Consoltdt Airs Gr	620.00	9.00	1.47	12,548.55
InterContinental Hotels Group	3,688.00	-682.00	-15.61	8,379.94
3i Group	895.00	-22.80	-2.48	8,921.47
Imperial Brands	2,409.00	6.50	0.27	22,460.51
Informa	730.60	0.00	0.00	6,010.29
Intertek Group	4,860.00	-66.00	-1.34	7,917.95
ITV	155.50	10.55	7.28	5,848.92
Just Eat	726.00	-15.60	-2.10	4,957.64
Johnson Matthey	3,080.00	-185.00	-5.67	6,315.00
Kingfisher	301.50	-7.50	-2.43	6,582.02
Land Securities Group	970.00	-1.80	-0.19	7,121.72

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Legal & General Group	270.15	-5.05	-1.84	16,297.14
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	66.13	0.43	0.65	47,632.32
London Stock Exchange Grp	4,287.00	37.00	0.87	14,736.31
Micro Focus International	1,327.50	29.00	2.23	5,610.24
Mediclinic International	695.80	5.20	0.75	4,973.45
Marks & Spencer Group	276.00	-4.60	-1.64	4,559.07
Mondi	1,894.00	-120.00	-5.96	7,366.85
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	235.15	0.85	0.36	5,489.13
National Grid	810.00	-2.90	-0.36	27,180.49
NMC Health	3,421.00	-267.00	-7.24	7,478.16
Next	5,375.00	155.00	2.97	7,417.73
Old Mutual Group	238.00	-4.60	-1.90	11,961.98
Paddy Power Betfair	7,305.00	0.00	0.00	6,211.09
Prudential	1,835.50	-39.50	-2.11	48,050.85
Persimmon	2,833.00	116.00	4.27	8,411.23
Pearson	779.00	-5.00	-0.64	6,054.75
Reckitt Benckiser Group	5,675.00	50.00	0.89	40,745.30
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	276.00	1.80	0.66	32,644.82
Royal Dutch Shell	2,412.50	-84.50	-3.38	114,192.86
RELX	1,440.00	-104.00	-6.74	16,060.82
Rio Tinto	3,952.50	-34.50	-0.87	52,809.52
Royal Mail	514.20	-45.80	-8.18	5,630.00
Rolls-Royce Group	876.00	9.80	1.13	16,307.15
Randgold Resources	5,725.00	-17.00	-0.30	5,434.96
RSA Insurance Group	631.60	-21.40	-3.28	6,621.41
Rentokil Initial	249.50	-36.80	-12.85	5,257.19
Sainsbury (J)	243.50	-20.40	-7.73	5,807.91
Schroders	3,495.50	212.50	6.47	7,361.55
Sage Group (The)	630.80	0.00	0.00	6,825.78
Segro	628.20	0.00	0.00	6,282.33
Shire	3,860.00	38.50	1.01	36,263.61
Smurfit Kappa Group	3,221.00	85.00	2.71	7,561.23
Sky	1,355.75	43.75	3.33	22,673.84
Standard Life Aberdeen	375.90	8.80	2.40	10,933.82
Smith (DS)	489.10	-18.70	-3.68	5,421.71
Smiths Group	1,634.50	16.00	0.99	6,221.22
Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst	452.50	-10.70	-2.31	6,435.42
Smith & Nephew	1,330.00	-22.00	-1.63	11,731.61
SSE	1,317.50	-10.00	-0.75	13,435.51
Standard Chartered	762.50	-1.90	-0.25	24,610.00
St James's Place	1,080.00	-29.50	-2.66	5,857.14
Severn Trent	1,875.00	-6.50	-0.35	4,420.69
Tesco	236.50	-2.90	-1.21	23,409.83
TUI AG	1,602.25	-21.75	-1.34	9,448.12
Taylor Wimpey	196.00	2.00	1.03	6,339.86
Unilever	3,890.00	17.50	0.45	47,558.53
United Utilities Group	702.50	-14.70	-2.05	4,855.05
Vodafone Group	208.15	-1.85	-0.88	55,125.47
WPP Group	1,172.50	26.00	2.27	14,636.24
Whitbread	4,105.00	-130.00	-3.07	7,684.45

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DOW JONES

CLOSING PRICES APRIL 23

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE%	CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	217,750	-0.50%	-1,100	129,467,92
AMERICAN EXPRESS	100,7900	-1.54%	-1,5800	86,650,97
APPLE	165,720	-4.10%	-7,080	840,814,69
BOEING CO	338,670	-0.58%	-1,970	198,951,63
CATERPILLAR	153,250	-1.57%	-2,450	91,520,41
CHEVRON	122,31	-1.13%	-1,40	233,633,97
CISCO SYSTEMS	44,090	-1.05%	-470	212,452,50
COCA-COLA	43,74	-1.29%	-0,57	186,571,85
DOWDUPONT	66,04	-0.74%	-0,49	153,582,16
EXXON MOBIL	79,00	-0.53%	-0,42	334,500,41
GENERAL ELECTRIC	14,5400	+3.93%	0,5500	126,214,85
GOLDMAN SACHS	251,96	-0.87%	-2,21	97,648,07
HOME DEPOT	177,0100	-0.04%	-0,0700	203,984,79
IBM	144,90	-1.90%	-2,80	133,477,23
INTEL CORP	51,5300	-1.32%	-0,6900	240,542,04
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	111,4700	-0.22%	-0,2500	379,294,72
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	126,6600	-0.70%	-0,8900	339,783,14
MC DONALD'S CORP	158,7700	-0.48%	-0,7600	124,716,72
MERCK AND CO. NEW	58,83	+0.32%	0,19	158,318,16
MICROSOFT	95,000	-1.15%	-1,110	731,557,33
NIKE	66,09	+0.55%	0,36	84,747,57
PFIZER	36,6300	+0.27%	0,1000	217,777,73
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	73,800	-1.53%	-1,150	186,806,37
TRAVELERS CIES	136,84	+0.18%	0,25	36,985,59
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	123,08	-0.62%	-0,77	98,410,60
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	235,06	-0.30%	-0,70	227,439,49
VERIZON COMMS	47,90	-1.09%	-0,53	197,723,75
VISA	124,20	+0.19%	0,24	223,831,89
WAL-MART STORES	86,9800	-1.04%	-0,9100	256,622,10
WALT DISNEY CO	100,2400	-0.64%	-0,6500	150,728,43

M - MILLION DOLLARS

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES APRIL 23

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
Limelight Networks, Inc.	\$ 4.99	0.89 ▲ 21.71%
Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 12.01	1.82 ▲ 17.86%
Ericsson	\$ 7.78	1.14 ▲ 17.17%
Farmers Capital Bank Corporation	\$ 49.20	6.95 ▲ 16.45%
Solid Biosciences Inc.	\$ 12.48	1.63 ▲ 15.02%
Dogness (International) Corporation	\$ 4.149	0.349 ▲ 9.18%
DAVIDsTEA Inc.	\$ 3.749	0.307 ▲ 8.92%
Akcea Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 26.18	2.11 ▲ 8.77%
Destination Maternity Corporation	\$ 2.87	0.22 ▲ 8.30%
STAAR Surgical Company	\$ 16.75	1.25 ▲ 8.06%
Enphase Energy, Inc.	\$ 4.91	0.33 ▲ 7.21%
Most Declined		
Discovery, Inc.	\$ 38	7.35 ▼ 16.21%
Sage Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 148.01	21.66 ▼ 12.77%
Ultra Petroleum Corp.	\$ 2.63	0.35 ▼ 11.74%
Evolus, Inc.	\$ 7.95	0.85 ▼ 9.66%
Clementia Pharmaceuticals Inc.	\$ 17.63	1.81 ▼ 9.31%
Marten Transport, Ltd.	\$ 21.30	2.05 ▼ 8.78%
Arcturus Therapeutics Ltd.	\$ 5.17	0.48 ▼ 8.50%
Revanche Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 30.60	2.75 ▼ 8.25%
Proteon Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 2.25	0.20 ▼ 8.16%
Gentex Corporation	\$ 21.99	1.67 ▼ 7.06%
Atlassian Corporation Plc	\$ 58.205	4.065 ▼ 6.53%

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Multi Asset Balanced B EUR

Multi Asset Growth B GBP

Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

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PRICE MOVEMENT

£0.0035

€1.0558

€0.0047

£1.3029

£0.0102

€1.1912

€0.0086

£1.4486

£0.0178

€1.3319

€0.0162

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Brits' €462,000 court battle

BANKS DESCRIBED AS 'IRREGULAR AND DISHONEST'

THE Swiss branch of a Danish bank must pay a British expatriate couple €462,000 in compensation after a Malaga court found evidence of wrongdoing in a mortgage loan scheme.

A judge presiding over the case concluded that Sydbank - which opened an office in Fuengirola on the Costa del Sol - and Danish mortgage lender Nykredit were not authorised to operate in Spain, referring to them as "clandestine operators."

And a court ruling described the firms' behaviour after convincing the victims to remortgage their home to avoid Spanish inheritance tax as "irregular and dishonest."

It also accused two witnesses testifying on behalf of Nykredit of being "extremely unreliable, when not openly untruthful."

The document continued: "The Malaga Appeal Court has reversed an unjust Court of First Instance ruling and granted relief to two British pensioners, victims of the 'Spanish Equity Release Package' (SERP),



DANISH MORTGAGE TRIAL: Witnesses were described as 'extremely unreliable' in the Malaga trial and (inset) Maria and Barry Gill.

peddled by Nykredit Realkredit A/S "and Sydbank (Schweiz) AG and sold by Offshore Money Managers."

The decision reportedly comes two days before the unnamed pair's home was due to be auctioned after

they received a notice of foreclosure.

Sydbank and Nykredit are the same two companies implicated in the case of British expatriates Barry and Maria Gill, who still live in their Costa del Sol home despite it being

repossessed, according to reports.

In 2006 they were advised to take out a 90 per cent interest-only mortgage on their property - which they owned in full - by a local financial adviser, slashing their inheritance tax liability from 20 to 2 per cent of its value.

And they were told to borrow the cash from Nykredit and deposit the €891,699 total with Sydbank.

But the sum began to plummet and in 2012 the Gills learned that Sydbank had shut its Swiss branch and paid the remaining €294,228 of their money to Nykredit without their consent.

"We later learned that Sydbank decided to close their Swiss branch because of the threats of legal action they were receiving against them and Nykredit from similar cases of fraud such as our own," Barry told Danish media.

It left the Gills with an outstanding mortgage of €600,000 on a property they had owned entirely six years earlier, and which Nykredit reportedly sold in 2017.

Venezuela and Spain agree to strengthen ties

SPAIN and Venezuela have announced that they are to 'normalise relations' and restore their respective ambassadors.

It follows a diplomatic spat which erupted in the wake of European Union (EU) sanctions against the troubled South American country.

The row saw President Nicolas Maduro withdraw his envoy to Madrid over what he called "repeated meddling" in his nation's internal affairs.

His comments came after the EU and United States penalised Venezuelan officials for alleged abuses against opposition protests.

The country has been under fire for creating a Constituent National Assembly in 2017, a supreme power that critics say is akin to a dictatorship.

Maduro has repeatedly slammed Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy during live television broadcasts, accusing Spain and other European governments of working together to destabilise his regime.



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'Oh to be in England now that April's here'

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT



THOSE glorious words from the pen of Robert Browning have, to me, never been more evident than in the last few days of yet another quick sojourn to the old country.

Personally, for me the piece should actually be slightly amended, and the word England replaced by 'London.'

A few days ago, I had received word that the hospital wanted me back in the UK to run a couple of extra tests. Due to pressure of work, it had to be a really quick visit, so last week found me once again 'Ubering' around the streets of the great metropolis.

And what a difference. My last visit dumped me in the middle of the coldest spell for years, with people shuffling around like iced-up Eskimos from the far reaches of the Arctic. Not this time however. In true British fashion and in the blink of an eye, the 'Beast from the East' has been replaced by the shimmering sunshine of the south. And what a difference. London has been completely transformed.

The streets and avenues have literally burst into life, with a wonderful abundance of blossoming cherries and magnolias.



SCORCHIO! Sunseekers enjoying the pleasant weather on London's floating Garden Barge Square last weekend.

The embankment of the Thames was quite magnificent, with sunlight bouncing off the water and the terraces of the moored-up pubs packed with, somewhat relieved, lightly clad Londoners, celebrating the fact that spring truly does appear to have arrived at last.

So, once again I find myself hurtling through the air in a tin tube, at some 500 miles an hour, scribbling this missive and hoping that the first time it is

perused, is not when it gets washed up on some foreign shore or another. If you get my drift! Drift, geddit? Ah well.

All in all, it's been quite an eventful week. The anniversary of Enoch Powell's 'Rivers of Blood' speech raised all the usual, predictable reactions.

What did interest me however was the high number of those, including some politicians, who felt that were he still alive today, he would have no

trouble being elected - to possibly the highest political position in the land! So things still appear to have a long way to go.

I did feel sorry for those Barbadians caught up in the Windrush fiasco however. I remember in my Bayswater days, this happy race of people arriving in their droves. Bringing with them their colourful attire and rhythms, into what was a somewhat drab UK of the late 50's.

They also managed at that time, in the light of some quite severe racist attitudes, to ultimately integrate and become true British members of society. Let's hope it's all sorted sooner rather than later.

Also delighted to see the North Korean threat all but settled. This of course has very little to do with the sanctions imposed. It is to me an obvious result of China, and probably Russia, ordering Kim Jong-un to cool it.

The way it was going between him and Trump, it truly was beginning to look as though it could indeed lead to some form of nuclear confrontation. Neither China nor Russia wanted that. But isn't it somewhat gratifying, after their arrogant posturing and contempt for past American presidents, that they appear to be extremely wary of Trump and what he could well be capable of?

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



A WHILE ago my bank account was hacked. Why anyone would bother given that my balance is often lower than my IQ beats me, but that's the way the galleta crumbles these days.

What's more surprising is that they only wanted, and took, the equivalent of two euros.

Turns out it was a fishing expedition. According to my friendly banker (yes, there are still a few around even if they're right up there on the most-hated list with us journalists), they were testing the waters to see whether (a) they could do it and (b) they could get away with it.

We nipped that incident together, only to find another odd transaction on my statement a few months later: a hundred euros changed into dollars. Then, presumably when the bank noticed 'their' mistaken transaction, it was changed back to euros. Job done, discrepancy solved, no need for any alarm bells.

Except that there was. What most users might easily forget is the difference between the buying and selling rates for foreign currency. My hundred

Hack to the future

Terence Kennedy has an internet fraud to report: two euros stolen



CYBER ATTACKS: Bank fraud is easing.

smackers ended up back in my account as just 97, and the hackers in Prague (apparently) had done this to thousands of accounts, a nice little earner.

Ditto the supremely clever scam right back at the beginning of comput-

erised banking, when an insider took just one cent from every account in his nationwide bank, correctly assuming no-one would bother. But the bank had several million customers, so you do the maths. Or math if you're American.

Online banking has been one of the finer innovations of our digital age - used prudently. UK banks say they managed to catch more than 60 per cent of fraud attempts last year, but the equivalent of €800 million still found its way to the bad guys.

When my Inbox isn't telling me I've won a lottery I didn't enter, or that Nigeria's finance minister really needs my help to move several million, I regularly get emails purporting to be from my bank (and others) asking me to update my personal details, and providing a handy link to do so.

Don't. By all means check and update your information. But do it by going to your tried and trusted online banking site in the usual way, not by clicking an email link which may be a 'spoof', taking you straight to a site which may look like your bank's but isn't, and possible penury.

Oh and by the way: if you get an email from your bank saying some payments are outstanding - it's not a compliment.

