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# Horse on course

**EXCLUSIVE**

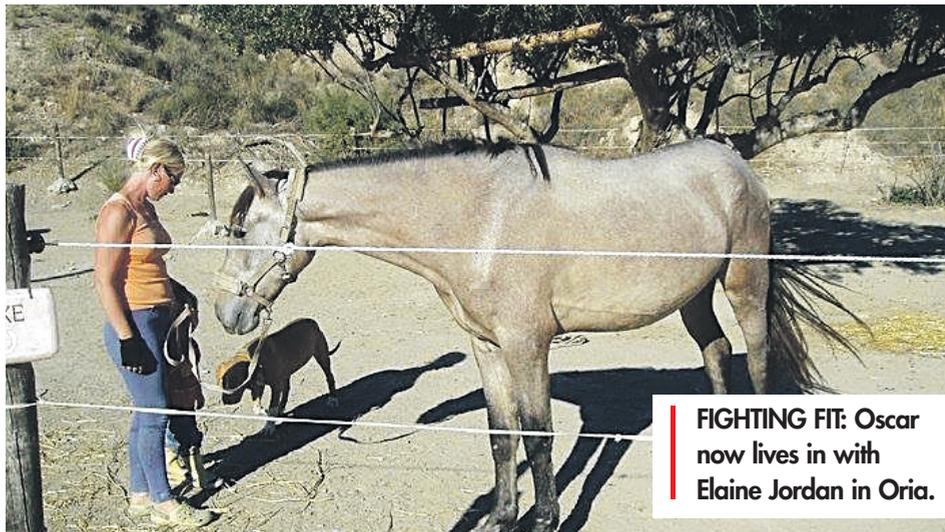
By Joe Gerrard

A BRITISH expatriate has spoken to *Euro Weekly News* about a horse who is back on his feet after allegedly being left for dead around eight years ago.

Elaine Jordan said she had now taken Oscar in Oria where he has begun a new life as a "cherished" and "loved" riding horse.

She added she had only come to know the horse as he neared the end of his recovery. She heard about his previous suffering from workers at the Rancho Luz del Sol in Partalooa near Albox.

"Erika and Ja went to see the horse when he was first found and couldn't believe he



**FIGHTING FIT: Oscar now lives in with Elaine Jordan in Oria.**

was still alive."

"They arranged some building straps and lifted the horse onto its feet, only to find he was unable to stand.

"Whilst trying to lift him he ended up with further injuries

to his ribs but they managed to arrange support and he was drip fed for six weeks," Jordan said.

She added the local vet offered his support, with Oscar being drip fed and then gradual-

ly starting to improve and Erika and Ja received donations to help with medical costs.

"During the last few years Oscar's health continued to improve and he has been broken to ride," she said.

THE parents of a child injured after being sucked into the suction vent of a pool in Roquetas de Mar have spoken to Spanish media about the accident.

The mother and father of Jose Manuel said he was currently receiving psychological help following the incident and that he constantly has nightmares of dying in it.

"It was agonising. He began to turn white and I did not know if the tube would suck him in completely," said the boy's father.

The man reportedly spent more than 10 minutes trying to rescue his son who

## Pool horror

was pulled out after the vent's engines were switched off. The boy was then taken to Torrecardenas Hospital for treatment.

The father added the vent had no safety grid and said his son was "about to die."

Doctors treating the child said if he had been younger he likely would not have survived the accident.

The boy's parents said they hoped to prevent similar incidents from happening by going public. They added they hoped he would recover soon and be able to return to a normal life.

Mario Park's management said in a statement its facilities met all safety standards and that the incident had taken place due to the vent's protective grid being removed for repairs.

"We work hard to ensure the safety of our users," the park said.

## Sex abuse rap

TWO woman accused of sexually exploiting a young Nigerian in Roquetas de Mar face six-and-a-half year jail terms.

The victim had been 'brainwashed' by voodoo magic in her native Nigeria before being brought to Spain and forced to prostitute herself to pay off a €25,000 'debt' for her transport to Spain after she had been promised a better life.

One of the suspects contacted the victim via an unidentified third parties and offered to pay her travel costs to Morocco, according to a court statement.

After the young woman agreed and arrived in the North African country she was left to beg for almost a year before fleeing to Libya and ending up in a refugee camp in Sicily.

Once there, she was again contacted by the accused, who told her to come to Almeria, where she was informed of her financial obligation on arrival.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Made in America**

AMERICAN expatriates in Spain are gearing up to celebrate Independence Day next Wednesday, with red, white and blue-themed barbecues being organised up and down the country. Check out [www.associationofamericanclubs.com](http://www.associationofamericanclubs.com).

**Highgration**

THE arrival of 532,483 immigrants saw the Spanish population rise by more than 130,000 to exceed 46,650,000 in 2017, according to the National Statistics Institute, with the number of foreign arrivals highest since 2008.

**On the merk**

NEW Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in his first bilateral meeting since taking over from Mariano Rajoy, reportedly discussing the Mediterranean migrant crisis and Cataluña.

By Matt Ford

AN Irish getaway driver jailed for 22 years over his role in a gangland hit will serve time in one of Spain's most notorious prisons.

James Quinn, 35, received the sentence after being found guilty of taking part in the murder of 34-year-old drug lord Gary Hutch at a gated community in Miraflores, near Fuenigrola on the Costa del Sol.

And after 22 months in isolation at Alhaurin de la Torre prison he has now been transferred to the infamous Botafuegos lock-up in Algeciras, Cadiz.

The facility houses some of the country's most dangerous prisoners and has been described as 'dangerously overcrowded,' with more than 1,800 inmates occupying 1,072 cells and workers' unions warning of staff shortages.

It comes after state prosecutors demanded a 25-year prison term for the killing plus three years for an illegal weapons rap.

But judge Ernesto Carlos Manzano ruled in a 15-page document he will instead serve 20 years for the September 2015 execution since he was not the assassin and previously had

# 22 years for hit Irishman sent to infamous prison



**'DANGEROUSLY OVERCROWDED': James Quinn has been sent to Botafuegos prison in Algeciras.**

clude Quinn was the shooter, a baseball cap with his DNA on it found in a BMW X3 stolen from Mijas and later found torched near Marbella proved him to be a 'necessary participant' in the murder.

And the nine-person jury ruled unanimously that he took part in the brutal attack after Jose Barba, prosecuting, offered a last-minute 'option B' indictment that he could have acted as a lookout and getaway driver.

In his ruling the judge said Quinn must cover the court costs and pay the victim's relatives €90,000 in compensation, describing the murder as "execrable."

He added: "Other circumstances need to be taken into account in terms of the crime and the man convicted of it such as the fact he had no previous convictions in Spain and he has not been convicted as the direct ma-

terial author of the crime."

Defence lawyer Pedro Apalategui is expected to appeal the sentence after he earlier said: "We completely disagree with the verdict and will definitely be appealing once we know the sentence."

Quinn was arrested in September 2016 when his DNA was found on one of two caps recovered from the burnt out car after undercover detectives snatched a bottle of water he drank from on a high-speed train while he was under surveillance.

He had earlier in the trial broken a two-year silence to insist that he was lying hung-over in bed with a prostitute when the assassination took place.

The brutal hit on September 24, 2015 triggered a feud between rival crime families that has claimed at least 15 lives in Ireland and Spain.

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a clean record in Spain. The father-of-one was initially accused of donning a balaclava and lying in wait for more than two hours before shooting the victim 15 times during a chase around a swimming pool, including twice in the head at point-blank range. The jury forewoman said that while they were unable to con-

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## Migrants rescued

THE Maritime Rescue service rescued a total of 236 people on Monday from five boats near the island of Alboran. The sub-Saharan migrants included 33 women and four minors. On arriving to Almeria and Motril they received medical attention from the Red Cross, with reports that all are in good health.

## Man killed

A 40-YEAR-OLD cyclist has died after being struck whilst riding his bicycle. Emergency Services received a call that an injured cyclist had been found on the AL-9006 road, about two kilometres from the town of Almerimar in the direction of San Agustín. The cyclist was declared dead at the scene by the police and ambulance services.

## Set on fire

THE trial began on Tuesday in the Provincial Court of Almeria of a 40-year-old man accused of setting his partner on fire in an attempt to kill her. The prosecution is asking for 22 years in prison for the man, known as CC, who carried out the alleged attack in their house in Almeria City.

## Back stabber

THE Provincial Prosecutor's Office of Almeria has requested a nine-year prison sentence for a man accused of attempted murder after allegedly stabbing another in the back 'without warning.' The accused, known as EACA, attacked the victim in May 2016 whilst he was lifting suitcases into his car.

## Fruit & veg

TWO residents of El Ejido and two others from Nijar were detained on the A-7 motorway by the Guardia Civil for allegedly transporting stolen fruit and vegetables. The police witnessed the drivers of the two vans acting suspiciously and on questioning them found that the vans contained a large quantity of stolen produce.

## Care accord

THE mayor of Adra, Manuel Cortés, has signed an agreement with Clece for the provision of Home Care Support and Community Social Services for the next two years. The agreement is worth around €2 million and will benefit 260 people and generate around 80 jobs, of which 95 per cent will be occupied by women.

THE BIG PICTURE Nº 19



Photo credit Benalmadena brilla/Facebook

**WATER DISGRACE:** Much of the plastic, seen here on the Costa del Sol, washes into the sea before it is cleaned.

# The last straw

THE state of Spain's beaches in the wake of the annual Noche de San Juan celebrations has sparked outrage.

Green activist group Ecologists In Action spoke out about the 'environmental neglect' in a stinging statement, while Greenpeace called the situation a 'disaster.'

It comes after many local councils reported that more plastic, glass and other rubbish was left behind by revellers than during last year's party.

Taking place on the weekend closest to Midsummer's Eve, the event sees hundreds of thousands of

Spaniards head to the beach, building hogueras, or bonfires, and eating dancing and drinking before the traditional midnight dip in the sea.

But the hordes tend to leave behind tonnes of rubbish, much of which washes into the water before cleaning crews move in the next day.

And after this year's fiesta, 40 tonnes of waste was removed from sandy strips in Malaga City alone, with 15 tonnes in Marbella, 20 tonnes in Barcelona, 19 tonnes in Valencia, 18 tonnes in Elche and more than 12 tonnes in Palma de Mallorca.

## Assault sentence

A MAN found guilty of kissing a woman and touching her without consent in El Ejido has been handed a two-year suspended prison sentence by an Almeria City court.

The court heard the defendant was discovered with the woman in the doorway of a building in the Las Norias de Daza area of the town. A passing woman heard the victim crying for help and she was later able to flee.

Prosecutors claimed the defen-

dant was in a 'lascivious mood' when he grabbed the woman by the arm in April this year.

He touched her breasts, genitals and kissed her without consent. The victim was left with cuts to her necks and a bruise on the left side of her mouth.

The defendant's sentence has been suspended for five years. He has been fined a total of €290 and banned from approaching the woman.

## Fugitives held

NATIONAL POLICE officers have arrested two men on international arrest warrants, with one reportedly at large for almost 12 years.

A 29-year-old Romanian suspect was found in Roquetas de Mar after a European Arrest Warrant was issued from his home country.

He was previously sentenced to one year and six months in prison on five counts of stealing wood from a lumber yard between January and February 2010. The defen-

dant also repeatedly hit a victim who required medical care for 55 days afterwards.

A Bosnian suspect wanted in connection with an attempted break in at a petrol station in his country in 2006 was found by police in El Alquian in Almeria City. He allegedly fled the garage after a worker found him.

Both detainees have been sent to the Guardia Court of Almeria which has in turn ordered their transfer to Spain's National Court.

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112

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**FIGHT FOR THE TRUTH:** Ines Madrigal today, with her adoptive mother and (inset) Dr Eduardo Vela.

# 'Stolen babies' case

AN 85-year-old doctor has become the first person to stand trial in Spain's decades-old 'stolen babies' scandal.

Gynaecologist Dr Eduardo Vela appeared in a Madrid court over his alleged involvement in a criminal network which is believed to have seen hundreds of thousands of babies taken from their mothers and sold under the regime of dictator Francisco Franco.

He worked at the Spanish capital's San Ramon clinic and is accused of separating Ines Madrigal, 49, from her birth mother in 1969.

She was given to a 46-year-old woman alongside a forged birth certificate, and the doctor faces an 11-year jail term for illegal detention, falsifying official documents and certifying a non-existent birth.

Madrigal's adopted parent told her the truth when she turned 18, and the railway employee has since become president of the SOS Stolen Babies Association in Murcia.

Vela had tried to block the start of the hearing until the last moment, citing ill health, but his appeal was overturned by a doctor.

And when quizzed he replied "I don't know, I can't remember," apparently struggling to hear the questions put to him.

He denied handing over the baby and said the

signature on the forged birth certificate was not his despite previously admitting it was.

The practice of baby theft began after the Spanish Civil War ended in 1939 and continued until after the former leader's death in 1975.

Children were taken from families considered to be Republican - those who supported the government overthrown by Franco's Nationalists after a military rebellion - and handed to others supporting the fascists. Single or working class mothers, or women with 'degenerate' political views were the typical victims.

The trafficking remained largely out of the public eye until two men, Antonio Barroso and Juan Luis Moreno, revealed in 2011 how a priest from Zaragoza sold them to their respective fathers.

They formed an association to help victims, who they believes number up to 300,000.

Madrigal had earlier said she does not expect the trial to serve up the answers she has spent three decades searching for, but hopes it will trigger the reopening of thousands of closed cases.

In 2013 Maria Gomez Valbuena, an 87-year-old nun who worked with Vela at the clinic, died just before she was due to appear in court.

The verdict on the Vela trial is expected today (Thursday).

## POLL OF THE WEEK

*Do you think England are going to win the World Cup?*

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**

Following the news that a Magaluf hotel installed a glass panel to stop holidaymakers from falling off, should all hotels follow suit?

Yes **69%**

No **31%**

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**TOP 5 stories**



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Air traffic strikes could spark chaos with Spanish flights at risk

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Spain's government to scrap toll road fees

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Media blackout is what's most worrying

**3,504** views

Eleven tonnes of jellyfish removed from Costa del Sol beaches

**3,504** views

Stag do tragedy as Brit father-of-two found dead

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# Traumatised turtles wave goodbye

OFFICERS of the Guardia Civil of Almeria have released two stranded loggerhead turtles back into the sea, with the help of animal charity Equinac.

Equinac is responsible for helping stranded sea turtles and crustaceans in the province, and the organisation was on board the 'Cabo de Gata' of the Guardia Civil to make sure the process went smoothly.

As a token of thanks, Equinac produced a plaque to the captain of the maritime service in recognition of the Guardia Civil's continued good work in protecting maritime species.

The loggerhead turtle is one of the largest species of turtle and can measure up to 1.2 metres long.

The two specimens in question



have been named 'Kika' and 'Monster' and the latter has been recovered and returned to the sea three times.

Major threats to turtles include the dumping of a variety of plastics in the sea, nets, and other man-made litter.

Turtles are also included in Appendix 1 of CITES in the Spanish national catalogue of vulnerable species.

The Guardia Civil has an important role to play in nature protection in the province, including the marine environment.

They urge the public not to try and help stranded turtles themselves, but to contact the emergency services as soon as possible.

**MAKING A SPLASH: The turtles are back where they belong.**

# Police attack trial

A 45-YEAR-OLD Gambian man faces an 11-year prison stretch for trying to kill a police officer with an awl.

It came after the suspect had thrown a rock through the window of an El Ejido restaurant and threatened the owner after injuring a diner before fleeing the scene.

He was later traced by a National Police patrol, with two officers noticing he was carrying the pointed tool as they approached.

He suddenly rushed at one of them, repeatedly stabbing one with the weapon, which pierced his bulletproof vest near his heart.

