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# Push for change

**EXCLUSIVE**

by Joe Gerrard

THE President of an association acting for expatriate homeowners has spoken exclusively to the *Euro Weekly News* ahead of an Andalusian Parliament vote offering those in irregular properties some legal protection.

Maura Hillen, head of the Abusos Urbanísticos Almanzora No (AUAN), said a proposed amendment to environment legislation currently being reviewed by Andalusia's Parliament would offer a temporary solution for householders.



**LOBBYING:** AUAN members are speaking to authorities about their proposals.

AUAN is set to meet with representatives from the Parliament's political parties to discuss its progress and their support in the coming days.

The latest efforts follow British expatriates being evicted from homes, with some demolished due to changes in land laws.

**Turn to page 3 »**

# Back on the rails

SPAIN's state authority for the construction of railways (ADIF) is marching ahead with the superfast Murcia to Almeria line despite environmental concerns.

The project has been marred in controversy due to 'hundreds' of alleged mudslides which excavations sparked on the Totana stretch of the line.

ADIF had also been under fire for allegedly not keeping the line to its original course.

But the state entity said the rail track's path only 'minimally' differs from the plans set out in 2011.

Engineers also made changes on the controversial Totana section of the line to allow for future possible integration of the fast speed railway with

the urban service, which Totanta Town Hall said is 'positive' development.

The high-speed Almeria-Murcia line will stretch for 185 kilometres and work is set to begin by the end of the year.

**WOOSH:** The new train line will run for 185 kilometres.



**EXCLUSIVE**

A CHT with Beatles inner circle member Tony Bramwell ahead of Spanish shows.

**Turn to page 53 »**

## Gay pride

ALMERIA City Council is joining forces with the 'colega' association to celebrate the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia today (Thursday).

It will place 26 billboards in three of the city's districts with the slogan: 'Homophobia and transphobia are social illnesses,' with the subtitle: 'recognising the illness is the first step in curing it.'

Colega is an association which works for the equality of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transsexuals in Spain.

The group's president hopes that the campaign will finally help end discrimination. He also encouraged people to report any abuse.

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## NEWS EXTRA

## Just the ticket?

BUDGET airline Ryanair has announced that from June 13 passengers will only have a 48-hour window - closing two hours before departure - to check in unless they have paid for a seat, with those missing it charged €60.

## Cat call

CATALUÑA'S Parliament has narrowly elected separatist Quim Torra, 55, as president, with the new leader vowing to continue the battle for independence after Madrid confirmed it will lift its direct rule imposed after last year's illegal referendum.

## Sick ritual

A FATHER from Barcelona faces prison after being accused of raping his 15-year-old daughter and two of her friends in order to rid them of evil spirits.

By Matt Ford

A BRITISH man on the run for armed robbery and known to have at least 75 false identities has been held on the Costa del Sol.

The still-unnamed suspect was detained in glamorous Marbella on a European Arrest Warrant after being stopped by a Spanish National Police patrol just after 2am.

And when he handed over his fake identification it became clear he was being hunted by UK investigators after being accused of raiding a series of armoured vehicles using illegal weapons and explosives.

He was cuffed and charged with presenting false documents on the spot but reportedly offered the officers €500 to let him go, resulting in an additional bribery rap.

A judge in Madrid ruled via video link that he be remanded in custody ahead of extradition proceedings.

It comes after one of Britain's most-wanted criminals - 41-year-old Stephen Lawrence murder suspect Jamie Acourt - was last week held in Barcelona on drug trafficking charges.

He had allegedly changed his name after going on the run and is

# Brit suspect held

## Fugitive had '75 identities' but others remain at large



**GOT HIM:** The latest suspect was held on a European Arrest Warrant.



**MOST WANTED:** Anticlockwise from top left, Jonathon Kelly, Mark Acklom, Dominic McNally, Shane O'Brien and Sarah Panitzke.

Photo credit Policia Nacional/Crimestoppers/Shutterstock

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believed to have spent the last 18 months in Spain, moving between the Catalan capital and the Costa del Sol.

A false passport bearing the name Simon Alfonzo was reportedly seized after he tried to pass himself off as an Italian tourist, but he is not challenging his extradition to the UK.

He became the 81st fugitive to be caught by Operation Captura, a joint venture between Spanish police, the National Crime Agency (NCA) and Crimestoppers, with the crackdown forcing

criminals to go to extreme measure to avoid investigators.

NCA head of international operations Steve Reynolds told UK media: "Areas like the Costa Blanca and the Costa del Sol are the most popular with British holidaymakers and most of our fugitives. "It's been known for people to have plastic surgery after faces have been splashed all over the papers and television."

Others believed to be still at large in Spain include Glaswegian Jonathon Kelly, 36, who vanished four years ago after fail-

ing a drug test while on parole for a string of brutal assaults.

Serial fraudster Mark Acklom, 44, is wanted for allegedly fleeing a divorcee out of almost €1 million after romancing her while posing as an MI6 agent.

Twenty-seven-year-old Dominic McNally from Liverpool is wanted on drugs charges, while Londoner Shane O'Brien, 28, is accused of a 2015 murder.

And Sarah Panitzke, 42, from Yorkshire was among the masterminds convicted over a €1.1 billion VAT fraud.

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## 'Shock' assault

A 50-YEAR-OLD man known only as IPV has been arrested on suspicion of violent theft after allegedly 'strongly hitting' a woman on the head and robbing her. He stole her personal documents, money and mobile phone while she lay unconscious and police found her three hours later, according to Local Police headquarters.

## Boat rescue

A TOTAL of 45 people have been picked up around 27 miles from Alboran Island by coast guards on Monday. The boat carrying the 38 men, five women and two children arrived at Almeria's port at around 6.30pm, with a Saseamar 102 plane involved in finding the migrants.

## Five held

FIVE people who allegedly defrauded almost €600,000 from shops in Almeria using false credit cards have been arrested in the province and in Murcia. Authorities said around 300 cards were used and issued by banks from countries such as Britain, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Italy, Mexico and the United States.

## Trial opens

A MAN charged with kidnapping the ex-girlfriend of his brother at knifepoint, holding her for two days and committing several assaults against her appeared before an Almeria court on Monday. Prosecutors have requested 13 years and six months in prison for the assaults and four years for illegal detention if found guilty.

## Man arrested

A SUSPECT who allegedly threatened two people with a firearm has been arrested by the Guardia Civil in Roquetas de Mar. Police said they found a gun and ammunition in a raid which took place as part of the arrest, with case proceedings sent to the town's Magistrates' Court.

## Fall rescue

A CLIMBER who fell around four metres while scaling the Sierra de Gador had to be rescued by a Guardia Civil helicopter. Police found the man, who had been climbing with another, with several head injuries and semi-conscious before then airlifting him to Torrecardenas Hospital in Almeria Province.

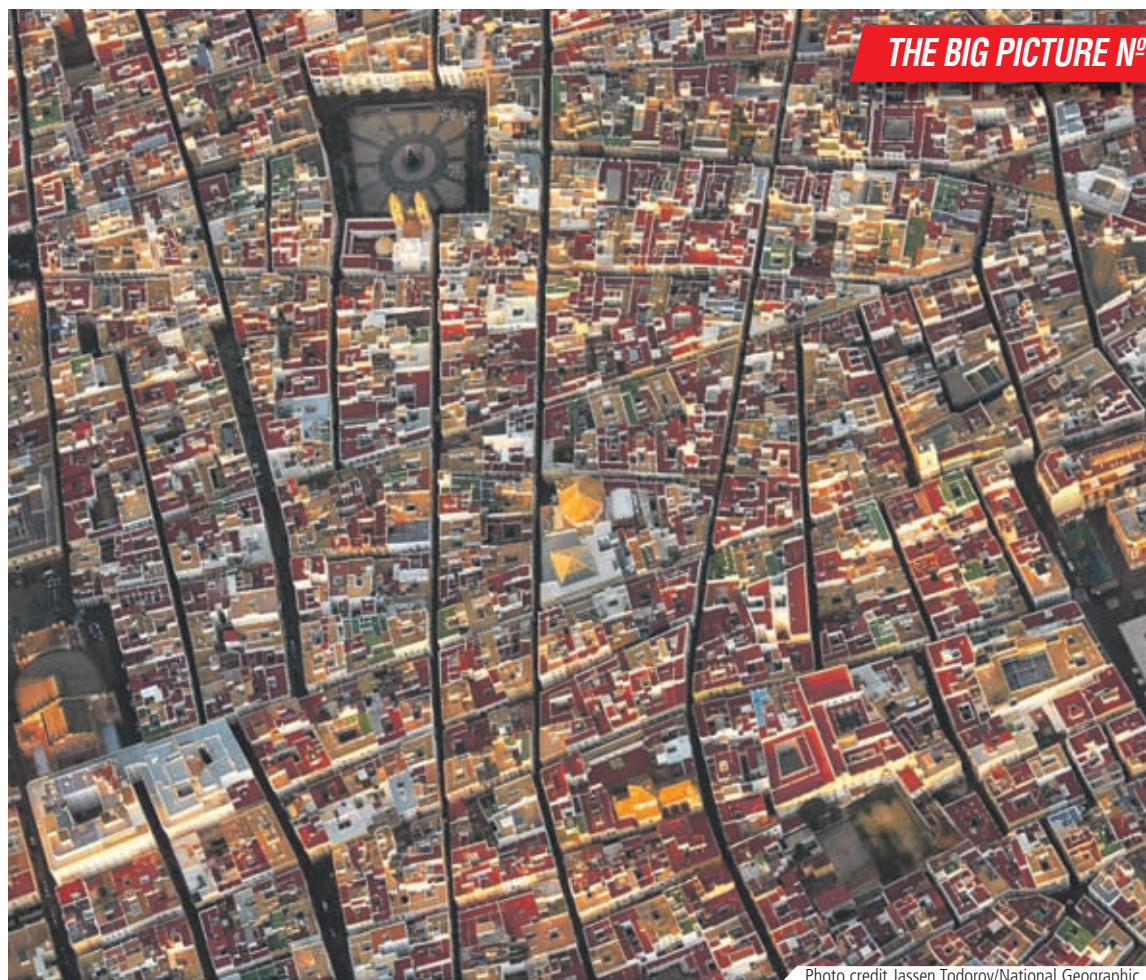


Photo credit Jassen Todorov/National Geographic

**FLIGHT CLUB:** The breathtaking snap was taken from an aeroplane.

# Bird's eye view

THIS is the ancient port city of Cadiz, Andalucia, as you have never seen it before.

Arguably the oldest continuously inhabited city in Western Europe having been founded as Gadir by the Phoenicians around 1100 BC, the stunning shot shows the sinuous streets and historic plazas of its centre bathed in golden light just before sunset.

Taken from a plane by Bulgarian aerial photography specialist Jassen Todorov, it is his entry in the 2018 National Geographic Travel Photographer of the Year contest.

There are three categories in the competition - Nature, People and Cities.

One of the category winners will pick up the overall title plus a cash

prize of \$10,000 (€8,400).

Of the snap, Jassen - who is also a renowned professional violinist and avid pilot - said: "The town of Cadiz, Spain from above is as fascinating as it is from ground level - charming streets, narrow alleys, beautiful architecture, fun markets and people, glorious churches.

"It has got it all - now go visit and get lost for a while :)"

from Front page »

## Law of the land

Hillen said changes to planning rules, which would give those living in homes deemed irregular by authorities the ability to get utilities and sell their homes, were in everyone's interests.

"It doesn't just affect people living in the homes. It affects the whole market and the areas where these homes are," she said.

"What we're proposing is changing the rules so people living in irregular homes can get an AFO, giving their homes some

measure of legal status.

"It's taken us several years to get this far but people need a temporary solution," she said.

An AFO is a legal certificate issued by the Junta de Andalucia which confirms among other things that a house can remain on so-called 'rustic' land.

Many houses bought by expatri-

ates were built on such land. Law changes which came in after building finished classed some homes as being constructed illegally, leading to some being torn down.

Hillen said this had affected elderly people in particular.

"We look after people who come over in their 60's for a nice retirement in a sunny part of Spain.

"As they get older some find the houses they bought no longer have legal status. By passing these changes such homeowners would be given security and protection under the law."

Hillen said allowing houses to get AFO's would provide stability while local and regional authorities find a lasting legal solution.

The Priors and Paynes families were among expatriates who found themselves in irregular homes, with the latter's later demolished.

## PLUS THE REGULARS

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101

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- 2011 Company of the Year - Costa del Sol Business Awards
- 2010 I Love Marbella - Professionalism award
- 2005 Working together with Foreigners Department Mijas Town Hall

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Photo credit easyJet/Kensington Palace/Twitter

**WEDDING FEVER:** Rhys, Inmaculada and (inset) the real Harry and Meghan.

# Seeing double

THE world is gearing up to watch Prince Harry and Meghan Markle tie the knot this Saturday.

And as preparations continue, a couple have been crowned Europe's best royal lookalikes after beating more than 3,000 entrants.

Briton Rhys Whittock and Spaniard Inmaculada Serrano, both 34, were named the most convincing doppelgangers after stunning judges with their resemblance to the lovebirds.

The pair were also evaluated on royal waves, wedding proposals and bouquet throws before riding in an open-top horse-drawn carriage outside Buckingham Palace.

Property developer Rhys said: "My family and friends have often said I looked like the young Prince, but I certainly didn't think I'd be crowned the winner."

His partner Inmaculada, a teacher from Sevilla, added: "To be compared to the bride-to-be is a real honour and I'm flattered that I have been voted as the best double for one of the most famous women in the world."

Organised by low-cost airline easyJet, the

winners received a year's worth of free flights.

And the runners-up were also from the UK and Spain, with Danni Burnett and Carlos Lamothe picking up second place.

The final round of judging - led by Duncan Larcombe, author of *Prince Harry: Inside the Story*, lookalike expert Susan Scott and professional Prince William double Simon Watkinson - saw the chosen couples jet into London from around Europe.

Some of the wackier entrants included a ginger kitten, a pygmy goat and a dog.

Around 600 guests are expected to attend the official ceremony at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, with another 2,640 invited to the grounds. But Meghan's dad Thomas Markle, 73, may not walk his daughter down the aisle after recently suffering a heart attack.

It comes after UK media revealed he had staged paparazzi photos for cash.

More than 100,000 people are expected to gather in Windsor for the big day, with 79 international media networks heading to Berkshire.

## POLL OF THE WEEK

Following reports that a Spanish airport is infested with cockroaches, do you think the country's airports are unhygienic?

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**

Do you agree that Spain has the best beaches in the world after it topped the global blue flag ranking?

Yes **72%**

No **28%**

## EWN online this week

**249,278 Page views**

**TOP 5 stories**



**TENERIFE VOLCANO:** Mount Teide and (inset) earthquakes recorded in the past 10 days.

- 90,255** views: Volcano eruption fears as almost 300 earthquakes rock Spanish holiday hotspot
- 6,220** views: Internet café owner on Costa del Sol faces fine and prison for pirated software
- 5,171** views: Holidaymakers warned as thieves target rental cars
- 3,562** views: Hopping mad: Aer Lingus flight to Spain aborted after jet ploughs into hares on runway
- 3,328** views: Three-metre long shark alert off Costa del Sol

\*For week 7 - 14 May 2018

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**CORRECTIONS**

At the EWN, we pride ourselves that reports are accurate and fair. If we do slip up, we promise to set the record straight in a clear, no-nonsense manner. To ask for an inaccuracy to be corrected. Email: editorial@euroweeklynews.com

**OUR VIEW**

**Rental car robbers are not to be taken lightly**

ANYONE renting a car in Spain this summer should take care. As holidaymakers flock to Spain in ever-increasing numbers, thieves are employing more brazen schemes to make off with their belongings.

And this does not just apply to tourists, after a member of the *Euro Weekly News* team was last year robbed while sitting at a restaurant less than 10 metres from their hire car.

Some might even say it is worth removing company logos and risking a small fine when returning the vehicle in order to attract unwanted attention.

**UK should aim for EAW**

THE Spanish authorities are to be applauded over the recent arrests of wanted British criminals.

Operation Captura has been a resounding success, with fugitives returned to the UK in droves as the UK has come to rely heavily on the European Arrest Warrant (EAW).

But what of this arrangement post-Brexit?

Senior figures in Brussels have argued that leaving the European Union (EU) necessarily means giving up the EAW and access to databases including Europol.

Labour MEP Claude Moraes, who chairs the European parliament's justice and home affairs, recently voiced concerns that the UK could become the new 'Costa del Crime.'

And after the recent breakdown in relations with Russia, it

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**MURDER RAP: Paul Waugh (left) has been remanded in custody in connection with the death of Aaron Henderson.**

**Death probe goes on  
Brit expat bar manager held**

A BRITISH expatriate bar manager has appeared in a Mallorca court on suspicion of beating a holidaymaker to death.

Aaron Henderson, from Coleraine, Northern Ireland, was on holiday with his partner Danielle Baxter and their young children when he was violently assaulted on the Punta Ballena party strip in Magaluf.

And manager of Mulligan's Irish bar Paul Waugh, 35, has now been held in the wake of a probe.

A 37-year-old Spanish colleague was also arrested and accused of withholding in-

formation to cover up the alleged attack.

Father-of-four Aaron, 30, was found in critical condition after suffering a severe head injury in the early hours of the morning.

A witness told detectives he was pushed to the ground before being kicked in the head.

He died four days later, and it is understood that a post mortem examination revealed the blows caused bleeding on the brain.

Around 10 people, including British bar

staff and promotional workers from the pub and other nearby venues have also been quizzed by investigators, according to a police statement.

Middlesbrough-born Paul has been working on the island for around 15 years and has a young son believed to be aged seven.

He has appeared in a Palma court and remanded in custody.

The victim's body arrived in Belfast on Monday and his funeral took place yesterday (Wednesday), his family confirmed.

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# Aless is more



Photo credit: Shutterstock/Xti Shoes/Instagram

**SHE'S** the former Victoria's Secret Angel and among the world's most desirable women.

But all eyes were down as Brazilian lingerie model Alessandra Ambrosio, 37, modelled shoes at the Xti footwear collection launch in Spanish capital Madrid.

She is again the face of the brand's spring-summer 2018 campaign after succeeding Russian beauty and Irina Shayk - former flame of football star Cristiano Ronaldo - in 2016.



**WELL HEELED:** Alessandra Ambrosio.

**REAL MADRID** football star Gareth Bale has announced the birth of his third child with partner Emma Rhys-Jones.

He tweeted a photo of his baby son Kev on May 26.

## Bale force

Axel, who joins daughters Alba, five, and two-year-old Nava.

The Welsh wizard, 28, is gearing up to play Liverpool in the Champions League final in

# Game of throw-ins

IT'S the hugely popular fantasy series that has been partially shot in Spain since 2014.

And fans of racy HBO hit Game of Thrones have been offered a sneak peek into the eighth and final season after cast members attended Sevilla FC's Sanchez Pizjuan stadium to watch the home team beat Real Madrid 3-2 in a La Liga fixture.

The presence of Peter Dinklage (who plays Tyrion Lannister), Nikolaj Coster-Waldau (Jaime Lannister), Sophie Turner (Sansa Stark), Maisie Williams

(Arya Stark), Isaac Hempstead-Wright (Bran Stark), and Vladimir Furdik (The Night King), among others, set tongues wagging as the internet rumour mill went into overdrive.

The crew have been filming at the Roman site of Italica, Santiponce, with the ruined amphitheatre having previously been used as the set of Dragonpit in King's Landing, and there will also be a shoot at the Ataranzas shipyard ahead of the six one-hour episodes being broadcast in 2019.

**HE'S** most famous for playing brooding ranger Aragorn who leads an uprising against the evil Sauron in epic film trilogy Lord of the Rings.

And Danish-American actor Viggo Mortensen, 59, showed his real-life rebel side after joining Catalan independence group Omnium Cultural.

The association - a driving force behind last year's illegal referendum - tweeted: 'Welcome to the Omnium family... it is an honour.'



Photo credit: YouTube

**WHAT ON MIDDLE EARTH?** Viggo Mortensen.

## Mordor madness

# Rude interruptions spoil big night

IT was supposed to be their proudest moment.

But the Eurovision Song Contest descended into chaos for the British and Spanish entrants. A stage invader ruined SuRie's performance for the UK after bursting on stage and grabbing the microphone before shouting about 'Nazis of the UK media.'

And the singer revealed that she has bruises on her hands after grappling with the man, who was wrestled to the floor by security.

The competition later turned into bloodshed after Javier Calvo, mentor to Spanish pair and real-life couple Alfred y Amaia, was attacked in Portuguese capital Lisbon.



**NIL POINTS:** SuRie's stage invader (left) and Spain's Alfred y Amaia.

He was allegedly involved in a bar brawl which left him with cuts and bruises.