PIN money

THE good news for online bankophobes is that you're more likely to be defrauded through your plastic card than with internet banking (80 per cent vs 18 per cent last year).

Although fraud losses still run into millions, online banking crime is actually trending downwards, largely thanks to increased vigilance by both banks and customers.

One golden rule is never to give your PIN code to anyone. Not even bank staff.

Nor indeed to family members.

When a teenager blew some €11,000 on his dad's card last year, the bank refused compensation because the PIN was in dad's desk.

In the interests of family harmony the son is apparently paying it back - at €10 a month. For 90 years.



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Advertising Feature

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Your quick guide to travel insurance and pre-existing medical conditions

YOU will be forgiven if it's not the first thing on your mind when booking your next holiday, but ignoring a pre-existing medical condition when arranging travel insurance could be the single most eye-wateringly expensive mistake you'll ever make.

Why bother with cover?

Did you know that in-patient treatment abroad can easily run into hundreds if not thousands per day?

The Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) revealed figures in 2017 that would have you quaking in your boots. Like £768,000 for medical treatment and repatriation for a traveller in the US who suffered a stroke; and £81,000 for treating pancreatitis in Greece.

Even a flight home with a doctor escort could set you back over £10,000, and an air ambulance, over £20,000.

It's easy to assume that your medical conditions won't cause you a problem, but doing so can have disastrous repercussions and may invalidate your travel policy if you haven't complied with the declaration requirements.

It may be more difficult, or more expensive to buy insurance which covers your pre-existing conditions, but it could be a drop in the ocean compared to the medical costs you'll face if you have a problem.

What is a pre-existing medical condition?

This is an illness or medical condition which you have previously had symptoms, advice or treatment for. The exact definition and declaration requirements vary a lot by travel insurance policy so always check carefully before you buy. NEVER withhold details of a pre-existing condition, or this could invalidate your policy

Many of us suffer from common pre-existing medical conditions, such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes or osteoarthritis, so it's essential that you check and comply with the rules set by your chosen travel insurance company.

Otherwise you are likely to find that you're not covered for any-



PEACE OF MIND: When travel insurance covers existing conditions.

thing linked to that condition and this could cost you dearly in both stress and hard earned cash.

Am I covered with an EHIC Card?

The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), may cover costs of

state-provided treatment if travelling within the European Economic Area (EEA), however, state healthcare provision varies and can be limited in some locations. You won't be covered for repatriation costs, or the additional med-

ical support this may involve - such as a doctor or nurse escort.

How can I get covered?

Some companies have 'accepted medical conditions' lists. Globelink now cover more pre-existing medical conditions than ever before, including high cholesterol, high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes, gastric reflux and more. Visit our website to check the full list. We also offer a medical screening service to check any conditions that are not on our standard list.

Do yourself a favour and think twice before travelling without checking your pre-existing medical conditions are covered. Your holiday heaven could turn into a traumatic trip before you know it.

Take a walk on the wild side with Globelink travel insurance: www.globelink.co.uk, or call (UK) +44 1353 699 082 or our Spanish link line 966 265 000.



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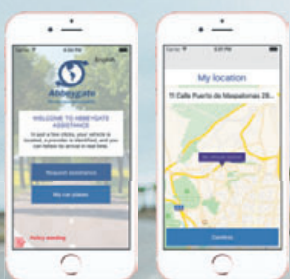
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Out of touchscreen

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



HERE'S a message for all people - mostly of the younger generation who walk along the street or in aisles of supermarkets or inside shopping centres - STOP STARING DOWN AT YOUR PHONE AND LOOK WHERE YOU ARE GOING! What are you doing?

Three times in a matter of minutes today I had to take evasive action because people were just not looking where they were going and were about to walk straight into me. As usual, if you say anything, you get a volley of abuse or just a dirty look - not a 'sorry' or any kind of acknowledgement that they might be at fault.

It worries me that these same people are messaging on their phones as they are driving too. I also still see loads of people talking on their phones when they are driving. I think it should be an instant ban don't you?

I bought something from Amazon the other day and was told it would be delivered within a couple of days. I had a tracking number and the web address of the delivery company. It was Amazon Spain by the way. Two days later I get an email saying it would be delivered that day. Great.

The day came and went and no delivery so I went online to see where it was. I put in the tracking number which was 22 digits long and it said they had tried to deliver and nobody was in. Now I live in a community where there is someone on the entrance gate 24/7 except for the odd time when they do a little patrol or go to the loo and there's always a note on the door saying back in 10 minutes.

So I called the company and after a while and after eventually finding an English-speaking operator and giving her the 22 digit tracking number - gawd knows why it has to be 22 digits - I was told that it was on the way. Anyway the next day the same thing happened. No delivery and the same note on tracking that nobody was at home.

I call again and explain there is always someone there and ask if they are they going to the right place. I also get an email from Amazon asking what I thought of the delivery, was I enjoying my new purchase and how would I score them. They got a one because there wasn't a zero, and a note saying I couldn't rate it yet as it had not been delivered.

I phoned again, the 22 digit number was given and I was told it would be delivered the next day. Five days after the original date I got the parcel and when I checked online it told me that I had signed for it, which I hadn't.

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Flagging appetite for dining out

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

RESTAURANT chains on the UK High Street have recently been facing a combination of a squeeze on incomes, rising costs and falling demand. Prezzo, Byron and Jamie's Italian have all shut restaurants. It's just market correction. Anyone can see there's massive oversupply, and most of those in trouble don't offer a good product so aren't sufficiently robust when the going gets tough.

This means that the market works the way Adam Smith taught us. Those restaurants which can't get bums on seats will fail, and their customers will move on to those of their competitors offering more appeal and better value.

In a restaurant there are two words never to get excited about. First, its 'Concept' (explained by hipster waiters who breathlessly tell you the salad leaves were foraged from the central reservation of the M1, or the salmon hand-smoked in a skip under Brixton



FANNY CRADOCK: Back in fashion on BBC iPlayer.

railway arches). Second, 'taster menus' (convenient and lucrative for the restaurant but only half the items of which many of us really like). Two words - like 'amateur' and 'brain surgeon'. Or 'Donald' and 'Trump'. All are terrible ideas.

Basically, there are still too many celebrity chef TV programmes helping perpetuate the dream that fancy food is what we all crave. You know: Masterchef smears, sprays, foams, powders, splats, skid marks and blobs.

Expensive ingredients, high wages, high overheads, fancy plates, fancy cutlery - equals low profit margins; equals bad business. What's preferable is a

good dinner without acres of starchy tablecloths or starched waiters.

Alternatively, cook at home and enjoy farm fresh foods. Oh wait, umm, we don't teach cooking at school any more! Pass the cornflakes...

Meanwhile, the original celebrity TV chef is back. Fanny Craddock, the OTT matriarch who introduced post-war Britain to prawn cocktails and cheese soufflé, is back on BBC iPlayer.

She peered from the telly like a culinary Medusa, rude, arrogant and completely insensitive to other guests. While Johnnie, her monocled husband, talked and moved like an original Thunderbirds puppet and is credited with uttering the immortal line: "Hope all your doughnuts turn out like F***y's."

Priceless.

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

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Is she the president?

Q. I recently put myself forward as president of our community. At our AGM the administrator clearly miscounted the votes so I requested a recount. She then counted the votes and got it wrong again! At this point, the current president resigned and the meeting ended in disarray.

However, the administrator announced that she would do yet another recount and confirm the outcome. In this result, two days later, I had three more votes (out of 17 votes!) and a larger quota. I asked the administrator to send an email to all the owners with the result but she has not done this. Where do I stand?

SR (Costa Blanca)

A. I am supposing from the tone of your question that you have now been elected president of your community.

Properly, the outgoing president, who presided over the AGM, should, in combination with the person acting as secretary, prepare the official minutes of the meeting, sign them, and register them with the property registry. Then you are officially the president.

Properly, these minutes should state the number of votes cast and who voted for each candidate.

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



Send your questions for David Searl through lawyers Ubada-Retana and Associates in Fuengirola at Ask@lawtaxspain.com, or call 952 667 090.

Travel

MANY people have a bucket list of places around the world that they would like to visit, even if it is just a pleasant day-dream.

However, those who are serious about making good on their explorations may need to start prioritising, as many sites are endangered due to environmental factors, political upheaval, and lack of funds among other reasons.

Old City of Jerusalem and its walls

This is clearly a deeply sacred site in Judaism, Christianity and Islam, and according to UNESCO contains 220 historical monuments.

Jerusalem and its walls were added to the UNESCO List of World Heritage in Danger in 1982, at Jordan's suggestion.

But with ongoing political problems, urban development and an apparent lack of protection, it is definitely advisable to visit there sooner rather than later.

Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra, Indonesia

This jungle idyll is home to

Your time bomb bucket list



SLIDING AWAY: The Montana glaciers are one of many climate change victims.

many endangered and diverse species, and was added to the UNESCO List of World Heritage in Danger in 2011.

It consists of three distinct

national parks, has some 200 mammal species (including the Sumatran orangutan), 580 types of bird and 10,000 plant species.

Liverpool, England

According to Conde Nast Traveller, while UNESCO stipulates that the current buildings in Liverpool must remain the tallest

in the city, ever increasing urban development threatens to permanently alter the Liverpool's aesthetic.

The port, which was one of Britain's flagship economic hubs in its heyday, was added to UNESCO's List of World Heritage in Danger in 2012.

Coro, Venezuela

The beautiful city is "the only surviving example of a rich fusion of local traditions with Spanish Mudejar and Dutch architectural techniques," says UNESCO.

It was added to the Danger list in 2005 due to fears around the effects of the Venezuelan oil industry.

Glacier National Park, Montana

This stunning National Park used to contain over 150 glaciers, but that number is now down to just 25.

With climate change's relentless march, those wishing to see such glaciers may need to make plans quickly.

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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event
26 APRIL	4:45pm Flipping Profit	1:00pm The Daily Politics	6:00pm The Chase	5:00pm Escape to the Chateau: DIY	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	8:00am Good Morning Sports Fans
	5:30pm Flog It!	2:00pm Snooker	7:00pm ITV News London	6:00pm Four in a Bed	8:00pm The Nightmare	8:30am Live European Tour Golf
	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:30pm Buy it Now	9:00pm Neighbour Next Door	11:30am ATP 500: Barcelona
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:30pm Britain in Bloom	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:00pm The Simpsons	10:00pm Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords	4:00pm Live Indian Premier League
	7:30pm BBC London News	8:00pm Antiques Road Trip	8:30pm Tonight	7:30pm Hollyoaks	11:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	8:00pm Live Premier League Darts
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Super Fast Falcon	9:00pm Emmerdale	8:00pm Channel 4 News	11:00pm Michael Portillo: Our Housing Crisis - Who's to Blame?	11:30pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	8:30pm EastEnders	10:00pm Civilisations	9:30pm Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs	9:00pm Location, Location, Location		12:00am Sky Sports News
	9:00pm The Truth About Obesity	11:00pm Match of the Day	10:00pm Harold Shipman	10:00pm 999: What's Your Emergency?		1:00am Sky Sports News
	10:00pm Ambulance	11:30pm Newsnight	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	11:00pm True Horror		2:00am NFL Draft
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	12:15am World Championship Snooker Highlights		12:05am Gogglebox		
			1:00am The Real Football Fan			
FRIDAY 27 APRIL	7:30pm BBC London News	2:00pm Snooker	7:00pm ITV News London	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours	10:30am Paddock Uncut
	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Eggheads	7:25pm Party Election Broadcast	6:30pm Buy it Now	7:00pm Home and Away	10:45am Live Azerbaijan F1 GP: Practice
	8:30pm Sounds Like Friday Night	7:30pm Britain in Bloom	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm The Gadget Show	12:50pm ATP 500: Barcelona
	9:00pm EastEnders	8:00pm Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Britain's Great Cathedrals, with Tony Robinson	4:00pm Live Indian Premier League
	9:30pm The Button	9:00pm Gardeners' World	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm Portillo's Hidden History of Britain	8:00pm Live EFL 2017/18
	10:00pm Have I Got News for You	10:00pm The City and the City	9:00pm Love Your Garden	8:30pm Unreported World	11:00pm Jack the Ripper: The Missing Evidence	11:15pm Live Barclays Premier League Preview
	10:30pm Home from Home	11:00pm Episodes	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Our Wildest Dreams	12:00am Stonehenge	
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:30pm Newsnight	10:00pm Lethal Weapon	10:00pm Gogglebox		
	11:25pm BBC London News	12:05am Front Row Late	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	11:00pm Lee and Dean		
	11:35pm The Graham Norton Show	12:35am World Championship Snooker Highlights	11:30pm ITV News London	11:35pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown		
12:25am Wannabe						
SATURDAY 28 APRIL	7:20pm Ready or Not	4:30pm Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge	7:00pm ITV Evening News	4:45pm Car S.O.S.	7:00pm World's Deadliest Weather	7:00am Live European Tour Golf
	7:50pm BBC News	5:30pm Snooker	7:15pm Regional News and Weather	5:45pm A Place in the Sun	8:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	11:00am Soccer A.M.
	8:00pm Regional News	6:30pm Britain in Bloom	7:30pm Ninja Warrior UK	6:35pm The Secret Life of the Zoo	9:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	12:30pm Live Premier League
	8:05pm Weather	7:00pm Antiques Road Trip	8:30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule	7:30pm Channel 4 News	9:55pm 5 News	4:15pm Live Indian Premier League
	8:10pm Pointless	8:00pm Snooker	9:00pm Britain's Got Talent	8:00pm The Restoration Man	10:00pm Football on 5	6:15pm Live EFL 2017/18
	9:00pm Who Dares Wins	9:00pm The Forest	10:15pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	9:00pm Britain's Most Historic Towns	11:00pm Football on 5	8:40pm Live La Liga 2017/18
	9:40pm Casualty	9:30pm Dad's Army	10:45pm ITV News	10:00pm Iron Man	11:30pm Criminals Caught on Camera	10:45pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	10:30pm Mrs. Brown's Boys	10:00pm Civilisations on Your Doorstep	11:05pm Overboard	2:25am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA		12:00am Live LPGA: San Francisco
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm Performance Live		3:15am Hollyoaks Omnibus		3:00am Live International Fight Night
	11:15pm Weather					
11:20pm Match of the Day						
SUNDAY 29 APRIL	6:35pm BBC News	1:15pm MOTD2 Extra	7:00pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule	1:40pm Formula 1	6:25pm Ace Ventura: Pet Detective	7:00am Live European Tour Golf
	6:50pm Regional News	2:00pm Snooker	7:30pm ITV Evening News	4:55pm Formula 1	8:00pm Biggest Dog in the World Before They Were Stars	11:00am Sports Sunday
	6:55pm Weather	7:00pm Super Fast Falcon	7:45pm Regional News and Weather	5:30pm Car S.O.S.	9:00pm Greatest TV Talent Show Moments	12:00pm Live Indian Premier League
	7:00pm The Big Painting Challenge	8:00pm Snooker	8:00pm Little Big Shots	6:30pm Grand Designs	9:55pm Greatest Ever Celebrity Wind Ups	2:30pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	8:00pm Countryfile	9:00pm Britain's Biggest War Ship	9:00pm The Durrells	7:30pm Channel 4 News	1:00am Super Casino	5:15pm Live Nissan Super Sunday
	9:00pm Antiques Roadshow	10:00pm My Year with the Tribe	10:00pm Invitation to a Royal Wedding	8:00pm Escape to the Chateau	2:00am GPs: Behind Closed Doors	8:00pm Boxing
	10:00pm The Woman in White	11:00pm Famalamp	11:00pm ITV News	9:00pm The Crystal Maze	4:10am	8:30pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	11:00pm BBC News	11:20pm Josh Widdicombe	11:20pm Peston on Sunday	10:00pm Homeland		12:00am Live LPGA: San Francisco
	11:20pm Regional News	12:20am Snooker		11:05pm Gogglebox		3:00am Sky Sports News
	11:25pm Weather	1:10am Snooker		12:00am 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown		4:00am Sky Sports News
3:10am Question Time	3:10am Question Time					
MONDAY 30 APRIL	7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Regional News and Weather	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	11:00am Premier League Daily
	7:30pm BBC London News	7:30pm Britain in Bloom	7:25pm Party Election Broadcast	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Snooker	7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	1:00pm Sky Sports News
	8:30pm Civilisations Stories	9:00pm Only Connect	8:00pm Emmerdale	9:00pm Holidays Unpacked	8:00pm Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	2:00pm Sky Sports News
	9:00pm EastEnders	9:30pm Coast Lives	8:30pm Coronation Street	9:30pm Tricks of the Restaurant Trade	9:00pm Police Interceptors	3:00pm Sky Sports News
	9:30pm Panorama	10:00pm Selection : Ww2	9:00pm Give it a Year	10:00pm The Island with Bear Grylls	10:00pm Paddington Station 24/7	4:00pm Live Indian Premier League
	10:00pm The Woman in White	11:00pm QI	9:30pm Coronation Street	11:00pm Kiss Me First	11:00pm Britain's Cocaine Epidemic	8:00pm Football
	11:00pm BBC News	11:30pm Newsnight	10:00pm The Royal Wives of Windsor	12:00am 999: What's Your Emergency?	12:05am Gangland	2:00am Boxing
	11:30pm BBC London News	12:15am World Championship Snooker Highlights	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	1:05am First Dates	1:05am America's Toughest Prisons	12:30am Boxing
	11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More News for You		11:30pm Regional News and Weather	2:00am Lee and Dean		1:00am Sky Sports News
TUESDAY 1 MAY	5:30pm Flog It!	2:00pm Snooker	7:20pm Party Election Broadcast	5:00pm Escape to the Chateau: DIY	6:30pm Neighbours	4:00pm Indian Premier League
	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away	8:30pm Sky Sports Tonight
	7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Britain in Bloom	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Buy it Now	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	9:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	7:30pm Regional News	8:00pm Snooker	8:30pm Devon and Cornwall Cops	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm World Rally Championship 2018	11:00pm The Road to Bellew/Haye
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge	9:00pm This Time Next Year	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet	11:30pm Boxing
	8:30pm EastEnders	10:00pm Hospital	10:00pm The Royal Wives of Windsor	8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm British Airways Missing: Flight Mh370 - Inside the Situation Room	
	9:00pm Holby City	11:00pm Cunk on Britain	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm Class of Mum and Dad	11:00pm The Secret Life of the Long-Haul Flight	
	10:00pm The Split	11:30pm Newsnight	11:30pm Regional News and Weather	10:00pm My Tourette's Family		
	11:00pm BBC News	12:15am World Championship Snooker Highlights	11:45pm Harold Shipman	11:00pm The Island with Bear Grylls		
	11:30pm Regional News					
11:40pm Weather						
11:40pm Weather						
WEDNESDAY 2 MAY	5:30pm Flog It!	12:30pm The Daily Politics	7:00pm Regional News and Weather	3:10pm Countdown	4:15pm Rags to Riches: Ultimate Life	4:00pm Indian Premier League
	6:15pm Pointless	2:00pm Snooker	7:30pm ITV Evening News	4:00pm A Place in the Sun	6:00pm 5 News	9:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm Eggheads	8:00pm Emmerdale	5:00pm Escape to the Chateau: DIY	6:30pm Neighbours	10:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	7:30pm Regional News	7:30pm Britain in Bloom	8:30pm Coronation Street	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away	11:00pm Boxing
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Snooker	9:00pm Info not available	6:30pm Buy it Now	7:30pm 5 News	
	9:00pm Watchdog Live	9:00pm Top of the Shop with Tom Kerridge	9:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm Police Interceptors	
	10:00pm Britain's Fat Fight with Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall	10:00pm Love in the Countryside	10:00pm Benidorm	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm Detectorists	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Rich House, Poor House	
	11:30pm Regional News	11:30pm Newsnight	11:30pm Regional News and Weather	9:00pm The Secret Life of the Zoo	11:00pm Billionaire Babies: 24 Carat Kids	
	11:40pm Weather	12:10am Newsnight		10:00pm One Born Every Minute		
11:45pm A Question of Sport	12:15am Snooker		11:00pm First Dates			