Both officers suffered minor injuries before cuffing the attacker.

# Legionnaires in the wars

THREE trainee legionnaires have been injured, one of them seriously, after the overturning of their truck in Olula del Rio.

One man had to be evacuated by helicopter to Torrecardenas hospital, while the other two were transferred to the Hospital La Inmaculada de Huerca-Overa. A medical team from Olula del Rio attended the scene with an ambulance, where they found a military vehicle on its side by the road.

## OUR VIEW

### The die is cast

JUST a few days more than two years after the Brexit Referendum vote was announced, the Queen has given royal assent to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act.

Tory Brexiteers cheered as Speaker of the House John Bercow announced the decision which also allows for EU law to become UK law and which will allow the government to 'dump' any piece of EU legislation that it doesn't want to keep.

If the Referendum split the United Kingdom in mainly geographical sections with much of the South, Northern Ireland and Scotland (plus Gibraltar) wanting to remain in the Union, it also saw a major split within the political parties and also between the Houses of Commons and Lords.

More than 100 hours of debate took place in Parliament and the Lords endeavoured to make 15 changes to the legislation but in the end Prime Minister May managed to ensure that her minority government won the day without any significant defections.

In the weeks leading up to the final decision to transfer the 12,000 EU laws into British Law there has been much external debate about the financial wisdom of gaining 'independence' with both Airbus Industries and BMW indicating that they would be likely to move production outside of the UK if they are not convinced that the agreement with the EU will be beneficial.

The border between Northern Ireland and Eire is still a major bone of contention and should Britain make a 'hard' exit or indeed be unable to agree terms with the EU, the future for those of us living or in business in Spain must be unsure.

*Now we want to hear your views.*  
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## Gabriel suspect testimony released

A JUDGE overseeing the ongoing probe into the death of eight-year-old Gabriel Cruz has lifted a blackout on the details from the prime suspect's police interview.

Ana Julia Quezada, who confessed to killing the boy but said it was accidental, told police he began insulting her and called her 'ugly' and 'black,' according to the case summary.

She said she then acted out of rage and covered his hand with her mouth to stop him from speaking before he died and she hid his body in a bid to cover up the death.

An autopsy found the eight-year-old died of suffocation. The case continues.

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# She's a keeper

A SPANISH WAG has gone viral on the internet. It comes after singer and TV presenter Edurne Garcia Almagro, 32, posted a video of herself dancing in a skimpy vest top in support of her country's World Cup efforts, captioned: "Come on Spain... for everyone!"

The blonde beauty, who is a judge on Spain's Got Talent, is dating Manchester United and Spain goalkeeper David de Gea, 27.



**HELPING HAND:** Edurne Garcia and (inset) a screenshot from her viral video.

# Close Call

IBIZA WEEKENDER hunk Callum Izzard has allegedly been mugged at knife point while out partying. The 23-year-old reality star was held up as he walked back to his hotel, with the thieves making off with his passport, leaving him trapped on the island.

His agent told UK media: "We are aware of an incident in Ibiza and currently assisting our client however cannot comment any further."



Photo credit: Callum Izzard/Instagram

**ROBBED:** Callum Izzard.

# Jess the ticket!

SHE was recently crowned winner of Singer 2018 China's version of the X Factor. And British pop star Jessie J, 30, took to the stage at Barcelona's Festival Jardins de Pedralbes as she returned to perform in Europe in the wake of her triumph.

The *Price Tag* hitmaker slipped into a bright red jumpsuit for the live performance as she reeled off a string of hits.



Photo credit: Facebook

**LADY IN RED:** Jessie J in Barcelona.

Six years ago, Jessie was a judge on The Voice UK alongside Sir Tom Jones and Will.i.am and her career is set for a new boost after the Singer final was watched by around a billion people. After the win she wrote on social media: "I was the first international artist to ever be asked to compete. An honour alone. "Seeing the boundaries break down and the rules be shifted made this whole experience incredible."



Photo credit: Vogue Spain

# Minogue in Vogue

SHE recently threw a star-studded party for her 50th birthday. But petite pop singer Kylie Minogue looks younger than ever on the cover of fashion magazine *Vogue Spain*.

The age-defying Australian this week revealed she's feeling on top of the world after marking the half-century milestone in an interview on ITV's *Lorraine*. She said: "Life's not a little bit better... it's great!"

"I feel different being 50, I'm more content, some things just start to make sense." She added: "You either accept it or not, and I just choose to accept it with open arms." She also revealed that US country superstar Dolly Parton sent her a happy birthday video message. "I have no idea what she said because I was screaming and swearing in the other direction!" laughed Kylie, who is rumoured to be dating Paul Solomons, creative director of British magazine *GQ*.

**SO LUCKY:** Kylie Minogue at 50.

SHE'S the Spanish actress known as the wife of Thor muscleman Chris Hemsworth. But Elsa Pataky, 41, sent social media into overdrive with her sexy voice after starring in a Spanish tourism video and posting a clip on Instagram. Fans flocked to write comments, including "Her accent is so sexy!" and "I wish I had that accent!"

# Els bells



**SAY IT AGAIN:** Elsa Pataky.



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A semi-detached house with 3 double bedrooms, 2½ bathrooms, gardens, terraces, roof top solarium, communal swimming pool, air conditioning, mains gas powered hot water, private parking and is within walking distance to local village of Los Gallardos. 12 minutes from Mojácar & Garrucha.



**Vera Playa - 219,950€ (ref: VM6P) 3 beds • 2 baths Plot: 330m<sup>2</sup> • Build: 98m<sup>2</sup>**



Villa comprising of 3 double bedrooms and 2 bathrooms in a gated community with private parking, Jacuzzi, terraces and solarium. Communal swimming pool however there is sufficient room to install a private one within the plot. Close to the beach, restaurants and new commercial centre "Vera Plaza".



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ENGLAND fans have been hailed even though riot police were called in after they flooded the streets of Benidorm in the wake of the Three Lions' historic World Cup win.

It comes after shocking video footage posted online showed one group surrounding a car and slamming their hands down on its bonnet while chanting "football's coming home."

One shirtless reveller rolls headfirst onto the vehicle, landing on his back and smashing the windscreen before sprinting into the crowd as onlookers burst into laughter.

But the driver later posted on Facebook to explain that kind-hearted bystanders did a whip-round just after the incident.

Spaniard Ramon Mendiri explained how "two English

## Beer we go

woman started collecting money" to help pay for the damages, with one man contributing €50.

"They later found me again and gave me €135 that they had collected," he continued.

The identity of the man who jumped onto his car remains unconfirmed, but Ramon added: "Evidently not all English people are the same, a thousand thank yous."

In other clips riot police clutching large plastic shields march

towards the celebrating fans, while a line of cars is seen trying to negotiate the throng as they spill into the road.

The 6-1 win over Panama was the first time England have scored more than four goals in a single game at a major tournament.

It followed England's first win against Tunisia also triggered an impromptu street party in Benidorm, with one video showing a bouncing group passing a mobility scooter above their heads while chanting and clapping their hands.

But social media groups praised the generally fun atmosphere, with "just a few idiots" to blame for the unruly behaviour.

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## Love Island star dies

by Staff Reporter

FORMER Love Island star Sophie Gradon spoke out against internet trolls driving people to suicide weeks before she is believed to have taken her own life.

The 32-year-old was last week found dead at her parents' home in Ponteland, near Newcastle upon Tyne, which she was house-sitting while they were on holiday.

In March, she appeared at a cyber-bullying conference in March where she told onlookers online abuse drove her "into a dark place" after she left the ITV2 reality dating show.

The 2009 Miss Great Britain said that action was needed because "children as young as nine are taking their own lives."

She added: "Online bullying is as destructive as face-to-face bullying, sometimes worse."

"Trolls leave you feeling vulnerable, unsafe and upset."

"No one anticipated the show's success and in an instant I was catapulted from everyday life into the limelight. We be-



**TRAGIC BATTLE: Sophie Gradon was a former Miss Great Britain.**

came public property overnight and everyone had an opinion, both good and bad.

"On leaving the show I descended into quite a dark place owing to the amount of negativity focused towards me."

She had been invited to speak at the Leeds event with Love Island co-star Zara Holland, 22, who has also battled depression after her appearance on the show.

Tributes flooded in for Sophie after she was discovered by 'devastated' boyfriend Aaron Armstrong.

Presenter of the show Caroline Flack, currently in Mallorca filming this year's edition, said on spin-off Aftersun: "She was a gorgeous person both inside and out, and everyone's thoughts here at Love Island are with Sophie's friends and family at this really terrible time."

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## NEWS EXTRA

Women's  
work

MORE than 150 professionals from the world of art, dance, and digital marketing, among other fields, will debate the relationship between women and mathematics, art and technology at the Polytechnic University of Valencia.

## Church opens

THE Lumbrense hamlet of Goñar has inaugurated its church after refurbishment work - including tile replacement, interior renovation and roof repair - was carried out by the Puerto Lumbreras and Huerca-Overa in collaboration with local residents.

## Sexism ban

THE council of Almeria has unanimously approved a motion by the PSOE to make the city free of sexist advertising in public spaces, which should be approved by the Andalusian Institute of Women.

## Weeded out

THE National Police has detained two men and one woman after seizing a marijuana crop of 770 plants from a house on Calle Caceres in El Ejido, a haul which was valued at more than €60,000.

## Budget boost

THE council of Almeria will invest more than €300,000 in Huerca-Overa through a project that will see a range of improvement works in the centre, as well as in the district of Los Menas.

## Oil spills

THE production of olive oil in Andalusia for 2017/2018 stands at 952,433 tons, according to information provided by the oil mills to the Food Information and Control Agency (AICA), which is 7.6 per cent of the national total.

by Matt Ford

A FIVE-YEAR-OLD Irish boy was left in critical condition after being knocked down by a drunk driver on the Costa Dorada. The unnamed victim was run over on a zebra crossing outside a campsite in Salou, Cataluña.

He was reportedly crossing the road with his family when he was hit by a car carrying the logo of the 2018 Mediterranean Games.

## Holiday horror

It is believed to be an official vehicle for the multi-sports event currently taking place in the nearby city of Tarragona.

The driver fled the scene in the wake of the accident but handed himself in to police an hour and a half later.

He failed a breathalyser test having

consumed more than the legal alcohol limit and has been charged with negligent driving and failing to provide assistance at an accident scene.

Medics said the life of the child is in no immediate danger after Salou Council confirmed he had been taken to the ICU

Joan XXIII Hospital in Tarragona.

Mediterranean Games organisers said in a statement: "We can confirm there was a traffic accident in Salou at 23.45 in which a vehicle belonging to the Games was involved.

"It was driven by a worker provided by an external service company who was not part of the organising committee staff.

"The organising committee is deeply sorry and is at the disposition of the family."

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# Night out or something more sinister

TWENTY-NINE underage Aquarius refugees disappeared on their first day in La Florida, an Alicante City juvenile care home.

Regional vice-president and government spokeswoman Monica Oltra declared that they were soon located and back in a safe place after a 'night out.'

They had only done what any adolescent would do during the city's Hogueras fire fiestas, she added.

Once back in their centre the next morning they had a good telling-off, Oltra said, and it was explained to them that there were rules to be kept 'as in all families' and they could not come and go as they wished.

Oltra admitted that they were vulnerable and said that media reports on their whereabouts put them at risk from 'possible pederasts' and criminal organisations.

Oltra was speaking soon after the minors were located and returned, but later reports claimed that far from joining in the Hogueras celebrations, most were found near the Alicante City ring road.

They said later that they wanted to reach their ultimate goal, which was France and not



Photo credit: Generalitat Valenciana

**MONICA OLTRA: 'Young refugees wanted a night out.'**

Spain, sources revealed.

Several of the adolescents mentioned the people-trafficking mafias that operate in Libya during their interviews with the authorities which be-

gan on their arrival and are due to continue into this week. All paid amounts ranging from €200 to €1,000 to reach Europe, they said.

Meanwhile, bone density

tests are being carried out to determine the refugees' true ages but because these are not always conclusive, they will be complemented by interviews with psychologists.

## Huge haul cocaine seized

ONE Englishman and two Frenchmen have been arrested off the coast of Las Palmas when they were found smuggling 1,850 kilos of cocaine in their yacht.

For years, the National Police and Spanish Tax Agency have been trying to identify sailing boats which were transferring large volumes of narcotics from cargo ships sailing up from South America to wholesalers in Spain.

Intelligence suggested that a large volume of

drugs had been transhipped via Suriname and two yachts so officers on board the Tax Agency vessel Petrel stopped and boarded a 12-metre yacht Pepper Sauce which was flying the British flag and had been sighted by pilots of the Spanish Air Force.

When boarded, officials discovered 61 bales of cocaine weighing 1,850 kilos and the drugs, the vessel and the three crew members were taken to Las Palmas for processing.

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**STREET TALK**

# Is football coming home?

**AFTER England's record 6-1 thrashing of Panama, how far can the Three Lions go in the World Cup, and will you watch them more now?**

**Charlie and Theresa, 50 and 'less than 50,' on holiday from Northampton**

"We're going to win! Southgate has made a real difference. He used to be a footballer and knows how players think. He's intelligent and has got them playing really positively.

"Also, a lot of the players in the squad have been through the England youth teams and so they know each other

well and have that experience. "We have watched most of the games in the tournament, we love it."

Charlie: "I'm in the England Supporters Club so I go to most of their games, especially in England."

Theresa: "I only get excited when the big tournaments come around, apart from that I'm not too bothered."

Charlie: "The passing has been much better this year, and Kieran Trippier has been outstanding, Harry Kane obviously too."

Theresa: "If we beat Belgium we'll

be top and then anything can happen."

Charlie: "None of the big teams are playing well, apart from France who are the team to beat. We could still lose to Germany in the quarter-finals on penalties though!"

**Luis and Juan Miguel, 52 and 48, on holiday from Cordoba**

"England are one of the best teams, yes. They can make the semi-finals, why not? They are better than

Spain! Yes we will watch more England games now, they are scoring lots of goals and playing beautifully, even their penalties are good. Stones at the back looks great and Harry Kane is a world class striker. However, Panama is not a good team so there are bigger challenges ahead. Brazil will also do well, and Croatia showed against Argentina that they are going to go far too."

**Sean, 24, on holiday from Manchester**

"Hopefully we (Eng-

land) will be alright, we've not been properly tested yet. The teams we've been up against so far are not great so there's only so much you can read into it. We've played well though so it's positive. I'm definitely going to watch all the England games, and most of the others too. Kane and Lingard have been the stand-out players and Stones at the back looks quality too."

**Name: Jose Antonio, 45, on holiday from Bilbao**

England are very good. That first half against

Panama when it was 5-0 was excellent. In the second half they were more casual and didn't try as hard. They won't win the World Cup, they'll probably make the quarter-final. I think the semi-finalists will be Brazil, Spain, France and maybe Mexico. Harry Kane is a great player but I think Neymar will score more.

"People say Ronaldo will be the top scorer, but Portugal won't get to the semi-final, they're not good enough.

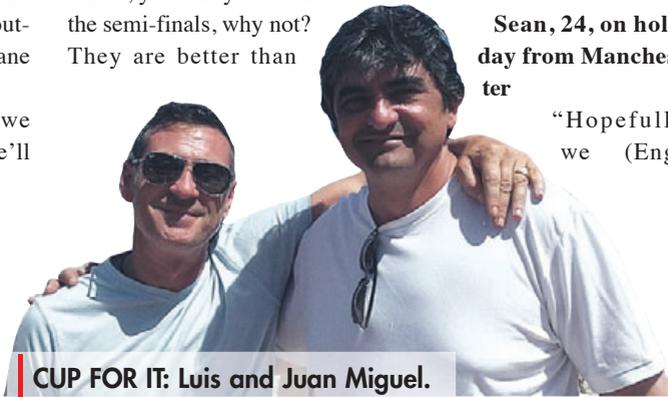
Without him they are nowhere. England has a lot of foreign players in the Premier League and so have less options in picking the national team. It is very difficult for young English players to break through into the top teams and that affects the national situation."