And BBC presenter Graham Norton sent viewers into meltdown with a witty remark as the couple wound up their performance, as he quipped: "Awww, I give it a month."

Spain finished 23rd and the UK 24th while Israel won on the night.



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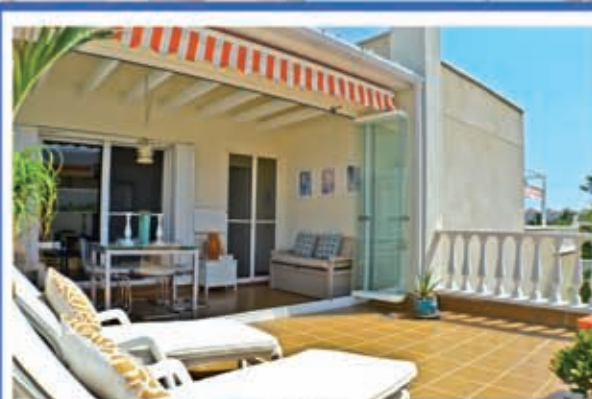
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**Palomares - 69,950€ (ref: PAA)**  
2 beds • 1 bath • Plot: 72m<sup>2</sup> • Build: 65m<sup>2</sup>  
Situated on the outskirts of Palomares this ground floor apartment with covered terrace & communal pool is an ideal "lock up and leave" holiday property. Short distance from village and beach.



**Vera Playa (Naturist) - 69,950€ (ref: NBVSA)**  
1 bed • 1 bath • Build: 41m<sup>2</sup>  
A well presented studio apartment ready for immediate occupancy that is furnished to a higher standard than market competitors. An ideal "lock-up-and-leave" property with low running costs.



**Vera Playa  
Bahia de Vera  
Naturist Urb.  
159,950€**  
(ref: NBVBB)  
First floor apartment  
2 beds • 1 bath  
Build: 60m<sup>2</sup>



Breaking with the more traditional presentation of similar style properties on Bahia de Vera this remodelled apartment is presented to a show home standard and will not disappoint the discerning viewer.

Considerable thought and investment have been made by the current owners to present a contemporary style property that has been their full time home and as a result benefits many extras compared to that of a rental or holiday home sale.



**Vera Playa - 87,500€ (ref: FMDS2)**  
2 beds • 1 bath • Build: 62m<sup>2</sup>  
Located 500m from the Paseo and deep wide sandy Las Marinas beach, the property is in a superb location for amenities including airport shuttle stop. Perfect for those wanting to holiday but not drive!



**Huerta Nueva - 89,950€ (ref: HNAC)**  
2 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 158m<sup>2</sup> • Build: 75m<sup>2</sup>  
With east & west facing gardens; well proportioned internal & external spaces; in a community of 16 properties with swimming pool & off road parking; this property is something a little bit special.



With two terraces that together take views to all points of the compass; extended internal living space combined with adaptable external living space; allocated covered parking and both indoor and outdoor swimming pools; surely this is a naturists' paradise.

Located in one of the more tranquil areas of the development the apartment and all that it has to offer is available for immediate purchase and occupancy.



**Huerta Nueva - 92,500€ (ref: HNOSH)**  
2 (1/3) beds • 2 baths • Build: 83m<sup>2</sup>  
Benefitting stunning views over the Bédar hills, this fully furnished first floor property has been a well maintained holiday home. Air con, gas central heating, communal pool, excellent community!



**Alfaix - 98,500€ (ref: AHB)**  
3 beds • 2½ baths • Plot: 138m<sup>2</sup> • Build: 112m<sup>2</sup>  
Large semi-rural property near to the village of Los Gallardos. One of only eight townhouses surrounded by olive & orange orchards. East & west orientations, communal pool & gardens.



**Huerta Nueva - 209,000€ (ref: HNVMS)**  
3 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 500m<sup>2</sup> • Build: 150m<sup>2</sup>  
A deceptively large, single storey south facing 3 bedroom property with private pool and garage. Offering excellent internal living space and extensive outside areas.



**Alfaix - 349,500€ (ref: AFHR)**  
5 beds • 3½ baths • Plot: 1,128m<sup>2</sup> • Build: 365m<sup>2</sup>  
Oozing character combining features from its original construction with modern day design & materials, this property offers a package that is somewhat different to its market competitors.

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# Driven mad

## Thieves targeting rental cars

by Matt Ford

HOLIDAYMAKERS have been warned of a rental car scam in Spain.

Drivers on the AP-7 motorway are reportedly being targeted by thieves who flag them down after claiming to have spotted a flat tyre.

They are signalled to pull over before having their belongings stolen while distracted.

American tourist Kelly Roland said: "We were driving back from Cadeques to Barcelona when a mid-size BMW [with a few guys in it] pulled up next to us on the motorway."

She explained that a man in the front passenger seat was pointing at her front tyre and pointing to a service station ahead.

After she stopped her friend got out to look and the man came over 'speaking loudly in broken English' before Kelly herself joined them.

"Now all three of us are looking at the passenger-side tyre and you can see there's nothing wrong with it.

"[Later] I realised he had been talking loud so we didn't hear the doors opening and closing."

She added that one of the man's friends had sneaked over and removed their bags while they were distracted.

And when she reported the incident to police she was told they had seen the ploy "one, two, maybe 3,000 times before."

Other criminals are less subtle and simply break the windows of rental cars before making off with whatever they can lay their hands on.

Police recommend removing rental stickers or signage from cars, regardless of whether the companies themselves approve. They also recommend that all valuables should be kept out of sight, locking bags and other items in the boot if leaving the vehicle unattended.

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**STREET TALK**

# Do you mind ‘looky looky’ men approaching you?

**THEY’RE** the sub-Saharan beach sellers who divide public opinion. But how much do ‘looky looky’ men really bother holidaymakers and residents?

• **Ricardo Gutierrez Sanchez, 60**, a retired stuntman on holiday from Salamanca



**ENTITLED: Ricardo.**

“In a country like Spain, people have to do what they can to survive. They have a right to earn a living like anybody else. Buying from them means they can afford to eat. We know the products aren’t the real deal but we don’t mind. I’ve bought all sorts, from underwear to trainers and the quality really isn’t bad!”

something because I feel sorry for them, even if I don’t need the product!”

• **Carlos Jose Moya Perez, 34**, waiter born on the Costa del Sol



**ANNOYED: Carlos.**

“Well, the vast majority of clients don’t like the sellers. “And it’s a pain for me when I am trying to serve a table and they get in the way.”

“They are allowed to sell on the beach next to the restaurant, but we try to stop them from coming in.”

• **Linda Mason, 70**, British holiday-maker from Essex



**USED TO IT: Linda.**

“I don’t really like it but I’m used to it now because it’s so constant!”

“I’d rather go to local markets than buy their stuff. I have bought a watch from them, which was okay and some bracelets too. They went a funny colour before long.”

• **Melina, 19**, from Germany and working as a waitress at an Indian food restaurant



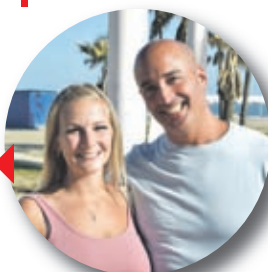
**DITTO: Melina.**

“As long as they aren’t too ‘pesado’ (annoying or bothersome in Spanish) they’re fine.”

“But if I was in a really nice restaurant I wouldn’t be impressed.”

“I’m often out on the promenade persuading people to eat in my restaurant, so I’m not exactly in a position to slate them!”

• **Luciano Di Carlo, 44**, recently moved to southern Spain



**FEELING SORRY: Luciano.**

“It’s okay as long as they aren’t really pushy.”

“Actually, I would prefer them not to approach me. But sometimes I just buy

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## NEWS EXTRA

Vote charges  
up in court

HEARINGS on allegations connected with the buying of ballots by post in Carboneras are set to begin today (Thursday), with current leftist Partido Socialista councillor, Josefa Cruz and former council members Rosario Fernandez and Josefa Ruiz up in Almeria's criminal court.

## Migrants saved

FOUR women and two children were reportedly among 31 migrants of sub-Saharan origin to be rescued from a boat in the Mediterranean and they have been taken to Motril port in good health.

## No gagging

MORE than 32,000 people have signed a petition to prevent two pensioners having to pay a fine under the 'mordaza' gagging law for protesting cuts to electricity provision in the town of El Puche.

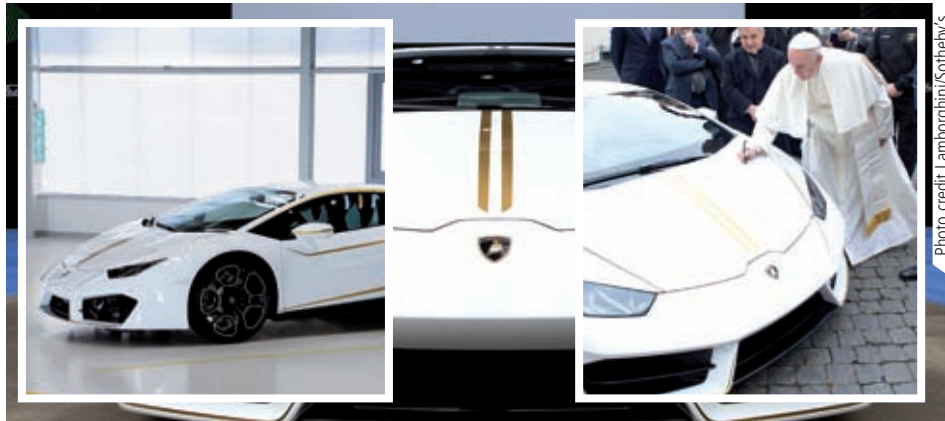


Photo credit: Lamborghini/Sotheby's

**PAPA DON'T SCREECH:** It is believed the pontiff never drove the 570bhp coupe.

# Holy hot wheels!

## Pope's supercar sells for €715,000

by Staff Reporter

A COSTA CALIDA businessman has snapped up a Lamborghini supercar formerly owned by Pope Francis for €715,000.

The stunning white Huracan with gold trimming - in homage to the Vatican City flag - was gifted to His Holiness by the Italian car maker when it was valued at €180,000, but it has now fetched almost four times

that amount at a Monaco auction.

Signed and blessed by the pontiff himself, the 325kph coupe is now available for rent from a high-end company in Murcia, with all proceeds to be donated to children's charities.

The Pope decided to sell the two-seater car rather than give up his trademark Popemobile, with the speed limit in Vatican City just 30kph.

It was entered into RM Sotheby's Monte Carlo sale held last weekend, and was the subject of fierce bidding which smashed the €250,000-€350,000 estimate.

And almost €500,000 of the money raised from the sale itself will go to the Iraqi city of Nineveh, which was destroyed in the country's civil war, with the remainder split between three other charities.

# Toddler hurt in mystery dog attack

A THREE-YEAR-OLD toddler has been attacked by a Pit bull leaving him with serious injuries on his arm, leg and neck.

At the time of writing the tot was in a 'serious but stable' condition in Almeria's Torrecardenas paediatric hospital after surgery.

The canine's bite damaged the toddler's vital organs in the shocking attack which happened on Tuesday at around 1pm, according to police sources.

As the dog savaged the tot, its owner's husband reportedly tried to separate it from the boy. He incurred minor injuries to his hand in the act.

Shortly after Vicar town's Local Police arrived at the scene after they were alerted by neighbours.

The dog is now locked up in kennels. It will be up to Almeria healthcare authorities to decide what happens to the animal, whose documents classify it as potentially dangerous.

Witnesses' accounts of the attack were contradictory. Some said the dog escaped from its owner's property before gnawing the tot. Others said it was the child who approached the dog.

The Guardia Civil is now investigating the true events. And until now no one has been reported for the incident.

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# Hit and run horror

## Brit expat mows down love rival

by Matt Ford

A BRITISH expatriate from Manchester has been banned from leaving Mallorca for allegedly running over her husband's new girlfriend.

Kemi Coaker, 29, was held in Magaluf after she mowed down Meghan Tattersall in broad daylight before speeding off.

Both women are said to live and work in the area.

Onlookers described how a 'small white car' mounted a pavement near the Punta Ballena party strip and ploughed into the 23-year-old from Wetherby in West Yorkshire.

She was taken to Son Espases Hospital in Palma with serious leg injuries after two police officers spotted a group of pedestrians surrounding her as she lay on the ground.

Kemi, whose maiden name



**CAR ATTACK:** Kemi Coaker (left) was held in Cala Vinyes after ploughing into victim, Meghan Tattersall.

is Pereira, was arrested on the nearby Cala Vinyes housing estate half an hour later as she and a friend sat in a vehicle matching witness descriptions.

And investigators are treating the incident as intentional after it emerged that she had been lying in wait beforehand.

She has been released from

custody after handing over her passport and agreeing to stay at least 500 metres away from Meghan, but could face an attempted murder charge, police said in a statement.

The ruling came after she was marched into a Palma court wearing handcuffs and with a grey hoodie covering her face.

Local media have named her ex and the victim's current partner as Andrew Coaker, 39, from Reading in Berkshire.

The pair are believed to have split 12 months ago after being married for two years, and he started a relationship with Meghan two or three months ago.

A friend told UK media: "Meghan was getting on with her life and enjoying herself out there in Mallorca, she is not a home wrecker."

He was not present at the time of the alleged attack.

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**AVOIDABLE:** The man's daughter had warned about the suicide risk.

# Suicide fine

## Local Police were partly at fault for the death

A TOWN COUNCIL in Almería will have to pay €12,000 to the daughter of a man who committed suicide while being held in custody.

The then 51-year-old man hung himself with a bed sheet by tying it to jail cell bars at a Local Police station in Berja in February 2014.

The cell's installations

'were not adequate' and the event could have been avoided - or at least minimised - by removing the sheets he used to commit suicide, the court ruled

And the victim's daughter had warned the Guardia Civil her father might take his own life, but not the Local Police who were holding her father.

A judge did concede that even if the bed sheet wasn't there the man could have used the jeans he was wearing to hang himself.

But there was reportedly only one prison guard in charge of supervising the cells, the court heard.

Prosecutors said these precautions were 'insufficient' especially having been warned about the

dead man's background.

The deceased's daughter was claiming €150,000 in damages.

But the judge only granted the woman €15,000 because she was of working age and her father was 65 and retired.

The sum was then cut to €12,000 because of the victim's own responsibility for his death.

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# Depopulation call

THE leftist Partido Socialista (PSOE) has claimed one in every three urban areas in Almería is at risk of people leaving without new arrivals to keep numbers from falling.

The party called on authorities to invest some €330 million into a State

Depopulation Plan which includes providing broadband to rural areas.

Jose Luis Sanchez Teruel, the PSOE's general secretary, said he expected the conservative Partido Popular-run Diputacion de Almería to pass amendments to the budget to fund

plans.

The party added it had called lawmakers in the province together, including councillors and mayors, to discuss depopulation. They added an agreement was reached to create a group to monitor the situation.

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# Mothers go back to school



Credit: Ayuntamiento de Almería

**MEET THE PARENTS:** The mothers will have benefited greatly from the training.

EL EJIDO Council has presented diplomas to more than 160 mothers throughout the town, after completing one of their sponsored training courses.

This specific diploma emerged from the Social Services Department of the council, through its municipal plan for the prevention of drug addiction.

It was established a decade ago with the aim of offering parents the opportunity to acquire knowledge of the issue.

This in turn has enabled them to develop techniques to help improve communication and trust with their children, particularly at the complicated stage of adolescence.

Mayor Francisco Gongora and councillor for social services and women, Delia Mira, have overseen the eight-week training course and 31 different topics related to parenting were covered.

As they received their diplomas, Mayor Gongora congratulated all the parents for completing the course which “contributes to improving relations with children and informs them about a modern society that is constantly changing,” he said.

Mr Gongora also stressed that schools should be a space where issues such as communication, adolescence and sexuality should

be discussed.

For her part, Councillor Delia Mira praised the commitment of the women to persist with the night classes despite their busy lives, and said:

“This reflects the degree of dedication you have shown in providing the best possible education to your children, preparing them and helping them to develop all their abilities for the future that awaits them.”

Mayor Gongora added that education should be a priority both locally and nationally, and revealed that the council is asking the Junta de Andalucía to invest in the educational infrastructure of El Ejido.

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# Scam alert

## Police issue warning



**ROGUE GAS INSPECTORS:** Charge hundreds for parts that cost only a few euros.

by Karl Smallman

SPAIN'S National Police is warning the public, especially the elderly, to be on their guard for scams involving fake 'gas inspectors.'

Typically, the con artists turn up at the homes of the victims to perform installation inspections and then charge hundreds of euros for replacing any past use-by date gas hoses that only cost a fraction of the price.

They often wearing official-looking uni-

forms and carry dubious ID and clipboards.

The police say that official gas distributors and inspectors always 'notify in advance, by letter and set an appointment,' so an unexpected knock at your door and visit should be a reason for suspicion.

They also add that if a payment is immediately demanded in cash or even with a credit card, it also a sign of a scam.

National Police officers say that the victims are, in most cases, the elderly and the vulnerable and ask for everyone's help to spread the word and stop the scam.

### In the dock

POLICE are probing the theft of a vessel from their own harbour facilities in the south of Spain. The boat had recently been found drifting without a crew and it was being kept at the port in Huelva while Guardia Civil officers tried to trace its rightful owner. But now the police are investigating the theft of the boat, under cover of nightfall, from right under their noses.

### Crash horror

THREE people were killed on Saturday when a light aircraft crashed in Spain, authorities have revealed.

The regional government for Cataluña has said that the plane took off from the Portuguese airport of Tires.

It was headed to Reus Airport in Tarragona, north-east Spain, but crashed in the nearby area.

An investigation is underway.



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**Mojacar 165,000€**



**Ref: NW1142 Beds: 2 Baths: 2 Apt**  
Fabulous, spacious ground floor apartment 200m from beach with massive terrace overlooking pool and golf course. Beautifully presented and ready to move into. Also benefits from underground parking.

**Mojacar 429,950€**



**Ref: NW1008 Beds: 4 Baths: 4**  
This very spacious, luxury property is in a perfect location a stone's throw from the beach and boasts light, bright rooms and ample terraces plus private pool and parking.

**Mojacar 185,000€**



**Ref: NW1141 Beds: 2 Baths: 1**  
Very unique, spacious apartment on frontline complex with massive terrace, stunning sea views and low community costs. Great location.

**Mojacar 109,950€**



**Ref: NW1140 Beds: 2 Baths: 1**  
Great value apartment in elevated location with fabulous sea views, communal pool and easy access. An excellent investment.

**Turre 84,950€**



**Ref: NW1143 Beds: 3 Baths: 2**  
Offered at a great price, this spacious 3 bed apartment is located in a quiet part of Turre and boasts a rooftop pool, underground parking and lift access.

**Cortijo Grande 165,000€**



**Ref: NW1134 Beds: 3 Baths: 3**  
In a beautiful location with fabulous terraces, this property has been lovingly reformed to retain the real character combined with a modern twist.

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# Meat in the middle

AN employee who was fired for stealing and eating a pasty at work in Spain has been told by a court she should have her job back or be compensated. The company she worked for recorded the

empanada-scoffing incident on a surveillance camera which was submitted to the court as evidence.

But a judge in Cordoba said the evidence is inadmissible after the European Court of Human Rights condemned Spain for taking such evidence without the consent of the workers.

The woman had worked at the same shopping centre for 12 years and, on November 22 last year, she received a letter of dismissal for 'an absolutely fraudulent and disloyal performance.'

Now the judge has ordered the company to re-employ the woman or, alternatively, pay her €19,000 compensation.

# Hopping mad

## Flight axed after ploughing into hares

by Matt Ford

AN Aer Lingus flight to the Costa del Sol was forced to return to Dublin after a hare was sucked into one of the plane's engines as it took off.

Flight EI-582 had 287 passengers on board as it departed for Malaga.

But soon after take-off the captain contacted air traffic control in the Irish capital to report that they had hit 'two rabbits or hares' as they sped down the runway.

And after an inspection revealed a single dead hare on the tarmac, the Airbus A330-300 jet was told to turn around as it approached the French coast, amid fears that the second animal's body had been drawn into an engine.

The cabin crew did not declare an emergency although firefighters and engineers were standing by as the plane came into land.



STOP THE BUNNY STUFF: The flight was aborted.

A replacement aircraft flew the holidaymakers to Spain later the same day.

An Aer Lingus official said: "Flight EI582 departed Dublin Airport this morning, en route to Malaga with 287 guests on board.

"The aircraft turned back less than one hour into the

flight, due to a technical issue, and landed safely at Dublin at 9.52am.

"Guests disembarked normally and will be flown to Malaga this afternoon on a replacement aircraft. We apologise to our guests for this disruption to their travel plans."