TV COUCH CRITIC

by Adam Whalley-Lewis

Johnny Vegas spending a year with the tribe?

I'M so pleased that Johnny Vegas has found his way back from The Solana to the Lake District for the new BBC show *Home from Home*, BBC1 Fridays. I was getting worried that his mum and sister were holidaying without him in Benidorm (they are), but it seems he hasn't got sunstroke and is playing happy families in the north of England.

This is good news, I was on the verge of an after-sun gel dash up to the Costa Blanca, just to check that the absent Johnny was OK.

Home from Home started out as a pilot on BBC2, but as only the BBC can and I have no idea why they do, moved to BBC1 when it proved to be a success - maybe the BBC need us all to remind them that we can and do watch BBC2 sometimes and that some of us actually watch commercial TV too, with the shades drawn, lights off and wearing a large sun hat and dark glasses indoors, but we do watch. Back to the Lakes.

Johnny plays Neil Hackett and



CABIN CREW: Johnny Vegas (right) in new show *Home from Home*.

Niky Wardley his wife Fiona. No disrespect to anyone, but Neil and Fiona, that's more BBC1 than BBC2, right?

Fresh from *Silent Witness* and *Doctor Foster*, Emilia Fox and Adam James (Adam is a solid BBC1 name too isn't it) play the Dillons, Lakes' neighbours to the Hacketts. The basic story is that the Hacketts have eventually achieved a lifelong dream to buy a traditional lodge in the Lake District,

you know the sort of thing, lovely setting, nothing traditional about the actual lodges at all.

Their lodge is set on the Lake View Holiday Park and they love it, until they meet their neighbours, the Dillons. There is a lovely BBQ scene where Penny (Dillon) is explaining what she misses most about Ibiza - 'shut up and eat your steak' should become a new Johnny catch phrase.



Photo credit BBC

JUNGLE MEN: Will Millard and a Korowai tree-dweller in *My Year With the Tribe*.

Home from Home continues on BBC1, Friday evenings.

A solid BBC2 programme Johnny probably wouldn't want to front is *My Year with the Tribe*, BBC2 Sundays. The show follows Will Millard (he's a writer and looks really at home with the tribe, maybe too at home come to think of it) as he spends a year with the Korowai tribe in Papua, Indonesia.

The Korowai are tree house-

dwellers and Will sets out to understand the challenges they are tackling as they move into the modern world. There are some pretty spectacular shots of the tree houses and some curl up moments when Will gets to grips with the realities of living with the natives - put your coffee down, bugs cleaning out your ears for example, the programme pulls no punches; but then the Tribe explain that they have a sort of fake tree house for use on Dutch TV and for me it then all started to feel slightly uncomfortable.

If a massive HD TV and a convection oven come into shot during Sunday's offering, I'm crying foul!

Fans of the Channel 4 show *Humans* will be pleased that series 3 is due to be screened soon. If you didn't see this first time around and want to catch a couple of Mr Selfridge actors playing with a robot - he did literally play with a robot, series 1 and 2 are available via CH4 box sets.

Happy Viewing.

Not so secret pleasures of travel

Nick Horne *The Rich Pick*

Freelance correspondent, London, England



GENEVA is an interesting place. Of course it's a city, strong distinctive architecture, beautiful views of Lake Geneva and mountains, compact not sprawling, with a fast running river dissecting 'downtown'. A famous shopping street too, the Rue Du Rhone, which parallels the river Rhone's immediate source at the lake's overflow.

The iconic Jet d'Eau fountain blasts a tower of water into the air. Pleasure gardens and coffee shops to enjoy are dotted round the lake shore attracting citizen and visitor alike.

Geneva is usually associated with discreet bankers, jewellers and very high-end watches of exquisite mechanical complication, manufactured with precious metals and adorned with jewels, as well as a host of international organisations whose remits range from football to world health.

CERN the massive underground laboratory of the Large Hadron Collider buried deep underground peers into the secrets of the universe.

There are many reasons to travel to Geneva and many modes of travel to arrive there. Train,



GUILTY PLEASURE: The Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues, Geneva just steps from lake, the Old Town and Quartier des Banques.

airplane or car. Where though to stay when you arrive? There are many really good first class hotels in Geneva, how could there not be when it regularly hosts heads of state and is frequently the cockpit of diplomatic tussles.

On the shore of the river Rhone and overlooking the Jet is the Hotel des Bergues. First opened on May Day 1834 the hotel was the

largest in Switzerland at the time. More recently a Four Seasons group hotel, the Hotel des Bergues, was extensively and fabulously refurbished and reopened in 2005 to great acclaim.

The public rooms, shops and restaurants on the ground floor have attracted the wealthiest of travellers and people of business for more than 180 years. The hotel itself accommodated them

in luxury. Nowadays a hotel of this standard ought to have a first class spa and of course the Hotel Des Bergues does. While the hotel is at least 30 minutes from the international airport, it is just a 10-minute walk from Geneva railway station.

My choice of mode of travel to Geneva is the train and I would start my approach in Zurich. Trains frequently travel between Zurich and Geneva. Choose a time that suits you. I select one which will allow me to have lunch on the train, fine dining it is not, however the views from the excellent restaurant cars are just a little bit more expansive than elsewhere. Good food and a little wine to enhance the mood.

The view as the train repeatedly bursts from a tunnel, to traverse a valley, to plunge into another tunnel, to then burst again to a fresh view of mountain, snow and trees cannot be captured on film. In memory it's a stop-motion flicker of impressions. In its way quite exhausting.

The short walk down the hill from the railway station to the hotel, long enough to stretch your legs and arrive ready for the pleasure of the table, the spa, a curated ambiance, Louis-Philippe-style furnishings, with a marble bathroom in every room.

Recover from the secret pleasures of travel in luxury.

Cassandra Nash*A weekly look**- and not entirely impartial reaction -
to the Spanish political scene*

CRISTINA CIFUENTES, hanging onto the Madrid Community presidency by the skin of her teeth, has renounced her Master's Degree in Autonomous Law. She insists it's hers, fair and square, and if anyone is at fault it is the Rey Juan Carlos University as she completed the course in 2011-2012 as required.

The degree has become a millstone round Cifuentes' neck despite her standing ovation at the Partido Popular (PP) conference in Sevilla. Applause today can mean the door tomorrow and no one knows that better than Cifuentes, whose predecessor is at the centre of a corruption enquiry. That enquiry now threatens to implicate her too because of contracts awarded in 2009 when she was vice-president.

Meanwhile, Mariano Rajoy, whose prefer-

The millstone

ence for immobility in a crisis is legendary, sees no reason to give Cifuentes the push. As female PP politicians go, she is less redolent of mothballs and incense than many, but this matters less to Rajoy than finding a substitute.

As well as having an acceptable image he or she should not be known for being economical with the truth, two requirements that currently rule out many PP politicians.

Having it both ways

SPAIN'S president Mariano Rajoy has consistently fudged the Catalan conflict by insisting that it is a legal issue. This worked against him in Germany where former Catalan president Carles Puigdemont was freed on bail because the country's legal system did not recognise re-

bellion as high treason. This wasn't the answer Rajoy wanted although Spain once refused to extradite Herve Falciani, the Swiss bank whistle-blower who leaked information on more than 130,000 suspected tax evaders.

Interestingly, the Swiss are trying to extradite Falciani again but although he was arrested, he was later freed while Spain decides what to do with him.

It's a purely legal issue, naturally. So what will Rajoy do this time? After all, he can't always have it both ways.

Ada gets her dates wrong

ADA COLAU, mayor of Barcelona and leader of Barcelona en Comú, evicted Admiral Pascual Cervera y Topete from his city street.

Cervera y Topete commanded the Spanish navy in the disastrous Cuban war that lost Spain one of its last colonies. Although Colau does not hold that against him, she claims the admiral does not deserve to have a street named after him. That honour goes to a deceased actor, Pepe Rubianes, whom few have

A DEGREE OF UNCERTAINTY: Cristina Cifuentes has renounced her Master's Degree.



heard of but was born in that very street.

Rubianes would be happy to see his 'beloved public' gathered there to remove the name of a 'facha' - Spanish slang for a fascist - Colau said during the renaming ceremony.

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

IF only Spain's justice system had a different vocabulary! Rebellion, sedition: whatever Carles Puigdemont, Oriol Junqueras and the separatists have done to break the law there must be a less archaic way of describing it.

Puigdemont is now in Berlin, doing his damndest

Put it another way

to internationalise the Catalan conflict and helped enormously by the descrip-

tion of his crimes.

Like it or not, almost half of the Catalan population are behind him and even nationalists who are not separatists resent a government where - autonomies notwithstanding - words like rebellion and sedition roll off the tongues of officials.

Advertising Feature

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MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'ANTONIO, NEARLY ALL CHEMICALS ARE NASTY - BUT RIGHT NOW I FIND WEEDKILLER FRIENDLY.'

YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS
(January 21 - February 19)

You have a chance to give someone great delight, so why not go ahead? Your insecure side tells you that it is too good to be true and there must be a catch. Why should there be? This is a situation that you may relax into as only you know how.

PISCES
(February 20 - March 20)

Don't look for spooks in the closet when there are none. Not only does it look silly but it also wastes good time. Basing your actions on past disappointments can only lead to more of the same. Show confidence in others and they will show it in you. Sometimes, your patience wears thin but it is in your best interests to remain calm.

ARIES
(March 21 - April 20)

Is someone that you are closely involved with trying to drive a hard bargain? Are you surprised at the amount of time and energy that they are throwing at it? It could be that they are more passionate about it than you realised.

TAURUS
(April 21 - May 21)

You have been learning about certain people very fast. Do you feel as though you are in the middle of a soap opera? In the spring sunshine, it is possible that passions will fire up. Everything seems to revolve round one person and it is upsetting everything else. Try to spend more time with people who have a warmth and generosity about them.

GEMINI
(May 22 - June 21)

This is your week to sparkle and show how clever you are. Why be modest? Let others know what you are capable of; your talents will come out sooner or later. Don't be embarrassed when paid a compliment, for it is richly deserved. You have put on a jolly good show of late and it is now time to listen to the applause.

CANCER
(June 22 - July 23)

Something that you had set your heart on, although still coming, is terribly slow. This is not a time to be a pessimist. Please don't, however, allow your tendency to put all your eggs in one basket trip you up. It is not necessary to go about things the way that you normally do. Remember that variety is the spice of life.

LEO
(July 24 - August 23)

You are moving on in an important area but do not burn bridges before you have others to cross. You will know why I mention this later in the week. You are able to influence others far more than you realise, but with your wish to keep things on an even keel you may be giving away too much. You need to keep a balance.

VIRGO
(August 24 - September 23)

Is there a chance that you are burying your head in the sand? It is likely that something happening right in front of you is being overlooked or ignored. You are able to deal with this more easily than you think. Just take one step at a time and stick to your plan.

LIBRA
(September 24 - October 23)

This is not a time to take anyone for granted. At this time of the year people tend to look at their situation and ask if they are getting enough out of it. Neglecting someone now could store up a lot of problems for the future. Avoid doing anything that could lead to you being blamed later.

SCORPIO
(October 24 - November 22)

Now is your chance to go straight for what you want. The shock of having this opportunity could cause you to hesitate. Do bear in mind, though, that he who hesitates is often lost. The temptation to keep something for yourself is not selfish but sensible. You may not have the chance again in the near future.