**NEYM ON LIST: Jose Antonio.**



**ROARING THEM ON: Charlie and Theresa.**



**CUP FOR IT: Luis and Juan Miguel.**



**WE KANE DO IT: Sean.**

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## Universities go for gold

THE Governing Council of the University of Granada has approved the award of its Gold Medal to the universities of Almeria and Jaen.

This recognition is in honour of the teaching and re-

search staff of both institutions, along with their administration and services.

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# Outrage over release

By Joe Gerrard

DEMONSTRATORS took to the streets of cities across Spain following a Navarra court's decision to release five men imprisoned for sexually assaulting an 18-year-old woman in Pamplona.

Marches were organised in Madrid, Granada, Malaga, Sevilla, Cordoba, Murcia, Cartagena, Cadiz, Almeria, Zaragoza, Valencia and elsewhere on Friday. Protests previously erupted in Pamplona and Barcelona following the ruling, according to reports.

The government in Madrid has responded to the outcry over the ruling by saying it would look into changing laws covering sex crimes.

The Prime Minister's official residence of La Moncloa said on Twitter: "The government respects the judge's decision but it echoes the public outcry and works for the protection of women."

Government officials have said they will also consider putting on gender training for

judges and allowing women claiming to be victims of sex attacks to receive state help in trials.

The Navarra court ruled the five men, found guilty earlier this year of sexually assaulting an 18-year-old woman in Pamplona, be provisionally released from prison.

The group, known as La Manada or The Wolfpack, had to post a €6,000 bond to secure their release.

Jose Angel Prenda, Alfonso Cabezuelo, Antonio Manuel Guerrero, Jesus Escudero and Angel Boza will also be required to appear before court on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. They are barred from entering the Madrid region where the victim lives.

The court said the fact the men lived more than 500 kilometres away from the victim meant their release could be justified.

The court added that the social outcry surrounding the gang was not a sufficient reason to keep them in prison.



**OUTCRY:** Rallies were held in cities across Spain last Friday.

Judge Jose Francisco Cobo voted against the move saying the men should be kept in prison to ensure the security, stability and tranquillity of the victim.

Three of the men were serving their sentences in Pamplona prison and two were in the military prison of Alcalá de Henares in Madrid.

A previous ruling acquitting them of rape, but finding them guilty of the lesser offence of sexual assault, triggered rallies across Spain.

The court heard during the original trial that the men, part of a Whatsapp group named 'La Manada', met the 18-year-old during Pamplona's San Fermin festival in 2016.

Prosecutors told the court they led her to the basement of an apartment block in the city where they assaulted her and filmed it on their mobile phones.

The woman was later found in the street by passers-by before the attack was reported to police.

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by Staff Reporter

# Family nightmare

## Holiday firm slammed by pregnant mum

A PREGNANT mum-of-two forced to cram her family into three single beds at a Benidorm hotel has panned the family's 'absolutely diabolical' treatment.

Gemma Stocks, 31, burst into tears after they were placed into a miniscule room overlooking a building site on arrival in Spain.

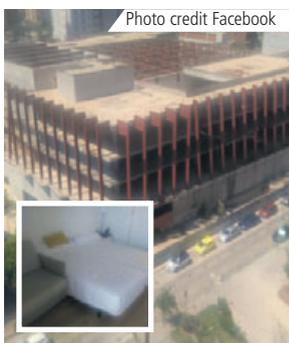
She had, last September, booked a four-bed ground floor family room at the Hotel Rio Park through travel firm TUI.

But Gemma says the operator failed to advise her that the room would not be available, and she had to visit her local branch in Arnold, Nottingham, four times for them to



**'ABSOLUTELY DIABOLICAL': Gemma Stocks, Mark Jacobs and their children and their room with a view.**

even acknowledge the problem after she emailed the hotel herself.



When they arrived at the holiday town on June 18 they expected to have been placed

in a different four-bed suite, but the hotel had been told to split them and place one child with their grandparents, who were also on the trip.

The stay-at-home-mum told local media: "I am upset by how we have been treated."

"This is the main holiday of the year, I can't sleep in a single bed with a child when I'm 20 weeks pregnant."

"If I had known we were not going to get a room together I would not have booked it."

The couple refused to make

one of their children, aged four and six, sleep elsewhere, and are instead sleeping together in the small room despite forking out almost €2,000 on their holiday.

They confirmed that the issue is with TUI not the hotel.

Gemma's partner Mark Jacks, 35, added: "I am absolutely furious about the way they have treated us, it is absolutely diabolical. We were squeezed in a small room. My wife was crying."

"It's not just us that is going to have this problem, it's a re-

ally popular room that we booked.

"We were supposed to be able to watch the entertainment from a terrace, now we are on the 12th floor overlooking a building site."

The bus driver added: "It completely spoiled it. We are just going to have to get on with it."

The hotel assistant manager confirmed that they are trying to solve the problem, but said that the agent should have told the family their original room was not available.

A TUI official said: "We're sorry to hear about Miss Stocks' experience and we will be contacting the customer to investigate the matter."

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## A fine mess

THE use of technology legal in Britain to detect speed cameras could result in thousands in fines for drivers in Spain and elsewhere in Europe following crackdowns.

Speed camera detection devices and technology capable of jamming radars could land motorists fines of up to €6,000 in Spain.

French rules state penalties of around €1,500 can be slapped on drivers on their roads for the same offence.

Police across the European Union also have powers to access DVLA databases to identify and if necessary punish British drivers for breaking road laws under measures brought in last year.

British authorities recently cracked down on the use of such technology. They are legal if sold as parking sensors or garage door openers but not if used to interfere with speed cameras.

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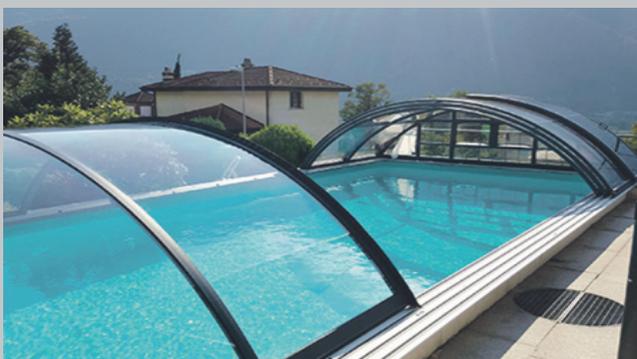


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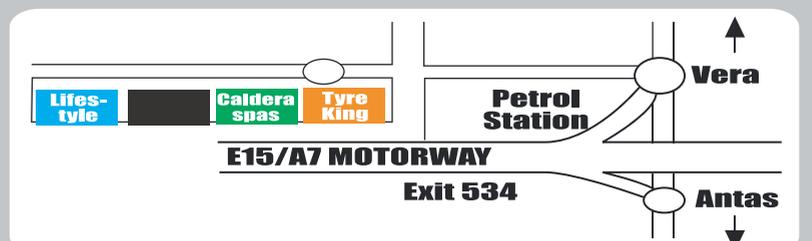
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# Cave family shock

## 13 of man's 36 children taken into care

by Staff Reporter

A MAN who lives in a cave with three women and 25 of the 36 children he has fathered has seen 13 of them taken into care by Spanish social services.

Police raided the home of 61-year-old Juan Manuel, known as 'El Canuto,' in Marchal, Granada, and took away 11 of his offspring before forcing him to hand over two others the next day.

All are aged between three and 15, with some taken to a care home and others placed with foster families amid accusations of physical, emotional and sexual abuse, violence between their father and mothers, and negligence.

It comes in the wake of a probe by a public prosecutor, which concluded that the girls were at the greatest risk.

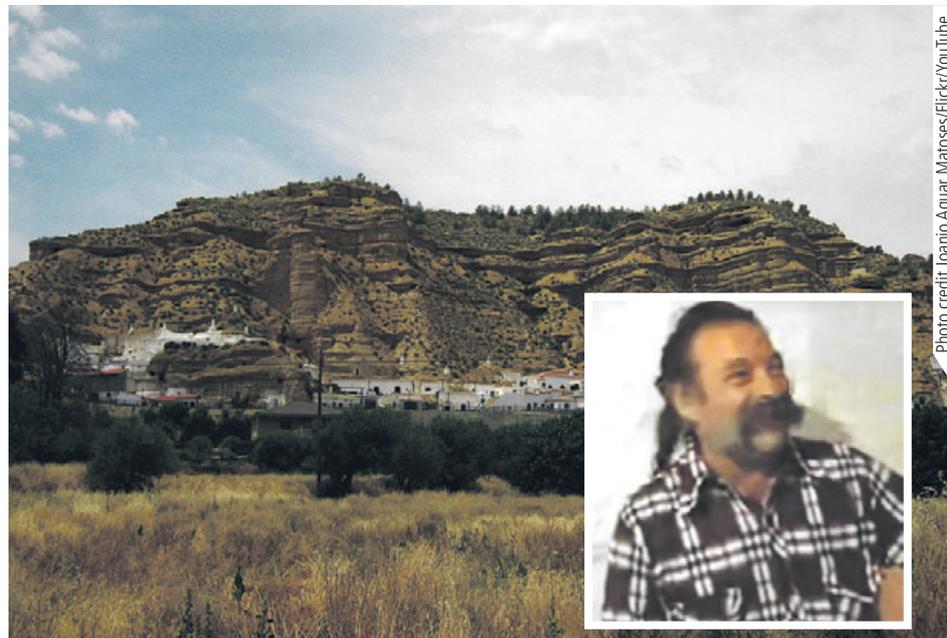


Photo credit: Joaquin Aguilar Matoses/Flickr/YouTube

### 'EMOTIONAL TYRANNY': El Canuto lives in Marchal, Granada.

According to a written report, El Canuto has six children with a woman named Piedad, 16 with María Dolores and 14 with Soledad, of which two have already died.

The document explains that he "controls the rules of behaviour for all members of the family (including women, adults and children), based on a one-way authoritarian communication style, and a regime of behavioural and emotional tyranny and oppression."

It adds that: "disciplinary control is carried out via threats, humiliation and alleged physical abuse. There is also a clear difference in terms of gender, with discrimination against the women and girls."

Investigators say the Junta de Andalucía regional government may eventually assume custody of the children.

El Canuto became a minor celebrity after being portrayed as a colourful but harmless character on a TV documentary 10 years ago, but the new enquiry claims his cave house has no running water and hardly any furniture.

He says he has never worked a day in his life and has a criminal record, although he has never been jailed.

Other townsfolk are allegedly scared to discuss him and even the mayor refused to comment in the wake of the swoop by 40 Guardia Civil officers wearing bullet proof vests and carrying subma-

chine guns, accompanied by social workers who know the family.

He told Spanish media: "You have to understand our situation: journalists leave and we and our families have to stay here, and we have to be very careful because later things happen and they are irreversible."

El Canuto has denied he mistreats his family and told news agency EFE that his children have been 'kidnapped' before, insisting the children had not been living in substandard conditions and that the report is 'libellous.'

The probe was launched after two of the daughters ran away from home last year and told detectives they had been sexually abused.

# Ruff landing

HOLIDAYMAKERS missed England's record 6-1 World Cup destruction of Panama after a dog caused their flight home from Ibiza to be delayed.

The pooch strayed onto an Ibiza airport runway, forcing inbound Thomas Cook flight MT1250 from Gatwick to be diverted to Mallorca.

It saw the packed return flight take off at 11.25am rather than 9.30am, and it arrived back in

London after the England game had kicked off.

The travel operator confirmed a dog was to blame in a reply to an irate passenger who tweeted: 'Shout out to @ThomasCookUK for giving no updates whatsoever on a two hour delay.'

'Always helpful when Google has more info than airport announcements.'

A Thomas Cook official answered: "I believe the outbound

flight was actually diverted to Palma Airport in Mallorca because there was a dog on the runway in Ibiza.

"The flight has now taken off from Mallorca and will be with you in a few minutes."

Emily Hewerton was on the outbound flight and after she added: "Please tell me how dogs managed to get on the runway in Ibiza, meaning we had to land in Mallorca instead."

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by Staff Reporter

HOLIDAYMAKERS were left furious after they returned to the UK from Spain to find that a car parking company had gone bust while they were away.

The baffled travellers were told that security staff would escort them to their vehicles after landing at Bournemouth Airport.

A member of staff from BOMO Parking Services reportedly fled after dumping a sports bag with around 300 car keys inside at an information desk.

The firm had previously traded under the slogan: 'Don't worry we'll look after your motor while you're away.'

Lisa Russell from nearby Southampton was unable to find her key after flying back from the Costa del Sol with husband Michael and two friends.

She told UK media: "We have had no warning and no message from the company explaining what's happened. We used them once before and had absolutely no problem, even when we were leaving

# Flying shame

## Brits furious after parking firm folds



**PARKING MAD:** Some travellers were unable to find their keys after BOMO Parking Services (inset) went bust.

they were very friendly - there was no worry about anything going wrong.

"But to come back and find that your keys have been lost and you can't get home is really upsetting.

"It's just such a shame that we've had a wonderful holiday and then this happens as

soon as we come back.

"The airport staff have been really helpful, it's not their fault in the slightest that this has happened."

John Appleby had been in Mallorca for a week, and explained: "I got an email yesterday basically telling me that the company had ceased trad-

ing thanks to an individual who was known to them.

"I was really surprised as previously there had been no indication that anything was wrong.

"We used the same firm last year and everything ran smoothly so for this to happen is really surprising."

Mum-of-two Katie Weymes, 33, had also been on the island for a family break with husband Peter and sons Dylan, four, and Finlay, two.

She said: "This is the first time we used BOMO and it is frustrating.

"We were in the taxi on our way to the airport when we found out they had folded and it does not really help the stress of travelling with two young children.

"In fairness to the airport they have been really helpful and took my husband to pick the car up in a 4x4."

BOMO said in a statement that it had folded after a 'sustained attack online and offline' by an unnamed individual had a 'catastrophic effect.'

It continued: "All vehicle keys have been hand delivered to Bournemouth Airport information desk for customers to collect on their return from holiday."

It comes after vandals last month caused thousands of pounds worth of damage to cars and security cameras parked at the company's premises, with Dorset police probing the incident.

## Spain helps Poland



**BORDER PATROL:** Guardia Civil officers in Poland.

IN response to a request for assistance to all EU member states, Spain has sent 10 Guardia Civil officers to Poland to undertake border control tasks.

Their job will be to oversee the movement of fans of different national teams who are crossing the Poland/ Russia road borders at Bzech Grzechotki and Bezdedy.

The deployment, which is being coordinated by the FRONTEX Agency, will conclude on Tuesday July 3 although as the Polish team lost to Colombia on Sunday evening then some disappointed fans may be returning home earlier than expected.