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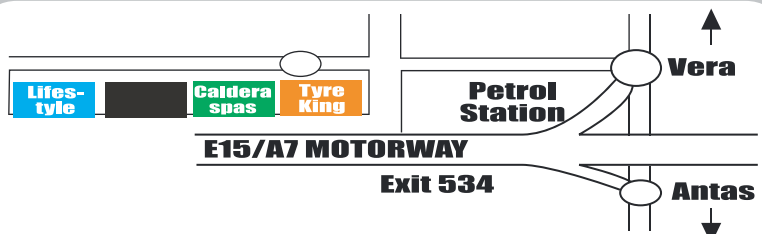
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# Trouble ahead?

## Ryanair pilot talks stall



Photo credit: Shutterstock

**BREAKDOWN: Union warns negotiations could collapse.**

by Staff Reporter

A TRADE UNION representing Ryanair pilots in Spain has warned that negotiations will collapse if its final proposal is rejected by the Irish low-cost airline.

The Sepla union represents around 65 per cent of the 700 Ryanair pilots in Spain.

In a letter to its pilot members, Sepla said that the union council that represents Ryanair

pilots was 'moderately optimistic' following a meeting last month with Ryanair management.

However, the union's chief delegate, Juan Antonio Canete Ruiz, said following the meeting, the union received a new proposal from Ryanair 'which differed from the spirit of the meeting.'

The union claimed Ryanair's position is 'totally surprising and leads us to believe that

they do not intend to reach an agreement.'

Mr Canete Ruiz said that rejection of the union's final recognition proposal, which was sent to Ryanair last Friday, 'would lead to a breakdown of negotiations.'

Sepla is believed to be planning to file a lawsuit against Ryanair in Spain in an effort to have the carrier subject to Spanish labour laws if it rejects the union's final proposals.

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DIY superstore Leroy Merlin is reportedly looking to employ 125 workers in its new Almeria shopping centre in Torrecardenas which is set to open at the end of the year.

**Ship docks**

A PATROL boat from the Spanish navy is due to arrive in Almeria's port today (Thursday) for a two-day stopover, with the Serviola supporting NATO's operations against piracy and illegal trade travelling by sea according to the Ministry of Defence.

**Walls built**

ALMERIA'S Diputacion has finished rebuilding two walls in Ragon at a cost of around €200,000, allowing for the recovery of two streets in the town and helping with the maintenance of its 16th century church.

**Voting 'scam'**

CURRENT centre-left PSOE party minister Josefa Cruz will be joined by ex-socialist councillors in the court hearing on alleged electoral fraud in the 2007 Carboneras municipal elections, according to reports.

**Star gazers**

ALMERIA'S provincial government is supporting the fifth edition of the Astrotourism celebrations at Calar Alta's observatory in the 'biggest event of its kind in Europe,' a culture councillor said.

**Work up**

THIS summer 10,445 more temporary work contracts were signed in Almeria, which accounts for an 11.2 per cent increase on last year, according to Spain's Randstad human resources company.

A SCULPTURE of a whale on Almeria City's promenade will become a memorial to Gabriel Cruz, the child found dead earlier this year following a 13-day search.

The decision has been taken following a meeting between the eight-year-old's parents, Angel Cruz and Patricia Ramirez, and Almeria City mayor Ramon Fernandez-Pacheco.

It comes as the sculpture became

**Gabriel to be remembered**

an improvised shrine to the boy in the aftermath of the discovery of his body in March.

Almeria City Council previously said in a statement it would be up to Cruz's parents to make the final decision on the location of a memorial.

The boy's parents said: "We are totally in agreement and very grateful."

Angel Cruz added he and the eight-year-old's mother also wanted to thank the support of the public in the wake of their child's death.

"I cannot hug him or kiss him.

But if there is a little bit of him in your heart then, he is in this enormous feeling of love you are giving me and Patricia," he said.

Cruz was speaking after his birthday on May 9, the first he has marked without his son.

The investigation into Gabriel's death remains ongoing, with prime suspect Ana Julia Quezada currently remanded in custody awaiting trial.

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by Matt Ford

A COUPLE from Barcelona who moved to Ireland and charged clients €200 per hour for sex at their home will not be jailed.

Spaniard, David Navaro, 50, and his Brazilian wife Celia Galan, 41, moved to Ennis, County Clare, in 2015.

They were held in the wake

# 50 shades of pay

## Couple charged €200 per hour for sex

of a covert surveillance operation by Gardai (Irish police) investigators amid suspicions

they were running a brothel. Ennis District Court heard that the pair were making

around €1,200 per week after advertising themselves on the Escort Ireland website as 'Ann and Peter.'

A raid on the property saw a laptop with the saved advert, a phone and a notebook with clients' details seized, said Inspector Tom Kennedy.

The advert said: 'Ann is a woman of 30 years with a pretty face and Peter is a man of 38 years with a slender body and both are eager to please you.'

'We receive men, women and couples. You will enjoy the best experience of your life and are sure you will come back.'

Inspector Kennedy con-

firmed that the couple did not work individually, and that they would charge €200 an hour for sex, €170 for 45 minutes or €130 for 30 minutes.

He added: "Their response to Gardai was that they didn't think there was anything wrong with what they were doing and that it wasn't illegal."

"The entire operation was conducted by both of them. It was a joint enterprise."

"They were both participating in it willingly and with each other and it was advertised in that format."

Daragh Hassett, defending, called the racy venture a "cot-

tage industry," and said that when the pair were charged "they were effectively run out of the property and out of Ennis."

He added: "This is rampant in Spain and regularised there and not something that breaches the law there."

The pair - who have no previous convictions - now live in eastern Ireland and work in a factory for €400 per week after cooperating fully with the police and pleading guilty to prostitution charges, the solicitor continued.

Judge Patrick Durcan charged each of them €600 and said: "This activity is against the law and the court doesn't approve of this type of activity."

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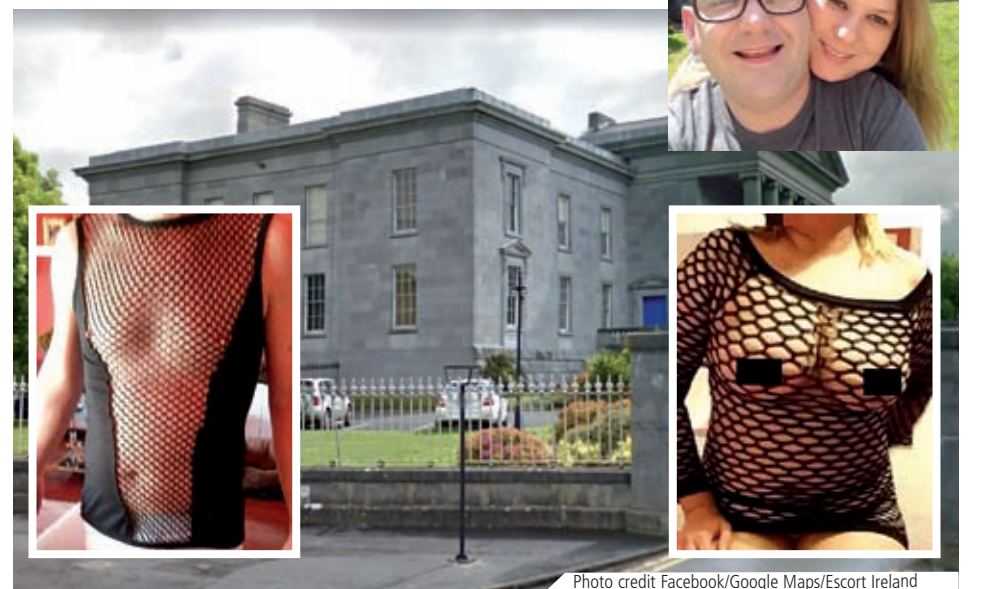


Photo credit Facebook/Google Maps/Escort Ireland

**AID BARE:** Ennis District Court and (inset) David, Celia and snaps from their online advert.

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# Old time music

ON Saturday May 26 the Anglican Churches of Costa Almeria and Costa Calida will be holding an Old Time Music Hall concert at Zurgena Theatre.

Tickets cost €7.50 and include a buffet following the performance.

Tickets are on sale at CATS in Alfoquia and in the churches at Alhambra, Llanos Del Petal and Mojacar. Numbers are limited so book now.

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Credit: The Dames in Huerca-Overa

**MILE HIGH CLUB:** Craig Wilmschurt with the Dames.

# Dolly and Dames

THE Dames in Huerca-Overa recently enjoyed a very interesting and humorous talk by Craig Wilmschurt about his many years as cabin crew with BA.

They also recently held a very successful race night raising a considerable amount of money to add to their monies raised throughout the year. Money raised is later presented to designated charities after the AGM in April. This year the members voted to donate €1,000 to ASTEA, €500 to MACS and €500 to the Convent, to support the elderly who are in their care.

Please note that the Dames have moved to their new venue, the Hostal Rural, Meson Sabor de Miguel. They will meet there on the third Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact Carolyn (Chair) on 637 798 494.

# Farcical comedy raises the roof

SHOESTRING PRODUCTIONS recently returned with their sequel Return to Hotel La Resistance, performing four sell-out shows at Montmartre Bar and Restaurant.

The production company would like to thank all those who came to support them and their cause. Proceeds from the play plus the raffles raised €811, which will go towards the fund to build a quarantine/isolation unit for the cats and dogs at the shelter. This vital building will help contain deadly viruses and allow the volunteers at the shelter to save these abandoned animals. To date, €14,000 has been raised towards the final cost of €25,000 required to build the structure.

In addition, the Rose Singers recently performed two concerts and raised €400 towards the PAWS-PATAS cat neutering programme.

The next date for your diary is on Friday May 25 when the Incognito Singers will perform at the Ballroom Miraflores at Camping Los Gallardos. Entry is €6 and tickets are available from PAWS-PATAS in Mojacar, Turre and Las Buganvillas. Proceeds from the concert will be donated to PAWS-PATAS. For further information regarding all aspects of volunteering and donating please visit the website [www.paws-patas.org](http://www.paws-patas.org).



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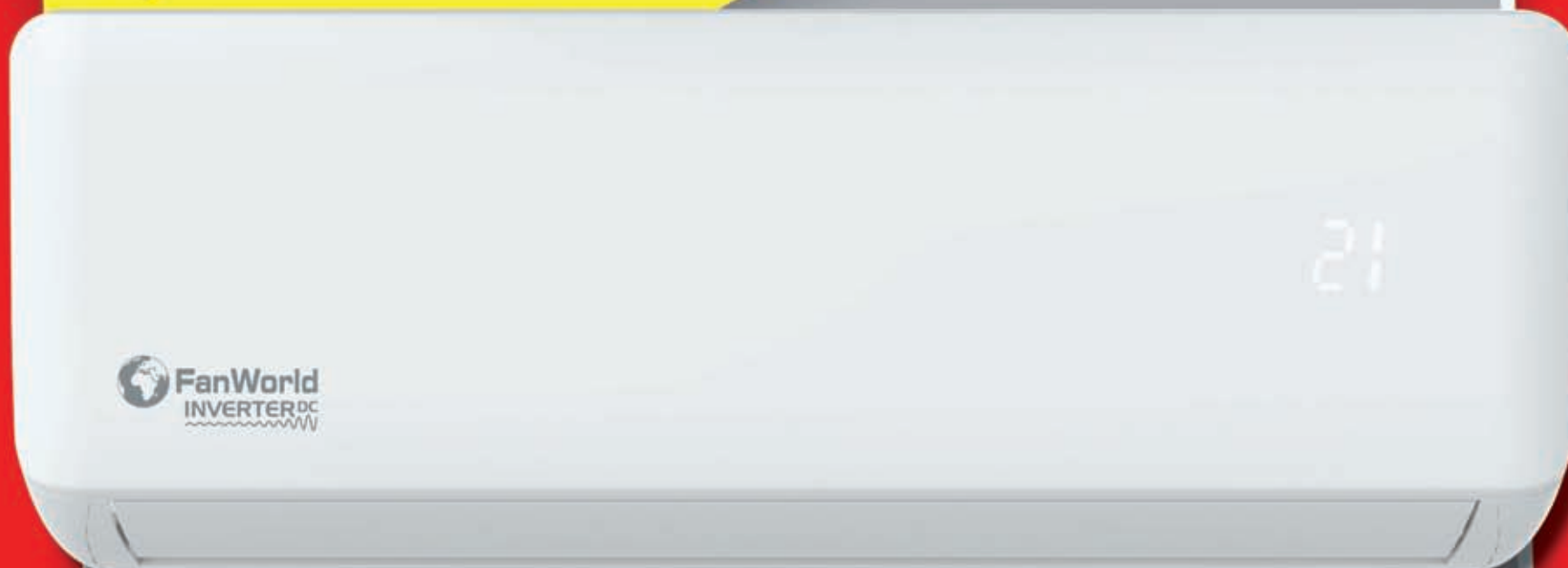
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**STAT OF WEEK****2.2** THE percentage of Spain's gross domestic product to be reinvested into public projects including schools, hospitals and the environment this year, 40 per cent less than the average since 1995, according to the European Commission.**€2bn mega deal well-connected**

FRENCH investment firm Antin Infrastructure Partners has revealed it is to fork out €2 billion for Spanish fibre optic wholesale operator Ufinet.

Formerly owned by natural gas and electricity supplier Gas Natural Fenosa, the telecommunications company was in 2014 bought by London-based global private equity firm Cinven Partners for €510 million.

Operating mostly in Spain and Latin America, Ufinet posted sales of €81 million in 2017, with the deal reportedly set to be wrapped up by July.

**Party over for Club 18-30?**

CLUB 18-30 - the brand notorious for cheap holidays packed with sun, sex and alcohol - could soon be heading for the departure lounge.

The news comes amid fears that millennials increasingly opt for 'ego travel,' after a report revealed that half of 18 to 25-year-old sunseekers now take posting selfies on social media in to account when booking trips.

And high street tour operator Thomas Cook, which has owned the brand since 1998, says it is "exploring options," including a possible sale.

It wants to concentrate on its new

by *Matt Ford*

Cook's Club offering, which launched last month.

Featuring its own-brand hotels with big-name poolside DJs and upmarket cocktails, creative director Remo Masala believes the offering will serve up "urban cool" for "the Instagram generation."

At its peak, Club 18-30 jetted around 100,000 people per year to party resorts including Magaluf, Kavos and Ayia Napa.

Founded in the 1960s, its first destination was Lloret de Mar on the Costa

Brava, and its racy image saw it become a tabloid staple during the 1990s and 2000s, when one advertising slogan read: 'It's not all sex, sex, sex. There's a bit of sun and sea as well.'

The young sunseekers' drunken antics even spawned the infamous ITV series Club Reps.

Thomas Cook said in a statement: "We remain committed to Club 18-30 for summer 2018.

"However, we are exploring options for the future of the brand, which could include the possibility of a sale."

**Golden opening sparks new rush**

A CANADIAN gold and copper-producing firm is to reopen a Spanish mine.

Nuria Menendez, managing director of Orovalle, Toronto-based Orvana Minerals' Spanish subsidiary said that the company is planning to start work at the Carles gold mine in Salas, Asturias, after a favourable exploratory survey.

The site is situated in the Rio Narcea gold belt, a historic deposit first discovered by the Romans 2,000 years ago, previously mined between 1997 and 2006 with over 1,000,000 ounces of the precious mineral extracted.

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**Tax breaks capture Spain's leading role**

Photo credit: Disney

**MADE IN THE CANARIES: Solo: A Star Wars Story.**

FILMMAKERS are flocking to take advantage of tax breaks in Spain.

Rebates of up to 20 per cent, or 40 per cent in the Canary Islands, have been offered to international productions since 2015.

And the scheme has worked a treat, according to industry professionals.

"Undoubtedly [tax rebates] have had a positive impact," said Peter Welter, line producer for hit HBO series Game of Thrones, which has filmed

across the country since 2014.

Spinoff TV series Snatch and upcoming Hollywood films including Solo: A Star Wars Story, The Rhythm Section, Wonder Woman 2 and the upcoming Terminator reboot have all been shot entirely or partially in Spain.

"There's a constant flow of international shoots, and it's increasingly difficult to find experienced Spanish crew for foreign productions," added Barcelona-based Nostromo Pictures founder Adrian Guerra.

**» BUSINESS EXTRA****Ministry of truth**

SOCIAL media giant Facebook is rumoured to have rented a 9,000 square-metre office space in Catalan capital Barcelona's iconic Glories Tower, from where it plans to employ 500 people in an 'internet content control centre' to combat fake news.

**Bank on it**

SANTANDER GROUP is gearing up to launch a digital business banking platform offering 'a range of products that go beyond traditional lending' for small and medium-sized businesses in the UK, the Spanish financial services firm said in a statement.

**Close call**

SPANISH multinational banking group BBVA will have less than 3,000 branches across the country for the first time since 2002 after revealing plans to shut down 179 local offices this year, bringing the total closed to 1,047 since 2016.

**Catalans top of the class**

A SPANISH school has topped a Financial Times' 2018 executive education ranking.

The Barcelona-based IESE Business School is number one for customised courses, those tailor-made for corporate students, ahead of Switzerland's IMD and France's INSEAD.

It is the fourth consecutive year that the Catalan institution - renowned for its strong interna-

tional outlook - has topped the table based on clients' votes. It achieved a top five finish in nine out of 10 criteria, including number one for international clients and faculty diversity and second for overseas programmes and partner schools. The London Business School in fourth was the UK's best-placed contender in the 20th annual edition of the ranking.

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# Update on kangaroo spotting!

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT**

**OTHERS THINK IT**



TO all of you waiting with bated breath for the conclusion of my kangaroo spotting adventure... I've decided not to tell you! I jest, I jest!

Assuming there are still some of you interested in the outcome of my Australian saga, I promise to polish it off in this edition. Last week found me and my guitarist, heavily hung over, waiting to club poor innocent rabbits over the head, as they emerged from their burrows which abounded on a hillock set in the wilds of the Australian outback.

'Rick the Roo boy', our guide for the day, had decided to catch a few rabbits before we actually set out on our kangaroo spotting expedition. He was now standing around a hundred yards away, removing his pet ferret, Freddy, from the sack it had travelled in. At this point I must reiterate the fact that there was no chance that either Mike, or myself, had any intention whatsoever of bashing some poor unsuspecting bunny's head in, whatever 'Rick the Roo boy' instructed.

"Roight, shouted Rick, "when I put Freddy into the burrow over here, be ready.

"They should start running out after a few minutes. You gotta be quick, awright?"



**ROO MUST BE KIDDING: Leapy only spotted the hopping creatures from a distance.**

I turned to Mike. "What we need to do, I whispered, "is to just rush about as though we were trying our best, and just miss 'em all."

Mike nodded his assent. We took up our positions.

"Roight, yelled Rick, "I'm putting him in now, be ready," he added, somewhat assertively.

Clubs poised and trying to look as though we ac-

tually cared, we stood astride our respective burrows and waited for the first little twitching nose to emerge (and be well and truly allowed to escape I may add!).

After three or four minutes Rick called out again. "Any sign yet? he asked. "No nothing," we replied with much (relieved) shaking of heads. After a few more minutes there was still no movement.

"Can't understand it, shouted Rick. "He should have chased a few out by now."

Just then I saw it. The first movement at one of the burrows. I watched fascinated as a little whiskered nose slowly hove into view. It was no rabbit.

Slowly emerging from the hole came the unmistakable head, followed by the long furry body of Freddie the ferret. Slowly he staggered out. A couple of feet from the hole he dropped down, stone dead! Well that was it wasn't it? Rick rushed over and gathered up the little body. Crying and distraught, muttering that it 'must have been a snake,' Rick cuddled up what was apparently a family pet.

This tough denizen of the Australian outback was utterly inconsolable. From then on, the day was ruined. We only saw kangaroos from a distance of about a mile. Rick totally misjudged the time and subsequently we found ourselves stumbling through the snake and spider infested Australian outback by torch and starlight, in search of the car.

We drove back in complete silence and were dropped off at the hotel some 30 minutes before we were due on stage. The show did in fact go on. Lord knows how. But one thing was for sure. Kangaroos were off my bucket list, forever!

*Keep the Faith,  
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## TECH FOR THE TIMID



EAT your heart out Somalia: Spain has more pirates than you've had hot ransom demands.

We learned courtesy of this fine newspaper a few weeks back that piracy (of the digital variety) dropped by a worthy 6 per cent in Spain last year - but that some €22 billion worth of content still managed to, um, fall off the back of the internet, through four billion illegal downloads. Ouch.

Perish the thought that this column should ever encourage law-breaking, but it seems clear to pretty much everyone except those actually in the 'content' industries, that illegal downloading is a war which may never be won.