SAGITTARIUS
(November 23 - December 21)

A big change means big chances, so don't let small things get you down. In the past six months you have come a long way. You are not back where you started. You are being given the chance to start again, but this time you have far more experience..

CAPRICORN
(December 22 - January 20)

Challenges that do not please you are inevitable. That does not mean that your attitude towards them could not change. Indeed, unless you want to continue to be upset, it must. Luckily, you have mostly had your own way recently. Try to be a good loser when you have to accept second best.

Trivia from around the world

*** The six-lane Vasco de Gama bridge which spans across the Tagus River in Portugal is the longest in Europe at more than 16 kilometres long.

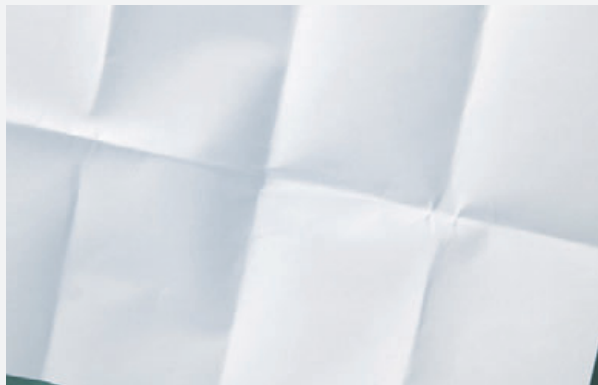
*** Laos was once dubbed the Land of a Million Elephants. Between 400 and 600 of the animals are now estimated to live in the country.

*** Radio and television stations in Colombia are legally required to play the country's national anthem every day at 6am and 6pm.

*** Taxis in Senegal are often fitted with artificial tails made from goat or sheep hair as they are said to bring good luck.

*** In Lebanon, the President must by law be a Maronite Christian, the Prime Minister a Sunni Muslim and the Speaker of Parliament a Shiite Muslim.

*** Mountains cover around 60 per cent of Azerbaijan, with the remaining territory largely plains and lowlands.



FOLD OVER: The Geometric Series phenomenon makes paper incredibly thick when doubled.

DID YOU KNOW?

When asked how thick a single piece of paper would be if it could be folded in half 50 times, many people say about the size of a telephone directory. In fact it would span the distance between the earth and the sun, according to mathematician and writer Malcolm Gladwell.

Women's wit

It is strange that the years teach us patience; that the shorter our time, the greater our capacity for waiting."

Elizabeth Taylor, actor



Famous quote

It is good to gain the day but I also say it is good to fall. Battles are lost in the same spirit in which they are won."

Walt Whitman, poet

World of English

Prosopagnosia - an inability to recognise the faces of familiar people, which is typically a consequence of brain damage.

LOTTERY	UK NATIONAL LOTTERY	IRISH LOTTO	EURO MILLIONS		LA PRIMITIVA		EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
	Saturday April 21	Saturday April 21	Tuesday April 17	Friday April 20	Thursday April 19	Saturday April 21	Sunday April 22
	(2) (8)	(9) (12)	(15) (27)	(3) (16)	(10) (19)	(8) (17)	(11) (13)
	(9) (12)	(19) (20)	(33) (39)	(25) (39)	(33) (43)	(19) (29)	(24) (26)
	(20) (57)	(29) (36)	(50)	(44)	(45) (46)	(42) (43)	(41)
	BONUS BALL	BONUS BALL	LUCKY STARS	LUCKY STARS	REINTEGRO	REINTEGRO	REINTEGRO
	(38)	(7)	(4) (6)	(7) (11)	(32) (2)	(40) (6)	(2)
			EL MILLON: BWZ49611		JOKER: 5 477 746	JOKER: 1 349 238	

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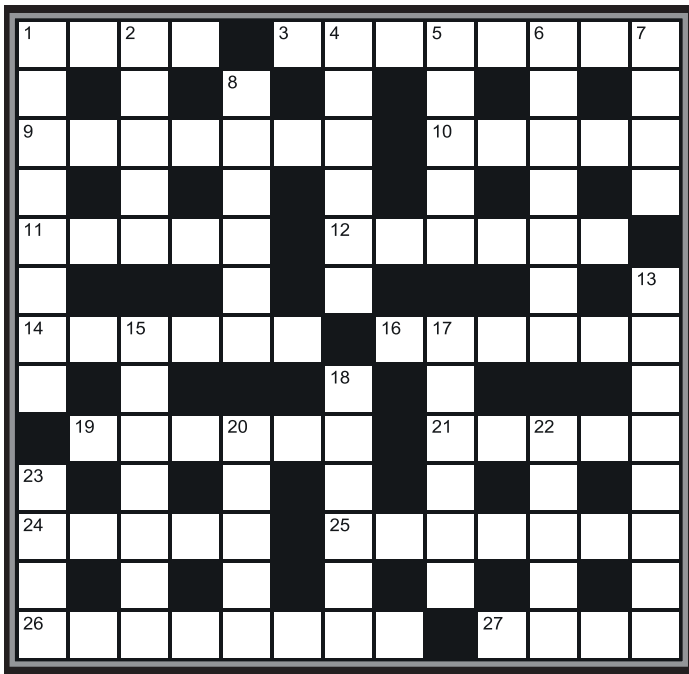
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Daring bishop has aged (4)
- 3 Convict builder or sniper (8)
- 9 Record about American sailor providing ingredient for pie? (7)
- 10 Started back in the teenage boy's team (5)
- 11 A little bit of quiet colour (5)
- 12 Gossip about a rat net (6)
- 14 Dirty little devil by a river (6)
- 16 Previous or present shepherd (6)
- 19 Sunday school air (6)
- 21 Ordering sacks or barrels (5)
- 24 Repent by changing a note (5)
- 25 Hot garden recess provides shelter (7)
- 26 Exchange rate certain to provide wealth (8)
- 27 Dejected Cambridge sportsman (4)

Down

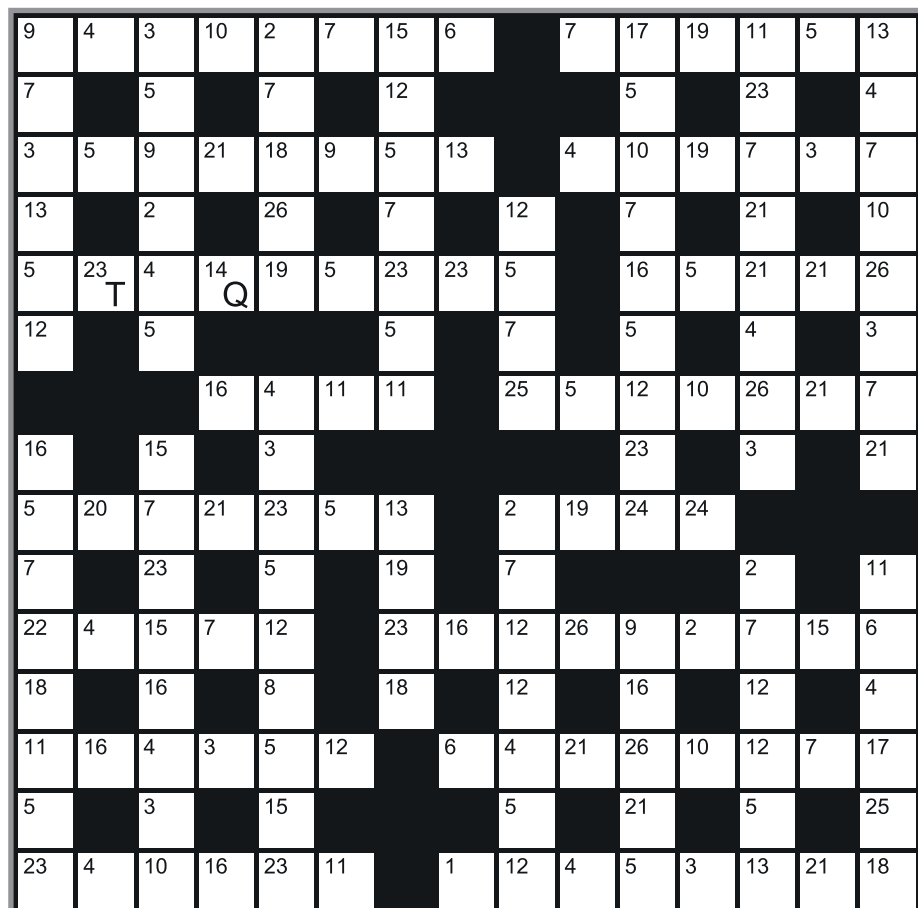
- 1 Hide dollars given to relatives (8)
- 2 Runner defeated in close race (5)
- 4 Squirrel, for example, not red? That's strange! (6)
- 5 Break up boats for wooden shoes (5)
- 6 Disregard the glen etc, it's silly (7)
- 7 Split payment to landlord (4)
- 8 Horseman capturing a



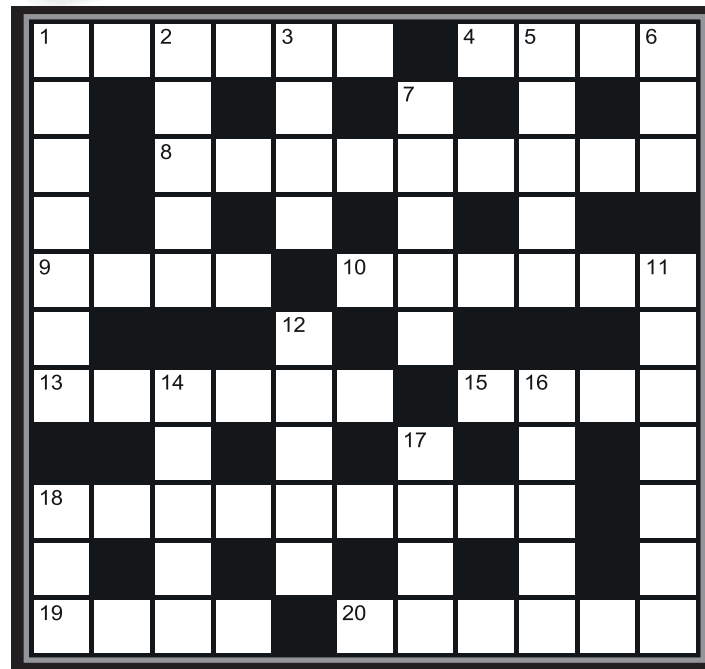
- freebooter (6)
- 13 Keep page attached to book (8)
- 15 Let Pooh put right the road problem (7)
- 17 Agreement that might be struck, it's said (6)
- 18 Secure part in Sullivan chorus (6)
- 20 Supports Lincoln and the system initially (5)
- 22 Small cattle with many a frown (5)
- 23 Stop film computer on time (4)

Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 14 represents Q and 23 represents T, so fill in Q every time the figure 14 appears and T every time the figure 23 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



Quick



Across

- 1 Holy sanctuary (6)
- 4 Musical composition for two performers (4)
- 8 Golden-yellow, cup-shaped flower (9)
- 9 Have care of or look after (4)
- 10 Emphasis (6)
- 13 Say, state or perform again (6)
- 15 Tusked wild pig (4)
- 18 Surgical procedure (9)
- 19 Disappear gradually (4)
- 20 Touch or stroke gently or lovingly (6)

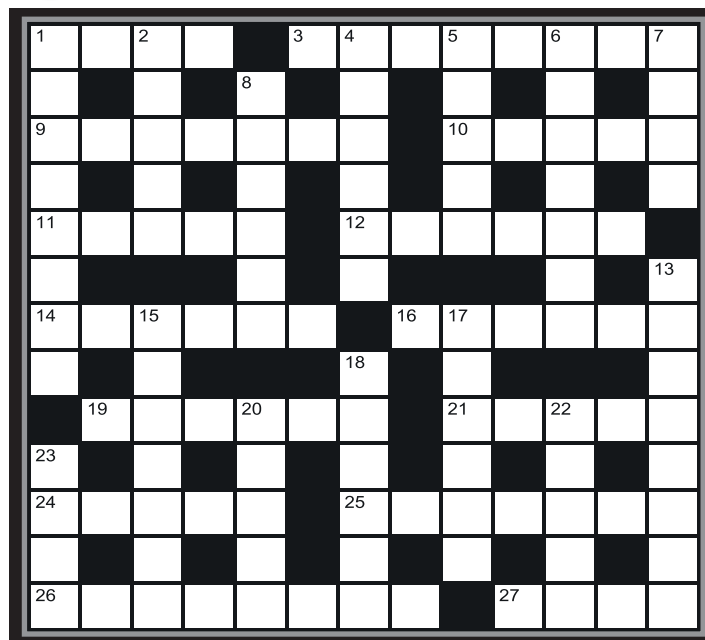
- 2 Small songbird with a reddish breast (5)
- 3 Brief written record (4)
- 5 Husband of your aunt (5)
- 6/18 Give insider information (3,3)
- 7 Small and of little importance (5)
- 11 Unsmiling (7)
- 12 Of or relating to the nose (5)
- 14 Appeal or request earnestly (5)
- 16 Snow leopard (5)
- 17 Former unit of currency in Italy and Malta (4)
- 18 See 6

Down

- 1 Structure that provides privacy and protection from danger (7)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Bombilla (4)
- 3 Hermanos (8)
- 9 Huerto (7)
- 10 Straight (without turning) (5)
- 11 Caracol (5)
- 12 Pantalla (cine) (6)
- 14 Dark (lacking light) (6)
- 16 Magpie (6)
- 19 Patata (6)
- 21 Goat (5)
- 24 Sand (5)
- 25 Más temprano (7)
- 26 To hold (8)
- 27 Alfombras (pequeñas) (4)

Down

- 1 Librería (8)
- 2 Struggle (effort) (5)
- 4 Rábano (6)
- 5 To throw (ball, stone, dice) (5)
- 6 School (7)
- 7 Pronto (4)
- 8 Sastre (6)
- 13 Words (8)
- 15 Cocinas (7)
- 17 Grabar (6)
- 18 Rocket (firework) (6)
- 20 Despierto (no dormido) (5)
- 22 Beret (5)
- 23 Sierras (herramientas) (4)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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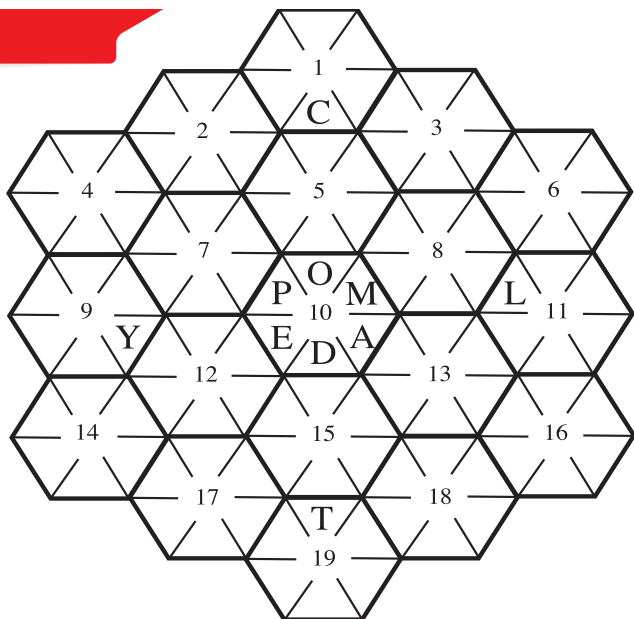
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Hexagram

- BOUNCY
- CLIQUE
- DITHER
- ESCAPE
- GADGET
- GAUCHE
- HEARTY
- HOOKUP
- LUMBAR
- MARGIN
- OYSTER
- POMADE (10)
- RHOMBI
- SASHAY
- ACYTHE
- SHRANK
- SORTIE
- TOWHEE
- VESTAL



The purpose of the Hexagram puzzle is to place the 19 six-letter words into the 19 cells. The letters at the edges of interlocking cells **MUST BE THE SAME**. The letters in the words must be written **CLOCKWISE**. The word in cell 10 (**POMADE**) and one letter in four other cells are given as clues.