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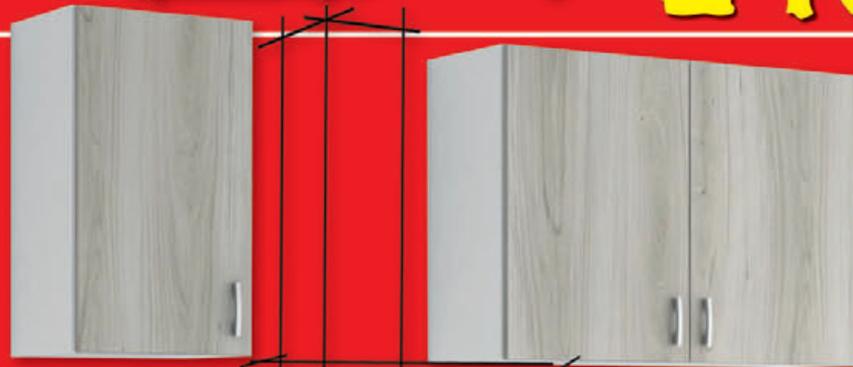
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EUROPEAN AND WORLDWIDE MOVING SERVICES

**PM eyes 'gag law'**

by Joe Gerrard

SPAIN'S government is planning to reform a law that gives police the power to hand out sanctions which have been used to ban demonstrations outside parliament, among other measures.

Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez's left leaning Partido Socialista (PSOE) is reportedly in talks with other parties in Spain's Congress to work towards reforming the Citizen Safety Law passed in 2015.

The PSOE is aiming to repeal some of the provisions of what the party has branded a 'gag law.' Sanchez described its reform as 'urgent' during no-confidence debates on his predecessor, Mariano Rajoy, last month.

"The government that emerges from this no-confidence motion will start



CREDIT: No Somos Delito, via Twitter

**'REPRESSIVE': Protestors have previously demonstrated against the Citizen Safety Law.**

work on repealing the most virulent aspects of the Gag Law," he said, during the debate.

A PSOE group of three deputies in Congress has reportedly been put together to help gain backing from other parties for the law change.

The Basque Nationalist PNV party is leaning towards modifying the law to include protections for protests and trade union activity. The centrist Ciudadanos are also in favour of this approach.

The PSOE and leftist Podemos would prefer to repeal the law all together and return to measures set out in an earlier citizen safety law passed in 1992.

The Citizen Safety Law was brought onto the

books by the conservative Partido Popular (PP) when it was in government.

Its provisions included the restricting of demonstrations near the Congress or Senate, taking 'unauthorised' pictures of police officers, stopping evictions and non-violent protests such as sit-ins.

Breaking the law could land someone found guilty of doing so with fines ranging from €100 to €600,000 for the most serious offences.

The PP argued it would make demonstrations freer because it would keep violence out of them.

The PSOE, then the opposition party, said the PP was attempting to craft a 'police state' in Spain with the law.

**NEWS EXTRA****Health hazard**

THE Union of Nursing (SATSE) of Almeria has condemned the closure of 122 beds and half of the operating rooms at the Hospital Torrecardenas this summer, as well as the suspension of other health services.

**Lucky dip**

A RESIDENT of Cuevas de Almanzora has won €500,000 thanks to a ONCE scratchcard from street seller Juan Manuel Fernandez, and it is the largest prize of its kind in Andalusia.

**Safety first**

DRIVERS who do not secure their pet correctly in their car are risking fines of between €100 and €200, and the latter is the sum drivers can expect when showing the same disregard for their children.

**Sea sting**

THE College of Nursing in Almeria has advised that jelly fish stings should be treated by removing any remaining tentacles, washing the wound with saline or soapy water, and raising the limb.

**Bar plans**

REPRESENTATIVES of bar operators affected by improvement works to the seafront of Mojucar, have met with delegates from the Department of Tourism, to try to agree on an acceptable way forward.

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Mojacar 325,000€



Ref: NW1148  
Beds: 3 Baths: 3 Villa

Beautifully presented, 3 bed, 3 bath, linked villa 400m from the beach. Open-plan living area with doors to terrace, small swimming pool and space for sunbathing. Ground floor master suite. The property has a double integral garage. Two upper terraces.

Mojacar 190,000€



Ref: NW1149  
Beds: 3 Baths: 1.5 Villa

Great value 3 bed villa in good location 500m to beach. Built-in a split-level design and boasting roof terrace with sea views, parking for 2 cars and spacious accommodation. The property enjoys a share in a large communal pool.

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Ref: NW1126 Beds: 5 Baths: 4

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**MEETING:** Lavrov (right) met with Guterres (left) in Moscow.

## Moscow hosts UN head for meeting

RUSSIA'S top diplomat has met with the Secretary General of the United Nations (UN) for discussions on the Iran nuclear deal and the situation on the Korean Peninsula in Moscow. Sergei Lavrov and Antonio Guterres also talked about reaching a peaceful settlement to the Syrian conflict, with a conference on the subject currently ongoing in Sochi.

### Court protest ruling

SUPREME COURT judges have ruled authorities cannot stop protests from going ahead on the grounds of them being a nuisance or inconvenience. The ruling comes as officials across the country have used such justifications to deny rally permits, with the Kremlin recently restricting demonstrations during the World Cup.

### Putin ally tax probe

A LONGTIME friend of President Vladimir Putin has come under investigation in connection with offshore tax havens in Panama. Allegations of the involvement

of Sergei Roldugin and other Putin allies in an approximate €1.7 billion money laundering scheme emerged following the leak of the Panama Papers in 2016.

### Stalin World War poll

THE number of Russians who hold Josef Stalin responsible for Soviet civilian deaths during the Second World War has reached records lows, according to a survey. The Levada Centre's poll found nine per cent of some 1,600 respondents believed the Soviet Union dictator acted 'without regard for victims' during the war. An estimated 27 million Soviet citizens died in the conflict.

### New Ukraine sanctions

THE Ukrainian government has approved new sanctions on Russian companies and organisations. President Petro Poroshenko approved the measures, which cover a total of 30 legal entities and 14 people. It brings the total number of those sanctioned by Ukraine to 1,762 individuals and 786 organisations.

### Feeling the heat

PHONE network operators have said their data showed a boom in activity on an online dating app during the World Cup. MTS, one of the country's biggest carriers, said there had been an 11-fold increase in traffic on Tinder on match days near stadiums and areas popular with fans. A lawmaker recently called on Russian women not to become romantically involved with foreign fans.



**ON FIRE:** Tinder traffic has rocketed in Russia.



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## SWEDEN



### Home star

PULP Fiction actress, Uma Thurman has applied for Swedish citizenship ahead of her planned move to the country, reconnecting with her family roots given that her maternal grandmother was a model from Skane in southern Sweden.



**FAMILY ROOTS: Uma Thurman is set to become a Swedish citizen.**

### Shot dead

THREE people have died and three injured following a shooting last week in Sweden's third biggest city Malmö. No motive for the shooting has been given but police have said that there are no indications that the incident is terror-related.

### Fossil free

SWEDEN has started construction on a €136 million fossil-fuel-free factory in the north-eastern town of Lulea that will test whether it's feasible to use hydrogen in-

stead of coal and coke to produce steel, helping the country meet its goals under the Paris climate accord.

### IT shortage

A RECENT report by employer or-

ganisation, the Swedish IT and Telecom Industries warns that Sweden will have a deficit of 70,000 digital professionals by 2022 if no special measures are taken, with particular shortages in programming and systems architecture.

## GERMANY



### Steep charge

A 12-YEAR-OLD German boy was left having to pay €12,000 in roaming fees for using his mobile phone on a cruise ship bound for Oslo in Norway, with the European Union's roaming charge ban not enforced at sea.

partners in parliament over her policy on migrants coming into the country, with late-night talks held following a suspended session of the legislature to resolve the issue.

firm, Airbus signing the deal on behalf of the Defence Ministry for the Heron TP unmanned aircraft.

### Growth stats

THE Central Bank of Germany has said economic growth is not likely to be as strong this year as it was in 2017, with the 2.5 per cent GDP rise forecast last December revised down to two per cent.

### Drones bought

THE German military has agreed to lease Israeli missile-armed reconnaissance drones in a nine-year deal worth €500 million, with aerospace

### Power talks

CHANCELLOR Angela Merkel faced a rebellion from her coalition

## NETHERLANDS



### Hit-and-run

ONE person has died and three more were injured after being struck by a van outside a Dutch concert last week in the southern Limburg Province with the driver of a delivery vehicle under police arrest.

### Up in smoke

A STUDY by the Netherlands National Institute for Public Health (RIVM) has found that the levels of tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide inhaled by smokers could be up to 20 times higher than indicated because of a flaw in the testing process.

### Holy loan

THE Vatican has recently agreed to lend Caravaggio's masterpiece the Entombment of Christ to the Central Museum in Utrecht for four weeks from December 15 as part of the Utrecht, Caravaggio and Europe exhibition.

### Happy talk

A REPORT published by the World Health Organisation shows that children in the Netherlands are the happiest of all children in OECD countries, despite the country's reputation for smoking cannabis and its rainy weather.

## DENMARK



### Man hunt

UPPSALA police were tracing a man suspected of running over a boy in a car park and kidnapping him, with the child reappearing around an hour after the incident and the man remains at large.

### Turned down

THE United Nation's Security Council refused to adopt a proposal from Sweden which would have seen the body call for a cease fire in and around the Yemen port of Hodeida to hold rebel withdrawal talks.

### Man charged

A MAN has been charged in connection with sexual harassment claims made against members of the Swedish Academy, who award the Nobel Prize, with Jean-Claude Arnault denying those allegations and others.

### Attacks rise

MOSQUES in Sweden were attacked a record 38 times in 2017, with Home Affairs Minister Morgan Johansson describing the figures as 'terrible' and adding the rise of the far-right in the country was a factor.

## NORWAY



### Sex mad

A PROVOCATIVE ad for condoms presently on display at Oslo Central Station which welcomes tourists to the 'land of chlamydia' has irked Norway's tourist board who claim it makes Norwegians seem like 'uncouth, lewd, sex-mad people.'

### ECHR says no

THE European Court of Human Rights has dismissed a complaint by Norwegian neo-Nazi terrorist Anders Behring Breivik that his prison conditions were 'inhumane,' as he presently serves a 21-year sentence for the mass murder of 77 people in July 2011.

### Intermediary

THE Norwegian government has reaffirmed its commitment to facilitate peace talks between the Philippine government and the National Democratic Front (NDF), days after media in the Philippines reported that Norway would no longer play a role.

### Oil drills

THE Norwegian Petroleum Directorate has confirmed that oil firms are expected to drill 40 to 50 new exploration wells off Norway this year compared to 36 wells drilled last year, with an estimated 25.2 billion barrels of oil still undiscovered.

## FRANCE



### Migrant crisis

THE vice-president of the government, Carmen Calvo, has announced that France will collaborate with Spain and accept any migrants who were aboard the ship Aquarius who have expressed a desire to go to France.

### Gay parents

THE head of an adoption service in the Seine-Maritime region in Normandy, Pascale Lemare, has said that would-be homosexual parents were not a priority as they 'are different' and should only adopt children who have issues.

### Slow down

NEW speed limits will be introduced on secondary roads next month which will reduce the maximum speed from 90 kilometres an hour to 80 kilometres an hour, following an increase in road deaths in recent years.

### Murdered

FRENCH National Police have charged the parents of a 4-year-old girl whose body was found alongside a motorway in central France in 1987 with her murder, after a new DNA test has placed them as prime suspects.

## BELGIUM



### Lioness shot

A FEMALE lioness which escaped from an enclosure in Belgium's Planckendael zoo on Thursday has been killed after two failed attempts to sedate her, during which time the zoo was evacuated.

### Unambitious

A RECENT report by Climate Action Network (CAN) claims Belgium is not being ambitious enough to meet commitments made to counter global warming, with the country on course to miss 2020 targets for reducing harmful emissions.

### Migrant talks

THE President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, convened an informal working meeting on migration and asylum issues which was held in Brussels on Sunday in order to find European-level solutions to the problem.

### Refusal

BELGIUM'S petition to summon to court Pablo Llarena, the judge overseeing the case against Catalan pro-independence leaders, has been refused by the Spanish judiciary who have called the request 'wrongful.'

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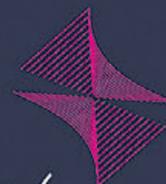
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## STAT OF WEEK

€2.8 billion The value of tariffs slapped on US goods including jeans, bourbon whiskey, and orange juice by the European Union this week in retaliation to President Donald Trump's new duties on steel and aluminium.

Banana drama  
sees price soar

BANANAS are becoming pricier in Spain after main producer, the Canary Islands, revealed a shortage.

"This has never happened to us before," said Jose Maria Ruiz, manager of Barcelona-based wholesaler Platanos Ruiz.

"The banana harvest was early due to the weather so production has dropped a month early.

He added: "There are days when there are no Canary Islands bananas and this has translated into stratospheric prices compared to what we're used to."

## Plane talking on new wings

AERONAUTICAL giant Airbus has warned it could pull out of the UK in the wake of Brexit, with Spain one of the candidates being considered to mop up future contracts.

The France-based company said in a statement that current plans for a transition period ending in December 2020 do not offer enough time for it to modify its supply chain.

All wings for the planemaker's passenger jets are currently made in Britain, but the memo explained that there would be 'severe disruption and interruption' in terms of production should

by Matt Ford

the country leave the European Union (EU) single market and customs union without any further transition agreed.

Chief operating officer of Airbus Commercial Aircraft, Tom Williams, said: "Put simply, a no-deal scenario directly threatens Airbus' future in the UK."

It comes two years after the controversial referendum in which British citizens narrowly voted to leave the EU.

Airbus employs around 14,000 people in the UK, but supports 100,000 jobs in total.

It also confirmed that it is unable to make a decision on new investment in the country until the nature of the Brexit deal becomes clear.

"We have to come to the point where we have to make decisions, quite often those decisions are long term in nature and without clarity then it's too dangerous for us to proceed," Williams continued.

The official added that the firm is already evaluating alternative solutions for building its next generation of wings, with Spain, South Korea and Germany top of the list.

Bank cleared as  
probe dropped

SPAIN'S National Court has revealed it has called off a probe into banking group Santander over its €1 purchase of former rival Banco Popular.

The judge heading the enquiry said that allegations made against the country's largest bank amounted to 'a list of incriminating statements' with no supporting documentation or other evidence.

Santander had been accused of wrongdoing over the deal, including manipulation of stock markets to trigger a crash in Popular's share price.

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€8 million seized  
in con crackdown

Photo credit Guardia Civil

**TAX SCAM: Officers load some of the cash into a trolley.**

INVESTIGATORS have seized €8 million in bank notes stuffed into plastic bags and held 13 suspects in Spain, Portugal and Romania in the year's biggest money-laundering case so far.

The money was found hidden in drawers and shoe boxes during a series of raids coordinated by the Guardia Civil, Spanish tax agency and Europol, with evidence of fraudulent bank transfers totalling €31 million also seized.

Those held have been remanded in custody and charged with crimes against the public treasury and consumer market, police said in a statement.

The gang reportedly imported fake toys, footwear and clothes from China and used fake companies to avoid paying tax before selling the products cheaper than legitimate firms.

Cash was then funnelled out of Europe a suitcase at a time by Chinese accomplices.

## » BUSINESS EXTRA

Spaniards  
spend big

SPANISH tourists spend an average of €719 per person on their summer holidays, although one in three families cannot afford to go anywhere and drag the figure down, according to tourism watchdog Observatur.

## Store wars

MANY high street shops have started their summer sales - which officially begin on July 1 - early after cold weather and rain were blamed for a 'disastrous and dramatic' spring season, industry sources revealed.

## By the books

A PROBE by the Spanish government's National Securities Market Commission (CNMV) has found 'imprecise or inaccurate data or with misleading information' in the former ruling People's Party's 2016 financial report, it said in a statement.

## No panic over pensions

SPAIN'S new socialist government has said it has 'no reasons' to believe it will miss its European Union (EU) deficit target, despite pledging to increase spending on pensions.

It comes after the Eurozone's finance ministers discussed Spain's 2018 budget, passed before former Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy was ousted and drafted by his conservative

People's Party.