It might if there was at least a price incentive to buy the real thing. Many find it hard to be persuaded that piracy is a crime when, say, publishers insist on charging exactly the same for a physical book or magazine containing lots of (expensive) raw materials, as for its associated e-book, only made of (free) digital bits and bytes.

Music and movie streaming ser-

# The share pleasure of it

Terence Kennedy peer-to-peers into the future of piracy



**SUNNY AND SHARE: Spain still pirating.**

vices are at least starting to make inroads into piracy. Like the movie industry, music companies took the serious mis-step of encumbering their digital versions with all sorts of complicated and irritating copyright protection which consumers absolutely hated, and by-passed, almost inevitably driving many into the hands of file-sharers.

Neither did prosecuting random

teenagers in their bedrooms sharing modern versions of the old mix-tapes do much to generate sympathy for the industry - own goals of the highest idiocy.

Is 'peer-to-peer filesharing,' or 'torrenting,' actually legal? Surprisingly, it is. Use it for legitimate purposes like public domain downloads, internet archive material, music or games shared freely by their produc-

ers, and the boys in blue will not come a-knocking. Only copyrighted material crosses the line.

The technical wizardry behind torrents is digi-magic which passeth human understanding:

A dozen or a thousand people have the file you want on their own computers and agree to share it.

Your torrent software takes a tiny bit of the file from one, a tiny bit from another ad infinitum all at the same time, and at the end cleverly reassembles the jigsaw puzzle back into the complete file on your computer. Halfway across the world, others then take tiny bits of it from your computer.

Just be sure to stay within the law.

Even if, as Shakespeare said, the law can sometimes be an ass, as in the Boston student fined a breathtaking \$675,000 a while back for illegally downloading 30 songs. By Aerosmith for heaven's sake. I would have paid him to take my copy.

## Do the right thing

SEARCH for 'legal torrents' or similar if you'd like to give peer-to-peer filesharing a whirl.

Then all you need is the software, mostly free. Popular torrent 'clients' include BitTorrent, Vuze, uTorrent, my own favourite Deluge for its simplicity, Transmission (for Macs), BitComet or BitLord.

You also need reasonable broadband. No one wants your bit of the shared file if it takes next week to get it.

It's also bad form to grab and go; once your file is in, leave your computer online to share the love.

And remember the legal fine print: if you would normally have to pay for it, if it's copyrighted, if it has monetary value to anyone out there - Go directly to Jail, do not pass 'Go' and do not collect 200.

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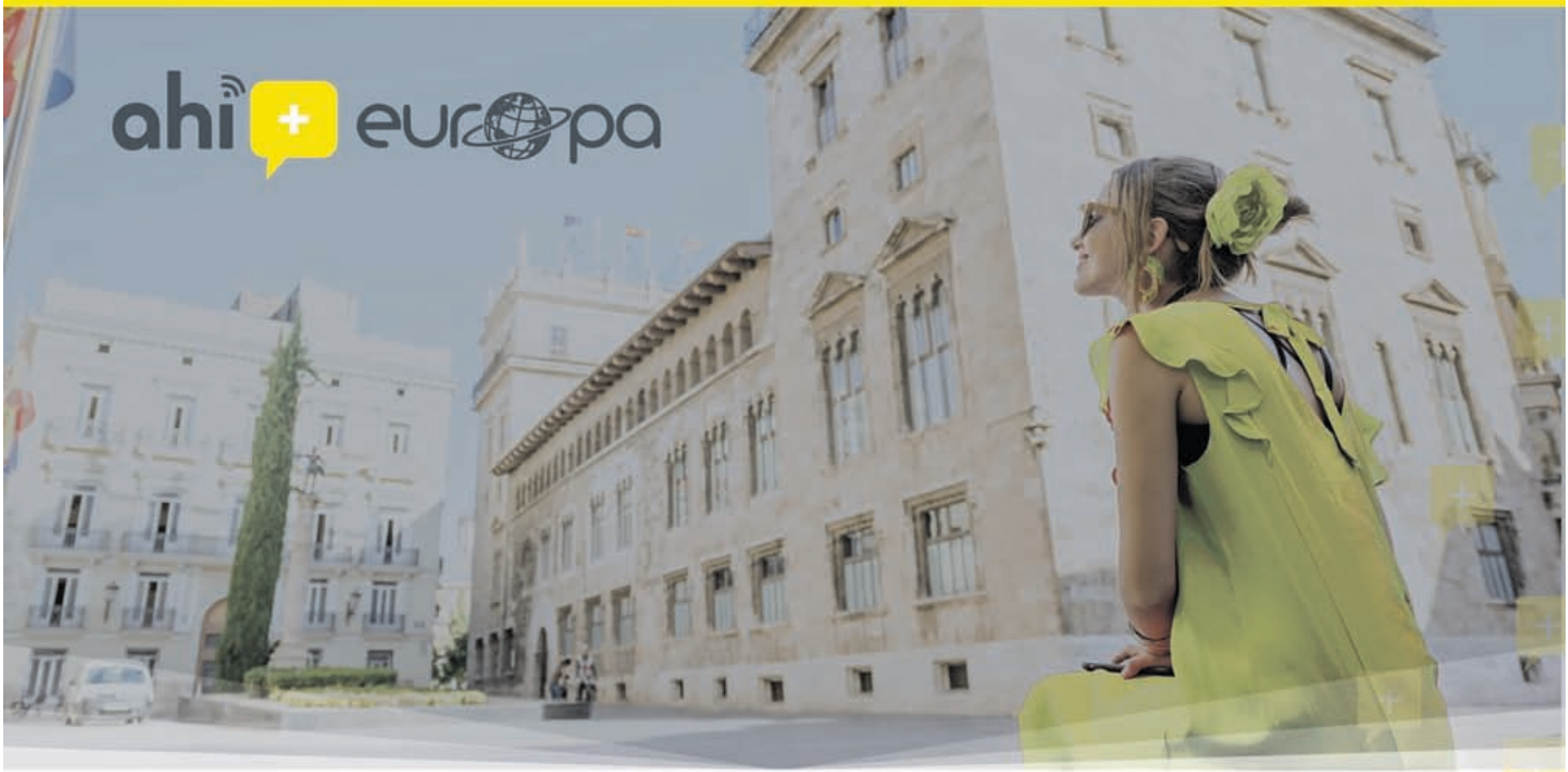
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**Cassandra Nash**

*A weekly look*

- and not entirely impartial reaction -  
to the Spanish political scene

ETA has voluntarily disintegrated but the Spanish government made it clear that the extinct terrorist organisation must still pay for its crimes.

There will be no concessions to prisoners and they are unlikely to be moved nearer the Basque region.

ETA killed 854 people, maimed thousands more - including Eduardo Madina who challenged Pedro Sanchez for the PSOE leadership - and blackmailed thousands into funding them with their 'revolutionary tax.'

The victims and their families should not be asked to forget, still less forgive and forget and no-one has the right to ask them to turn the other cheek. But the government, which increasingly gives the impression that it seeks revenge, could try making it easier to heal the decades-old wounds instead of rubbing salt into them.

## Don't care, won't care

WILL Carles Puigdemont, the self-exiled former president of Catalunya, respect a Supreme Court ruling?

Judge Pablo Llarena is likely to bar Puigdemont from occupying any type of public office. The same will apply to other members of his former government who are either remanded for rebellion or fled shortly after the Catalan Unilateral

# A time for healing



Credit: Wikipedia

**VICTIM: Eduardo Madina was attacked by ETA in 2002.**

Declaration of Independence on October 27.

Roger Torrent, who emerged as speaker of Catalunya's parliament after last December's regional elections, said during his inaugural speech that he would seek dialogue and act within the law. That was shortlived and parliament has debated and approved an amendment allowing a

long-distance virtual reality vote via a video link.

All tailor-made to facilitate a pro-independence government which will have to happen before May 22 if Catalunya is to avoid another election.

But the hard line secessionists who back Carles Puigdemont don't care if a government is invested before May 22. They don't care if there's another election. They don't care if Article 155 suspending Catalunya's autonomous status remains in place.

The last thing on their minds is forming a government that occupies itself with the issues that Catalans really care about ie employment, the economy, health and education. But not, unsurprisingly, independence.

## Do us a favour

THE party that Carles Puigdemont represents has changed its name so often that it's hard to keep up. Suffice to say it started life as Convergencia i Unio, a centre-right party with a strong bourgeois orientation.

The other pro-independence party is the radical Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya (ERC), whose translation says it all: Republican Left of Catalunya.

Its leader, Oriol Junqueras has been remanded for rebellion since last autumn but in a draft pre-

## Fair dos for who

WELL whoopee doo! There are five women on the committee assigned by Spain's Justice department to study reforms to legislation concerning sexual crimes, following the outcry over the Manada gang rape verdict.

Only trouble is, there are 20 people on a committee analysing an issue, basically rape, that affects far more women than males. In fact, the committee was originally all male and the women were shoehorned in as a hasty afterthought.

Who's surprised? Spain's equality legislation doesn't even look good on paper, let alone in practice.

pared for its conference in June, the party admits that the time is not ripe for independence.

The 50 per cent of Catalunya's population who support independence is insufficient to declare a republic via civic, peaceful and democratic means, according to the draft.

Why don't they do us all - but especially the Catalans - a favour and go back to being a left-wing party with republican leanings and a yen for independence ambitions while waving Puigdemont goodbye?

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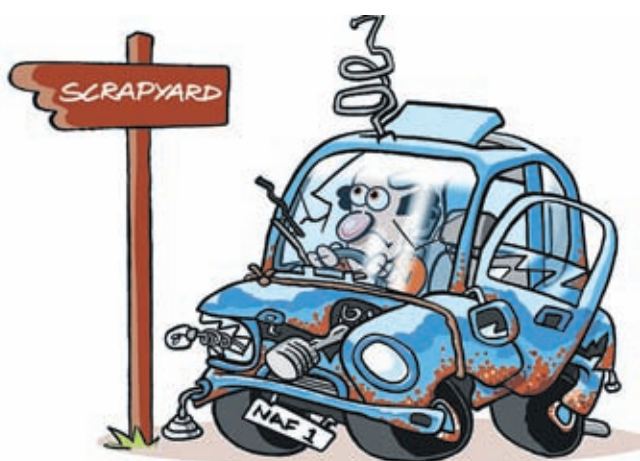
GOD forbid this should happen to you but if your vehicle is treated as a total loss (also known as a 'write-off') it is because the cost of the repair is higher than 75 per cent of the actual cash value of the vehicle or it has sustained so much damage making it unsafe and not roadworthy.

We really hope you won't ever be involved in this situation but it is best to be aware of some important aspects and to be really clued up.

For example, Liberty Seguros recommends having third-party with theft, fire and total loss, because in cases where the client has third-party coverage only and it is their fault, you will have no right to compensation.

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Most insurance companies compensate the total loss with the sale value of



**WRITE-OFFS: Know what can happen to the value of your car.**

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cially if you have just bought a new car! Just think, you will feel more content knowing that your car will still be worth the price you paid for it for up to two years after you bought it.

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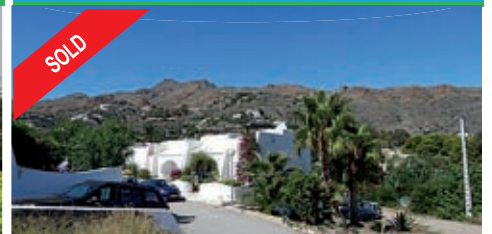
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**Bungalow in Mojacar Playa**  
• VIP7538



• 2 Bedrooms  
• 1 Bathroom  
Pueblo Sol  
**Price: 138,500€**

**Apartment in Garrucha**  
• VIP7530



• 2 Bedrooms  
• 1 Bathroom  
**Price: 60,000€**

**Apartment in Mojacar**  
• VIP7474



• 2 Bedrooms  
• 1 Bathroom  
Los Atalayones  
**Price: 145,000€**

**Villa in Mojacar**  
• VIP7533



• 4 Bedrooms  
• 2 bathrooms  
In need of Renovation  
**Price: 299,000€**

**Apartment in Mojacar**  
• VIP7441



• 3 Bedrooms  
• 2 Bathrooms  
Los Cumbres  
**Price: 249,950€**

We are back from A Place in the Sun Live - Olympia London 2018 Thank you to all the staff and support at last weekend's show. It was excellent and a fantastic turnout.  
Friday 2,001 - Saturday 3,600 - Sunday 2,900 - Total - 8,500 people

We have booked a lot of appointments and lots of lovely people are coming to visit the area for the first time. What we have learnt is the average coastal apartment budget is 150,000 GBP, Townhouse 200,000 GBP and Villa 400,000 GBP, there is a large demand for Inland Villas around Arboleas for 185,000 GBP.

If you are considering selling, please contact VIP Almeria.

With a database of over 8,000 people who expressed an interest in purchasing a property in Almeria, we may already have that buyer for you. The property sales market is very active, and it is common place that all agents want a vendor's business. Many people feel comfortable knowing that we put ourselves in your shoes and will offer the benefits of what are advantages or disadvantages in a particular area. VIP Almeria are an Irish run company and 5 languages are spoken at our office as communication is important to us. When you become a VIP Almeria client, we work harder to produce targeted results and this is shown in our testimonials and referrals.

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# 'It's a song contest Jim, but not as we know it'



## TV COUCH CRITIC

by Adam Whalley-Lewis

SATURDAY saw about 300 million people tune in to the *Eurovision Song Contest*, including 3.1 million of us in Spain.

The show was hosted by our neighbours in Portugal, with Saturday's final rounding off a seemingly never ending cycle of heats and semi-finals. Lisboetas must have been pleased when the final vote was cast and they got their city back.

Hardcore Eurovision fans are a dizzy mix of people who take the whole thing far too seriously and usually have a large collection of flags. You will have no doubt guessed that I accepted an invitation to a flag waving pool party and then thought better of it, only to find that my local abrevadero was showing the final live and yes, I came home with both a UK and a Spanish flag!

Portugal gave Spain 14 points, Ire-



Photo credit Eurovision 2018/Twitter/ITV

**SING WHEN YOU'RE WINNING:** Israel's entrant Netta triumphed in this year's pop extravaganza after a tight finish.

land gave the UK 10 (the best SuRie managed all night) and there was THAT stage invasion which in reality was a non-event. I thought the UK song was good and don't think 24th place is a fair reflection of the song or the performance.

Mind you, the bottom four, Spain, the UK, Finland and hosts Portugal, in that order, didn't deserve to be so low down the placings. Well OK, the Finnish song was terrible and deserved 25th place. Sorry Finland.

*This Time Next Year* (ITV) ended its second series on Tuesday with host Davina McCall being her usual fantastic self. Let's just take a moment to mention that red dress and how fantastic Davina is as a host. One year on and I would look just that, at least one year older, but Davina just looks the same.

Homage over. There have been some inspirational stories, the couple who eventually had twins, the 11-year-old meningitis survivor and the



**NIFTY AT FIFTY:** Davina McCall just doesn't seem to age.

chap who lost half his body weight to name but three. There will be a third series, assuming that the red dress can agree terms.

TV news this week is dominated by the BBC announcing that *McMafia* will return for a second series. *McMafia* tells the story of Alex Godman, a Russian exile and his journey into a multinational underworld. The show is the fourth most watched on

BBC iPlayer and I can't wait for it to return. Sticking with news from the BBC, Matt LeBlanc has been grizzling about what a hard time he had joining *Top Gear*. Really Matt, you get to do big-boy stuff with cars, you are paid really well, viewing numbers are up and the show goes from strength to strength. It must be really difficult for you.

*First Dates* (Channel 4) has moved from Wednesday evenings to a prime slot on Thursday. This week a descendant of Henry VIII and a butler who is mad about the Royals are looking for love. There is even a Kate Middleton look alike. Will she find her Prince - well there aren't too many left.

Looking ahead, the BBC and ITV are showing the *Royal Wedding* on Saturday and the *FA Cup Final* is on BBC 1 later in the day. If that doesn't appeal, *FILM4* are showing the classic *Carry on Spying* on Saturday afternoon. This was Barbara Windsor's first Carry On and it's a gem.

I'm off to dust off those flags, ready for Saturday's wedding.

Happy viewing.

# If paint is not enough, diamonds are the answer

Nick Horne *The Rich Pick*

Freelance correspondent, London, England



YOU have the yacht in the harbour, the supercar at the kerb and a personal jet waiting on the apron for you at the airport, but you feel something is lacking.

That's when the paint job begins to occupy your mind. Of course you have the choice of many colours and you could try a few variations. Though of course most yachts come in white and to go too far overboard would open you up to a certain amount of banter.

The same more or less applies to the plane. What's the point of jetting about luxuriously and discreetly if your paint job is 'screaming pink'? Even a lime green Lamborghini is passé now, everyone's got one!

That's when Jean Boulle Luxury may just have the product for you. The Sun King™ Diamond Coating was presented at last year's Monaco Yacht Show. A proprietary technique, it involves transforming ethically-sourced natural diamonds into a finish that guarantees the 'highest quality and brilliance within precisely defined tolerances.'

The coating has also been applied to su-



**SPLASHING OUT:** A Keizer 42 'Sun King' near Monaco.

percars produced by some of the world's foremost luxury car brands with the result of dramatically altering the vehicle's visual appearance.

The Keizer 42 'Sun King' is the result of a cooperation between Jean Boulle Luxury, AkzoNobel and Bonsink Yacht Painters. Jean Boulle Luxury recently patented a pricey technique which makes it possible to transform natural diamonds into a coating.



**PRICEY PLEASURE:** A Rolls Royce after the Sun King Diamond Coating treatment.

For the first time, it has been applied to a yacht, the Keizer 42. AkzoNobel is going to produce it, and prices are available on request only.

For the Keizer 42 'Sun King' the partners asked the renowned Dutch yacht painter Bonsink Yacht Painters to apply the coating. With the world premiere of the Keizer 42 'Sun King', Keizer Yachts will also be introducing its Custom Editions.

The yacht debuted at Monaco shows the possibilities available to customise the Keizer 42 entirely to meet a customer's wishes. The hull is painted in diamond blue, the roof arches in diamond silver and it also features wooden details which are also painted on.

As well as an extensive list of options and diamond coating, Keizer Yachts offers the option for you to choose your favourite upholstery, colour scheme and equipment in its extensive customisation programme.

With the price for a 'standard' Keizer starting at €325, the glittering options are unlikely to be cheap but diamonds are the answer, as ever. What's not to like?

# Solving impossible riddles!



**Ric Polansky**

*Ric Polansky moved to Mojacar in 1969 as a pioneer developer. He reads extensively and has travelled in South America panning gold and looking for El Dorado.*

I DREADED Saturday morning Vera market days. We loaded the car and off we'd trundle. My wife had her agenda of purchases and then gave me a list of errands to do. Gulp!

She always gave me the difficult missions. Buy stamps for letters to be mailed to America. Now who would have ever thought you get postage stamps at a smoke shop. Nothing made logical sense. Especially if you hadn't been pre-prepared with an envelope and a stamp on it so you could point at what you needed. Get a new broom handle. OK.

My favourite shops were what I called 'junk shops.' A type of DIY hardware store that sold everything imaginable: tin cups, rat poison, tea pots, straw hats and sandals made out of tyres. They also had lighters that had flint on one end and a small piece of rope that you gently blew on to ignite it. Then you could bend over and suck your cigarette through



**GOING NUTS:** Junk shops sold everything under the sun.

the rope and bingo - fire.

Hell, those places were magical. I would wander in and just stare at all the paraphernalia and wonder how it was used. I keenly marvelled at the others coming in and buying concoctions of different seeds and colourful dust. And equipment or tools I had never seen before nor imagine how they would be used.

The owner had lots of boxes full of tubes, bolts, long screws and winged nuts with small rubber washers. Sounds useless but some of those old boys could come in and fit together a combination of five to six pieces and walk out beaming that they had solved one of the earth's most perplexing enigmas.

Gadgets were concocted and put

together like Lego units, that must have had a purpose for something. Probably some essential element for a home-made space ship I surmised. Yet, I remained in complete adulation and awe of what could be concocted.

I would go in those places and just sit and look, and imagine; as if being in a rare museum in which results

were totally pending upon secret combinations of putting things together.

I soon began to appreciate that store as a severely magical place. All household and agricultural problems could be sorted. Everyone who went in came out content and totting new contraptions of a strange and unknown variety. Inventions abounded. No one was ever displeased.

All happening in a crappy little store that didn't have much to offer in the world of known or usable artefacts. The man that owned it must have been the Leonardo DaVinci of the Vera market place.

Before too long, I too started buying unusual apparatus to adapt for a mission I would create, but everything not only didn't fit, it had no worthwhile importance or possible use, ever.