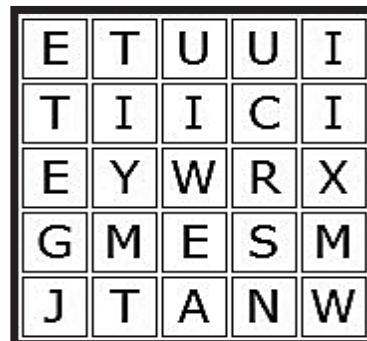
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

- 1 Voyage 2 Attack 3 Bobbin 4 Ashore
- 5 Beauty 6 Gibbon 7 Stuff 8 Gunmen
- 9 Methyl 10 Famine 11 Lounge
- 12 Pilfer 13 Domino 14 Minnow
- 15 Modern 16 Waddle 17 Person
- 18 Bloody 19 Girdle

Boggled

How many English words can you find in the Boggled grid, according to the following rules?

- The letters must be adjoining in a 'chain'. They can be adjacent horizontally, vertically or diagonally.
- Words must contain at least four letters and may include singular and plural or other derived forms.
- No letter may be used more than once within a single word, unless it appears twice.
- No vulgarities or proper nouns are permitted.



TARGET:

- Average: 25
- Good: 35
- Very good: 50
- Excellent: 64

SCORING:

- 4 letters: 1 point
- 5 letters: 2 points
- 6 letters: 3 points
- 7 letters: 5 points
- 8 or more letters: 11 points

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

gyre gantry gran grant grants grey grist
grists gnaw gnawn ageist ageists awns arts
anger angry anna annas antre ants antsier
wage wager wary ware warn warns wart
warts wanna want wants want rant rants
rats erns exist exists extra rage rang rangy
range regnant nary nana nanas nans aware
antra trey tsar snag snare sawn straw
strange star tarn tarns tanager tantra tans
sire suer vans crier crisp crisps psst

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:

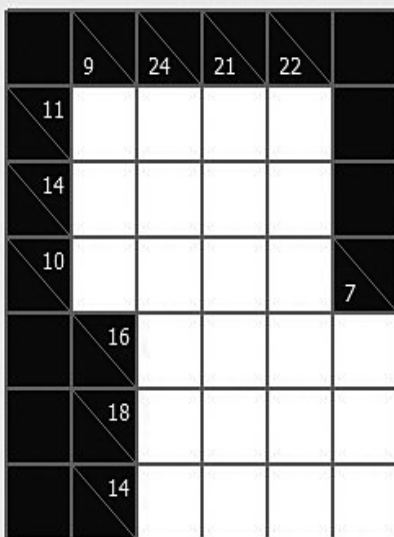
- Average: 17
- Good: 23
- Very good: 33
- Excellent: 43

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

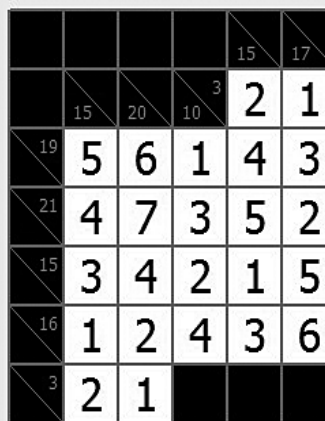
amen dame damn deem dram made mane mare mead mean meed
mend mere name neem ream admen ameer amend armed derma
dream edema emeer emend enema maned named namer amende
damned deemed demand demean madden madder meaner mended
mender reamed redeem remade remand rename amended amender
dreamed emended meander renamed demander demeaned
remanded MEANDERED

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.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

QUICK

- Across:** 1 Movie, 3 Flats, 6/18 Sea dog, 8 Aviator, 9 Gavel, 10 Omen, 13 Rage, 14 Heath, 17 Possess, 19 Evade, 20 Stale.
- Down:** 1 Mass, 2 Enamel, 3 Fair, 4 Attempted, 5 Serene, 7 Analgesia, 11 Triple, 12 Versus, 15 Cede, 16 Ogle.

CODE BREAKER

1	S	2	W	3	X	4	J	5	B	6	Q	7	V	8	U	9	E	10	P	11	F	12	I	13	Z
14	M	15	K	16	D	17	O	18	G	19	T	20	H	21	C	22	L	23	A	24	Y	25	N	26	R

CRYPTIC

- Across:** 1 Scribe, 4 Mangle, 9 Replica, 10 Flint, 11 Lash, 12 Retrieve, 14 Wilma, 16 Messy, 20 Especial, 21 Acts, 24 Throb, 25 Eyesore, 26 Relief, 27 Shrewd.
- Down:** 1 Stroll, 2 Ropes, 3 Boil, 5 Affirmed, 6 Gliders, 7 Either, 8 James, 13 Amicable, 15 Imperil, 17 Better, 18 Jaded, 19 Ostend, 22 Clone, 23 Mesh.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

- Across:** 1 Castaño, 5 Arcos, 8 Prove, 9 Retirar, 10 Comprar, 11 Clear, 12 Copiar, 14 Mantas, 17 Naípe, 19 Carpets, 21 Referee, 22 Buque, 24 Salty, 25 Morning.
- Down:** 2 Storm, 3 Alegria, 4 Obrero, 5 Attic, 6 Correct, 7 Surprises, 10 Cocineros, 13 Painful, 15 Aprobar, 16 Scream, 18 Early, 20 Esquí, 23/1 Egg cup.

App of the week



Foodmoji

An app that lets users express themselves with emojis made of food. Users can make their own characters and tell creative, fun stories with them. The characters are all animated and interactive and users' inventions can be shared with friends and others who have the app.

QUIZ: THE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET

- Born in New York July in 1975, Curtis James Jackson III is the real name of which American rapper, actor, businessman and investor?
- In Coronation Street, what was the name of the character portrayed by actress Pat Phoenix from the series inception in 1960 to 1973 and from 1976 until 1984?
- In office since January 20, 2017, who is the current vice president of the United States?
- In William Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar, which character speaks the lines: 'Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him'?
- Love's Gotta Hold on Me (1979), I Wanna Hold Your Hand (1979), Mirror Mirror (1981), Give Me Back My Heart (1982) and O L'amour (1987) we, re all UK top 10 hit singles for which pop vocal duo, consisting of David Van Day and Thereza Bazar?
- Ripostes (1912), Hugh Selwyn Mauberley (1920) and the unfinished 120-section epic, The Cantos (1917-1969), were all works by which expatriate American poet and critic, as well as a major figure in the early modernist movement?

- What is the name of the English model, photographer and television personality who married rock singer Sir Rod Stewart in June 2007?
- Which England international midfielder was transferred from Liverpool to Manchester City in July 2015 for over £44 million pounds?
- Which English athlete won the long jump at the 1964 Summer Olympics by breaking the world record, the first British female to win an Olympic gold medal in track and field.
- Which Wales and British and Irish Lions international rugby union player is the third highest record points scorer for Wales after Neil Jenkins and Stephen Jones?

Not a lot of people know that... The first recorded use of paper money is in 7th century China during the Tang Dynasty. Merchants who didn't want to carry around heavy copper coins exchanged privately issued bills instead.

Answers:

- 50 CENT, 2. ELIS TANNER (also Gregory, Grimshaw and Howard), 3. MIKE PENCE, 4. MARK ANTHONY, 5. DOLLAR, 6. EZRA POUND, 7. PENNY LANCASTER (PENNY LANCASTER-STEWART, LADY STEWART), 8. RICHIE STEWART, 9. MARY RAND, 10. LEIGH HALFPENNY

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BOOKS



Lost and found

JEN enjoys a conventional family life in London, but when her 15-year-old daughter Lana goes missing it seems things may change forever.

Lana is found unharmed in the middle of the countryside four days after disappearing. Everyone believes the family can return to normal and the police consider the case closed.

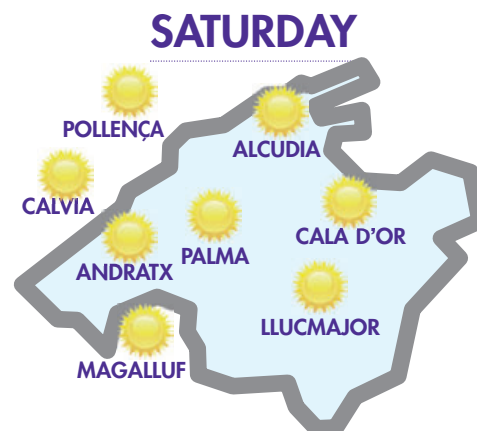
But Jen notices something different in her. The 15-year-old refuses to tell anyone what happened to her and soon she starts uncharacteristically sleeping with the light on and stops going to school.

Lana's mother becomes increasingly drawn to the mystery of what happened during the days she was missing. She begins to search for answers, but it is unclear what her daughter will reveal in Emma Healey's Whistle in the Dark.

books@euroweeklynews.com

Mallorca

weather



Malaga Today: Max 22, Min 14-Sh Fri - 22 13 - C Sat - 22 10 - C Sun - 20 10 - C Mon - 20 10 - S Tues - 19 10 - C Wed - 19 11 - Sh	Almeria Today: Max 20, Min 15-Sh Fri - 20 15 - S Sat - 21 14 - S Sun - 20 12 - S Mon - 19 12 - S Tues - 19 13 - S Wed - 19 13 - Sh	Bilbao Today: Max 15, Min 10-Sh Fri - 19 11 - C Sat - 16 9 - Sh Sun - 16 9 - Sh Mon - 17 9 - Sh Tues - 16 10 - Sh Wed - 17 10 - C	Madrid Today: Max 25, Min 11 - C Fri - 22 9 - Sh Sat - 18 6 - C Sun - 15 5 - Sh Mon - 16 6 - Sh Tues - 16 6 - Sh Wed - 16 6 - Sh
Alicante Today: Max 22, Min 14-Sh Fri - 22 14 - S Sat - 21 13 - C Sun - 22 12 - S Mon - 20 12 - C Tues - 20 12 - C Wed - 20 12 - C	Benidorm Today: Max 21, Min 15-Sh Fri - 21 14 - S Sat - 21 13 - C Sun - 20 12 - S Mon - 19 13 - C Tues - 19 13 - C Wed - 19 13 - Sh	Mallorca Today: Max 20, Min 14-Sh Fri - 22 13 - C Sat - 20 13 - C Sun - 20 12 - Sh Mon - 19 12 - C Tues - 19 12 - Sh Wed - 19 13 - Sh	Barcelona Today: Max 21, Min 14-C Fri - 20 14 - S Sat - 18 13 - Sh Sun - 19 12 - C Mon - 18 11 - C Tues - 18 12 - S Wed - 18 12 - Sh

S: Sun ☀ Cl: Clear ☁ C: Cloudy ☁ Sh: Showers ☁ Th: Thunder ⚡ Sn: Snow ❄

Euro Weekly News strives for accuracy, but cannot be held responsible for any errors in published forecasts

BIRTHDAYS

- **Melania Trump, First Lady; April 26, 48**
The First Lady of the United States was previously a model who appeared in the *Vogue* and *GQ* magazines. She was born in Sevnica in Slovenia. She married current President Donald Trump in 2005.
- **Jenna Coleman, Actor; April 27, 32**
Coleman was born in Blackpool, England and she landed her first television role playing Jasmine Thomas on *Emmerdale* while searching for an acting school. She has since gone on to play Queen Victoria in the ITV drama about the monarch's life.
- **Jay Leno, TV host; April 28, 68**
Leno fronted *The Tonight Show* between 1992 and 2014



Lily Allen.

after vying with fellow talk show host David Letterman for the prime time spot on the NBC network. He has also performed voice acting roles in *We're Back! A Dinosaur's Story* and *Ice Age: The Meltdown*.

- **Willie Nelson, Musician; April 29, 85**
The singer of *Funny How Time Slips Away* has been a country star, an activist, songwriter, actor and author. He has appeared in more than 30 films, helped to create the Farm Aid charity concert and sang in The Highwaymen super group.
- **Kunal Nayyar, Actor; April 30, 37**
The *Big Bang Theory* star was born in London and began acting in theatre productions while studying finance at the

University of Portland in the United States. He has also voiced Vijay in *Sanjay and Craig* and in December 2011 married former Miss India winner Neha Kapur.

- **Wes Anderson, Director; May 1, 49**
Anderson is the artistic brains behind the films *Moonrise Kingdom*, *The Royal Tenenbaums* and *The Darjeeling Limited*. He befriended actor Owen Wilson while the pair were studying at the University of Texas and Wilson went on to star in his 1996 debut *Bottle Rocket*.
- **Lily Allen, Singer; May 2, 33**
Allen was expelled from several schools for drinking and smoking and took a job at a record shop to make ends meet. She went on to debut with the album *Alright*, Still in 2006. She is the daughter of the director Keith Allen.

This week in history

- 311 - Persecution stops**
The Diocletianic Persecution of Christians, which saw churches burned and believers killed in arenas, comes to an end in the Roman Empire.
- 711 - Moors land**
Islamic troops led by Tariq ibn Ziyad arrive in Gibraltar to begin the Moorish invasion of the Iberian Peninsula.
- 1091 - Byzantine victory**
The semi-nomadic Pecheneg army is defeated by the Byzantine Emperor Alexios I Komnenos in the Battle of Levounion after trying to invade the empire.
- 1536 - Anne Boleyn held**
The Queen of England and wife of Henry VIII Anne Boleyn is arrested and imprisoned after being accused of adultery, incest, treason and witchcraft. She would later be executed.
- 1707 - Britain founded**
The Act of Union, a law which joins the Kingdoms of England and Scotland into one country, comes into force creating the Kingdom of Great Britain.
- 1881 - On the run**
Western American outlaw Billy the Kid escapes from Lincoln County jail in Mesilla, New Mexico after being captured by Pat Garrett and imprisoned for the murder of Sheriff William Brady.
- 1986 - Nuclear disaster**
Explosions and fires at the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine, then in the USSR, cause large quantities of radioactive material to be spewed into the surrounding area. The event would be called the worst nuclear disaster in history by many.
- 2011 - Bin Laden killed**
Osama Bin Laden, the man credited as being the mastermind behind the 2001 9/11 attacks in New York, is killed by United States Special Forces in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

DVD

Falling apart



GARDNER LODGE (Matt Damon) lives with his family in a peaceful and idyllic neighbourhood in 1959. But their lives are quickly turned upside down when two robbers break into their home and kill Margaret (Julianne Moore), Lodge's wife. Things are mixed up further when an African-American family moves into the predominantly white neighbourhood and end up on the receiving end of rising tensions. The locals are then forced to come to terms with changing times.

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.

Word Ladder

COPY

Move from the start word (COPY) to the end word (OATH) in the same number of steps as there are rungs on the Word Ladder. You must only change one letter at a time.

OATH

- OATH
- OATS
- CATS
- (COTS)
- CAPS
- COps
- COPY
- Solution

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

4	6	7	5	9	1	2	3	8
2	8	3	7	6	4	9	5	1
1	9	5	2	8	3	4	6	7
3	7	4	6	1	5	8	2	9
8	5	2	4	7	9	6	1	3
6	1	9	8	3	2	7	4	5
5	3	6	9	4	7	1	8	2
7	4	1	3	2	8	5	9	6
9	2	8	1	5	6	3	7	4

			2	5	1	7		
				7		8		
		9						6
6			4			9		
7		3		1				
		5		9		2		3
		6				5		
				8	1			

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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

Why didn't you publish my April Fool's joke?