The lawmakers concluded that the country is set to miss its deficit target of 2.2 per cent of GDP by at least half a point.

Spain is the last country remaining under the EU's Excessive Deficit Procedure, which can see nations fined for unsustainable spending, after the action was last week lifted from France.

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

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# LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JUNE 25

| COMPANY                         | PRICE(P) | CHANGE(P) | % CHG. | NET VOL    |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|------------|
| Anglo American                  | 1,743.80 | 46.80     | 2.76   | 23,209.60  |
| Associated British Foods        | 2,778.50 | -56.50    | -1.99  | 22,214.38  |
| Admiral Group                   | 1,860.25 | -51.75    | -2.71  | 5,410.97   |
| Ashtead Group                   | 2,264.00 | 12.00     | 0.53   | 10,992.87  |
| Antofagasta                     | 1,013.50 | -15.00    | -1.46  | 9,942.37   |
| Aviva                           | 527.30   | 12.50     | 2.43   | 20,046.58  |
| AstraZeneca                     | 5,046.00 | -183.00   | -3.50  | 66,562.32  |
| BAE Systems                     | 581.20   | -43.80    | -7.01  | 19,809.60  |
| Barclays                        | 194.02   | -0.45     | -0.23  | 32,540.38  |
| British American Tobacco        | 4,238.00 | 327.00    | 8.36   | 88,055.34  |
| Barratt Developments            | 541.80   | 14.00     | 2.65   | 5,242.97   |
| Berkeley Group Holdings         | 3,743.00 | -76.00    | -1.99  | 5,071.12   |
| British Land Co                 | 699.90   | 12.30     | 1.79   | 6,670.09   |
| BHP Billiton                    | 1,666.20 | 3.58      | 0.21   | 34,515.48  |
| Bunzl                           | 2,353.50 | 57.50     | 2.50   | 7,666.53   |
| BP                              | 593.40   | 16.80     | 2.91   | 111,637.50 |
| Burberry Group                  | 2,054.00 | -108.00   | -5.00  | 8,804.87   |
| BT Group                        | 221.68   | 6.63      | 3.08   | 21,337.05  |
| Coca-Cola HBC                   | 2,357.50 | -177.50   | -7.00  | 9,405.71   |
| Carnival                        | 4,786.50 | 43.50     | 0.92   | 9,698.93   |
| Centrica                        | 159.35   | 1.35      | 0.85   | 8,709.14   |
| Compass Group                   | 1,589.50 | -32.50    | -2.00  | 25,386.36  |
| Croda International             | 4,638.00 | -174.00   | -3.62  | 6,285.95   |
| CRH                             | 2,522.50 | -204.50   | -7.50  | 22,725.81  |
| DCC                             | 6,830.00 | -45.00    | -0.65  | 6,060.49   |
| Diageo                          | 2,792.00 | 45.00     | 1.64   | 67,180.87  |
| Direct Line Insurance Group     | 341.50   | -6.80     | -1.95  | 4,723.13   |
| Evrax                           | 520.60   | -1.40     | -0.27  | 7,386.53   |
| Experian                        | 1,919.50 | 64.50     | 3.48   | 16,761.59  |
| easyJet                         | 1,789.50 | -1.00     | -0.06  | 7,086.19   |
| Ferguson                        | 6,245.50 | 168.50    | 2.77   | 13,926.47  |
| Fresnillo                       | 1,154.00 | -19.00    | -1.62  | 8,407.96   |
| Glencore                        | 394.28   | 7.13      | 1.84   | 53,602.34  |
| GlaxoSmithKline                 | 1,516.10 | -29.90    | -1.93  | 76,297.28  |
| GVC Holdings                    | 1,031.75 | -3.25     | -0.31  | 5,918.90   |
| Hargreaves Lansdown             | 2,100.50 | 102.50    | 5.13   | 9,320.36   |
| Halma                           | 1,381.00 | -6.00     | -0.43  | 5,277.02   |
| HSBC Holdings                   | 713.60   | -7.30     | -1.01  | 141,700.33 |
| International Consoltd Airs Grp | 713.70   | -12.90    | -1.78  | 14,623.30  |
| InterContinental Hotels Grp     | 4,975.50 | 146.50    | 3.03   | 9,133.09   |
| 3i Group                        | 933.70   | 1.30      | 0.14   | 8,946.85   |
| Imperial Brands                 | 2,728.00 | 0.00      | 0.00   | 25,502.93  |
| Informa                         | 849.70   | 24.70     | 2.99   | 10,202.57  |
| Intertek Group                  | 5,682.00 | 0.00      | 0.00   | 9,099.35   |
| ITV                             | 180.58   | 3.98      | 2.25   | 6,990.12   |
| Just Eat                        | 820.30   | -4.10     | -0.50  | 5,573.18   |
| Johnson Matthey                 | 3,812.50 | 122.50    | 3.32   | 7,102.68   |
| Kingfisher                      | 305.55   | 2.85      | 0.94   | 6,416.75   |
| Land Securities Group           | 989.20   | 36.70     | 3.85   | 6,993.45   |
| Legal & General Group           | 274.40   | 4.90      | 1.82   | 15,802.89  |

| COMPANY                         | PRICE(P) | CHANGE(P) | % CHG.  | NET VOL    |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------|------------|
| Lloyds Banking Group ORD        | 63.37    | 1.25      | 2.01    | 44,184.70  |
| London Stock Exchange Grp       | 4,571.50 | 121.50    | 2.73    | 15,485.41  |
| Micro Focus International       | 1,302.75 | -61.25    | -4.49   | 5,960.11   |
| Marks & Spencer Group           | 307.10   | 10.00     | 3.37    | 4,760.60   |
| Mondi                           | 1,962.75 | -52.25    | -2.59   | 7,337.47   |
| Melrose                         | 229.20   | 7.30      | 3.29    | 10,526.88  |
| Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets      | 250.20   | 0.70      | 0.28    | 5,819.19   |
| National Grid                   | 905.40   | 71.40     | 8.56    | 27,654.76  |
| NMC Health                      | 3,667.00 | 105.00    | 2.95    | 7,356.47   |
| Next                            | 6,309.00 | 299.00    | 4.98    | 8,347.36   |
| Ocado Group                     | 1,072.25 | 8.75      | 0.82    | 7,253.94   |
| Old Mutual Group                | 127.50   | -210.90   | -100.00 | 10,323.94  |
| Paddy Power Betfair             | 7,432.50 | -922.50   | -11.04  | 6,954.52   |
| Prudential                      | 1,859.25 | 45.25     | 2.49    | 46,225.84  |
| Persimmon                       | 2,687.50 | 111.50    | 4.33    | 7,876.21   |
| Pearson                         | 862.70   | -3.30     | -0.38   | 6,716.89   |
| Reckitt Benckiser Group         | 6,443.00 | 126.00    | 1.99    | 43,480.45  |
| Royal Bank of Scotland Group    | 263.55   | 2.05      | 0.78    | 30,898.18  |
| Royal Dutch Shell               | 2,566.50 | -42.50    | -1.63   | 116,008.73 |
| RELX                            | 1,682.50 | 49.50     | 3.03    | 16,840.95  |
| Rio Tinto                       | 4,227.25 | 45.25     | 1.08    | 54,389.37  |
| Royal Mail                      | 503.80   | 0.00      | 0.00    | 4,945.00   |
| Rolls-Royce Group               | 940.20   | -1.60     | -0.17   | 17,312.29  |
| Randgold Resources              | 5,737.00 | 15.00     | 0.26    | 5,294.12   |
| RSA Insurance Group             | 643.70   | -38.10    | -5.59   | 6,862.56   |
| Rentokil Initial                | 342.10   | -13.00    | -3.66   | 6,409.27   |
| Sainsbury (J)                   | 322.80   | 5.30      | 1.67    | 6,830.14   |
| Schroders                       | 3,197.50 | 40.50     | 1.28    | 7,049.64   |
| Sage Group (The)                | 634.20   | 2.20      | 0.35    | 6,876.03   |
| Segro                           | 662.20   | 0.00      | 0.00    | 6,676.25   |
| Shire                           | 4,066.25 | 0.25      | 0.01    | 37,362.95  |
| Smurfit Kappa Group             | 3,092.00 | 26.00     | 0.85    | 7,211.23   |
| Sky                             | 1,415.00 | -0.42     | -0.03   | 24,152.19  |
| Standard Life Aberdeen          | 335.40   | -8.60     | -2.50   | 10,115.14  |
| Smith (DS)                      | 515.30   | -2.50     | -0.48   | 5,568.37   |
| Smiths Group                    | 1,727.25 | -0.75     | -0.04   | 6,771.45   |
| Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst | 556.25   | 16.25     | 3.01    | 7,691.56   |
| Smith & Nephew                  | 1,416.50 | 21.00     | 1.50    | 12,094.04  |
| SSE                             | 1,374.50 | 23.50     | 1.74    | 13,532.42  |
| Standard Chartered              | 711.10   | 0.00      | 0.00    | 23,229.47  |
| St James's Place                | 1,164.75 | -17.75    | -1.50   | 6,182.22   |
| Severn Trent                    | 2,009.00 | 79.00     | 4.09    | 4,459.11   |
| Tesco                           | 263.85   | 2.15      | 0.82    | 25,051.11  |
| TUI AG                          | 1,732.00 | 0.00      | 0.00    | 10,067.81  |
| Taylor Wimpey                   | 185.63   | 4.53      | 2.50    | 5,840.60   |
| Unilever                        | 4,154.25 | 20.75     | 0.50    | 49,566.46  |
| United Utilities Group          | 774.20   | 23.60     | 3.14    | 5,040.52   |
| Vodafone Group                  | 177.24   | -10.04    | -5.36   | 49,191.58  |
| WPP Group                       | 1,260.25 | 39.75     | 3.26    | 15,248.03  |
| Whitbread                       | 4,046.50 | -12.50    | -0.31   | 7,331.20   |

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CLOSING PRICES JUNE 25

| COMPANY            | PRICE    | CHANGE% | CHANGE  | VOLUME(M)  |
|--------------------|----------|---------|---------|------------|
| 3M                 | 196,500  | +0.50%  | 0,980   | 116,678,34 |
| AMERICAN EXPRESS   | 97,2300  | +0.62%  | 0,6000  | 83,704,64  |
| APPLE              | 184,920  | -0.29%  | -0,540  | 908,907,32 |
| BOEING CO          | 338,910  | +0.37%  | 1,250   | 197,442,52 |
| CATERPILLAR        | 139,940  | +0.29%  | 0,410   | 83,677,09  |
| CHEVRON            | 125,10   | +2.05%  | 2,51    | 239,061,09 |
| CISCO SYSTEMS      | 43,200   | +0.09%  | 0,040   | 208,116,73 |
| COCA-COLA          | 43,25    | +0.37%  | 0,16    | 184,082,66 |
| DOWDUPONT          | 67,00    | +2.63%  | 1,72    | 155,492,71 |
| EXXON MOBIL        | 81,38    | +2.12%  | 1,69    | 344,549,45 |
| GENERAL ELECTRIC   | 13,0500  | +2.27%  | 0,2900  | 113,343,66 |
| GOLDMAN SACHS      | 226,02   | -0.42%  | -0,96   | 85,352,96  |
| HOME DEPOT         | 197,4100 | -1.45%  | -2,9000 | 227,732,58 |
| IBM                | 141,28   | +0.02%  | 0,03    | 129,690,56 |
| INTEL CORP         | 52,5000  | +0.59%  | 0,3100  | 245,070,00 |
| J.P.MORGAN CHASE   | 105,7500 | -1.64%  | -1,7600 | 360,055,16 |
| JOHNSON & JOHNSON  | 122,8400 | +1.14%  | 1,3900  | 329,421,66 |
| MC DONALD'S CORP   | 164,5500 | +2.50%  | 4,0200  | 129,240,20 |
| MERCK AND CO. NEW  | 61,47    | +0.47%  | 0,29    | 165,372,98 |
| MICROSOFT          | 100,410  | -0.72%  | -0,730  | 773,136,22 |
| NIKE               | 73,43    | -0.69%  | -0,51   | 94,162,54  |
| PFIZER             | 36,5100  | +0.58%  | 0,2100  | 213,509,34 |
| PROCTER AND GAMBLE | 77,430   | +1.30%  | 0,990   | 194,579,71 |
| TRAVELERS CIES     | 124,41   | +0.78%  | 0,96    | 33,620,51  |
| UNITED TECHNOLOGIE | 124,87   | +1.13%  | 1,39    | 99,927,43  |
| UNITEDHEALTH GROUP | 254,37   | +0.98%  | 2,48    | 244,444,80 |
| VERIZON COMMS      | 49,76    | +2.32%  | 1,13    | 205,644,49 |
| VISA               | 135,33   | +0.59%  | 0,80    | 241,810,85 |
| WAL-MART STORES    | 84,8200  | +0.72%  | 0,6100  | 249,759,47 |
| WALT DISNEY CO     | 106,3400 | +0.42%  | 0,4500  | 158,160,52 |

M - MILLION DOLLARS

# NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JUNE 25

| COMPANY                          | PRICE     | CHANGE NET / % |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| <b>Most Advanced</b>             |           |                |
| Restoration Robotics, Inc.       | \$ 3.64   | 0.91 ▲ 33.33%  |
| Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc.   | \$ 2.05   | 0.33 ▲ 19.19%  |
| Zion Oil & Gas Inc               | \$ 3.86   | 0.54 ▲ 16.27%  |
| Arsanis, Inc.                    | \$ 18.94  | 2.41 ▲ 14.58%  |
| Natera, Inc.                     | \$ 16.07  | 2.03 ▲ 14.46%  |
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| Obalon Therapeutics, Inc.        | \$ 2.43   | 0.52 ▼ 17.63%  |
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| Deciphera Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  | \$ 39.55  | 5.40 ▼ 12.01%  |
| Pain Therapeutics, Inc.          | \$ 8.23   | 1.05 ▼ 11.31%  |
| Corvus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.     | \$ 11.16  | 1.34 ▼ 10.72%  |
| bluebird bio, Inc.               | \$ 168.90 | 18.45 ▼ 9.85%  |
| Axovant Sciences Ltd.            | \$ 2.41   | 0.26 ▼ 9.74%   |
| CareDx, Inc.                     | \$ 13.23  | 1.38 ▼ 9.45%   |
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OTHERS THINK IT



# It's time to scrub the scribble

AS far as I'm concerned, these so called graffiti 'artists,' are not only a blight on the landscape but a blight on our whole society.

Their daubs scrawls and indiscriminate obscenities, desecrate our buildings, bridges, rolling stock and just about anything else that gets in the way of their sanctimonious spray cans.

I do admit that a small minority (ala Banksy) can indeed be creative, and sometimes even enhance buildings and structures that are otherwise gloomy and run down but the majority are not.

Most are anti-social destructive louts, with nothing better to do than destroy other people's creations and hard work.

Far from it for me to declare that the three young men who were recently rundown and tragically killed by a train deserved what they got, of course they didn't, but there should be no doubt in anyone's mind that they simply shouldn't have been there in the first place.

An insight into the so called 'artistic' morality of some of these people was starkly demonstrated in the reaction of some of the like-minded friends of these three young men.



**ART ATTACK: A pedestrian tunnel in Madrid.**

Apparently, the following day 'tensions were running high' at the Loughborough Junction, where well-wishers sprayed black hearts and RIP on shutters outside the station. It appears extra police had to be brought in after youths defaced a flower memorial and daubed slogans criticising the police and Transport for London for their actions!

Er, just a minute, what particular actions were they actually objecting to? The way the police had the utterly disturbing and upsetting job of clearing the remains of the victims from the track? The transport authorities' highly daunting task of dealing with the disruption and commuter chaos that ensued after the accident?