No. Magic shops are for magic people who know the land and circumstances, not for visitors like me. After all, some things must remain a mystery in Spain. It all can't be explained, clarified and labelled. Some things are just what they are meant to be, visibly mysterious to the untrained and unlearned eye.

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\*Excludes initial €50 for equipment.

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# WELCOME KAREN TO THE VOSS HOMES TEAM



VH1319 €134,950 CEE TBC

**NEW LISTING**



- 4 bed, 4 bath Village House
- Quality renovation
- Small garden
- 3 mins drive to La Alfoquia

VH1318 €109,950 CEE TBC

**NEW LISTING**



- 3 bed, 2 bath Semi Det Villa
- 342m2 plot
- Walk to bar / restaurant
- Zurgena area

VH1317 €149,950 CEE TBC

**NEW LISTING**



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 697m2 plot, 8m x 4m pool
- 4 mins drive to bar / restaurant
- Zurgena area

VH1315 €179,950 CEE TBC

**NEW LISTING**



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 608m2 plot, 8m x 4m pool
- 4 mins drive to La Alfoquia
- Zurgena area



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**TABERNO**

VH1210 €149,950 CEE TBC



- 4 bed, 3 bath Village House
- Quality renovation with character
- Walk to 2 restaurants
- 5 mins drive to Taberno

**LA ALFOQUIA**

VH1314 €152,000 CEE TBC



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 8m x 4m swimming pool
- Sun roof and great views
- Walking distance to amenities in La Alfoquia

**ZURGENA**

VH1321 €219,950 CEE TBC



- Large 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 1,300m2 garden, great views
- 10m x 4m pool & garage
- Zurgena area

**HUERCAL-OVERA**

VH1316 €189,950 CEE TBC



- Large 5 bed, 3 bath Villa House
- Immaculate Renovation
- 302m2 build, 670m2 garden
- 10 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1279 €139,995 CEE F225 8



- Large, 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- Edge of Village with pool
- 3,000m2 of land (1,000m fenced)
- Country Views & Walk to amenities

VH1217 €89,950 CEE E190 32



- 2/3 bed, 2 bath Semi Detached
- Access to 2 communal pools
- Private garden
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

**CHOOSE THE AGENT WHO IS SELLING THE MOST PROPERTIES IN YOUR AREA... CHOOSE VOSS HOMES.**

VH1309 €134,950 CEE TBC



- Large 3/4 bed, 2 bath Country House
- Lovely renovation & great views
- 222m2 build, 21,407m2 land
- 14 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

**WE URGENTLY NEED PROPERTIES IN HUERCAL-OVERA, ZURGENA, LA ALFOQUIA & TABERNO.**

VH1304 €134,950 CEE TBC



- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 638m2 garden, swimming pool
- Sun roof & underbuild
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

VH1288 €169,950 CEE TBC



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 8m x 4m swimming pool
- Walk to bar / restaurant
- Zurgena area

VH1307 €189,950 CEE TBC



- 2 houses in 1 Country House
- 5 bed, 2 bath plus 2 bed 1 bath
- 1,004m2 of land, swimming pool
- 12 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event
17 MAY	5:30pm Hardball	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm The Chase	4:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	6:30pm Neighbours	12:00pm Live ATP 1000: Rome
	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	5:00pm The £100k Drop	7:00pm Home and Away	2:30pm Live RL One Day Cup
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:30pm Great Continental Railway Journeys	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	8:00pm Live Premier League Darts
	7:30pm BBC London News	8:00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Buy it Now	8:00pm The Nightmare	11:30pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby	8:30pm Tonight	7:00pm The Simpsons	9:00pm Neighbour Next Door	1:00am Sky Sports News
	8:30pm EastEnders	10:00pm Million Pound Menu	9:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	2:00am Sky Sports News
	9:00pm Britain's Best Home Cook	11:00pm The League of Gentlemen	9:30pm Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs	8:00pm Channel 4 News	11:00pm Me... And My Mental Illness 2	3:00am Sky Sports News
	10:00pm Ambulance	11:30pm Newsnight	10:00pm Innocent	8:55pm The Political Slot		4:00am Sky Sports News
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten		11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm Cruises from Hell		
	11:30pm BBC London News			10:00pm Humans		
11:45pm Question Time			11:00pm First Dates			
FRIDAY 18 MAY	6:15pm Pointless	3:30pm Digging for Britain	5:00pm Tipping Point	5:00pm The £100k Drop	6:30pm Neighbours	7:30am World Cup of Pool
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	4:30pm Victorian Farm	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:00pm Home and Away	11:30am Live ATP 1000: Rome
	7:30pm BBC London News	5:30pm Street Auction	7:00pm Local News and Weather	6:30pm Buy it Now	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	2:55pm Live RL One Day Cup
	8:00pm The Royal Wedding: They're Getting Married in the Morning	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	8:00pm The Gadget Show	8:30pm Live EFL Play-Off Semi-Final
	9:00pm EastEnders	7:00pm Athletics	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	9:00pm Secrets of the World's Greatest Mountains	11:00pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	9:30pm The Button	8:30pm Extreme Wales with Richard Parks	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	10:00pm Britain's Favourite Royal	1:00am Sky Sports News
	10:00pm Have I Got News for You	9:00pm Gardeners' World	9:00pm Countrywise	8:30pm Unreported World	11:30pm Harry and Meghan: In Their Own Words	2:00am Sky Sports News
	10:30pm Home from Home	10:00pm The Bridge	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Our Wildest Dreams		3:00am Sky Sports News
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm Frankie Boyle's New World Order	10:00pm Lethal Weapon	10:00pm Gogglebox		4:00am Sky Sports News
			11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	11:00pm Friday Night Dinner		
			11:30pm High and Dry			
SATURDAY 19 MAY	3:00pm FA Cup Live	6:00pm The Forest	6:00pm The Chase	3:30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	5:40pm 5 News Weekend	11:25am Super League
	4:50pm BBC News	6:30pm Pangolins - The World's Most Wanted Animal	7:00pm ITV Evening News	4:30pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	5:45pm FIA Formula E Live	Greatest Games
	5:00pm BBC London	7:30pm Dad's Army	7:15pm ITV News London	5:30pm Location, Location, Location	7:30pm Britannia: Secrets of the Royal Yacht	11:30am Rugby League
	5:05pm Weather	8:00pm Highlights of the Day	7:30pm Ninja Warrior UK	6:30pm The Secret Life of the Zoo	8:20pm The Queen Mary: Cruising with the Royals	1:15pm Live Rugby League
	5:10pm Match of the Day Live	9:30pm Motty Mastermind	8:30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule	7:30pm Channel 4 News	9:20pm Queen Victoria and Her Tragic Family	3:45pm Live Scottish Cup Final
	6:00pm FA Cup Final	10:00pm Motty - the Man Behind the Sheepskin	9:00pm Britain's Got Talent	9:00pm Titanic: The New Evidence	10:20pm Harry and Meghan: A Royal Romance	6:15pm Super League Magic Weekend
	8:40pm Pointless	11:05pm Countdown to the Full Motty	10:20pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	10:00pm The Martian		8:15pm Super League Magic Weekend
	9:30pm Casualty		10:50pm ITV News	12:40am Sinister 2		11:00pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	10:20pm Info not available		11:20pm Jaws 3			12:00am Sky Sports News
	11:20pm BBC News					
SUNDAY 20 MAY	3:55pm To be Announced	4:30pm Garden Rescue	4:00pm Change Your Tune	5:30pm Location, Location, Location	5:00pm 5 News	9:50am World Cup of Pool
	5:35pm Britain's Best Home Cook	5:15pm Flog It!	5:00pm Tipping Point	6:30pm Grand Designs	5:05pm Batteries Not Included	Sports Sunday
	6:35pm BBC News	6:00pm Great Manchester Run Highlights	6:00pm The Chase: Celebrity Special	7:30pm Channel 4 News	6:05pm The Lego Movie	11:30am Indian Premier League
	6:50pm Regional News	7:00pm Pangolins - The World's Most Wanted Animal	7:00pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule	8:00pm Christmas at the Chateau	8:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	12:00pm Indian Premier League
	6:55pm Weather	8:00pm Million Pound Menu	7:30pm ITV Evening News	9:00pm Bake Off: The Professionals	9:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	4:00pm Super League Magic Weekend
	7:00pm The Chelsea Flower Show	9:00pm Info not available	7:45pm ITV News London	10:00pm Info not available	9:55pm 5 News Weekend	6:15pm Super League Magic Weekend
	8:00pm Countryfile	10:00pm Burma with Simon Reeve	8:00pm Little Big Shots	11:00pm Gogglebox	10:00pm Top of the Box: 1985 with Matthew Kelly	8:30pm Live PGA Tour Golf
	9:00pm Antiques Roadshow	11:00pm Atlanta	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	12:00am First Dates	12:00am Role Models	12:00am Sky Sports News
	10:00pm To be Announced		11:00pm ITV News			1:00am Sky Sports News
	11:20pm Regional News					
MONDAY 21 MAY	5:30pm Hardball	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm The Chase	8:00pm Channel 4 News	6:30pm Neighbours	11:00am Premier League Daily
	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads Repeats	7:00pm ITV News London	8:55pm The Political Slot	7:00pm Home and Away	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys	7:30pm ITV Evening News	9:00pm Jamie's Quick and Easy Food	7:30pm 5 News	1:00pm Sky Sports News
	7:30pm Regional News	8:00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble	8:00pm Emmerdale	9:30pm Tricks of the Restaurant Trade	8:00pm Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	2:00pm Sky Sports News
	8:00pm The One Show	9:00pm The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	8:30pm Coronation Street	10:00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody	9:00pm Police Interceptors	3:00pm Live RL One Day Cup
	8:30pm The Chelsea Flower Show	10:00pm Manchester: The Night of the Bomb	9:30pm The NHS Heroes Awards	11:35pm Manchester	10:00pm Paddington Station 24/7	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	9:00pm EastEnders	11:00pm Later Live... with Jools Holland	10:00pm A&E Live	12:35am Quadruplets and Homeless	11:00pm Info not available	12:00am Sky Sports News
	9:30pm Panorama		11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather		12:00am Criminals Caught on Camera	1:00am Sky Sports News
	10:00pm Peter Kay's Car Share		11:30pm ITV News London			
	10:30pm Info not available		12:50am Killer Women with Piers Morgan			
11:00pm BBC News						
TUESDAY 22 MAY	4:45pm The Chelsea Flower Show	7:00pm Eggheads Repeats	6:00pm The Chase	6:00pm Four in a Bed	4:15pm Fatal Performance	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	5:30pm Hardball	7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys	7:00pm ITV News London	6:30pm Buy it Now	6:00pm 5 News	1:00pm Sky Sports News
	6:15pm Pointless	8:00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble	7:30pm ITV Evening News	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	2:00pm Sky Sports News
	7:00pm BBC News	9:00pm The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	3:00pm Sky Sports News
	7:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Manchester: The Night of the Bomb	9:00pm Love Your Garden NHS Special	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News	4:00pm Indian Premier League
	8:00pm The One Show	11:00pm Later Live... with Jools Holland	10:00pm A&E Live	8:55pm The Political Slot	8:00pm Moto GP Highlights	8:30pm Sky Sports Tonight
	8:30pm EastEnders		11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm Amazing Spaces Special: 24 Hour Build	9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet	9:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	9:00pm Holby City		11:30pm ITV News London	10:00pm Trains From Hell	10:00pm Intercity 125: The Train That Changed Britain	10:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	10:00pm The Split		11:45pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	11:00pm Mo Salah: A Football Fairy Tale	11:00pm When Reality TV Goes Horribly Wrong	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten
	11:00pm BBC News					12:00am Sky Sports News
11:30pm Regional News						
WEDNESDAY 23 MAY	4:45pm The Chelsea Flower Show	5:30pm Street Auction	5:00pm Tipping Point	4:00pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	3:15pm To be Announced	11:00am Premier League Daily
	5:30pm Hardball	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm The Chase	5:00pm The £100k Dro	4:15pm My Mother's Secret	12:00pm Sky Sports Daily
	6:15pm Pointless	7:00pm Eggheads Repeats	7:00pm ITV News London	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:00pm 5 News	1:00pm Sky Sports News
	7:00pm BBC News	7:30pm Great British Railway Journeys	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:30pm Buy it Now	6:30pm Neighbours	2:00pm Sky Sports News
	7:30pm Regional News	8:00pm Back to the Land with Kate Humble	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:00pm Home and Away	3:00pm Sky Sports News
	8:00pm The Chelsea Flower Show	9:00pm The RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm 5 News	4:00pm Indian Premier League
	9:00pm Watchdog Live	10:00pm Love in the Countryside	9:00pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	8:00pm Channel 4 News	8:00pm Police Interceptors	8:30pm Sky Sports Tonight
	10:00pm To be Announced	11:00pm Detectorists	9:30pm Coronation Street	8:55pm The Political Slot	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	9:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	11:00pm BBC News		10:00pm A&E Live	9:00pm The Secret Life of the Zoo	10:00pm Rich House, Poor House	10:00pm Sky Sports Tonight
	11:30pm Regional News		11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E	11:00pm Info not available	11:00pm Sky Sports News at Ten

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



# ALMERIA PROPERTY FINDER

**BUYING OR SELLING A PROPERTY?**  
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Arboleas area

€179.950



**APF 3444 - Villa Corazon**  
3 bedrooms - 1 bathroom  
93m2 build - 607m2 plot



Top quality 3 bedroom villa with an 8x4m pool set in a professionally landscaped plot with fantastic views.

Taberno area

199.000€



**APB 3424 - Cortijo Dorado**  
3 bedrooms - 3 bathrooms  
155m2 build - 12.700m2 plot



Beautiful 3 bedroom country house with 9x5m pool, full of character and traditional features. Ideal for keeping horses.

Albox area

€199.950



**APF 2988 - Cortijo Linda**  
5 bedrooms - 4 bathrooms  
260m2 build - 5000m2 plot



Detached fully reformed country house with pool. Designed so that it could easily be split in to 3 self contained apartments.

Albanchez area

€199.950



**APF 3442 - Villa Rosa**  
3 bedrooms - 3 bathrooms  
235m2 build - 1547m2 plot



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## Lost in translation: A language in a world of its own

**Nora Johnson**  
*Breaking Views*



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

DURING his recent visit to Australia, French President Emmanuel Macron was ridiculed on social media for calling PM Malcolm Turnbull's wife Lucy 'delicious.'

Some think Mr Macron's words simply got lost in translation. The French for delicious - délicieux - also translates as 'delightful,' even if it's slightly sexist. But a linguistic slip-up to avoid above all else is the French word 'excité' to describe yourself as excited. Why? It means you're sexually aroused. Oops!

Mr Macron isn't the first leader to hit translation problems. Probably the best-remembered gaffe is John F Kennedy's legendary claim: 'Ich bin ein Berliner' which translates as 'I'm a Berliner' or 'I'm a doughnut.' Take your pick.

In 2009, France's Europe minister sparked a diplomatic incident by labelling then PM David Cameron's pledge to reclaim EU powers as 'pathetic.' In French, it simply means 'moving,' 'touching,' 'poignant.' Oops again.



**DELICIOUS OR DELIGHTFUL: Lucy Turnbull with her husband Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull.**

But then, English has become a bit of a foreign language to me. I mean, just look at *Urban Dictionary*, online birthplace of words like 'nutzoid' (crazy, mad, insane) slang. The Alan Turing Institute in London recently conducted the first comprehensive scientific study of its contents - revealing (drum roll, please) the death of the word 'selfie'!

But are you aware of the 'key' words and phrases of 2018? Apparently these are: Beauty sus (When a person's attractiveness makes you suspicious of them);

Generationalis (Generalising about a generation); Momarazzi (Mums taking smartphone pics of their children's sports team); Babybottling (Guzzling a drink without stopping to breathe); LOP (Laughing off the pounds); and Boonk (Nicking someone's stuff).

Poor old Alan Turing. Brilliant mathematician, one of the key workers in the defeat of Fascism and Nazism and contributing to ending a world war for the preservation of democracy, and thereby recognised as the father of the computer, you end up with the institute named after you having to sink to the level of clearing up language and words regarded as 'ephemeral detritus' only used by the likes of Kim Kardashian!

Maybe if we use the word 'Kardashian' often enough, will it disappear too, please?

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

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

## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### Is he exempt from CGT?

**Q.** You wrote: 'If you are Tax Resident for three years and over 65 years of age, you can be free of Capital Gains when you sell your principal residence in Spain.'

I am 72 years old and I sold my house 18 months ago, after owning it for 16 years. When I put my tax returns in to my solicitor, I was told that, unless I bought another property, I would have to pay Capital Gains on the profit.

My Capital Gains tax came to more than €5,000, which I paid. I showed your article to my solicitors and they said that I couldn't get my money back because this was only applicable now, and not on old sales. Is this true? Surely there must be some way of getting my money back.

*DM (Costa Blanca)*

**A.** First let us be sure that you are 'tax resident' in Spain. Can you show your Spanish income tax declarations for the past three years? If so, you can claim back your Capital Gains tax paid by mistake for up to four years.

This exemption has been in place for a number of years.

**David Searl**

*You and the Law in Spain*



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

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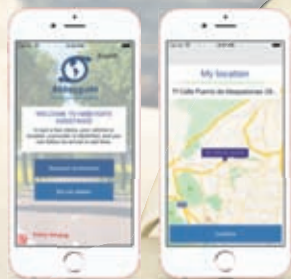
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## Don't force it upon me

**Mike Senker**

*In my opinion*

*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*



I'M GETTING on a bit and I know a lot of my readers seem to be in my age group too. So I'm guessing there are a few who might relate to my dilemma.

When I was young we were all boys or girls. As we got older we became men and women. Now I have never worried about men who want to go out with men or women who prefer women partners. I honestly think that whatever makes you happy is absolutely fine and you should be able to get married and raise families.

But there is now a new thing I have to learn to live with. The thing that is confusing me is a gender-fluid person, which means that one day you're a man and the next day you're a woman. I even understand transgender folks who have decided, for whatever reason, they are now not happy with their original gender.

My understanding of gender-fluidity is when people sometimes feel as if they're male and sometimes as if they're female. This does not have to be related to sexuality or physical gender in any way, and is not a result of indecision.

My point is that in my nearly 70 years of my very colourful life I've never heard of this until

pretty recently. I have to smile about these things sometimes - I mean you can now be parents and get a Mother's and Father's Day card. I actually have no problem with this either.

My problem is all the new words that are being introduced. You don't have a boyfriend or girlfriend - now you have a date mate and after you have passed that stage you become each other's love person. Grandy is now a term for grandma or grandpa. Nieces and nephews are nibblings. And so it goes on. Words and phrases that some want changed are things like 'right-hand man,' 'gentleman's agreement,' 'forefathers,' 'mankind' and 'sportsmanship.'

So here's the deal folks, you all do as you wish - be whatever gender you want to be at any time you want and I will never be offended or make any kind of judgement about you. I just want you to be happy with your life.

The other side of the deal is don't mess about with my everyday words because they offend you. Because I must be allowed all the same freedoms as you and not be scared that minorities' feelings are more important than mine because they aren't. They are exactly the same.

You have your rights and I have mine and in some cases I may not agree with something you want and you may not agree with something I want. But you can't force your wishes on me and I won't do the same to you.

[mikesenker@gmail.com](mailto:mikesenker@gmail.com)

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The passing of Inovacion 14 means that within the next 4-6 months some 400 villas situated all around the village will become fully paper worked. Undoubtedly a large percentage of these will be flooding on to the market and in a very short period of time.

Whilst at this moment in time demand in Arboleas is high and selling prices have been steadily increasing, when the deluge hits it can only have an adverse effect on both selling time and, also importantly, selling prices.

If you want to avoid this market saturation and take advantage of a growing seller's market then act quickly to get your property listed for sale. Give us a call or call into our office in the village for a chat as to how we can help you get moving.

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Las Golondrinos

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3 bed 2 bath village house  
Chirivel

195,000€ | cla 7108



4 bed 2 bath villa  
La Perla

185,000€ | cla 7064



3 bed 2 bath villa  
Los Carrascos

182,000€ | cla 7077



3 bed 2 bath villa  
La Perla

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## Only give beach flags to those who deserve them

REGARDING your article 'Just Beachy' in this week's issue (*EWN CBS 1714*), I would like to inform you that the 11 beaches in Orihuela Costa have no services at all at the moment, no beach huts, no toilet facilities, not even for the disabled, no first aid, a total disgrace!

I hope that Consumer ADEAC are aware of this and do not award any flags to any of these beaches. I would suggest they award Black Flags to these beaches and insist that the councillors concerned fly them at half-mast - what a dreadful way to treat your residents and the visiting tourists, unbelievable in this day and age.

*Ernie Critchley, Las Filipinas*

### Praise for Nora

THIS is a message for Nora Johnson.