CONGRATULATIONS on your success with *Euro Weekly*. As a reader from your very first edition, which then followed Mr Andy Ormiston, one of only two free papers, *The Entertainer* and Andy's paper which was the size of *The Financial Times* and published monthly. I have written to your paper many times on various subjects, animal cruelty and Second World War events and from as far back as 2002 I always sent you an April Fool which you published without any qualms but this year you refused - why?

Everything I have written has been harmless, nothing rude, insulting, racist, private names or public people. I have had phone calls, been stopped in the street to ask why no pranks this year.

Joe (*The Cat Man*), *Rojales*

Editor's note:

Joe thank you for your words of praise.

However when your piece was sent in, there was no mention that it was an April Fool's joke but simply invited readers to visit the dock in Malaga to

Many people irritated by Correos rule

HOW many Costa Blanca residents are affected by Correos' refusal to deliver mail in many areas?

In Els Poblets we have a choice, pay Correos €80 yearly for the privilege of a postbox within the Correos building or queue and collect your mail. The office is open for two hours, five days per week and if not collected within a month the post is returned to sender.

I understand similar directives have been introduced elsewhere and some months later reversed af-



Credit: Ratikova Shutterstock

| CORREOS: Doesn't like to deliver.

ter many people have bought their postal boxes. Residents left to their own devices organised and paid for

local blocks of boxes thereby retaining their actual address.

Ray Brass, Els Poblets

have the chance to tour two NATO warships and have pictures taken with the captains and crew. We attempted to verify the truth of the information and

discovered that the British warship mentioned had been scrapped a number of years ago and then called you to ask whether there was a mistake.

It was then that it was explained that this was an April Fool's piece and your partner was advised that we did not consider it appropriate to suggest that

our readers should waste their time visiting two warships that weren't there.

In hindsight we believe that when balancing your disappointment, against the potential misleading of our readers, we were absolutely correct in not publishing something that wasn't funny and was just misleading.

Tee'd off two

IN response to Stephen Hamilton's Tee'd Off letter last week I would like to inform him that I belong to a small, friendly, English-speaking golf society. The society plays at Parador de Golf, near Malaga. One does not have to be a member at Parador de Golf to play with this society although if you wish to join as a member there is no waiting list.

The course is flat and very walkable and cooler than most inland courses in the summer, it being on the coast. The society plays two competitions on average per week on Mondays and Thursdays. There is also a very good social side to be enjoyed.

Mo Reilly, Montemar

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.euoweeklynews.com.

Boozy Brits to be slapped with fines

Only old lifeless boring people think this is a good idea... remember you were young once.

Matt Silver

Having lived here for 14 years I have never seen Spanish young people behave like some of the Brits abroad. I go to a Spanish bar and watch a football match, they don't really drink much, it's called sport and unfortunately that ain't the case in the UK now. I got so tired of seeing hen stag holidays making fools of themselves I very seldom go into a British bar any more.

Stephanie Bremner

Squatters refuse to leave expat's Spanish home

Sorry to say this happened to my sister and it took years to get him out and he trashed the house and stole everything when he went. Spanish Law in regard to this is nuts.

Mandy Scott

Terrible. Home owners selling property beware. When they see for sale boards and no activity they just move in. It's all wrong.

Jay Ellis

Big problem in Spain!!! It's not the first time I've heard of this. Unfortunately the law protect these people in the wrong... And if you don't pay your bills you may

Comments from EWN online

lose your house for good...

Maribel Orellana-Aragon

YouTuber faces jail for homeless man biscuit prank

Despicable. He should be locked up and fed a diet of everything he's made others eat.

Mollie Matthews

What a disgusting excuse for a human being!

Judy Breadmore

Shut down his channel and lock him up.

Zara Maria

Child sex pest who fled Spain freed

Has not had access to computers? Pull the other one. He should at least be on the sex offenders list over here and worldwide. Just because they haven't found

any info doesn't mean to say there isn't any; and the original sentence was not enough.

Moira Armitage

Why is such a person even free at all? Isn't child porn illegal? Or is it one of those crimes that isn't really cared about? Possession of a pocketknife lands you in jail but kiddie porn doesn't?

Erik Robinson

More than 1,000 pigs drown at farm

I'm all in favour of animal rights groups... but filming the pigs drowning!!! Why in god's name could they do that without helping them? Filming their deaths was obviously more important?? WHY?

Mandy Taylor

The owner will no doubt demand compensation for the loss of the pigs, and I doubt the authorities will have the stomach to prosecute him. Win win for the farmer.

Ron Curtis

Ghastly. But it is the farmers/owners who should be held to account. Ban them from keeping any animals. Plus hurt them where they care. In their pocket.

Deborah Fitzgerald

Unfair exchange

MY partner and I have been on holiday in Calpe since early March, we come to the Costa Blanca frequently and love it. Last Sunday we walked the testing but beautiful Sierra Helada from Albir to Benidorm.

We needed to exchange some sterling into euros, however the exchange shop was closed in Calpe on Saturday afternoon when we went but we noticed a currency exchange shop open on Sunday and it was displaying a rate of €1.137 to the pound in big letters on a sign outside.

We decided to change £200. To our disbelief the lady behind the counter only gave us €170 for our £200! When we protested she pointed to a notice inside her dark shop saying we had to exchange more than £2,000 to get the €1.137 rate otherwise it was just €0.9 to the pound.

She wouldn't give us our money back and we felt deceived, duped and naive by this con. It is a scam and other Benidorm holidaymakers need to be made aware of.

Helen Stretch, Calpe and UK

Grape expectations

GRAPSEED oil is a by-product of wine making. After the wine is made by pressing grapes, the grape seeds are left behind. Grapeseed oil is extracted from these leftover grape seeds. This oil is used as a natural beauty product.

Many of the beauty benefits of this oil are due to its content of vitamin E and omega-6 fatty acids. It can be used both as a skincare

and haircare product in your daily beauty regime. The cold-pressed version of the oil can even be used in your kitchen as a healthy alternative to vegetable oil.

Vitamin E is important because it works as a fat-soluble antioxidant, which helps decrease your chances of developing cancer, heart disease and other chronic diseases.

Omega-6 and omega-3



STUNNING SEEDS: Grapeseed oil is a by-product of wine making.

fatty acids are crucial to the functioning and appearance of the skin. The main omega-6 PUFA in grape-seed oil is linolenic acid. This fatty acid can help reduce inflammation in the skin.

Grapeseed oil is popularly used to moisturise the skin, heal acne, tighten pores, reduce the appearance of scars and remove make-up.

The grapeseed oil penetrates into the skin quickly and does not leave it feeling greasy.

To use grapeseed oil on your face, massage several drops on clean skin before going to bed at night.

Because grapeseed oil does not clog pores, it is ideal for all skin types, including that which needs hydration.



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Posh polish

A DECENT nail varnish can lift your outfit as much as an expensive bit of bling or a fabulous scarf. Whether you get your nails done at a beauty salon or do them yourself with a cheaper varnish, colour is key.

The colour has to speak to you, it has to be in fashion and it has to fit the event. Beyond that, it has to offer value for money and give your nails the appearance promised on the bottle.

Plus, given our busy routines, you'll want a varnish that dries superfast.

Practicalities must also be considered. Such as, how long will your varnish remain in tip-top shape, will it easily chip and will it be difficult to remove

If money is no object, why not splash out on the world's most expensive nail varnish which has just been released at the staggering cost of €207,000.

Black Diamond polish by Azature contains 267 carats of black diamonds and creates a dark, glittery sheen on nails.

For those with more modest means, Azature has also produced a budget €20 bottle which contains one single black diamond.

An exciting day of skating

THERE is always something different going on at Port Adriano and last

Saturday was no exception. The Starck marina

opened its doors for all lovers of skating who wanted to have a good

time in an idyllic setting by the sea and what was more, admission was free.

From 10am to 1pm and then from 3pm to 5pm, attendees were able to enjoy three very interesting workshops

A scooter workshop was presented by Lautaro Limarieri, runner-up in the Spain Freestyle World Scooter competition.

Participants were taught the mechanics of a scooter and how to maintain it well.

He was accompanied by the Ap Rollers Scooter Team, who were the face of the workshop, explaining techniques and helping to perfect tricks which participants can put into practice to compete against each other and they also gave an exciting demonstration of their skills.

The Ap Rollers Freestyle Team offered advice on skating techniques from beginner to senior level with tips aimed at all levels.

Then the team wowed those present with a breathtaking exhibition of the different disciplines showing high level tricks in jumps, skids, races and slalom.

The third workshop

concentrated on artistic skating and was presented by members of the Santa Ponsa Skating Club, who demonstrated basic techniques of figure skating, followed by an exhibition of the skill of those professionals taking part.

Funds raised from the day will go to the Fundación Balcat Solidaria (www.balcat.com), which tries to help people with disabilities.

A perfect sausage casserole

Eat Well to Live Well
by Andrew Harding



PERFECT MATCH: Sausage casserole and roast potatoes.

1 teaspoon black peppercorns, ground
1 tablespoon parmesan cheese, grated
3 whole mushroom caps, sliced
Saute sausages with onion and olive oil until onion caramelised and sausages browned, add garlic saute until golden, add red wine and reduce by one third, add rest of ingredients except for parmesan and mushrooms and simmer for 45 minutes.

Add parmesan and mushrooms, cook for a further 10 minutes.

Serve with Yorkshire puddings (see last week's recipe), roast potatoes and your favourite, steamed green vegetable.

Roast potatoes (serves 2)

1 large potato

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 pinch salt

Preheat oven to 220 Celsius (conventional), or 200 Celsius (fan).

Peel and cube potatoes into rough sizes of two cubic inches. Place potatoes in a microwaveable container and microwave on full power (850 watts) for six minutes, at the same time place a roasting tin containing the olive oil in the oven.

When the microwave has pinged, pour the potatoes and any water into a colander and shake to put a texture on to the outside of the potato.

Place in the oven and cook for about an hour or until the potatoes are a golden brown, shaking occasionally so the sides resting on the base of the tin change several times during cooking.

Sprinkle with salt

Serve

HERE on the Costa del Sol the rain has stopped and the sky is blue again, I hope the same is true for my readers in other parts of Spain.

The evenings are still a bit chilly, so here is a recipe that can probably be cooked for the next two or three weeks before it is time to break out and clean the barbecue ready for late spring and the summer.

Sausage Casserole (Serves 2)

1 tablespoon olive oil

6 whole sausage links

1 small red onion, peeled and diced

6 whole garlic cloves, peeled and chopped

1 cup red wine

1 can tomatoes, chopped

1 whole stock cube, ground

1 teaspoon English mustard

1 tablespoon dried oregano

3 whole bay leaves, bruised

1/2 can cannellini beans, drained

Hint: Choose whichever sausages are your favourite; this recipe works with them all.

Tip: Keep an eye on the roasting potatoes, in my experience all ovens are different and internal temperatures and fan speed can vary substantially.

Live concert with WE R COMIN'!
on Wednesday, May 2nd 2018 at Finca Hotel CAN ESTADES

On Wednesday, May 2nd 2018, the successful band WE R COMIN'! is back at Finca Hotel CAN ESTADES and plays Rock 'n Roll from the 60s, 70s and 80s. Front man Phil Wolff and the boys will rock the hall - time for dance and sing along! Buffet is sold out!

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House about that!

Property market recovery goes on

By Matt Ford

THE Spanish property market is officially booming.

It comes after Spanish real estate analysis and consultancy firm Tinsa revealed that the sector continued to grow throughout the first quarter of 2018, as prices shot up by an average of 3.8 per cent, according to year-on-year data.

But the cost of property increased by much more in a number of hotspots, with capital Madrid (17 per cent) and Palma de Mallorca (14.8 per cent) leading the charge.

Prices rose in virtually all provincial capitals across the country, but the Tinsa index shows that

strong demand has dictated that larger markets are developing fastest.

Figures recently published by real estate website Idealista back up the report, after asking prices rose by 2.2 per cent over the first three months of the year, ending March at an average €1,621 per square metre.

Madrid again topped the ranking of autonomous communities, with each square metre costing an average €2,159, followed by the Balearic Islands (€2,068), with Extremadura (€768) cheapest.

Spanish estate agents confirmed sales of new homes are returning to pre-financial crisis rates.

A report by luxury homes specialist Lucas Fox shows that transactions in Madrid and Barcelona have reached their highest peak since before the property crash sparked by the collapse of international banks. New builds accounted for 50 per cent of sales in the two cities, while Lucas Fox itself says that they accounted for 39 per cent of its own deals.

The average price of homes sold by the firm in 2017 climbed to €830,000 from €730,000 in 2016, a 14 per cent year-on-year gain. International buyers accounted for 66 per cent of the company's sales, with 10 per

cent from the UK, 8 per cent from the United States - up 5 per cent from 2016 - while buyers from Scandinavia, the Middle East and Asia were also well-represented.

"Falling unemployment, low interest rates and a strong economy have all contributed to the growth in the Spanish property market," said Lucas Fox head of operations Rod Jamieson.

"Official figures now indicate that the market has recovered from the crash of 2008 with transactions reaching pre-crisis levels in some areas.

"Overall prices, however, remain below 2007 levels, offering attractive opportunities for investors across Spain," he added.

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

Ref 3117, Vallgornera, 170,000€

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

**Ref 3059, La Rapita, 189,000€**

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

**Ref 3115, Son Bielo, 268,000€**

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

**Ref 3112, Campos, 1,060,000€**

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

**Ref 3118, Lluçmajor, 106,500€**

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

**Ref: 3104, Algaida, 160,000€**

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

**HOMEOWNER SURGE:** Sales of both new builds and pre-owned properties are on the rise.



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LP-1947 €1.850.000
 5 bedrooms 4 bathrooms 330m² 1398m²
 Luxury Villa set in a peaceful setting with private pool and garden in Sol de Mallorca.



LPS-280 €500.000
 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 115m²
 Frontline apartment in Santa Ponsa.



LP-1964 €1,480,000
 3 bedrooms 3 bathrooms 350m² 3000m²
 Beautiful and traditional Finca set in the delightful countryside of Calvia.



LPS-273 €95,500
 0 bedrooms 1 bathroom 35m²
 Nice presented studio in quiet area of Santa Ponsa.

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LPC-1957 REDUCED €650,000
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LP-1972 €740,000
 3 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 105m² 108m²
 Modern Apartment with stunning port and sea views in Puerto Portals



LPC-1974 €495,000
 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 133m² 248m²
 Modern Duplex Apartment with garden and pool views in Nova Santa Ponsa.



LP-1960 REDUCED €155,000
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Could you be getting more from your pension? Make the most of your retirement with Currencies Direct

So you've finally realised your dream of retiring to Spain to live out your golden years relaxing and soaking up the sun, congratulations!

However, now you're living abroad you might have realised that using your bank to transfer your pension payments to Spain is eating in to how much you receive.

Keep reading if you'd like to find out how you could be maximising the return on your pension payments...

Avoid fees

Most high street banks will charge a fee each and every time you make a transfer, and when you're making monthly pension transfers these sums can really add up – typically equating to hundreds of lost euros over the course of the year.

However, leading currency transfer providers like Currencies Direct work on a fee-free basis, meaning you could quickly see significant savings by using their services.

By avoiding these fees on your monthly pension payments it can quickly add up to considerable savings for you over the span of your retirement.

Secure the most competitive exchange rate

Another way to make your pension stretch as far as possible is to ensure that you get the most competitive rate on your currency exchange.

You'll find that different providers will offer different rates when transferring your money, with currency brokers generally offering more competitive rates than high street banks.

While the difference may only be a few pennies either way, depending on the size of your transfer, you could be hundreds or thousands of euros better off if you choose the right provider.

However, it isn't enough to just use the right provider, to really get the most out of your pension you need to time your transfers for when the exchange rate is most favourable.

Exchange rates can be affected by factors like economics, politics and even natural disasters, and following Brexit there has been considerable volatility in the EUR/GBP exchange rate.