Give us all a break. The sooner these misfits put the spray cans away, smarten up and get down to learning something from all that mainly free education they take so much for granted, the better it will be for all of us.

Personally, I would declare all-out war on these people; using CCTV and any means possible to bring them to

book. I would like to see them named, shamed and made to clean off their filth, before being heavily fined, losing their student grants or even facing imprisonment.

How dare these blots on society be allowed to deface other people's property and cause an affront to our senses in the name of 'art.'

Perhaps something good will come out of this tragedy by discouraging others to risk their lives merely to splosh paint everywhere, but somehow, I doubt it. I dunno, perhaps it's me. Sometimes I truly feel I'm getting too old for it all.

One totally unrelated action I would like to suggest before I finally check out, is to remove the words 'well done' and 'amazing' from the English language. That should strike most of our so-called TV presenters and quizzers utterly dumb and make way for some proper talent who can actually ad lib their way out of the proverbial paper bag!

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

## Hoard it through the grapevine

Consuming so much stuff is bad for our waste-line, says Terence Kennedy

**TECH FOR THE TIMID**



OLD gadgets never die; they just linger in the attic. At least mine do. And my desk drawer spews digital detritus at the slightest incursion.

What we keep 'just in case' we might find a use for it one day is bad enough. What's worse is how much we do actually ditch in today's manically throwaway society.

A growing mountain of electronic waste is the dilemma that dare not speak its name as we scramble for ever-shinier new stuff. Trouble is, no-one wants the old. Except those monstrous e-waste dumps blighting lives in China, Bangladesh, Ghana and the like.

The sad truth is that we're discarding nearly 10 per cent more e-waste

every year now, 45 million tonnes of it, never mind what still lurks in our sheds and drawers. We could feel better if the precious metals were being recovered and recycled, but dream on, only a very small share of the gold, silver, copper, platinum and palladium is actually extracted for re-use.

I realised just how throwaway it's all getting when I tried to claim on the 'lifetime guarantee' which came with a particularly expensive and prematurely deceased device. Turns out the guarantee was for the life of the device, not mine.

So as good citizens of the world, what should we do with all our old e-stuff when new toys beckon?

If it's not too far gone we could sell it on sites like the Spanish eBay or Milanuncios.com, or through the classifieds in esteemed publications like this one, or to second-hand shops.



We could invoke a feel-good factor by giving it to charity or a collection for the developing world, though I suspect even Africa wouldn't want my ancient Nokia 1100.

What we shouldn't do, at least with small devices, is just turf them in the bin, unless it's the dedicated 'small devices' recycling box you'll find at some major retailers.

I'm sure you're aware that the shops which sell us the big stuff, so-called white goods, are now obliged by law to take the old ones back, without charge, so don't let them tell

you otherwise.

And of course it goes without saying that to prevent hazardous chemicals and acids leaching into our precious soil and groundwater, we should never get rid of old batteries, or printer cartridges, anywhere except in their recycling bins.

One thing I certainly wouldn't do in the interests of re-using our stuff, is to charge non-rechargeable batteries in a powerful fast-charger, as a rather geeky friend recently did. He appreciated the flowers we took him in hospital.

## Waste not

**REPURPOSING** is one thing you can do with old tech when you've bought a sexier new model.

I have an early Nokia smartphone repurposed as a portable podcast player with a speaker.

Some people keep old phones charged in their car for emergencies, given that you can call 112 without a SIM-card.

Others have had all sorts of repurposing brainwaves, including a desk fan from an old computer power supply, a mailbox from a defunct computer tower (shown here), an old laptop as a digital photo frame and a web-cam as a home security system.

Not sure though how I feel about one particularly oddball idea: feeding sausage through the central hole in a traditional CD drive tray to turn it into a meat slicer...



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**Advertising Feature**

# Thinking of joining the boom in cruising?

**Christina Sharp****GLOBELINK INTERNATIONAL**

christina@globelink.co.uk



ARE you, or any of your family or friends thinking of taking a cruise holiday this year? Did you know that the popularity of cruise breaks has boomed in recent years, with more choice available than ever before to suit all budgets?

Once seen as the choice of the rich, or more mature traveller, cruises now offer outstanding value, for all ages. According to the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA), over 14 per cent of Brits are considering a cruise break this year, with European river cruises being the fastest growing option.

All-inclusive cruises are also a top-favourite with families and senior travellers as a way of reducing risks around currency fluctuations and minimising holiday budgeting stress, amidst ongoing Brexit drama.

But before you get carried off on a wave of excitement at choosing your cruise break, be warned that your travel insurance may



Credit: Chris Jenner Shutterstock

**INSURANCE: Consider the correct option when cruising.**

not cover you if you fall ill or have to cancel your holiday.

- Less than 50 per cent of travel policies cover cruise trips.
- You may have to pay an extra premium for this cover.
- You could get a gigantic medical or evacuation bill if you fall ill.
- Your costs if you have to cancel or curtail your trip won't be covered.

Even with the best planning, things do go wrong, so don't take the risk of travelling

without the right travel insurance cover in place.

The likelihood of contracting a contagious infection increase significantly while on board a ship. And while all cruises will have medical facilities, these may not be sufficient if you are seriously ill or injured and require to be evacuated to the nearest suitable land-based medical facility which will cost thousands.

Cancelling or cutting short your cruise due to an emergency back home, could re-

sult in losing the costs of your holiday if you don't take out the right cover.

Globelink covers cruises as standard on all policies, so there's no need to pay extra for that essential peace of mind. Globelink also cover 50 pre-existing medical conditions and 100 adventure activities for free, so you can try out the mindboggling array of activities most cruises offer from rock climbing, salsa, surfing, yoga and we'll have you covered.

Finally, save money and be a savvy traveller by not simply opting for the tour operator, or cruise company insurance option. These are often more expensive and may not suit your insurance needs.

Whether you chose a firm favourite Mediterranean cruise, or go long-haul to the Caribbean, or the Far East, do the sensible thing and get the right insurance in place.

Do this as soon as you've booked your trip to safeguard your deposits and don't forget to check the latest advice from the FCO at [www.gov.uk/travelaware](http://www.gov.uk/travelaware).

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**BANG FOR YOUR BRICKS:** Prices remain well below the 2007 peak making now an ideal time to buy.

# House about that

## Market recovery goes on



By Matt Ford

THE Spanish property market is well and truly on the road to recovery.

And the upswing is backed by a slew of recently-published data.

The Spanish Land Registrars' Association has confirmed prices soared by 9.39 per cent on average in the first quarter of 2018, while the Spanish government's official data shows that valuations shot up by 2.7 per cent.

A March index from the Association of Spanish Notaries increased by 0.4 per cent and April figures from valuations firm Tinsa rose by 5.4 per cent.

And registrars' statistics demonstrate that house prices have climbed by 26 per cent since the low point of December 2014, although they remain 18 per cent down compared to the height of the construction boom in 2007.

The Tinsa data also



shows prices in Spain's major cities displayed year-on-year growth of 8.7 per cent, those in the Balearics 5.6 per cent and on the Mediterranean coast 0.3 per cent.

Mark Srucklin of Spanish Property Insight said: "These national indices don't tell us anything about local markets, but they do give us some idea of where we are in the property market cycle. Spanish house prices are back in positive territory, whichever index you choose."

And holiday homes are also back on the march, with British buyers lead-

ing the way as Brexit fears ease.

Speaking exclusively with *Euro Weekly News*, Taylor Wimpey Espana's Sales and Marketing Director Marc Pritchard used the Costa del Sol as an example.

"The Costa del Sol holiday home market has provided scope for cautious optimism over the coming months. Prices there have risen by 9.3 per cent so far in 2018, but there are still good prices to be had compared with 2007, which many buyers find encouraging," he said. "Foreign buyers in the Costa del

Sol are currently running at 13.8 per cent, with British buyers being the largest group. Together, Brits account for 15 per cent of total sales at present. While British interest wavered in the immediate aftermath of the Brexit referendum, demand has grown again over the past year."

He added: "Of course nothing is certain in this day and age, but it seems that buyers may have already accounted for Brexit and moved on - in much the same way that the financial markets nowadays often price in expected mergers in advance, so when they actually happen their impact is limited. We anticipate this could be the same with the UK's departure from the EU; essentially, the Costa del Sol won't see much of a change from its current trajectory of increasing sales to British buyers."

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By Gregory Kirby

**A** BRITISH couple who left London in

2009 have successfully built a totally-off-the-grid carbon-neutral home within an Andalusia national park.

Simon and Donna Beckmann were beginning to feel fed up with the comforts of city living, so they went in search of adventure, according to a report by architecture industry media.

Three years of hard work later, the couple have created a unique home and artists residency in the middle of Sierra da Mara-Los Velez natural park.

Simon is not the first in his family to undertake a self-build.

His father remodeled the Victorian house he grew up in and his brother recently refurbished a lighthouse.

# Brits 'off-the-grid' in Andalusia



PHOTO CREDITS FACEBOOK JOVA: AIR

**CITY DITCHED:** Solar panels heat the property's water supply.

A can-do DIY attitude to the construction process reportedly carried Simon through the build.

When a storm damaged the power-generating wind turbine, instead of contracting

professionals to fix it, the Brit learnt how to do it himself.

A local builder fixed a metal cage to a crane which lifted Simon up to the turbine where he spent hours repairing the turbine



the house," Simon said.

"We'd mix concrete in a concrete mixer powered by a generator and then carry it in buckets up onto the roof to do the reparation. It was mad looking back at it, but we did it," he added.

The home is completely sustainable and they recycle absolutely everything.

A wind turbine in the back garden provides power, the solar panels heat the water and a filtration system collects waste water from the basins, showers and the dishwasher.

"We are 100 per cent carbon neutral," Simon said.

"It's not like I'm expecting an apocalypse. It's more about being less reliant on systems," he added.

And for those aspiring to create something similar, "just do it," was Simon's advice.

## Cut-price beach buys

LEADING Spanish banks have slashed the prices of thousands of properties they have put on the market, with many located on Spain's coasts.

The majority of the roughly 18,600 homes are located in the Valencia and Andalusia regions, as well as in the Balearic and Ca-

nary Islands. Discounts reportedly reach up to 60 per cent on market prices in some cases.

Sareb have almost 4,500 properties up for grabs on the Costas and in Spain's islands including some starting at €240,000.

Santander has put more than 1,100 houses on the market with prices ranging from €100,000 to more than €1 million for the most expensive.

BBVA's offering numbers some 2,800 properties with some discounted by up to 60 per cent. Price reductions are set to be in place until the end of the year.

Caixabank has some 4,200 up for sale through Servihabitat, its property sales arm.

Discounts reach up to 40 per cent and some houses start at €74,000.

Bankia has some 3,000 holiday homes available with 2,000 of those on the coast.

There are properties in Murcia in their range starting from €59,000.

Sabadell has some 4,000 homes to choose from, with new and second-hand properties located in Valencia, Andalusia and Cataluña.

## Cashing in

AROUND a third of all homes sold in Spain are bought with cash, according to data from the country's National Institute of Statistics.

The total number of homes sold in Spain stood at 464,423 last year, with some 310,096 mortgages granted. That places those purchased without a mortgage at around 33.2 per cent.

Data from the General Council of Notaries, a public legal body, placed the total figure higher at 43.6 per cent based on their own data.

Jose Manuel Perez, from the FM Gestiona property company, said the typical profile of those buying in cash were usually in their 50's or 60's buying houses worth €100,000 or less as investments.

## First day back

MARIANO RAJOY has started his first day back at his old job after leaving office as the head of Spain's government.

The former Prime Minister, ousted in a no confidence motion at the beginning of June, has left Madrid behind, for the Alicante Province, to work as a property registrar.

Rajoy was met by reporters and photographers as he left his workplace in Santa Pola following his first day in the job.

"I appreciate your presence. I know that you think this is news and that's why you're here.

"I don't have much more to add to what I have already said. I have retired from politics and returned to where I was before," he told journalists.

The ex-prime minister took the high speed train from Madrid and arrived 50 minutes late for his first day in the post. He is currently staying in a hotel and is set to work from 9am to 5pm.

Rajoy's return to the post, his job before entering politics, comes as he resigned his seat in Spain's parliament and as the president of the conserva-

**NEW STARTER:** Rajoy arrived in Santa Pola to take up his new post.

tive Partido Popular (PP).

He is set to stay on in a caretaker role at the PP until a new leader is chosen but he has otherwise left politics behind.

Francisco Riquelme has kept Rajoy's seat warm in the office for the last 28 years since he left it to pursue a political career.

Riquelme said he would get used to the role 'with ease' because the former prime minister is an 'intelligent person.'

The work of a property registrar was done on typewriters when Rajoy left the post. Everything is now computerised.



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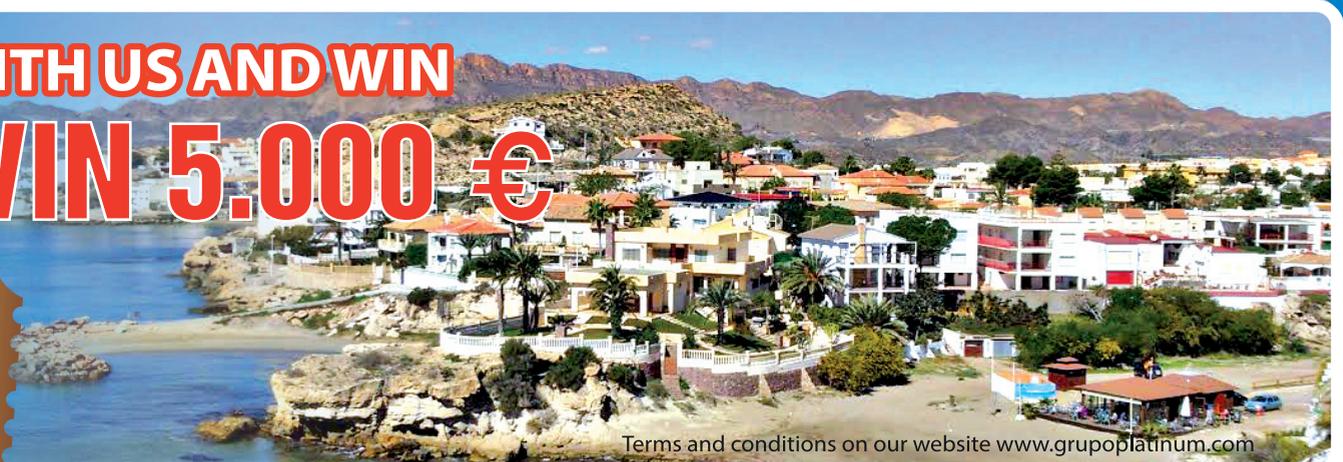
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**CONTROVERSIAL:** The mansion is on the market for €8 million.

# Franco pile battle

THE mayor of a northern Spanish town has called on Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez to help return a country home used by former dictator Francisco Franco's family to public ownership.

Benito Portela, the mayor of Sada, said in a letter to Sanchez it was an 'opportune' moment to bring the Pazo de Meiras into state hands. The property, complete with a 16-acre estate, recently went on the market for €8 million.

It comes as the prime minister has flouted moving Franco's body from the controversial Valley of the Fallen mausoleum and converting it into a memorial to the fight against fascism.

Franco's descendants continue to use the property which was the dictator's summer residence, in the A Coruña area, while he was in power.

The then Franco regime claimed the house was donated by the people of Galicia for the dictator's use

following his victory in the Spanish Civil War.

Historians have since claimed senior A Coruña officials and business leaders obliged locals to give up some of their money to buy and expand the property for Franco.

Protestors stormed the country home last year in protest against its ownership by the Franco family last year. One of them, Nestor Rego, said it was a 'scandal' that the house was still in the hands of the former dictator's descendants.