I really enjoy your column.

Another border option is abolition so that the whole island is reunited.

*Brian Mulhern*

### Wrong call could easily lead to danger

**WE all know the danger in Spain of drivers using their mobiles while at the wheel, not only in busy city and town centres, but also when on motorways.**

**Well now welcome to an added twist of mobile madness.**

**This morning, while taking an early walk along the coastal boardwalk near my home in Riviera del Sol a cyclist nearly collided with me due in the main to the fact he was concentrating more about talking on his mobile than where he was pedalling!**

**What more can I say except obviously a man unconcerned about his own safety... or of others!**

*CR, Costa del Sol*



Credit: Christian Muelle Shutterstock

**| BEWARE: Of cyclists on the phone.**

### Deadly mistake

I WAS in a waiting room the other week when I picked up a local free paper.

One of the articles concerned the introduction of new speeding devices that had been accepted into use.

One's first thoughts is always that with the introduction of these covert devices it's just another way for the authorities to collect easy money off soft targets.

However, earlier that day I heard the latest RoSPA report on the radio; shortly the report concluded that 25 per cent of road accidents are as a result of distraction and lack of concentration by the driver; quoting mobiles and GPS as the largest cause.

That made me think, the picture of the new devices (there must be more than one type as the one shown in the *EWN* is different to the one I saw in the other paper) is a large camera-shaped unit with an even larger lens, the unit is fixed on the top of the armco crash barrier.

Human nature will mean you will try to spot these devices; you might not be speeding or know you are doing it; however, to some extent you will, and that will add to the overall distraction and thus the number of accidents caused.

Does anyone believe this has been considered?

*Ray Wenham, Ciudad Quesada*

### Third World?

IT was Easter week and my daughter with three teenagers came to visit me from the UK.

She parked her car late Saturday night but Sunday morning it's towed away due to a procession.

There were no signs, no info, although the police say there were signs and there was a charge of €162. Private grua was €100 and €62 for a parking fine to be paid at a local bank but in cash as they won't accept credit cards as we weren't clients.

In the end, we had to go to my bank who would not accept my daughter's cash and the fine had to be paid from my account. This is really Third World practice and I live in a small village!

*Iris Read, address withheld*

### HAVE YOUR SAY

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

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

## Warning as thieves target rental cars in Spain

They are now approaching cars at the last petrol station before Malaga airport! I was coming from Mijas, pulled in and out of nowhere two guys were at either side of the car. Luckily I had locked car the minute I got out. Everything was in the boot out of sight, and I told them in no uncertain terms where to go. This has happened twice in this petrol station, it's large, so just be aware... don't mess with this Irish Mom!

*Kate Farrell*

They will insist on putting those bloody company stickers in the back window of rental cars, that's like jumping up and down and shouting... look, look, this car is full of goodies... first thing I do is scratch the thing off.

*Rob Waugh*

If they stopped putting them stupid yellow stickers on the rear window it would be a very good idea. Instead it just says 'Hi, I'm a hire car full of goodies. ROB ME!' Ahhhhhh!

*Hazel White*

Hire cars are like taking candy off a baby... people will just ignore the warnings and leave the stickers on the rear window including the one that tells you what fuel to put in.

*Brian Taylor*

### See ya Valencia! A room with a view no more

How can you be told that you cannot rent a property? I'd like to see this decision stand up within an EU court of law... not

### Comments from EWN online

a chance! If local residents do not like the tourist trade that has effectively brought this country from effectively a third world nation to what it is today, then maybe they should move to an area where tourists do not flock to in peak season. Typical Spain looking at the small picture once again!

*James*

I think Spain will lose out in the end. I get the idea - hoteliers are losing out but tourism is tourism and for so many places in Spain tourism is the highest income. What worries me is the people that have invested in these properties with the only intention to rent it. There will now be thousands of property owners that will have to sell as they can't afford to keep them, but can't afford to sell them at lower prices so it still won't help the locals. I think the regulations should be tighter to make sure there are no 'underground' rentals etc but I worry about the effect on Spain.

*Jennifer Knowles*

I cannot really see what the authorities are doing, apart from losing many tourists that want to visit. A dangerous game to play.

*Richard Taylor*

I agree... I have friends trying to find long term rentals and they are being quoted holiday rates... makes it difficult for locals and new people wishing to make their home in this beautiful country.

*Sandra Shortland*

Imagine if everyone was to put all the paperwork in. They could not keep up. The town halls all close in August. Really stupid. To a point it is truly pathetic.

*Stephen Kim Raymond*

### Watch: Plane drunk - Passenger's legs give way as he steps off Mallorca flight

There is no fool like a drunk fool.

*Mike Jones*

This is appalling. It's time alcohol was banned on all aircraft. Why should fellow travellers have to put up with this kind of behaviour. It could be very intimidating or scary to be 30,000 ft up in the air with a drunk person in the plane. In an emergency, anyone this inebriated would be a danger to himself and, more importantly, others.

*K Stych*

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Ref: OLV1317

Olive



This stunning 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom property is located just a few minutes walk from the wonderful village of Lubrin. The house has been built to an incredibly high standard with remarkable attention to detail.

Lubrin

199,950€

Ref: OLV1372

Olive



This fabulous and spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom duplex located in the hamlet of Alfaix, less than 5 minutes from Los Gallardos village and several minutes to the motorway, situated in a country setting with great views.

Los Gallardos (Alfaix)

98,500€

Ref: OLV1371

Olive



This unique and extremely rare opportunity presents itself in the sought after Pueblo Laguna area of Vera Playa, these 3 units consist of a spacious office unit, a smaller office as well as a wonderful and former bar/clubhouse located on the first floor.

Vera Playa

270,000€

Ref: OLV1139

Olive



This spacious and immaculate 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom detached villa is located in the centre of the pretty village of El Pinar de Bedar, located between the popular market towns of Bedar and Los Gallardos.

Bedar (El Pinar)

329,950€

Ref: OLV1158

Olive



This traditional village house is located close to the peaceful village of Cariatiz, the spacious property boasts 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom and a good sized garden. The house is under 25 minutes to the wonderful coastal resort of Mojacar Playa.

Cariatiz

44,950€

Ref: OLV1370

Olive



This charming 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom cortijo is located in a beautiful country setting, under 15 minutes from the popular market town of Antas and just a little further from the picturesque village of Bedar. This fabulous property sits on a plot of 3,000m<sup>2</sup>.

Antas

269,950€

Ref: OLV1363

Olive



This delightful 3 bedroom, 4 bathroom villa is located in the village of El Pinar de Bedar, under 5 minutes from Bedar and Los Gallardos and under 20 minutes from the coastal resort of Mojacar. The property boasts beautiful gardens, sunny patios and truly wonderful views.

Bedar (El Pinar)

279,950€

Ref: OLV1253

Olive



This wonderful, spacious 6 bedroom, 6 bathroom property is located in the popular coastal resort of Mojacar Playa. The villa is walking distance to many amenities including some fabulous bars and restaurants. This unique property also boasts a spa room with Jacuzzi.

Mojacar

495,950€

Ref: OLV1279

Olive



This fine looking, immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom villa is located in a small hamlet just outside the village of Cariatiz, the property is just 10 minutes from major road links and the wonderful coastal resort of Mojacar is just 25 minutes away.

Cariatiz

199,950€

Ref: OLV1348

Olive



This immaculate 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment is located in Vera Playa in a beautifully kept gated community, this small development boasts a wonderful communal swimming pool, paddle tennis and children's play area.

Vera Playa

79,950€

Ref: OLV1346

Olive



This charming property is located in the picturesque market town of Lubrin, the property boasts 3 bedrooms, a bathroom and a wonderfully sunny terrace to the front. The house also has unusually good access and parking for a typical Spanish town.

Lubrin

115,000€

Ref: OLV1299

Olive



This wonderful country property is located in the sought after area of Vera campo, less than 15 minutes from the historical town of Vera with all its amenities and 20 minutes to the beautiful coastal resorts of Vera Playa, Garrucha and Mojacar. Being sold fully furnished.

Vera

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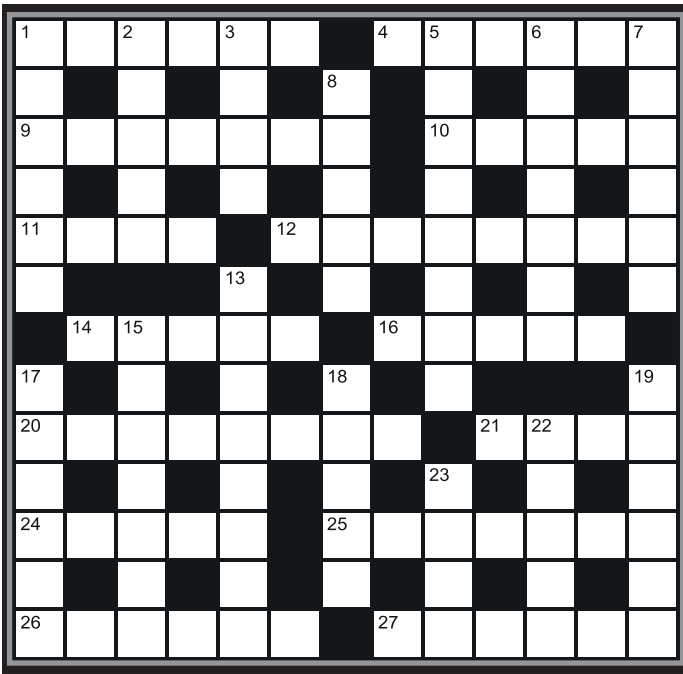


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**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Some here can try to withdraw (6)
- 4 Get back, for example, in wet weather (6)
- 9 Use live broadcast that's had to pin down (7)
- 10 Cathy rocks the boat (5)
- 11 Employ sound sheep (4)
- 12 Design new tin cover (8)
- 14 Force the Spanish after the little devil (5)
- 16 Too thin, the result of a grand aunt (5)
- 20 The Spectator, a UK Sunday newspaper (8)
- 21 Small duck has a drink by the lake (4)
- 24 Accept Romeo leaves a bride (5)
- 25 Deem Reg wrong to have come out (7)
- 26 Exaggerate what's contained in cover documents (6)
- 27 Claim supporter is in drink (6)

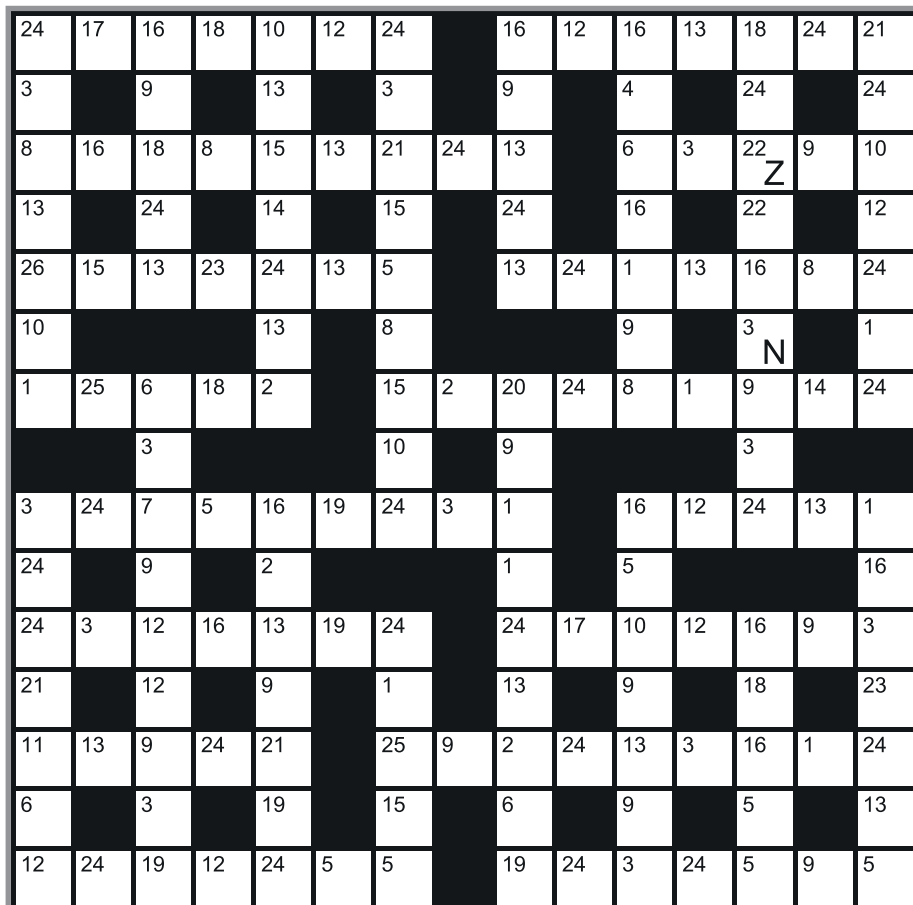


**Down**

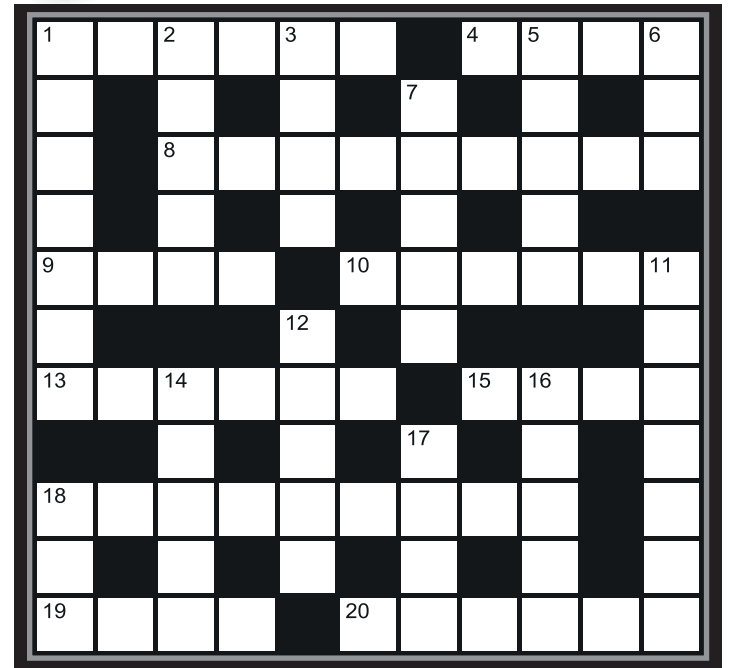
- 1 Staggered to find film by journalist (6)
- 2 Conservative getting cheeky and primitive (5)
- 3 Nothing holds a fastener (4)
- 5 Tiny page reproduced in ancient language (8)
- 6 Gold cot in jumble sale (7)
- 7 Spice Girl following eccentric (6)
- 8 Move around with new toxin (5)
- 13 Be a mate to Ben, fired indiscriminately (8)
- 15 Enormous religious service I have joined (7)
- 17 Vegetable buried in a bus depot at Orpington (6)
- 18 Fed up with hesitation and delay (5)
- 19 Promise place on the border (6)
- 22 Bird beheads the hound (5)
- 23 Pliny the Elder exposes a bounder (4)

**Code Breaker**

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 3 represents N and 22 represents Z, so fill in N every time the figure 3 appears and Z every time the figure 22 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**

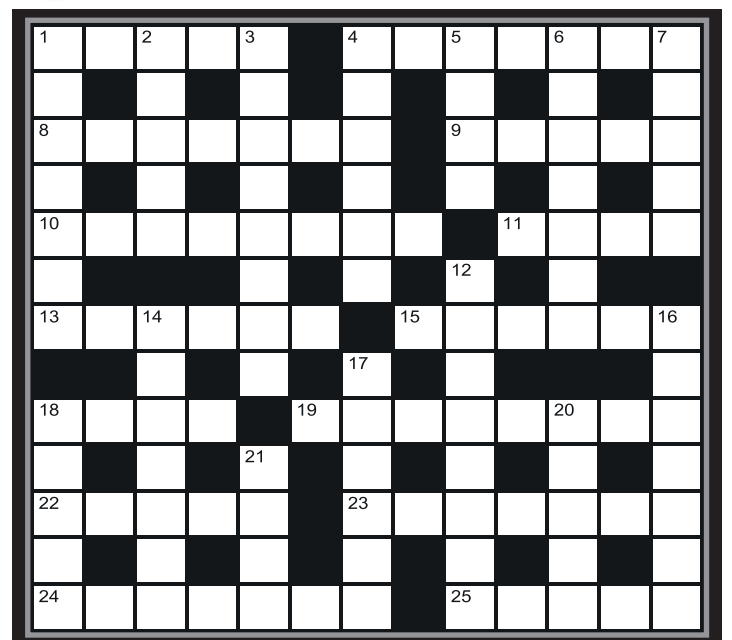
- 1 Select (6)
- 4 Give over (4)
- 8 Large seabird (9)
- 9 British nobleman (4)
- 10 If not (6)
- 13 Walk unsteadily (6)
- 15 Not excessive or extreme (4)
- 18 Drawing position in chess (9)
- 19 Chief or leader (4)
- 20 Succulent plant usually having spines (6)

**Down**

- 1 Remark, observation or criticism (7)
- 2 Come to pass (5)
- 3 Safe (4)
- 5 Escape or avoid by cunning (5)
- 6 Consume (3)
- 7 Discovered (5)
- 11 Quantity much larger than is needed (7)
- 12 Round flattish cap of felt or cloth. (5)
- 14 Snares (5)
- 16 Watchful (5)
- 17 Facts and figures (4)
- 18 Weep convulsively (3)

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1 Bag (paper, plastic) (5)
- 4 Sentado (7)
- 8 Cantantes (7)
- 9 Tuberías (5)
- 10 Arriba (8)
- 11 Mole (animal) (4)
- 13 To finish (doing something) (6)
- 15 Chain (6)
- 18 Jabón (4)
- 19 Retired (8)
- 22 Grande (5)
- 23 Inch (7)
- 24 Apellido (7)
- 25 Saint (5)

**Down**

- 1 Scales (instrument) (7)
- 2 Monday (5)
- 3 To threaten (8)
- 4 Tailor (6)
- 5 Kind (sort) (4)
- 6 Mejorar (7)
- 7 Taste (flavour) (5)
- 12 Toothpicks (8)
- 14 To hold on to (7)
- 16 Aguacate (7)
- 17 Morado (6)
- 18 Vende (5)
- 20 De nuevo (5)
- 21 Firewood (4)

CROSSWORD PAGE





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# Keeping stress at bay

THE focus of this year's Mental Health Awareness Week (May 14 to 20) is stress. Perhaps no surprise, given that research shows that stress is a key factor in why two thirds of Brits experience a mental health problem in their lifetime. By tackling stress, you can go a long way to tackle anxiety and depression, and reduce self-harm and suicide.

Stress can be a natural reaction to increased pressures caused by work, money issues and relationships. It can have a cumulative effect, with each issue building on top of the other.

It can create feelings of being overwhelmed and of constant worry or anxiety. Making it difficult to relax and causing mood swings and short temper. It can also affect your sex drive.

To tackle stress, try to identify its causes and sort these into three categories. Those with a practical solution, those that will get better over time, and those you can't do anything about. Try to let go of the worry of those in the second and third groups.

Then review, reorganise and prioritise your life, changing the practical things you can. During this process don't be too hard on yourself and try to keep things in perspective. Remember, we all have bad days.

Over the long-term, stress can put you at risk from heart attacks and strokes, so it's important that you deal with it. Seek professional medical help if you are experiencing prolonged periods of stress. For more information visit [www.mentalhealth.org.uk](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk).



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## Munching in the Med

LOVED the world over, the Mediterranean diet isn't just delicious. It is a diet which has been proven to be beneficial for the heart, lowering cholesterol and even helping to reduce the risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure.

Although the diet varies from region to region and country to country, it does share things in common.

In general, it contains a lot of fruits, vegetables, seeds, cereals and fish. And excludes a lot of meat and dairy foods.

Don't fret, however, if you don't live along the Med. There are aspects of the Mediterranean diet you can incorporate into your cooking regardless of where you are.

Replace butter with healthy fats such as olive oil, and instead of salt flavour your food with herbs and spices. And reduce your intake of red meat, replacing it with lots of poultry and fish.

One of the wonderful surprises about the Mediterranean diet is that you can continue to enjoy your starchy foods, such as bread and pasta.

Nor do you have to decrease your intake of red wine, be it splashed in the pan for flavour or in the glass to accompany your favourite dish.

People who regularly enjoy a Mediterranean diet are said to have a longer life expectancy and stay in better shape.

# Choose to go smooth

WHETHER for aesthetics, comfort or hygiene, it is increasingly common for men to shave off more than just their beard.

And whether you chose to go smooth from top-to-toe or just in more select areas, such as your chest, back or legs, it would be wise to take note of these words of wisdom so you don't look like you've just been chased by Jack the Ripper.