Therefore it's crucial to stay on top of the latest movements in the currency markets so you don't miss your window.

The easiest way to do this is to sign up for market updates from a leading currency broker, so you receive the latest news straight to your email inbox.

Exploring your transfer options

As mentioned above, the volatility of currency markets means that the value of your pension could vary considerably from month-to-month, which can make it difficult to budget.

However, by setting up a forward contract with Currencies Direct you can freeze an exchange rate for up to a year, protecting you from unfavourable movements in the currency market.

You can even fix the exchange rate for regular transfers, ensuring that you know exactly how much your pension will be worth from one month to the next.

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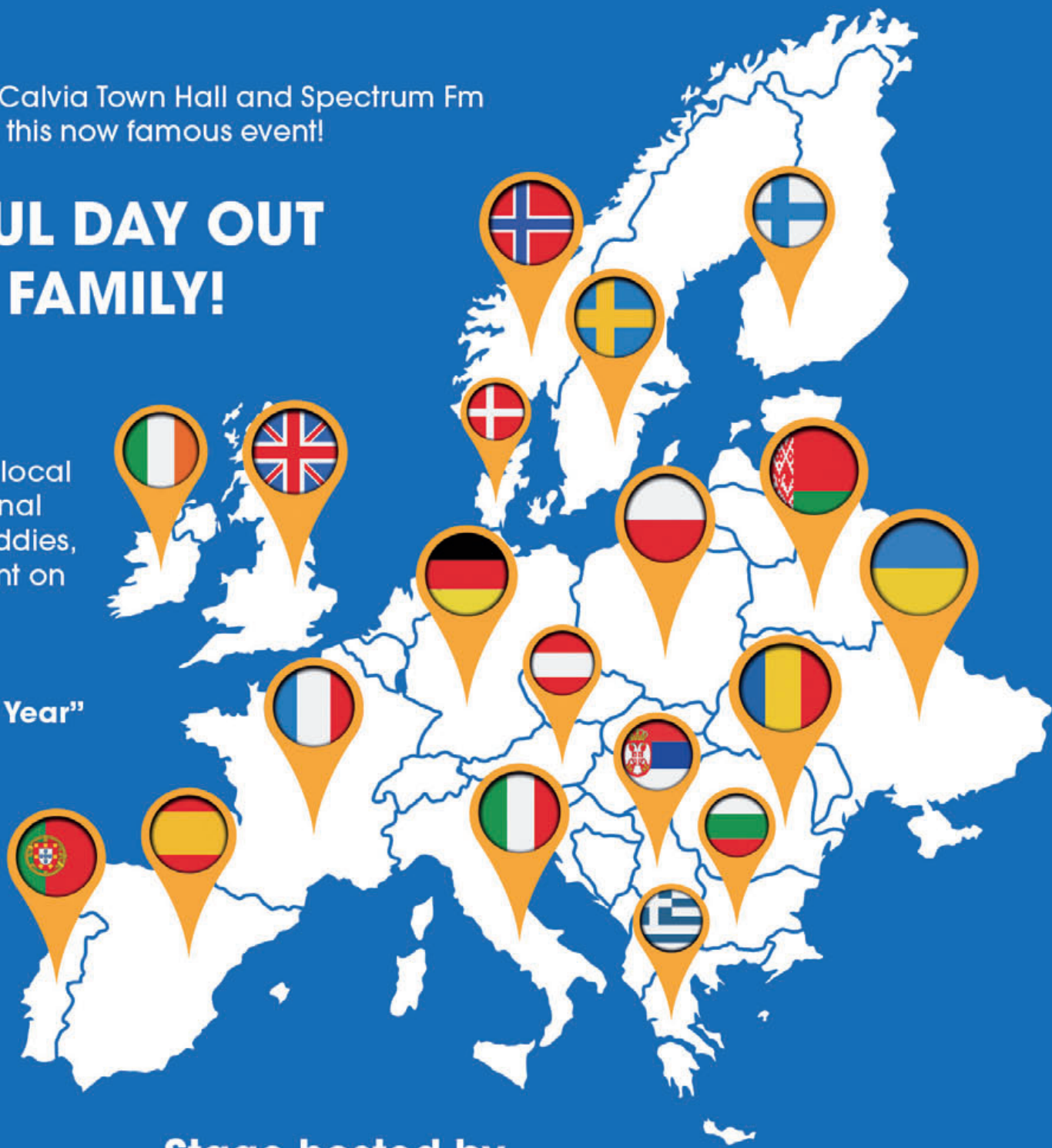
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DELICIOUS fresh salad and herb ingredients can be easily grown in such a small space in very little time using wooden pallets.

Pallets can be used as containers, often with very little modification, filled with soil and planted with your favourite small plants. The result is readily available salad plants, herbs or other plants of your choosing.

If space is an issue, pallets can be stood vertically to create a multi-storey garden with rows of plants held by the pallet's wooden slats. Horizontally the pallets make a good row divider and keep the plants cleaner as they rest on the wood rather than soil.

Either way they make growing your plants much easier as they hold the soil, insulate the soil temperature, and give easy access to care for and harvest the produce.

If you are lucky you may find some pallets at factories or other places which frequently get deliveries on them. Some are starting to realise their value and may wish to charge something for them but many still give them away.

It is still far easier to have the ready-made frame at a fraction of the cost and work it takes to

Salad and herb pallet gardens

Upcycle timber, save space, time and cost



HOME GROWN: Different salad plants in a pallet garden.

make them from new timber.

The best pallets are heat treated ones. Chemically treated pallets may last longer but may have residues that can be harmful. Fortunately most are not

treated as they are often for one use only, which makes a great benefit to the environment if you can find creative ways to reuse them.

For vertical gardens you will

need to put a liner of shade cloth, a sack that fits inside the pallet or even some extra wood from another pallet to keep the soil stable inside so that it will not flow out when watering. You can paint and decorate them if you are really keen or just leave them with the natural wood.

Horizontally laid pallets are easiest but take up more space. If you are placing them on a balcony or terrace with a hard surface it is best to make sure that run-off from watering will not cause any issues. A simple waterproof material under the pallet, with the edges pinned up onto the pallet frame, can act as

an effective water tray.

I have seen many gardens with plenty of space using pallets just for their convenience to suppress weeds, protect the plants and add character to the garden. It works wonderfully when filled with compost and enriched soil. The pallets help to reduce evaporation and so less watering is needed.

There are so many types of lettuce and Asian green vegetables available these days that you can make interesting arrangements of the plants or the more traditional rows of different varieties can be guided by the pallet lines.

Parsley, thyme and various other herbs will also do well in pallets. Grouping them together makes it easy to gather the herbs when needed in the kitchen.

The American dream

IF you don't mind a bit of dust, why not take on the challenge of restructuring your house. The most popular projects that homeowners tend to tackle in Spain involve combining the kitchen and lounge and/or combining the salon and the terrace.

The kitchen-lounge fusion is commonly called an American kitchen-diner. This project involves removing the wall between these two areas to open up this space. This new space is more open and can offer new viewpoints within your home which have a knock-on effect on our interior design.

The other popular option is to merge the salon and the terrace. People living in urban flats can sometimes be hesitant about using their terrace. There can be too much noise



KITCHEN-DINER FUSION: Open-plan living can be a priceless improvement.

or smoke from the neighbours or simply a general lack of privacy. This salon-terrace fusion involves enclosing the balcony, normally with double glazing, as well as removing the old door which separates the two areas. What remains is

a larger room which receives much more light.

Undertaking these projects in your house can not only add value to your bricks and mortar but can improve your quality of life around the home, something which is priceless.



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David THE Dogman

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Mad dog

BEWARE: Some barking dogs do bite.

THERE are four basic forms of aggression: to other dogs, to the owners, to other humans and to children. Some dogs are aggressive to other dogs because all pack animals depend on a dominance hierarchy in their community or family.

Often the more dominant dog can establish its higher ranking by growling and baring its teeth, with ears erect, tail trembling and held high, 'hair on end' along the shoulders and back and by staring fixedly.

Less dominant animals submit by lying on their backs or putting their tails between their legs. This is called the 'Beta Roll'.

If the more dominant animal is not happy with the speed of submission or the extent of the submissive reaction, then aggressive action can follow. Normally this is limited to the minimum of damage, if any, as long as there is no human interference.

If a person hits one of the dogs it may think the pain has been caused by the other dog, thus esca-

lating the conflict.

The closer the status ranking, the greater is the risk of serious damage. This is particularly true of two female dogs in the same household. If there are two male dogs, one can be castrated to reduce its rank but this does not work with two females if both have been spayed, an action which should never be taken.

As puppies, they may well have lived happily together but problems are likely to start once they reach around eight months. If neither have been spayed it is vital to spay the one that is challenging for dominance. Make the wrong choice and you will have problems later on.

Even if a dog is submitting, the more dominant dog might decide that the 'comfort distance' is not suffi-

cient, especially if food is involved, and attack.

A dog can be aggressive towards a human owner for several reasons, all of which are more likely to occur if that owner has not established, in the dog's view, his or her dominance over the animal.

Possession of food or a bone could be the trigger if the owner intrudes on what the dog regards as its comfort distance, something which less dominant dogs in the wild would respect. Establishing your dominance as the owner is vital.



rescued by the owner. Sometimes there is no apparent reason for a dog's aggression.

An aggressive reaction to someone not belonging to the pack can be triggered by a sudden movement of the head, body, arms or feet. Dogs with elderly owners with slow movements can react differently to those with younger owners.

Finally, aggression towards children can be a very serious matter and we'll look that in more detail next week.

PIGS are increasingly popular as pets. Even Shakira walks her pet pig in her video Blackmail. However, it's not the same as having a dog or a cat and it is necessary to think it through before taking this step.

People can think pigs are dirty and smelly, but this simply isn't true. To keep

your dirty pig clean all you need to do is bath it every so often.

They are also quite intelligent animals and are able

Pet pigs

to remember and memorise some commands. They can be walked on a leash and can be very affectionate animals with their owner.

However, it is best if you have a house with a garden or access to a public park with land since pigs do need to dig.

This is fundamental for their healthy development so if you can't offer this, then a pig is not for you.

And how you feed your pig is important. Pigs are omnivorous animals, so they can eat all kinds of foods, such as fruit and vegetables, cereals and grains. If you do decide to take a pig home, they can be great company provided you offer them the necessary care, education, food and affection.

One word of warning though. Pigs can grow to reach up to 100 kilograms, so be sure to choose your breed wisely!

Housesitter to the rescue - it's twins!

Emergency house-sitter needed

A FEW times a year people reach out to us with an emergency request for pet-sitters.

Two weeks ago, a new homeowner contacted us with a very urgent request. Her daughter who lives in Southampton, England, was about to have twins early and wanted her Mum. Mum (our client) had just moved to the Scottish Borders and didn't know anyone locally well enough to find care for her cat and two dogs. Could we help them?

House-sitter email alert

We sent a house-sitter email alert and asked our international network of house-sitters and pet-sitters if anyone was in the vicinity and could step in to help within the week.

The successful candidate was a retired professor from



PURRFECT: A happy cat.

America who had always wanted to spend time in Scotland.

Success can take a little work but everyone in this story succeeded in some way through our collaborative effort. The house-sitter enjoyed Scotland for a 10-day working holiday, the pet owner found a caring sitter who was happy to be there and she saved about £500 in kennel fees with our trusted sitter.

Why join a network like HouseSitMatch?

HouseSitMatch is a managed online network which we

believe makes us more secure. We ID check all members on joining, and police check all sitters. We believe this transparency is safer for everyone.

How you benefit as a home and pet owner

Our membership offers a secure network to help you find suitable sitters. We don't reveal your contact details, or your address. You post an advert ahead of your travel dates, we publish the advert then house-sitters apply. You can view their profiles and chat with them before you accept your choice of applicant.

How you do join?

Register online via our website www.Housesitmatch.com.

- Choose a membership plan
- Standard (DIY option) = £49 pa
- Premium (with support at each step) = £79 pa

Do you need a house or pet-sitter? Get in touch. House-sitting can be a win-win for both parties, free house and pet-sitting, and the experienced and checked sitters get free accommodation! Register as either house-sitter or homeowner now with a 20 per cent off introductory offer using coupon code PERFECT20. To find a house or pet-sitter go to www.HousesitMatch.com.

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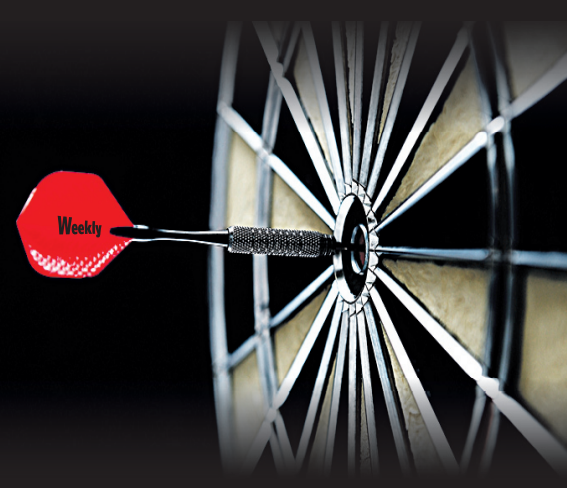
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MOTORING FACT

“ **JUST 35 per cent of the world’s population drives on the left hand side of the road.** ”

THE world’s very first off-road electric supercar, the MISS-R, has been sighted while out testing in an off-road setting.

Taiwanese giants XING Mobility are responsible for making the MISS-R supercar, which was revealed at the AutoTronics show in Taipei earlier this month, and the car has been mooted as potentially becoming the fastest production car in the world.

It has also been claimed that the impressive supercar, which boasts a staggering 1.341bhp, can accelerate from 0-100km/h in just 1.8 seconds, thanks to the car’s unique system.

The supercar has four 350V motors, which the company are marketing as the first of its kind and are able to tackle a range of harsh terrains.

Another of the supercar’s features is a one megawatt battery pack, which alongside the motors has led the company to claim the car will be able to reach 0-190km/h in just 5.1 seconds.

The MISS-ing link

First off-road electric supercar spotted testing



CREDIT: XING Mobility/Twitter

WORLD FIRST: XING Mobility’s MISS-R has been seen testing.

The top-of-the-range supercar also has an ‘immersive-cooled battery pack’ which is in place in the hope of preventing the car from overheating when reaching top speeds.

Alongside the MISS-R, XING Mobility are also reportedly currently working with both commercial and industrial vehicle makers in the hope of applying the technology created for the off-road supercar in other vehicles including buses, special-purpose boats, ride-sharing scooters and even construction equipment.

XING Mobility co-founder and CTO, Azizi Tucker, told the company’s website: “The commercial vehicle market is primed for a conversion to electric drivetrains due to functional needs, increasing emissions requirements and public noise reduction.

“However, this market is currently extremely under-served with many electric vehicle technology manufacturers focusing only on passenger vehicles.”

ROAD TEST

by Nick Fletcher

SEAT Ibiza Xcellence

SEAT’S Ibiza supermini has attracted a loyal following in recent years and the latest version, lower, wider and with a longer wheelbase and sharper styling, is certain to boost sales of this increasingly cool and sporty marque.

Running on a new lightweight platform also shared with some of its VW-Audi stablemates, Ibiza now has more of a grown-up feel, is more spacious, better equipped and with charismatic styling which makes rivals look rather dull.

Ibiza prices start at €15,838 (£13,665)

and there are several trim levels including a tasty and more sporty FR version. Available only in five-door form, Ibiza comes with petrol and diesel options, with the 1.0 litre three-cylinder 94 hp petrol unit a popular choice.