Galicia officials declared the mansion a building of cultural and heritage interest in 2008, meaning it must open its doors to the public for four months every year.

Galician nationalist politicians criticised the Franco foundation's taking over of the organising of the visits.

The foundation, which supports and promotes the dictator's legacy, was allegedly using the visits as a way to defend Franco.

## New build prices rise

GRANADA CITY has topped the list of those with the highest increases in the cost of newly-built homes in 2017, up from second place the previous year.

The data, from Spain's Development Ministry, showed prices in the city rose year on year by 17.8 per cent.

Statistics stated the average price of new builds rose by 2.3 per cent

last year when compared to 2016. The ministry estimated the average cost per square metre for new properties was €1,804 nationally.

Granada was followed in the rankings by the cities of Bugos with a 16.8 per cent increase, Alicante with 15.5 per cent, Madrid, 9.5, Sevilla, 7 and Barcelona, 6.5. Cadiz registered a 6 per cent increase, followed by Murcia with 5.6 and Palma, 4.7.

CALIDA HOMES



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4 bed 2 bath  
10x5 pool, lovely views  
villa Arboleas

147,500€ | cla 7132



3 bed 2 bath  
pool, roof solarium, views  
villa La Alfoquia

96,000€ | cla 6974



2 bed 1 bath villa  
Partalooa

190,000€ | cla 7140



4 bed 2 bath villa  
10x5 pool,  
stunning views

2018 has been a resounding success so far in terms of property sales with property prices starting to increase. Property in this area is still in popular demand with buyers from abroad and especially from the UK. Surprisingly Brexit is having little affect on Brits wanting to buy here. Due to record sales we are badly in need of new listings.

130,000€ | cla 6107



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199,000€



3 bed 2 bath villa  
Los Carrascos

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villa Los Carrascos

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3 bed 2 bath villa  
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Advertising Feature by *Next Stop Almeria***Property of the week****€ 235.000**  
**euros**

# Detached villa with private pool

BENEFITTING from some of the best uninterrupted views of the Sierra Cabrera mountains, this deceptively large property on first visit is one that continues to give and will not disappoint the discerning viewer.

With an orange juice terrace on the east side of the property over to a sundowners gin and tonic veranda on the west; and a roof top solarium taking all day sunshine down to the private secluded swimming pool and garden.

This property really does have everything covered. Entering the plot via the gate it is hard to believe that there can be so much property to discover within. Stepping up on to the covered veranda you take the first glimpse of the views and enter the villa.

The villa comprises a large central entrance hall of which there is a bright and airy living room with windows to three aspects taking the aforementioned views, four bedrooms, two bath-



**WONDERFUL PROPERTY:** Has everything you would require, all under one roof.

rooms and kitchen.

The master bedroom is generous in size and has an en suite bathroom with shower, bidet, toilet and basin. The second double bedroom also has built-in wardrobes whilst the third has been utilised as a study / occasional bedroom.

The family bathroom is equipped with a bath with shower over, bidet, toilet and basin and the fully fitted kitchen with electric hob, oven, extractor,

fridge freezer and dishwasher, completes the listing for the inside of the property.

Stepping out of the kitchen there is a terrace off which there is a utility room housing the washing machine and steps up to the solarium and down to the swimming pool and garden.

Going up to the large solarium, that is the footprint of the villa, you find a covered pergola with retractable sun shades that create a wonderful al fresco din-

ing area. It is also a great area in which to BBQ and top up not only the tan but also on the amazing views across the horizon.

Heading down to the garden level you find the swimming pool with Roman steps to one end. Around the pool there is terracing, room for sun loungers and also a feature octagonal pergola and seating area that creates another outside dining area.

Moving around the sides of the property towards the front

you find a selection of fruit trees and Mediterranean plants. The front is part planted and laid with shingle to create extra parking space beyond that provided by the drive and carport.

The villa has been the full time home for the current owners and maintained to a very high standard. It benefits from gas powered central heating, air conditioning, mosquito screens, ceiling fans, in fact everything that makes a house a liveable home in Spain! The gardens are well established and carefully planted to maximise on privacy but not overbearingly so.

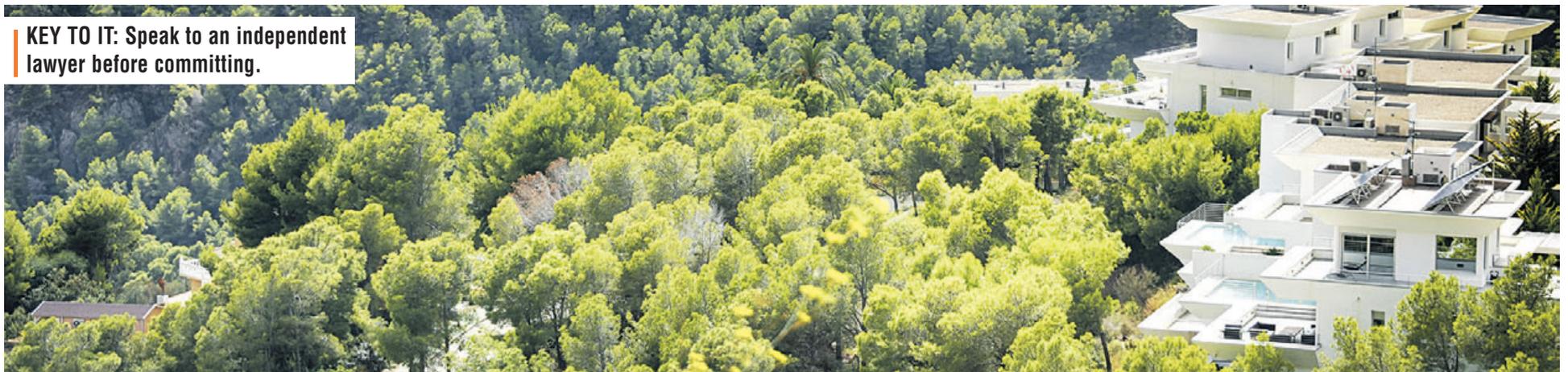
The asking price includes most furniture and a full inventory can be supplied on request. However, the proposed inventory would make the property key-ready for a new owner to move in.

**Contact: Next Stop Almeria on 950 617 518 or 678 034 651**

**Email**

**paul@nextstopalmeria.com.**

**KEY TO IT:** Speak to an independent lawyer before committing.



By **Pellicer & Heredia**

**L**ET us first give the basic warning when buying or renting a Spanish property. It goes like this: believe nothing, check everything!

When the buyer might hear that everything is in order from the seller or estate agent, it is strongly advisable to seek independent legal advice for peace of mind.

Even when there is not an outstanding mortgage, or when you are told that a property measures x square metres, check yourself or through your own surveyor. When you hear the terrace, pool, storage, basement, bedroom is included in

## Keeping it legal

What to watch out for when buying a Spanish property

the deal, check the plans and double check with your solicitor.

Any reputable seller will be perfectly happy to have his offers checked by an independent lawyer. Spoken words do not count when a property is for sale.

We all are aware of the presence of illegal housing estates where unwary buyers end up having problems of unpaid taxes, unregistered title deeds, and difficulty in obtaining mu-

nicipal services or building permission.

Some properties are sold after many corners have been cut to save costs both on the buyer's side (by not using an independent solicitor, for example), and the constructor or seller's side. You could encounter the following problems:

1. Lack of bank guarantee on stage payments (off-plan).
2. Title deed and cadastral problems (non-registered

deeds, measurements that do not match with the real metres on the house and land, etc).

3. Lack of project and licence for the house.

4. Lack of 10 years' structural insurance certificate.

5. Lack of first occupation licence.

6. Undervalued title deeds.

7. Lack of bulletins (certifications for electricians and plumbers).

8. Infrastructure problems.

It is highly recommended to employ an independent solicitor who will be working only for you and look after your best interests.

The right time to employ your lawyer is before you commit and pay any money out. The tax implications are very important and it is good for you to be aware prior to signing any document. Whether you buy an apartment or house, decide to rent a luxury villa, or agree to buy an off-plan property, do not forget to protect your money with the right independent advice from your lawyer.

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DV1463 550.000 €



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4 bed • 3 bath • Pool  
DV1464 295.000 €



**Mojacar Playa** Villa  
4 bed • 3 bath • Pool  
DV1465 335.000 €



**Mojacar Playa** Villa  
4 bed • 4 bath • Pool  
DV1456 475.000 €



**Mojacar Playa** Villa  
3 bed • 2 bath • Pool  
DV1101 265.000 €



**Mojacar Playa** Villa  
3 bed • 3 bath • Pool  
DV1280 595.000 €



**Mojacar Playa** Townhouse  
2 bed • 2 bath  
LV748 249.950 €



**Turre** Townhouse  
1 bed • 1 bath  
LV743 88.000 €



**Antas** Townhouse  
3 bed • 2 bath • Pool  
LV755 136.000 €



**Cortijo Grande** Townhouse  
2 bed • 2 bath  
LV752 110.000 €



**Mojacar Playa** Apartment  
3 bed • 1 bath • Pool  
A1335 135.000 €



**Mojacar Playa** Apartment  
3 bed • 2 bath • Pool  
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- 2 bed, 1.5 bath Duplex
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- Access to 2 communal pools
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

**VH1338 €360,000 CEE TBC**



**NEW LISTING**

- Huge, 3 Storey House of 400m2
- Currently 4 beds, 4 baths but more can be added
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- Walk to shop, cafe/restaurant, doctors
- 10 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

**VH1349 €109,950 CEE TBC**



**NEW LISTING**

- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- In need of tlc & painting
- 491m2 garden - needs landscaping etc
- Walk to popular restaurant / bar
- Zurgena / La Alfoquia area

**VH1342 €124,950 CEE E154 30**



**NEW LISTING**

- 2 Next Door Properties
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- 3 bed, 2 bath house to finish
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**TABERNO**

VH1117 €179,950 CEE F76 68



- 5 bed, 3 bath Country Villa
- Incl 2 bed apartment
- 8m x 4m pool, great views
- 5 mins to Taberno village

**LA ALFOQUIA**

VH1255 €149,950 CEE E220 37



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 339m2 garden with pool
- Full size sun roof with bbq etc
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

**ZURGENA**

VH1318 €109,950 CEE TBC



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

**HUERCAL-OVERA**

VH1326 €114,950 CEE E193 1



- 2 bed, 1 bath Villa
- 415m2 garden
- Immaculate condition
- 8 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1250 €124,950 CEE E226 59



- 3/5 bed, 1 bath Country House
- Great views, semi detached
- Renovated but needs decoration
- 5 mins to Taberno village

VH1217 €89,950 CEE E190 32



- 2/3 bed, 2 bath Duplex
- Access to 2 swimming pools
- Private garden
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

VH1319 €134,950 CEE D117 24



- 4 bed, 4 bath Village House
- Quality renovation
- Small garden
- Zurgena area

VH847 €164,950 CEE F75 57



- 4 bed, 4 bath Country House
- Incl 1 bed, 1 bath apartment
- 8m x 4m pool & 877m2 garden
- 12 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

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3. We therefore sell the most properties in this area.

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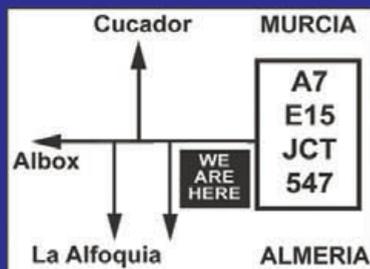


PHOTO CREDITS TWITTER/HOME DESIGN 3D



**APPY DAYS!** A triangular prism house built on Home design 3D.

## Swipe's the **limit!**

**T**HOSE who said video games were just for children have not been paying attention to a swathe of new home decoration games.

In the past decoration decisions have been leaps in the dark, often going terribly wrong, until now.

A variety of online decoration games allow amateur and chic professional decorators alike to trial their wacky ideas virtually before committing them to hard-to-reverse reality, according to Spanish media.

"We have all fantasised about sitting at a table in a beautiful dining room of a mansion on the beach or resting in a lounge created exclusively for us," Raquel Simon, Madrid's Esmadeco decoration school's academic director said.

"A tool that allows you to create beautiful spaces and choose the furniture to your liking, without having to leave the house and invest real money, can be very inspiring," he added.

One such tool is Design Home, a mobile game in which players receive specific decorative orders from fictitious clients.

Example requests include creating a minimalist living environment or a Hawaiian-inspired beach terrace.

And the virtual decorator earns money according to the design's popularity.

The game has featured in recent top download charts and video game expert Javier Arevalo agreed the creators did 'an impeccable job' in creating the app. "The key was to follow a pattern that has generated great success in the past, that is a clear, easy-to-learn product with quality components," Arevalo said.

Also, if you are struggling to choose between green or white sofa or armchair, living room or office, there are plenty of games to choose from either on iOS or Android devices.



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By Gregory Kirby

# Living for the city

**M**ALAGA is at last transforming itself from a gritty transit city on route to Costa del Sol holidaymaker favourites into a sought-after market for house buyers.

The city used to be largely ignored in favour of the more popular Barcelona, Palma de Mallorca and Marbella but is now attracting growing number of foreign property hunters.

"Thirty years ago, Malaga was bypassed by people heading to Marbella but a new mayor, Francisco de la Torre Prados, has been transforming it," says Alex Radford, a solicitor in the area.

"The port area has now opened up, the parks and gardens are much improved. Added to its 30-odd museums and art galleries have been the Museo Carmen Thyssen and the Pompidou, an offshoot of the Paris museum."

Karen McNiven, is an NHS manager from Glasgow and one of Alex's many international clients.

She has bought a two-bedroom flat near Plaza de la Con-



**IN FASHION:** Tourists walking around Malaga's historical centre.

stitution in the historical centre which was heavily featured in the recent National Geographic biopic series about the life of Pablo Picasso.

"Offered for sale at €200,000, I ended up getting it for €150,000, which was a bit of a bargain," she said.

"It's in a 452-year-old building and every room has floor-to-ceiling windows with Juliet bal-

conies. I just love it. I visit with my partner Aidan at least twice a month for long weekends, and part of the appeal is that it still feels very Spanish."

But it was not easy to find the place because many are not listed online and instead news circulates by word-of-mouth between locals, she added.

Malaga's market has always been a bit closed, according to

James Vizetelly, an agent from Affinity Humberts.

Foreigners had been put off by the lack of new builds in the city which meant those on offer were selling for even more than in glitzy Marbella.

But international buyers have become more interested in Malaga's apartments since developers started to refurbish old buildings in the past year or so,

Vizetelly said.

The going rate per square foot is €242 but shoots up to over €400 in the historical centre.

"Buyers especially love being in the old town, close to bars, the port, the beaches," according to Mikaela Jonasson of Fastighetsbyran estate agents.

"Popular areas nearby are Soho, the arty area, La Merced, San Felipe Neri, La Goleta and El Molinillo. Also, the areas east of Malaga that are historically the best neighbourhoods such as Malagueta, Limonar, Cerrado de Calderon and Pedregalejo," Mikaela Jonasson added.

Foreigners are particularly fond of Malaga city's location, a mere 20-minute taxi ride from the airport, as well as the bars and restaurants being open until later.

"At almost any hour or day, you can find wonderful places to eat, from breakfast churros to tapas and Michelin-starred restaurants. Or beach chiringuitos at Malagueta beach, perfect for eating freshly grilled fish with the sand between your toes," according to the cookery writer and teacher, Thane Prince.

*Advertising Feature by Almeria Property Finder*

**Property of the week**

**€ 225.000**  
**euros**

## Exclusive country villa

VILLA YOLANDA (APF3475) is a three bedroom country villa with a 9x5m pool, a large pool-side casita / sun lounge and a detached garage with workshop, all set in a plot of just over 1,100m<sup>2</sup>.