The easiest, fastest and cheapest way to shave is to use a razor blade. However, this instrument can damage delicate skin in certain parts of the body so be sure to buy one of good quality.

Before you shave, jump in the shower to moisten your skin beforehand. Use warm water and lather up with shaving foam, bath soap or even body cream. Never shave your body dry.

To avoid any pain when shaving, always shave in the direction in which the hair grows. Once finished, take a cold shower as

this will help to close over and tighten your pores. Finally, moisturise all over.

Of course, if taking a razor sends shivers down your spine, then an effective alternative is to use hair removal cream.

And, of course, if you want to say goodbye to all that hair forever, you can opt to have laser or pulsed light treatment. This will allow you to have that smooth all-over feel without suffering unpleasant and painful cuts, but remember this treatment is irreversible.

**BODY GROOMING: Don't be careless when going hairless.**



## New addition to team

QUIRONSALUD Valencia hospital has recently welcomed Dr Manuel Bernal Sprekelsen to its medical team.

Dr Sprekelsen is an internationally renowned specialist in endoscopic surgery of the nose and sinuses as well in the treatment of cancer of the larynx.

He has spent most of his professional career as the head of department at Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, as well as the Medical University of Valencia.

The specialist transoral microsurgery treatment offered by Dr Sprekelsen is the first-choice treatment for early laryngeal cancer as it offers a more than 90 per cent survival rate after five years.

It is as successful as external partial surgery and radiation therapy.

## Clearing the air

ALTHOUGH sneezing and wheezing is something we often associate with the outdoors, research shows that indoor allergens also increase as the weather warms up.

These allergens can be found in dust, pollen, mould spores and pet hair and can cause us to experience 'hay

fever' within the home. Letting them linger in the air means that you may develop an allergic reaction, an asthma attack or another allergy such as rhinitis.

The good news is that there are products designed for the home that can get rid of up to 99.97 per cent of unwanted allergens and keep your family in good health.

One option is to use a vacuum cleaner. Ideally a cordless one as this allows you to move around your home with ease. A pricey, but effective option is Dyson's new cordless Cyclone V10 Absolute.

This has a special sealed unit for improved filtration that captures allergens as tiny as 0.3 microns.

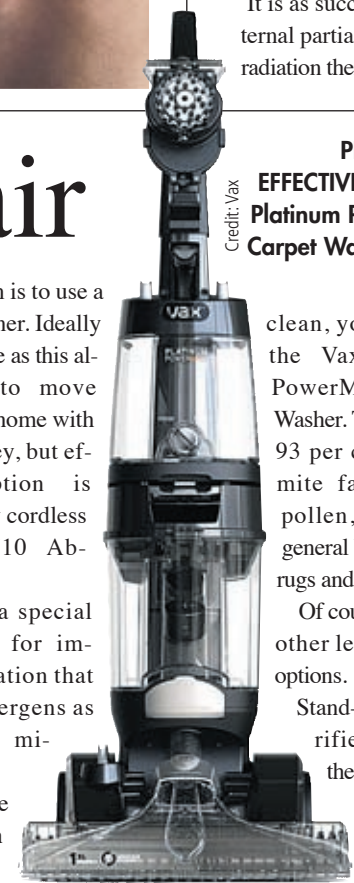
For a more thorough

**PRICEY BUT EFFECTIVE: The Vax Platinum PowerMax Carpet Washer costs £249.**

clean, you could try the Vax Platinum PowerMax Carpet Washer. This removes 93 per cent of dust mite faeces, dust, pollen, spores and general bacteria from rugs and floors.

Of course, there are other less hands-on options.

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## 'I have been very lucky'

EWN chats with a member of The Beatles' inner circle

### EXCLUSIVE

By Joe Gerrard

THE childhood best friend of Beatles guitarist George Harrison and leading member of the band's team has spoken to Euro Weekly News about his time in music.

Tony Bramwell, 72, was speaking ahead of planned appearances on the Costa del Sol as a special celebrity guest in the Festival of Legends tomorrow and on Saturday.

He said in an exclusive interview with Euro Weekly News ahead of the shows he was looking forward to visiting Spain.

"I do these Beatles tribute shows all over the world. I was in Spain at the end of



'VERY LUCKY': Tony Bramwell (right and inset) in the studio with the band.

last year for Chris King's (of the Festival of Legends) concerts in December," he said.

"Me and George went to the Canary Islands on holiday together in 1963. The Beatles did a few small tours

in Spain around 1965 and I went to Sevilla in 1967 to make a film about the city's feria for their film company."

Bramwell was with The Beatles from their early days gigging in Liverpool. He be-

gan his career with them working on promotional videos for I Feel Fine, Help!, Day Tripper and others before heading up the band's Apple Films company in 1968.

"I have been very lucky," he said.

"George was my best friend when we were kids. I still go on the road with Paul occasionally and I sat him last week, he's doing well," he said.

Bramwell went on to work with a number of other artists after The Beatles split up in 1970. He joined Roxy Music on a tour to Barcelona.

"Bryan Ferry got taken seriously ill. He was stuck in an ambulance on the way back to England so we had five days in Barcelona just enjoying ourselves," he said.

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THE latest addition to the line-up for the Almeria Summer Festival 2018 is multi-award-winning Mexican rock band Maná.

They will join Tequila and Bambikina at the Summer Concert Hall in the fairground in Almeria City on Saturday August 4.

Maná have an impressive track record as a band with nine Number 1 albums and 10 Number 1 singles, more than any other band in the history of Billboard's Hot Latin Songs.

Founded in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1986, the quartet

# Maná from Heaven

composed of Fher Olvera, Alex González, Sergio Vallín and Juan Calleros has become a global envoy of the Latin rock genre selling millions of songs and albums worldwide, presenting some of their songs in English as well as recording with such stars as Shakira.

They will be performing songs from their latest Latin Grammy Award-winning album *Cama Incendiada* (Burning

Bed) and for this Spanish tour that takes them across the country they will be bringing 80 tons of equipment, so prepare for a 'heavy performance.'

The visit of Tequila will be

part of the band's *Adios Tequila* Tour as they will be breaking up in order to follow solo careers, so this will be one of the last chances to enjoy the cool, fun and carefree rock for which

they were so popular.

Bambikina (Esther Méndez), will open the festival with her band who are former members of the mythical group The Sweet Vandals as she plays her

style of folk rock on harmonica and guitar.

Tickets for this concert cost between €50 and €80 (compared to €100 to €400 at Starlite Marbella) and can be obtained now from the usual online booking sites, from the box office at the Teatro Apolo de Almería or at [www.almeriaculturaentradas.es](http://www.almeriaculturaentradas.es).



Maná, one of the top Latin Rock bands aim to thrill Almeria

## Eat Well to Live Well

by Andrew Harding



SINCE we are in Spain I thought it was time I shared some Spanish tapas recipes with you.

The definition of tapas is: 'small Spanish savoury dishes, typically served with drinks at a bar.' Cooking tapas is very labour intensive and is more suited to places where food can be cooked in bulk and served in a large number of small portions. This would normally preclude tapas at home for a dinner party or a family meal, but it can be done, here's how: Delicatessen bought alioli, gazpacho, bread, chorizo, Iberian ham, canned anchovies, olives and Manchego cheese can be served with wine while the following are cooking:

### • Spanish omelette (tortilla Española)

Serves 8

500 grams potatoes, peeled and cubed

1 whole onion, peeled and sliced

6 eggs, beaten

2 tablespoons olive oil

salt and black pepper, ground

1. Microwave potatoes for 12 minutes until soft. Roast at 200 Celsius fan oven (220 Celsius non-fan oven) for 30 minutes with 1/2 the olive oil until golden. Allow to cool.

2. Fry onions in pan with rest of oil until golden, then add eggs and seasoning.

3. Keep flipping omelette until cooked through, then serve in slices.

4. Serve.

This next recipe also needs potatoes, so they can be cooked at the same time.

### • Spicy potatoes (patatas bravas)

Serves 8

1 kg of potatoes, peeled and cubed

4 tablespoons olive oil

1 small onion, grated

3 whole garlic clove, peeled and crushed

2 tablespoons sherry

1 can tomatoes

2 teaspoons dried chilli flakes

1 teaspoon grated orange zest

1 teaspoon sugar

1 tablespoon fresh parsley chopped

1 whole bay leaf

1. Peel and microwave potatoes for 12 minutes.

2. Then roast in the oven using same settings as for the tortilla, with 1/2 the olive oil. Place to one side.

**SPICY:  
Patatas  
bravas.**

## Spanish tapas

3. Use the rest of the oil to gently fry the onion and garlic until transparent.

4. Add the remaining ingredients and bring to simmer.

5. Remove bay leaf and blend.

6. Pour over potatoes and serve.

### • Garlic Chicken (pollo al ajillo)

Serves 8

sea salt to taste

black peppercorns ground, to taste

2 tablespoons paprika

2 tablespoons flour

1.5 Kg chicken breast, no skin, no bone and cubed

100 ml olive oil

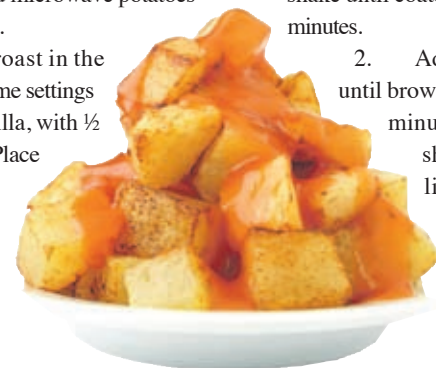
10 garlic cloves, peeled and sliced

2 bay leaves

2 cups sherry

1. Put salt, pepper, paprika and flour in a large plastic bag, add chicken and shake until coated, place in fridge for 30 minutes.

2. Add oil to pan, fry chicken until browned, add garlic, fry for 2 minutes, add bay leaves and sherry, put in oven proof lidded dish and place in 200 Celsius fan-oven (220 Celsius non-fan oven) and cook for 20 minutes, then serve.



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# 200 runners celebrate local athlete

MORE than 200 people have participated in a running race in Zurgena, organised in homage to the ultra-runner, Juan Antonio Ramos.

Ramos is a national champion in the over-45's category of 100 kilometre running, and has even finished runner-up in an international race.

Residents and visitors from all over Almería joined in the event last Sunday, which was widely enjoyed.

Juan Antonio Ramos was himself present, and with customary humility and goodwill, stopped and chatted with many people along the way.

At the end of the race, mayor of Zurgena, Luis Diaz, presented a plaque to Ramos on behalf of the town to reflect their pride in the achievements of a local man.

"He is an example to follow, as a sportsman and a Zurgenero, always flying the flag for his hometown wherever he goes," said Mayor Diaz.

"This plaque is a sign of the affection that Zurgena has for him, and of our gratitude."



Credit: Ayuntamiento de Almería

**ROAD RUNNERS: Many runners and spectators turned out in honour of Juan Antonio Ramos.**

In addition to the plaque, the mayor also gave Ramos an official flag of the town to keep.

At the end of the race, the partici-

pants were treated to free paella in a day that not only promoted friendship between residents and athletes, but also healthy living habits.

## 29 years for man who killed his uncle

THE Provincial Court of Almería has sentenced two brothers in connection with the murder of their uncle and the attempted murder of a cousin.

Juan Andres has been handed a 29-year prison term for carrying out the acts, while his brother, Pedro has been sentenced to 12 years and 11 months in jail as an accomplice to both crimes.

Both were unanimously found guilty by the jury, which determined that Juan Andres shot his uncle in the chest in an

ambush, while his brother held a door open.

The court also heard that the weapon used was a modified revolver, which had no licence attached to it.

Juan Andres' claim, that he acted under the influence of drugs, was dismissed due to the lack of evidence to support it.

The defendants have also been ordered to pay €120,000 in compensation to the widow of the victim, and €90,000 to her two children.

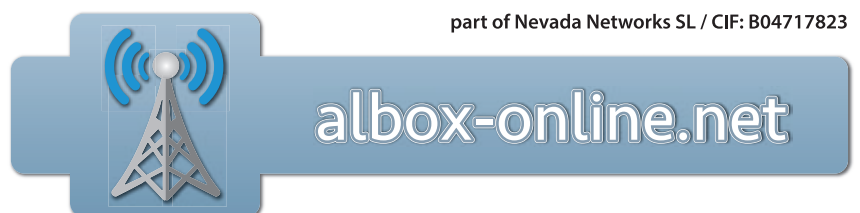
## Getting wired up

PARTALOA has been selected as one of the towns in Andalucía to be part of a programme fitting high speed internet connections to parts of the province.

The initiative, from the Jetnet broadband operator, proposes to subsidise the installation and registration fee for the service. The company said it was committed to eliminating the 'digital divide' by helping rural areas integrate into online infrastructure.

The project is set to benefit a total of 50,415 people living in Andalucía across 102 urban areas in the east of the region.

Jetnet said around five million people in Spain, or 10 per cent of the population, did not have a quality internet connection. The figure was 29 per cent for Andalucía, the company added.



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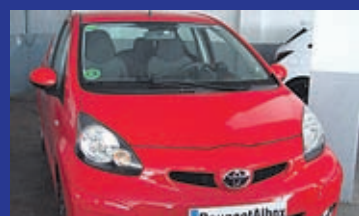
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# Fend for yourself

Young people will be hit especially hard by plans

by Gregory Kirby

PRIME MINISTER Mariano Rajoy's new housing benefits plan will leave Albox's young people without state support for renting and buying homes.

The ruling party's new accommodation budget has been cut by 38 per cent. It is a 'bad plan,' Antonio Martinez, a centre-left PSOE official said.

Young people will reportedly suffer most from the new scheme which runs from 2018 to 2021. Almost 150,000 young people in the Almeria Province will be hit because they reside in towns with more than 5,000 residents, which are now excluded from state support.

In addition to Albox, other towns to be hit by the new rules include, Adra, Albox, Almeria City, Berja, Carboneras, Cuevas de Almanzora, El Ejido, Garrucha, Huerca de Almeria, Huerca-Overa, Macael, Mojacar, La Mojonera, Nijar, Olula del Rio, Pulpi, Roquetas de Mar, Vera, Velez Rubio, Viator and Vicar.

The plan has left 108,000 Spanish families in a precarious state because they still don't know whether they will



**NO HELP:** Large towns were targeted in housing budget cuts.

be eligible for support, Martinez said.

PSOE's Almeria secretary general Juan Francisco Garrido said the plans were 'nonsense' because only 10 per cent of the population will actually be able to access state help.

Almeria's socialist youth said they knew the government positively discriminated against young people living in rural areas. But it didn't know it would 'attack' young people living in large towns, it added.

## Office move row

THE President of the Diputación de Almeria said he is prepared to speak with any mayor in the province following a complaint over moving an authority office from Cantoria.

Gabriel Amat said the doors of his office were 'open' after Mayor Purificación Sanchez, of Cantoria, recently took up the moving of the technical assistance unit for municipalities with authorities.

The office, which helps to hold local and provincial authorities and bodies to account, is set to be moved to Macael.

The conservative Partido Popular (PP) president Amat said he was prepared to meet with Sanchez, of the left-leaning Partido Socialista (PSOE), or anyone with similar concerns over the issue. He added during a press conference he would not accept 'blackmail' from anyone.

"It is clear Purificación Sanchez does not like that the

presidency belongs to the Partido Popular," Amat said.

Cantoria's council previously put out a petition to call on authorities to halt the move last week. They also planned to file a complaint with Andalucía's Ombudsman over changes.

Purificación Sanchez said her authority had a responsibility to give citizens the chance to take part in issues affecting them.

"This closure shows once again signs of the PP wanting to make cuts to anyone or anything that does not conform to the way they think," she said.

Antonio Torres, the deputy of municipal assistance for the Almeria Province, previously said Sanchez and other PSOE members were being opportunistic with their criticism. "The move is to improve services," he said.

Albox, Arboleas, Lijar and Purchena all reportedly stand to be affected by the closure of the office.

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## Central plaza gets €120,000 makeover

THE newly renovated Plaza Mayor de Albox has been officially opened in the presence of hundreds of neighbours.

It is an important central public space in the area and the council has invested €120,000 to both remodel and expand it.

Mayor Francisco Torrecillas was at the inauguration and expressed his thanks to all the professionals who carried out the project.

"Plaza Mayor is the heart of our town and has now been expanded by hundreds of square metres for pedestrians to enjoy," he said.

The works began last November and have involved the removal of a road that ran through the square, joining the two zones either side of it.



Credit: Ayuntamiento de Albox

**PLUSH PLAZA:** Locals celebrated the opening of the refurbished space.

Local stone was used for the paving work, which was taken from the quarry of Los Marcelinos and will help to prevent deterioration.

New benches and bins have also been introduced, and the plaza's opening celebration featured live musical performances and fresh food stalls.

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## Advertising Feature

# Voss Homes welcomes Karen to the team

VOSS HOMES are so busy selling and renting properties in the Huerca-Overa, Zurgena, La Alfoquia and Taberno area that they are strengthening their team to seven with the new addition of Karen. Karen has lived in the area for 15 years with her family and brings a wealth of local knowledge to the business.

By specialising in this specific area, Voss Homes remain the main selling estate agent here by far and have the biggest range of properties thanks to their strength. This focused service means Voss Homes have a much greater chance of selling your property.

If you are thinking of selling your property in their area either now or in the future, please call Voss Homes for a free, no obligation valuation, a discussion on their low commissions and how they will get your property sold quicker and for more money. Andy, Anna, Jess, Hannah, Amy, Adele and Karen look forward to hearing from you.

Selling properties is not about gimmicks or marketing rubbish. It is all about hard work, long hours, real local knowledge; loyalty to vendors and a proven local reputation of actually selling properties in your area.



**THE TEAM: Your first choice estate agent.**

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As well as being inundated with property buyers there are many, many people wanting a

long term rental property whilst they look around for a property to buy. If you are a property owner considering renting out your property but you have con-

cerns, Adele is available to talk you through the process on 0034 659 077 998 or email her at [adele@vosshomesspain.com](mailto:adele@vosshomesspain.com).

Forget about which agent is boasting the lowest commissions, you get what you pay for and what are these 'sole agency / exclusivity / lock in' contracts all about? If your agent is confident they are going to sell your property why are they stopping you going with other agents?

Voss Homes would obviously like vendors just to go with them but they offer both types of contracts. There are certainly no upfront or advertising charges. Voss Homes get paid only when the job has been done.

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Credit: ITV Picture desk

**LOVE NEST: The show has become a TV hit.**

## Love Island is back with a bang

THE location of 2018's 'Love Island' villa has been confirmed and it will be a revamped version of last year's venue in Mallorca.

The luxury property is in Sant Lorenc des Cardassar and the show is set to kick off on Monday June 4.

Contestants this year will be able to enjoy a super-sized hot tub and a bath big enough for two in the most lavish surroundings yet.

There will also be an infinity pool looking out onto the lush countryside, an outdoor kitchen with firepit, gym and terrace.

Mallorca is also the home of the notorious party destination Magaluf, which has previously played host to reality TV show 'The Magaluf Weekender.'

The largest of the Balaeric islands, Mallorca is the 'sister' island to Ibiza and Menorca and flying time from the UK is around two and a half hours.

The island is known for its beach resorts and is a popular destination for British tourists.

Those with deep pockets do have the opportunity to stay in the Love Island's luxury villa, but it will set you back €3,000 for a week's stay.

# Vukile snaps up retail centre for €80 million

VUKILE PROPERTY FUND has cemented its presence in the Spanish retail market with the purchase of Habaneras Shopping Centre in Torrevieja.

The €80.6 million acquisition was made through Vukile's 98.7 per cent owned real estate investment trust (Re-it) subsidiary, Castellana Properties.

It is a move that boosts the total value of Vukile's Spanish portfolio via Castellana to almost €400 million.

The easily accessible open-air shopping centre is in the popular coastal city of Torrevieja, in the south-eastern province of Alicante on the Costa Blanca.

Vukile entered the Spanish retail property market in July 2017 when it acquired 11 Spanish retail parks for €193 million via Castellana.

It then went on to purchase another two retail parks in December last year for €70 million.

Laurence Rapp, the Chief Executive of Vukile, said "We entered the Spanish market less than a year ago and have made swift progress in growing an investment of scale and substance



**SHOPPING AROUND: Vukile continues to expand its retail portfolio in Spain.**

in Spain.

"Our Spanish retail property exposure is now nearing €400 million and comprises quality assets located in territories with good growth metrics."

Developed in 2005 and refurbished in 2014, Habaneras is a high-quality asset that is 93.3 per cent occupied, with nearly half of its space dedicated to fashion.