This engine - the one fitted in my Xcellence flagship test model - has a 0-100kph time of 10.6 seconds, with a top speed of 182kph (113mph) and impressive

fuel economy - 21.2kpl (60.1mpg). Emissions are low at 106g/km.

The Xcellence model, priced at €20,063 (£17,310), has plenty of kit including keyless entry and start, four different driving modes, cruise control, parking sensors and rear-view camera, touchscreen infotainment, satnav with voice recognition and connectivity including Mirror Link, Apple Car Play and An-

droid Auto, plus a wireless phone charger.

On the move, the lower, wider Ibiza handles exceptionally well, with minimal body roll and lots of grip. Ride quality is slightly firm but still comfortable. The turbo-petrol engine is responsive and at speed, pleasingly quiet for a three-cylinder unit.

Occupant space in the Ibiza is very good, accommodating four adults with ease and five at a squeeze. The box-shaped boot holds a substantial 355 litres and the rear seats fold down,

though not fully flat.

This is the fifth generation of the Ibiza, with 5.4 million sold in over 30 years and sales currently at record levels in the UK and

across Europe.

That upward trend is set to continue as the latest Ibiza has outstanding credentials in a hotly-contested supermini sector.



TOP MARKS: SEAT Ibiza Xcellence.

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Credit: Axopar

IN ACTION: Four Axopar models.

New improved Axopar set for the Palma Boat Show

WITH combined sales in excess of 1,000 units and 500 orders already secured for 2018, Axopar is Europe's fastest-growing boat brand.

Splashing onto the market for the first time in 2014 with the Axopar 28, the Finnish premium motorboat builder has taken three years' worth of valuable feedback to make this brilliant boat even better and it'll make its Spanish show debut at the 35th Palma Boat

Show this weekend from tomorrow (Friday) until Tuesday.

Teddy Torkington from Axopar dealer Multimar Alcedia, said, "Already a triple award-winner, the 'original' Axopar 28 captured the market by offering a stylish, fun sports boat that's exhilarating to drive, fuel efficient, modular in its deck and accommodation space, easy to maintain and unbeatable in terms of price versus performance.

Superyacht takes to the Milan catwalk



Credit: Azimut Yachts

AN INNOVATIVE PRESENTATION: At Milan Design Week.

DURING the first days of Milan Design Week the impressive setting of Azimut Yachts, located right at the entrance of the Triennale, offered the numerous visitors the opportunity to understand and appreciate the links between navigation, art and design.

At a presentation which took place in the Teatro dell'Arte in Milan, Giovanna

Vitelli briefly reviewed the almost 50-year history of the brand explaining that it was constantly breaking traditional rules as the company wants to introduce unusual and unexpected designs into its products.

Giovanna Vitelli said that "For 10 years now we have been searching, outside the industry, for leading architects who can introduce a new language to our yachts, with

completely different stylistic codes, expressed by evolving and contemporary projects

"It is important however not to lose sight of the objective that the boat continues to remain a boat, not an apartment or a hotel, with its perfect balance in relation to the surrounding environment, without distorting its lifestyle."

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Volvo Ocean Race en route for Newport

FOLLOWING a great send-off from Itajai, Brazil, last Sunday, the seven-strong fleet - back up to full complement with the welcome return of Vestas 11th Hour Racing and Sun Hung Kai/Scallywag - faced a tricky opening night of unpredictable weather.

Leg 8 will take the teams more than 4,000 nautical miles to Newport Rhode Island in the USA through some difficult and often unpredictable weather.

On the first day, there was little chance for the sailors to acclimatise slowly as constant variations in wind direction and strength meant numerous sail changes.

MAPFRE were the early leaders in the opening hours but Xabi Fernandez's crew slowed considerably as they got caught in a cloud.

Turn the Tide on Plastic and Vestas 11th Hour Racing took the lead in the Volvo Ocean Race fleet on Wednesday as the battle continued.

The leading pair were the most easterly boats as the seven-strong fleet approached an oil field exclusion zone 100 miles off Rio's coast, enabling them to continue to make headway north for longer while their rivals were forced to tack.

At 1pm yesterday (Wednesday) however, just 20 miles separated first and last placed yachts in the race.



Credit: Pedro Martinez/Volvo Ocean Race

Pedro Martinez/Volvo Ocean Race

THE YACHTS: Sailing off the coast of Itajai.

Ukrainian RIBs in Palma show

AS exclusive dealers for Ukrainian-built GRAND inflatable boats for the whole of Spain, Multimar Alcudia is bringing a collection of RIBs (Rigid Inflatable Boats) from three metres to 8.5 metres to the 35th Palma International Boat Show.

According to the dealers, "these boats have been selling like hot cakes in Scandinavia for a decade, and we are now attracting an audience here in the Balearics.

"This is a high quality build at surprisingly competitive prices, this young funky product is aimed at those who want a fun RIB without denting the finances too dramatically."

Whilst not perhaps as big a social cachet as owning one of the expensive Pirelli designer RIBs these are still good quality boats at competitive and affordable prices.

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La Liga Preview

Real aiming for Atletico

by Benjamin Park

REAL MADRID will look to move to within one point of Atletico Madrid on Saturday as they take on Leganes.

Real, who have not lost since a surprise 1-0 defeat to Espanyol in February, had to rely on a late Cristiano Ronaldo flick to rescue a point against Athletic Bilbao to keep them in the running for second place.

And the Madrid giants can now move to within just one point of their bitter rivals on Saturday, after Atletico were comfortably beaten 3-0 by Real Sociedad on Thursday before being held to a 0-0 draw by Real Betis on Sunday.

Los Rojiblancos can immediately move back to four points clear of Real though if they beat Alaves on Sunday, but their Madrid rivals will still have a game in hand.

Elsewhere, Barcelona will



Credit: Twitter

ON THE MARCH: Real can move to within just a point of Atletico on Saturday.

look to extend their record unbeaten run to 41 La Liga games as they travel to Deportivo La Coruña on Sunday. The Catalans cruised to their third consecutive Copa del Rey title on Saturday as goals from Andres Iniesta, Lionel Messi, Philippe Coutinho and a Luis Suarez double gave them a 5-0 win over Sevilla.

They survived a late on-

slaught with 10 men in their last La Liga match against Celta Vigo to maintain a 2-2 draw.

Deportivo however have found a good run of form recently, with two wins and two draws in their last four and are now the only side in the bottom three that can mathematically still survive, following Las Palmas' and Malaga's rel-

egation at the weekend.

However, a loss to the champions-elect, coupled with a win for Levante against Sevilla tomorrow (Friday), would all but consign them to the Segunda division.

If Levante do achieve a result against seventh-placed Sevilla, who are without a win in their last six La Liga matches, then that could pave the way for Real Betis' qualification to next season's Europa League. Betis have dropped just two points from their last 18 available and face already relegated Malaga knowing that a win would move them to 59 points, 11 clear of Sevilla and all but guaranteeing their position in next year's Europa League.

In the weekend's other fixtures, Getafe face Girona, Villarreal host Celta Vigo, Real Sociedad face and Espanyol play Las Palmas.

Premier League preview

Red Devils look to secure second

MANCHESTER UNITED will look to follow up their dominant FA Cup semi-final display against Tottenham as they host their North London rivals Arsenal on Sunday.

The Red Devils made it through to a record-equalling 20th FA Cup final thanks to goals from Alexis Sanchez and Ander Herrera, who cancelled out Dele Alli's goal.

They now host Arsenal looking to move clear of Liverpool in third, with Arsenal wanting to give manager Arsene Wenger a fitting swansong period after he announced that he would be stepping down at the end of the season after almost 22 years in charge.

The match will also see Alexis Sanchez, named Man of the Match on Saturday, come up against his old side for the first time since his January move to Old Trafford.

Elsewhere, Manchester City will look to continue their quest for a record points total as they head to struggling West Ham.

The Champions ran riot in a 5-0 win against Swansea on Sunday, with goals from David Silva, Raheem Sterling, Kevin De Bruyne, Bernardo Silva and Gabriel Jesus taking the Champions to within just five points of equalling Chelsea's record from the 2004/5 season with four games to go.

They will look to make the most of West Ham's struggles this season, who fell to their 15th loss of the season in the 4-1 defeat at Arsenal last weekend.

On Saturday, West Brom can be officially relegated from the Premier League if they fail to beat Newcastle.

The Baggies have put on spirited performances in recent weeks, following up their 1-0 victory against Manchester United two weeks ago with a courageous 2-2 draw against Liverpool on Saturday, having come back from 2-0 down.

But it seems to be too little too late for Darren Moore's side as they face a rejuvenated Newcastle side who have



Credit: Manchester United

FORM: Manchester United will look to build on their FA Cup semi-final win.

lost just once in their last five games, knowing only a win, by a considerable margin, will give them a slim hope of survival.

Their fate will be taken out of their hands completely if Swansea manage to get a result at home to Chelsea in Saturday's late kick off.

The Swans currently sit four points above the drop zone and a result against last season's Champions will give them real breathing space between themselves and the bottom three.

In the weekend's other fixtures, Huddersfield face Everton, Crystal Palace host Leicester, Burnley take on Brighton, Southampton play Bournemouth and Tottenham host Watford at Wembley on Monday.

SPANISH LA LIGA 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	PI	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 • Barcelona	83	33	25	8	0	83	19
2 • Atlético	72	34	21	9	4	54	18
3 • Real Madrid	68	33	20	8	5	80	36
4 • Valencia	66	34	20	6	8	62	36
5 • Betis	56	34	17	5	12	54	53
6 • Villarreal	51	33	15	6	12	45	40
7 • Sevilla	48	33	14	6	13	41	52
8 • Getafe	48	34	13	9	12	39	31
9 • Girona	47	34	13	8	13	46	52
10 • Celta	45	34	12	9	13	53	47
11 • R. Sociedad	43	34	12	7	15	60	54
12 • Eibar	43	34	12	7	15	37	47
13 • Alavés	41	34	13	2	19	34	47
14 • Athletic	40	34	9	13	12	37	42
15 • Leganés	40	34	11	7	16	28	41
16 • Espanyol	39	34	9	12	13	28	40
17 • Levante	37	34	8	13	13	32	49
18 • Deportivo	28	34	6	10	18	32	65
19 • Las Palmas	21	34	5	6	23	22	69
20 • Málaga	20	34	5	5	24	22	51

Champions L.

Europa L.

Relegation



PREMIER LEAGUE 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	PI	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 • M. City	90	34	29	3	2	98	25
2 • M. United	74	34	23	5	6	65	26
3 • Liverpool	71	35	20	11	4	80	37
4 • Tottenham H.	68	34	20	8	6	66	31
5 • Chelsea	63	34	19	6	9	59	34
6 • Arsenal	57	34	17	6	11	66	46
7 • Burnley	53	35	14	11	10	35	32
8 • Everton	45	35	12	9	14	40	54
9 • Leicester City	44	34	11	11	12	49	47
10 • Newcastle United	41	34	11	8	15	35	43
11 • Bournemouth	38	35	9	11	15	41	58
12 • Watford	38	35	10	8	17	42	60
13 • Brighton	36	34	8	12	14	32	47
14 • Crystal Palace	35	35	8	11	16	36	54
15 • West Ham Utd.	35	34	8	11	15	42	63
16 • Huddersfield Town	35	34	9	8	17	27	54
17 • Swansea City	33	34	8	9	17	27	51
18 • Southampton	29	34	5	14	15	33	53
19 • Stoke City	29	35	6	11	18	32	65
20 • West Bromwich	25	35	4	13	18	29	54

Marquez rules in Texas again

SPANIARD Marc Marquez won his sixth consecutive MotoGP of the Americas as he came back from a three-spot penalty to win.

The two-time defending World Champion eventually finished a huge 3.5 seconds ahead of fellow

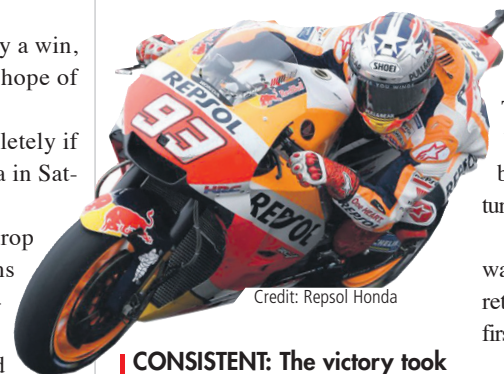
Spaniard, Maverick Vinales of Yamaha in second, while Suzuki's Anrea Iannone finished in third, 6.7 seconds off Marquez's pace.

Vinales' Movistar teammate, Valentino Rossi, suffered another disappointing display as he could only finish in fourth.

Marquez was demoted to fourth place from pole prior to the Texas race as he was penalised for blocking Vinales, but immediately began his ascent back to the top on turn one behind Iannone.

However, the Suzuki man's lead was also short-lived as Marquez had returned to the top by turn 12 of the first lap and did not look back.

The Spaniard enjoyed an untroubled race from that point onwards, finishing with a convincing time-gap between himself and Vinales to win.



Credit: Repsol Honda

CONSISTENT: The victory took Marquez to within just one point of championship leader Dovizioso.

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Spanish players banned after referee row

FIVE Spanish rugby players have been banned for a total of 121 weeks for their actions in the aftermath of last month's World Cup Qualifier against Belgium.

Spanish tempers flared over at the end of the match after players felt many decisions in their 18-10 loss had gone against them, with several players confronting Romanian referee Vlad Iordachescu at the final whistle.

Spain subsequently lodged



Credit: Twitter

BANNED: Five players have been banned for confronting Romanian referee Vlad Iordachescu.

a formal complaint to Rugby Europe, after the result ensured Romania a spot at next year's World Cup, with governing body World Rugby later expressing it was 'deeply concerned' by the matter.

But Rugby Europe has now announced varying lengths of bans given to five players involved in the after

match row, who include Guillaume and Sebastien Rouet, Pierre Barthere, Lucas Guillaume and Mathieu Belie.

The Rouet brothers, Guillaume and Sebastian, who both play at scrum-half, received the longest bans for physical and verbal abuse of a match official, 36 and 43 weeks respectively, while

flankers Barthere, Guillaume and number 10 Belie all received 14 week bans for threatening actions/words at a match official.

A statement released on the governing body's website read: 'After considering the charges against each player and the Spanish Rugby Federation (FER), the Committee heard the arguments and evidences of all parties.'

'These sanctions are applicable immediately for all players' rugby activities (clubs and national teams).

'Players have the right of appeal within seven days of receipt of the written decision. The misconduct complaint against the Spanish Rugby Union was suspended and a further hearing date will be set.'

Record breaker

Nadal claims third consecutive Monte Carlo Masters

RAFAEL NADAL claimed his 11th Monte Carlo Masters title as he beat Japan's Kei Nishikori in straight sets.

It took the 31-year-old just 94 minutes to dispatch the World Number 36 Kei Nishikori in straight sets, 6-3, 6-2 as Nadal raced to his third consecutive title in Monte Carlo and a record 31st Masters 1000 title.

The victory, which saw him pick up his 36th straight set victory on clay, will also mean that Nadal will remain as World Number One ahead of Roger Federer.

Following his victory, the Spaniard told the media: "It's always special for me to be back here, having this trophy. It's one of the most important events of the year for me."

Nadal, who returned from an injured hip in the Davis Cup ear-

lier this month, found himself under some early pressure from the former world number four as Nishikori broke the Spaniard's serve to go 2-1 ahead in the first.

But the pressure soon subsided as Nadal immediately broke back and then raced clear to take the first set, before quickly breaking in the second to take a 2-1 lead.

And the Spaniard ultimately proved too much for the Japanese star, who only returned from a long injury lay-off in January, as he soon broke again to claim victory and the perfect preparation for next month's French Open.

"I want to thank all my team and my family. We had some tough moments during the past five months after a couple of injuries in a row," Nadal continued.

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