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# Caring for the lemon tree for its fragrant scent

## A fruit with so many uses and benefits

**GRAEME TYRRELL**

ONE of the greatest assets to any garden in the Mediterranean is the lemon tree.

The climate allows them to flourish with little care. They are emblematic of the Mediterranean garden, as traditionally, most gardens would have a lemon tree. The secret to their success is: if you care for the soil around them they will thrive with minimal watering.

I love to walk around the garden just to smell the lemon and other citrus blossoms of mid-spring. My two lemon trees still have an abundance of lemons in spring, even though we pick them regularly and have given so many away to visitors, but they are also in full flower making it a pleasure to spend time seeking out the best lemons still on the tree.

One lemon tree is next to a window of the house so opening the windows allows the natural per-

fume to permeate the house. The other larger one is by the vegetable garden as a feature with the fruit ripening on the tree for more than six months, making them easy to pick when needed in the kitchen along with the rest of the harvest.

The strong evergreen leaves add an intensity of lush greenery to a garden area that contrasts wonderfully with the yellow fruits.

Left unattended the trees can grow very large but with careful pruning they can be kept to the size that fits the place where they are planted.

They can even be grown in pots and containers on balconies and terraces with a good potting mix,



Credit: Sergei Levykin Shutterstock

**LEMON TREE: Very pretty and the lemon flower is sweet.**

frequent pruning and regular watering. Dwarf varieties are available that help to grow them when space is limited. The lemon tree needs regular soil moisture to thrive so to minimise the need for watering, good soil preparation is necessary.

Existing trees which need a lot

of watering can have the amount required greatly reduced by applying a generous layer of mulch on the soil under the tree from the trunk to the outer extremes of the leaf canopy.

A good compost and straw mixture works wonders as it provides

nutrients and bulk.

Some compost which provides nitrogen will greatly assist to keep the tree bright green and flourishing, although in containers it should be used sparingly but regularly to not gain too much growth.

If planting a new tree in a garden make sure that a lot of compost is added to the soil and mixed into the existing soil before planting. The area prepared with compost can be as large as two metres in diameter to allow for the tree's future growth.

A large prepared area will allow the roots to spread out faster into the soil.

The roots of a new tree that has been grown in a pot should be spread out so they are not tangled before planting.

Give them a good watering after planting and apply an organic mulch to at least a metre out from the new tree to conserve water and maintain soil temperatures cooler in summer and warmer in winter.

# A right royal princess

WITH the royal wedding this weekend and a garden party at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday to celebrate Prince Charles' 70th birthday, let's take some inspiration from blue blood and see what flowers to choose to create a royal sensation in your home and garden.

Word has it that Harry and Meghan will have white garden roses, foxgloves and peonies inside St George's Chapel and at the reception in St George's Hall afterwards. Generously, the couple have committed to distribute the flowers to charitable organisations following the event. It's no surprise, perhaps, that Meghan revealed that peonies will be included as she has previously revealed on Instagram that these are among her favourite flowers.

The royal couple have also revealed that their lemon elderflower wedding cake will be covered with buttercream and decorated with fresh flowers.

Horticulture might be new



Credit: Instagram/Meghan Markle

**WHAT A BUNCH: Peonies are among Meghan's favourite flowers.**

territory for the new royal couple but the Prince of Wales, on the other hand, is known for his love of nature and the countryside and few doubt his skill as a gardener and garden designer.

Charles' favourite flowers are known to be delphiniums. These fill his 15-acre Highgrove garden. Of the garden, three acres are wild flower meadows, in which he has almost 200 orchids. He has also planted thousands of thyme plants and flowers including lilies, roses and hydrangeas.

And simply because it's roy-



Credit: Wikimedia

**ROYAL COUPLE: Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are set to marry this Saturday.**

al, doesn't mean it has to be serious. Apparently, Prince Charles planted wild thyme along his footpaths so that he could joke with visitors about walking through time!

So, even though you may not have a palace to entertain your friends and family, there's no reason why you can't create a palatial look to give your visitors the wow factor.



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# The nation's favourites

THERE are three flowers which are almost synonymous with Spain itself, given how popular and loved they are in the country.

These are the flowers - or at least the seeds - you should take home with you if you want to experience something of Spain even after your holiday has come to an end.

In addition to being Spain's official flower, the pomegranate is particularly important in Granada in the south of Spain. In fact, the city itself was named after the flower!

However, it is the carnation which is generally held to be the nation's favourite flower. Representing love and also used as a common religious



**NATION'S CARNATION:** Spaniards have adopted the carnation as their national flower.

symbol, the red carnation is the most popular.

Finally, while many in the UK regard them as invasive, Spanish bluebells offer a broader leaf with

paler blue flowers than the English bluebells.

And despite the name, you can get Spanish bluebells in pink or white varieties.



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Every room of the house

will be connected to a central information system. For example, the fridge will let you know when food is about to go off. And your cooking can only improve as ovens and cooking pans become equipped with smart thermometers to make sure you don't burn the dinner, again.

In the bedroom smart mattresses will use sensors to measure your sleep. The bed will determine when the lightest point of the sleep cycle has been reached and emit a scent

to encourage you to wake up. Even the bathroom will incorporate high-tech bathtubs, which will induce brain waves that promote relaxation.

Of course, if you can't wait for the future to arrive there are elements of this technology which already exist. Introducing a voice assistant of some kind (like Alexa or Google Assistant) into your home will allow you to become familiar with this future technology and enjoy some of the benefits of tomorrow, today.

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**Advertising Feature**

# Five star care at the Five Bone Hotel

THE FIVE BONE HOTEL in Turre, which has been under the joint ownership of Anita and Mark since the late summer of 2015, has enjoyed a phenomenally successful two and a half years, thanks to the overwhelming support of customers, both old and new.

The couple attribute this to the fact that they love their work and it shines through in all that they do, as well as their combined 43 years of professional animal care experience. Anita has been a dog groomer for more than 21 years and was a British trained veterinary nurse, while Mark has run kennels for 17 years.

They regard their business not only as their work but as a vocation, a way of life and this is reflected in their dedication. Their complete commitment means they spend a great deal

of time there and so it is not necessary to book an appointment to view the kennels or cattery. Just turn up during the opening hours which are:

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In addition, hygiene, comfort and security are top priorities at The Five Bone Hotel. There is a huge field for dogs to run around in and there are plans to build a doggy agility course soon. The cattery has a



**OWNERS: Anita and Mark on their wedding day.**

completely fenced in garden to allow each cat to explore safely and under supervision.

The Five Bone Hotel is one of the few government registered and licensed animal boarding establishments in Almeria, therefore the facilities meet or exceed all legal requirements. There are complaint books available, that have never been used and it is subject to inspections, which have never failed. Go and see for yourself!

One of the latest improvements is the new canine ozone jacuzzi spa. It is not just a pam-

pering treat for your dog; it has many benefits including helping wounds to heal, treatment of seborrhoea, alopecia, and parasitic dermatitis and can help to calm eczema and itching, as well as the aromatherapy treatments.

One would expect so much dedication and experience to be expensive, but The Five Bone Hotel has managed to keep its prices extremely competitive.

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David  
THE Dogman

columnists@ewnmediagroup.com

THERE are a whole variety of collars available, from the conventional plain leather or nylon ones to the controversial choke chain, banned by several organisations of trainers, and the often frowned-upon pinch collar.

There are also head collars which give a greater degree of control. The four basic head collars available in the UK are the Halti, the Gentle Leader, the Dogalter and the Kombi.

The Halti is a UK registered design made in five sizes of very fine nylon and is loose fitting.

The Gentle Leader is a de-

sign first patented in the United States and then Europe. It is made in three, snug-fitting sizes of 19mm nylon.

The Dogalter is also in three snug-fitting sizes and is made from 15mm and 19mm polypropylene but with a padded nose band. It can be left on the dog and used for behavioural problems where it is necessary to correct the dog, ie when it whines, chews, or gets excited etc. The calming effect on some excitable dogs can be remarkable.

Personally, I use the half-check Kombi designed by the highly respected George

Grayson, though the Halti is also very good. The Halti was designed by the famous Dr Roger Mugford, Britain's first animal behaviourist. He based it on a halter used 100 years ago in America to control weaning calves.

The advantage of head collars is that they control the dog by the head, like a horse, and using one increases the handler's control. They also have a calming effect on some dogs, putting pressure on the shoulder and neck, however, not all dogs like them.

They are a training aid, assisting control in many cases. If the dog is anti-social or too strong for the handler, they are vital as long as the owner is taught how to use them properly.

Many people do not like them because they look like muzzles, but most find that

# Collaring your dog



**GOOD BOY: A collar is an effective way to control your dog.**

their use has enabled them to walk happily with their dog when before it was a struggle.

Pinch collars are not to be confused with the generally

frowned upon choke collar with prongs turned inwards. Initially these were used the other way round with the prongs pointing outwards as a neck protection

for the dog.

When people are in a formal training situation at a class, the dog tends to behave quite well. As long as a trainer is there telling them what to do, and when, they gain control.

But when some slow learners are away from the class, they do not have the same control at all. It must be admitted that some trainers believe the use of a pinch collar in these circumstances can be most effective, but I do not recommend it.

The respected dog trainer, Lou Castle of the Los Angeles Police Department believes that they are a far better tool for aversive work than a choke chain. He says: "No damage to the neck is possible with that tool. A top trainer I know goes so far as to say that it is the only completely humane training collar that exists."

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Don't forget to pay attention to your cat's eyes, ears and mouth.

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# Hatch of the day

VOLKSWAGEN has revealed its most powerful Golf GTI ever.

The German company introduced the TCR concept at the annual Worthersee VW fan show in Austria, with production set to start at the end of this year.

Designed for the road, the touring-car inspired hot hatch will feature a modified version of the standard GTI's 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder petrol engine, cranking out 286bhp and 370Nm of torque.

The car will be limited to 250kph with 18-inch forged wheels as standard, but an optional performance pack includes 19-inch rims, adjustable sports suspension and a top speed of 264kph.

Acceleration figures have not been announced, but it should reach 100kph considerably quicker than the standard

**WAGEN WHEELS:**  
The upcoming VW Golf GTI TCR.



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All TCR's come with a seven-speed dual clutch paddleshift gearbox, true locking front differential and upgraded brakes, while there is an optional Akrapovic titanium exhaust.

Other details include TCR-specific front and rear bumper, a chunky spoiler, an exclusive 'pure grey' paint scheme and optional honeycomb vinyls. The seats, door inserts and gear knob are decorated with microfibre.

Pricing details are yet to be confirmed, but expect it to cost in the region of €40,000.

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# Top cats set pace

It will be the first fleet of its kind in the UK, and will see the scheme's partner - travel services company We Know Group - install the country's biggest electric car charging port ahead of

its roll out this summer.

And according to Heathrow bosses, it will cost travellers around the same as using a regular taxi.

Emma Gilthorpe, Executive Director at the airport,

said: "We are thrilled to be working with two British companies on this landmark initiative to support more sustainable transportation choices for our passengers."

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## La Liga Preview

# Barca lose unbeaten streak

BARCELONA'S dream of lasting the whole La Liga season unbeaten ended in their penultimate game, as they were beaten 5-4 by lowly Levante in a high octane match.

Amazingly, their hosts stormed into a 5-1 lead with Emmanuel Boateng scoring a hat-trick, along with two Enis Bardhi strikes.

Barca's Philippe Coutinho scored a hat-trick of his own and Luis Suarez netted a penalty to set up a tense finale.

But having rested Lionel Messi, manager Ernesto Valverde suffered his first league loss with the team, which fell to its first defeat in 44 games.

The result makes next Sunday's final game against Real Sociedad something of an anti-climax for Barca, except to make sure captain, Andres Iniesta gets a fitting send off.



**BARCA BUTCHERED:** The nine goal thriller ended Barca's incredible unbeaten run.

Gareth Bale scored twice to boost his chances of starting in the Champions League final as Real Madrid thrashed Celta Vigo 6-0 at the Bernabeu.

The rout, in Real's last home game of the season, means they can still overtake Atletico Madrid into second place.

Atletico Madrid warmed

up for the Europa League final on Wednesday with a 1-0 win at Getafe.

Diego Simeone's men took the three points thanks to Koke's eighth minute strike, and means they only need a draw at home to Eibar this weekend to finish as runners up.

Elsewhere, Villarreal cemented their Europa League

position of fifth with a 4-2 win over relegated Deportivo La Coruna, and can look forward to hosting Real Madrid on Saturday without pressure.

Real Betis earned a hard fought 2-2 draw at home against Sevilla, which was also enough to keep them at bay for sixth position and Europa League football next season.

## Premier League preview

# Liverpool secure fourth place in style

MOHAMED SALAH broke the Premier League scoring record for a 38 game season as Liverpool qualified for the Champions League in an eventful final day of the campaign.

Salah's 32nd goal took him past Alan Shearer, Cristiano Ronaldo and Luis Suarez in the history books, as Liverpool steamrollered Brighton 4-0 at Anfield.

A thumping Dejan Lovren header was followed by a first goal for the Reds for both Dominic Solanke and Andrew Robertson.

The result sealed fourth position in the league for Liverpool, and a crucial place in Europe's showpiece club competition next season.

Third-placed Tottenham stayed above the Reds with an incredible 5-4 victory over Leicester in what could be their final game at Wembley before moving back to the revamped White Hart Lane.

Mauricio Pochettino's side fell behind three times, but a brace each for Erik Lamela and Harry Kane - the latter of whom reached 30 goals for the season - inspired them to a dramatic win.

Kane's England team-mate Jamie Vardy scored two of Leicester's four goals, but it was the Spurs target man who had the final say with a curling effort from the edge of the box.

Chelsea's late bid to qualify for Champions League football combusted in a 3-0 defeat to Newcastle.

Ayoze Perez scored twice after Dwight Gayle's opener to ensure Rafael Benitez's side finished a respectable 10th in the table.

Needing Southampton to lose to Manchester City and an improbable 10-goal swing to avoid relegation, Swansea slipped to a 2-1 defeat against Stoke and will play Championship football next season.



**GOLDEN BOY:** Mohamed Salah won the golden boot in a record-breaking season.

A sublime injury-time lob from Gabriel Jesus secured Man City's 32nd win of the campaign against Southampton, and the club reached the incredible and unprecedented 100 point mark in the process.

Arsene Wenger ended his 22-year Arsenal reign with a 1-0 win at Huddersfield, courtesy of Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's first-half strike.

The Frenchman was given a rousing reception by both sets of fans in a carnival atmosphere, and Huddersfield boss, David Wagner made a special presentation to him before kick-off.

Another to say his goodbyes was Michael Carrick, who bade farewell to Manchester United by helping set up the goal that delivered a 1-0 win for Manchester United over Watford.

The veteran midfielder, who is retiring this summer, sent a superb long pass to Juan Mata behind the defence, who squared to Marcus Rashford for a tap in.

## SPANISH LA LIGA 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	Pts	PI	W	D	L	F	A
1 • Barcelona	90	37	27	9	1	98	29
2 • Atlético	78	37	23	9	5	56	20
3 • Real Madrid	75	37	22	9	6	92	42
4 • Valencia	70	37	21	7	9	63	37
5 • Villarreal	60	37	18	6	13	55	48
6 • Betis	60	37	18	6	13	58	58
7 • Sevilla	55	37	16	7	14	48	58
8 • Getafe	52	37	14	10	13	41	33
9 • Eibar	50	37	14	8	15	42	48
10 • R. Sociedad	49	37	14	7	16	66	58
11 • Girona	48	37	13	9	15	48	58
12 • Alavés	47	37	15	2	20	40	49
13 • Celta	46	37	12	10	15	55	58
14 • Espanyol	46	37	11	13	13	35	42
15 • Levante	46	37	11	13	13	42	54
16 • Athletic	43	37	10	13	14	41	48
17 • Leganés	40	37	11	7	19	31	49
18 • Deportivo	29	37	6	11	20	37	74
19 • Las Palmas	22	37	5	7	25	23	72
20 • Málaga	20	37	5	5	27	24	60

Champions L.

Europa L.

Relegation

## PREMIER LEAGUE 2017/18 TABLE

TEAM	Pts	PI	W	D	L	F	A
1 • M. City	100	38	32	4	2	106	27
2 • M. United	81	38	25	6	7	68	28
3 • Tottenham H.	77	38	23	8	7	74	36
4 • Liverpool	75	38	21	12	5	84	38
5 • Chelsea	70	38	21	7	10	62	38
6 • Arsenal	63	38	19	6	13	74	51
7 • Burnley	54	38	14	12	12	36	39
8 • Everton	49	38	13	10	15	44	58
9 • Leicester City	47	38	12	11	15	56	60
10 • Newcastle United	44	38	12	8	18	39	47
11 • Crystal Palace	44	38	11	11	16	45	55
12 • Bournemouth	44	38	11	11	16	45	61
13 • West Ham Utd.	42	38	10	12	16	48	68
14 • Watford	41	38	11	8	19	44	64
15 • Brighton	40	38	9	13	16	34	54
16 • Huddersfield Town	37	38	9	10	19	28	58
17 • Southampton	36	38	7	15	16	37	56
18 • Swansea City	33	38	8	9	21	28	56
19 • Stoke City	33	38	7	12	19	35	68
20 • West Bromwich	31	38	6	13	19	31	56

# Final countdown



**WINNING TEAM:** A D Los Gallardos.

SUNDAY afternoon saw Next Stop Almeria-sponsored A D Los Gallardos progress to the final of the Copa Federacion Almeria.

With the largest crowd of the season the match went in favour of the hosts then to Comarca Rio Nacimiento CF and back again several times.

Starting with a 1-0 lead for Los Gallardos from the first leg, the

match drew level on aggregate score at half-time meaning that if the score remained as it was the visitors would go through on away goal advantage.

The second half brought four more goals and a 4-3 win for Los Gallardos (aggregate 5-3 win). The final will be played this Sunday at Campo Colonizacion, San Isidro at 8pm.

BRITAIN'S Simon Yates stormed to a superb win on stage nine of the Giro d'Italia on Monday. Meanwhile, his twin brother Adam Yates claimed third place on the second stage of the Tour of California.

**TO READ MORE**

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

## Formula 1: Lewis Hamilton "rejuvenated" by victory

LEWIS HAMILTON said his dominant Spanish Grand Prix victory had revitalised him after a difficult start to the season.

The reigning world champion extended his lead in the Formula One championship, securing his second successive race win and leading a Mercedes one-two for the first time this season.

"Not every win feels as great as this one. It's my 64th but feels special and unique," he said.

Hamilton blasted out of the



Credit: Lewis Hamilton/Facebook

blocks from pole position at Barcelona's Circuit de Catalunya, and from there his win was never in doubt with a faultless performance.

The result gives Hamilton a 17-point lead over rival, Sebastian Vettel, who could only finish fourth as they both fight for their fifth world title.

Vettel dropped to fourth from second when Ferrari decided to pit him for a second time, when none of the other front runners did the same.

Valtteri Bottas came home in second to make it a perfect day

**CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION:** Hamilton's win in Spain put him 17 points clear of Vettel.

for Mercedes, while Red Bull's Max Verstappen completed the podium despite damaging his front wing.

However, both Hamilton and Wolff have expressed concerns about the next race in Monaco on May 24-27, where Mercedes struggled last year.

"Monaco is going to be a serious challenge and the others are going to be hard to beat," said Hamilton.

"Daniel Ricciardo was much quicker in the final sector. That is all downforce. They are going to be rapid in Monaco."

### Champions League preview

## European gladiators

EUROPEAN titans, Liverpool and Real Madrid are gearing up for combat in the grand finale of the UEFA Champions League in Kiev on May 26.

The Merseyside club, who have won the European Cup five times, beat AS Roma in the semi-finals to advance to a showpiece clash against holders, Real Madrid.

Real edged past Bayern Munich in the semis and are hunting a hat-trick of Champions League triumphs, after winning the competition in both 2016 and 2017.

Although Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain is out injured, neither Jurgen Klopp nor Zinedine Zidane have suspensions to worry about.

Real Madrid have won the Champions League a record 12 times, five more than their nearest challengers AC Milan.

Should he come through a foot scan, Cristiano Ronaldo



Credit: Twitter

**SHOOTING STARS:** Ronaldo and Salah are key men for their teams.

will of course be their spearhead, but he will be supported by a stellar cast that includes Kroos, Bale, Benzema and Isco.

A mention should also be made of goalkeeper, Keylor Navas who has had an outstanding season, including an eye-catching performance against Barcelona in the recent El Clasico.

After losing Philippe Coutinho during the January

transfer window, many thought Liverpool's campaign would fizzle out.

However, Mohamed Salah has gone from strength to strength in a stunning debut season for the Reds.

Liverpool fans will be looking to the Egyptian to inspire the team to victory in the final, but fellow strikers, Roberto Firmino and Sadio Mane will have their part to play.

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