This well presented villa is situated in a rural location within walking distance of the charming village of Almanzora. The towns of Albox and Cantoria which offer a wider range of amenities can be reached in around 10 minutes.

The conservatory area to the front has full height doors with fly screens, allowing excellent air flow. It offers ample space for a dining table and chairs as well as a more relaxed seating area.

Steps lead down to the side conservatory which offers additional seating space, and to one end is a separate area which makes a fabulous breakfast room with access to the rear garden and pool area.

From the main conservatory, the front door opens into a generously sized lounge with a ceiling fan, hot and cold air conditioning, and a feature corner fireplace housing a state-of-the-art pellet



**OUTSIDE LIVING:** Perfect for spending time outdoors and enjoying the Spanish weather.

burner with remote control.

The lounge is dual aspect creating a lovely bright room. An archway leads from the lounge through to a large kitchen which is fully fitted with handmade oak units offering ample storage, both top and bottom. There are granite work surfaces and kick-plates, double butler style sinks, a gas hob and an electric oven.

A door off the lounge leads into a family bathroom comprising a bath with shower over and show-

er screen, WC, bidet and pedestal basin.

An archway from the lounge leads into a hallway which gives access to the three bedrooms. The master bedroom is a spacious room with air conditioning, a ceiling fan and an en suite shower room comprising large glazed shower cubicle, WC, and pedestal basin.

Bedroom two is a double room with a ceiling fan, and Bedroom three is a small double / twin room.

The pool area is completely private with beautiful views to the mountains. The 9x5m tiled pool is set in a large walled patio with purpose-built benches along the walls providing great spots for sitting and sunbathing. The patio is fitted with a lighting system which creates an amazing blue hue!

To one side of the villa is a large casita / sun lounge which makes a perfect room for the winter months or for entertaining, offering plenty of space for both dining

and relaxing. The room has a door leading out to the front garden. To the other side of the pool area is a utility room and cloakroom with WC and basin for the pool area. There is also a large garage and workshop with a tiled floor and electricity connected.

To the front of the garage is a gravelled parking area with space for several cars, and there is additional storage to the side.

The villa benefits from an industrial 175 litre water softener, along with security cameras monitored via the internet.

For further information please contact:

**Almeria Property Finder**  
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*(just up from Mercadona, opposite Opticalia)*  
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Arboleas area €184,950




**APF 3485 - Villa Miranda (NEW)**  
3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms  
131m2 build - 980m2 plot

Wonderfully presented 3 bedroom villa with pool set in a large plot surrounded by fantastic views.

Oria area €89,950




**APF 3486 - Casa Los Jacintos**  
5+ bedrooms - 1 bathroom  
223m2 build - 1.2 hectare plot

Great opportunity to purchase this 5 bedroom large partially reformed cortijo with pool, terraces and plenty of land for all those budding gardeners.

Oria area €159,950




**APF 3229 - Casa Antonia**  
3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms  
132m2 build - 800m2 plot

Fabulous 3 bedroom country house for sale in Almeria Province, situated on the edge of a small hamlet with stunning 360 degree views.

Oria area 137,500€




**APF 3461 - Villa Rafaelia**  
2 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms  
80m2 build - 2,284m2 plot

Delightful 2 bedroom villa with swimming pool situated on the edge of a small hamlet and within easy walking distance to a Spanish bar.

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**SOLD STC**

**APF 3206 - Villa Alba**  
3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms  
120m2 build - 3,200m2 plot

Arboleas area €149,950



**REDUCED**

**APF 2391 - Villa Patricia**  
3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms  
177m2 build - 332m2 plot

Albox area €152,000



**APB 3467 - Villa Lupita**  
3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms  
119m2 build - 2,500m2 plot

Partaloea area €169,950



**REDUCED**

**APF 3226 - Villa Mireya**  
3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms  
131m2 build - 833m2 plot

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## Time to make a currency transfer? Stack the odds in your favour

However, with Brexit on the horizon and markets eyeing a possible rate hike from the Bank of England later in the year, there stands to be some significant shifts in EUR/GBP over the coming months.

This could greatly impact the value of any transfers you make, whether you're bringing it into Spain or repatriating funds back home.

So what options do you have to help protect you from further exchange rate chaos?

### Spot transfer

A spot transfer is a currency transfer made immediately using the current market rate. This option is ideal for quickly taking advantage of any favourable shifts in the market, or for those times when a timely transfer is crucial.

### Forward contract

Sometimes you may find that a shift in the EUR/GBP exchange rate leaves it in an extremely favourable position, but you aren't quite ready to make a transfer - an outcome which often occurs during the time consuming process of purchasing or selling a foreign property.

However, a forward contract allows you to freeze an exchange rate for up to a year, granting you the peace of mind that your transfer will be protected from any negative shifts in the markets before you're ready to move your money.

Forward contracts can also be used in conjunction with regular transfers, ideal for budgeting efficiently for things like making monthly mortgage payments.

### Market orders

Market orders offer expats the ideal way to target a specific exchange rate without fear of being left high and dry should EUR/GBP swing in an unfavourable direction.

If you're in no hurry with your transfer and are willing to wait for the possibility of a more favourable exchange rate then you may wish to consider a limit order, which will automatically transfer your funds as soon as your target rate is hit.

Complementing this is the stop-loss order, which allows you to set a worst-case exchange rate for your currency transfer.

The two order types can even be combined to create a target range for your transfer, giving you greater control over your money.

So far 2018 has seen the EUR/GBP exchange rate fairly range bound, with 2017's wild Sterling swings appearing to be a thing of the past. This comparative stability might come as a relief to any expats out there who make regular currency transfers. It's a lot easier to budget when the currency market isn't turning on its head every other month!

### Anything else to be aware of?

The currency market is notorious for being both volatile and unpredictable, with even a daily movement of 0.5% potentially having a major impact on your EUR/GBP transfers.

Staying on top of the latest market movements and minimising your exposure to risks is therefore key to ensuring that your currency transfer is a success.

Try subscribing to the daily market updates issued by some leading currency transfer providers if you'd like an easy way to keep track of currency markets, or set up a Rate Alerts to receive an instant notification when your target rate is met.

In short, maximise your returns when transferring money abroad by investigating your currency transfer options!

At Currencies Direct, we've helped over 210,000 customers save on their currency transfers since 1996. Just pop into your local Currencies Direct branch or give us a call to find out more about how you can save money on your currency transfers.

### Get in touch - Costa de Almería

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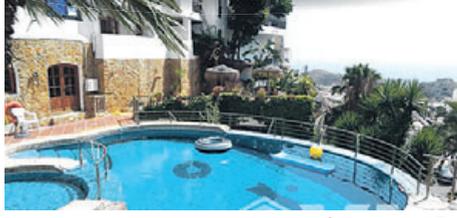
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**Sunday 2,900**  
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# Barcelona bashes online rentals

AIRBNB rentals continue to be a contentious topic in Barcelona, as the tourism minister, Agusti Colom, continues to pressure the holiday rental giant into concessions.

Colom recently announced the website will collaborate with authorities through an anti-tourism fraud platform.

It joins other sector heavyweights like Booking, TripAdvisor, Rentalia and Homeaway in the move.

The rental hub has pledged to remove 2,577 unlicensed listings, share user data with the council and introduce a tool to prevent future illicit lets in the region.

And the holiday rental giant launched a #LoveBarcelona video campaign which featured local hosts celebrating welcoming newcomers into their homes and to the city.

It was a marketing plea to boost the firm's image which has been severely tarnished for allegedly making city rentals inaccessible for locals.

Strolling down some of



**BATTLE:** Tourism minister Agusti Colom discussing social cohesion.

Barcelona's more touristy neighbourhoods like Gracia and Poble Nou passers-by will see balconies branded with flags slating the rental firm.

Residents claim Airbnb causes speculative property markets, with houses being bagged by investors using them to rake in expensive

tourist rates.

But the firm disagrees on the extent of the impact.

In fact, it takes credit for a €1 billion influx its clients allegedly bring to Cataluña's capital.

It also claimed some 80 per cent of the 18,531 Barcelona homes on offer are the owner's sole property.

And it said more than half of lets are made by 'home sharers' renting out single rooms to help pay the bills.

City council inspectors do not see it that way.

Their job is to sniff out illegal holiday lets aided by a dedicated hotline through which locals can report sus-

pected law breakers.

So far, the council has handed out 3,000 fines and 2,200 rental ending orders.

It also fined the website €600,000 in 2016 for placing unlicensed properties online, but it has yet to pay up.

"All we ask is that Airbnb obeys the law," Janet Sanz, the housing councillor said.

"Often when they say they want to negotiate, what they're really asking is to break the law, but that's not negotiable," she added.

Airbnb will not roll over lightly and is lobbying the European Union in Brussels to override local legislation.

But according to Jaime Palomera of the Tenants' Union, Barcelona households spend on average 45 per cent of their income on rents.

It means "if they get into financial difficulties, they end up in the street," he added.

And with locals walking such a tightrope, it is unlikely citizen's pressure on Airbnb is due to let up any time soon.

## Expat boost

A WEAK British housing market and falls in mortgage interest rates look set to boost the position of expatriates wanting to invest in property in the country this summer.

Lenders have reportedly begun cutting rates and administration charges for British buyers living overseas.

The spectre of a rise in Britain's base interest rate coinciding with this could see costs go up for those still in the country, according to a mortgage broker.

Guy Stephenson, a spokesperson for Offshoreonline.org which offers advice on European mortgages, said lower demand for property in Britain could also benefit overseas buyers.

"Lenders will have the ability to trim margins as and when Britain's base rates do rise. The impact on borrowers will be softened," he said.

Expatriate buy to let variable rate loans are available from 2.89 per cent while two year fixed rates currently start at around 3.19 per cent. Five year fixed rates stand at about 4.19 per cent, according to reports.



**FRIDGE OF THE FUTURE:** Samsung want their family hub to revolutionise the home.

SAMSUNG'S latest fridge release is the South Korean tech giant's attempt to bring the chilly device into the spotlight of domestic life.

The fancy fridge has a wi-fi connection allowing owners to read the latest news headlines when reaching for their morning milk.

The tech wonders don't stop there.

Three interior cameras take snaps of the contents, sending them to owners' mobiles or tablets so they

## Chill factor

can plan shopping from outside the home.

And it even boasts a tablet-like screen which synchronises with video streaming so those hooked on TV are not interrupted when topping up drinks or grabbing a snack.

But, the 'family hub's' novelty is the reminders homeowners can set, allowing them to manually input expiration dates to later receive notification before perishables go off.

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|  <p>3bed</p> |  <p>2bed</p> |  <p>5bed</p> |  <p>2bed</p> |
| <p>Mojácar<br/>€335.000<br/>Ref: GG554</p>  | <p>Villaricos<br/>€148.000<br/>Ref: GG401</p>  | <p>Valle del Este<br/><del>€315.000</del> <b>REDUCED</b> €299000<br/>Ref: GG458</p>               | <p>Mojácar<br/>€130.000<br/>Ref: PS561</p>  |

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# Station gets makeover

By Gregory Kirby

SPAIN'S legendary Canfranc train station is due to be refurbished and part of it converted into a five-star hotel.

Canfranc - which used to link France and Spain - was the most important train station to be built in the first half of the 20th century. King Alfonso XIII inaugurated Canfranc in 1928 but the 40's saw the station's peak years of activity.

The once international station - nestled amid the Spanish Pyrenees and close to the

French border - was as an important strategic resistance point during the Second World War.

Europe's last dictator, General Franco, blocked off the tunnel during the Spanish Civil War to prevent arms smuggling from France.

In 1970, international connections were discontinued after a derailed train made the L'Estanguet bridge, on the French side of the border, unusable.

A joint Acciona Construccion and Avintia team will undertake the remodeling of the



**SECOND WIND:** International railway station Canfranc (Huesca).

Huesca municipality station.

The transformed hub will include a new three-way passenger terminal and two-way freight equivalent.

The station's distinctive main building is listed as an Asset of Cultural Interest on

Spain's heritage register and will be converted to house a five-star hotel.

Avintia's president, Antonio Martin, said the project was a 'milestone' in the company's trajectory, despite having completed similarly unique developments

in Valencia and Barcelona.

The project will "revive an emblematic space in the region and in Spain's transport history," Jaime Molina, Acciona Construccion director, said.

The global infrastructure, water and renew-

ables company has a pedigree in remodeling historical sights.

It has worked on Madrid's the National Archaeological Museum (MAN), Sao Paulo's Julio Prestes railway station as well as Madrid's Palace hotel, which is still underway.

PHOTO CREDITS: TWITTER: RICARD BELLEGA/SHUTTERSTOCK


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coming to Vera for an exhibition  
which will be 800m<sup>2</sup> in size.

## Renting at historic highs

THE percentage of Spanish households living in rentals rose to 16.9 per cent last year, the highest figure on record according to official data.

The National Institute of Statistics (INE) found the share of total households living in a property they own fell to 76.7 per cent last year, the lowest recorded.

The data stated the number of those who own their own home has fallen by 2.9 per cent since the start of the financial crisis in 2008. The share of total households in their own homes stood at 79.6 per cent that year.

The percentage of those renting has climbed during the same period by 2.7 per cent, up from 14.2 per cent in 2008.

The INE's statistics also found home ownership was more common among men, while those who rented were more often women. The over 65's tended to own their home while those between 16 and 29 typically rented.

PROPTECH, the emerging technology-based real estate sector, is embedding itself in the industry with more than 200 Spanish startups now in operation.

The forward-thinking proptech firms slid in after the brick-building bubble popped in 2007, with market leaders including Housers, Housfy, Spota-home, Prontopiso, Tiko and Housell.

Some 60 companies and 1,300 professional visitors attended the Real Estate Property Agents' (API) new technology fair in Barcelona last month.

All types of technological firms

## The 'Proptech' revolution

showed up including from big data, 3D construction, management platforms, peer to peer, fintec and drone sectors.

"A festival like this is necessary,

it is the future of the real estate sector," said Francisco Moran, president of Compropiso property selling startup.

Proptech is "revolutionizing the real estate sector and cutting production costs," Moran added.

More than 4,000 jobs were born to Proptech companies in Spain within just five years, according to Idealista, a rental platform app.



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| THURSDAY |               | BBC one                                      | BBC TWO | itv                                     | CHANNEL 4 | CHANNEL 5  | sky sports main event |   |                        |  |                        |                                   |
|----------|---------------|--|---------|---|-----------|--|-----------------------|---|------------------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 28 JUNE  | 6:15pm        | Pointless                                    | 3:45pm  | Match of the Day Live Japan vs Poland   | 3:00pm    | Judge Rinder's Crime Stories                               | 4:00pm                | A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun          | 6:00pm                 | 5 News at 5  | 9:00am                 | Good Morning Sports Fans          |
|          | 7:00pm        | BBC News at Six                              | 6:00pm  | Tennis                                  | 4:00pm    | Tenable  | 5:00pm                | The £100k Drop                          | 6:30pm                 | Neighbours   | 10:00am                | Good Morning Sports Fans          |
| 29 JUNE  | 7:30pm        | BBC London News                              | 7:30pm  | Richard Osman's House of Games          | 5:00pm    | Tipping Point  | 6:00pm                | Come Dine with Me                       | 7:00pm                 | Home and Away                                      | 10:30am                | Live European Tour Golf           |
|          | 8:00pm        | Fake Britain                                 | 8:00pm  | How the NHS Changed Our World           | 6:00pm    | The Chase  | 6:30pm                | The Posh Frock Shop                     | 7:30pm                 | 5 News Tonight                                     | 6:30pm                 | Neighbours                        |
|          | 8:30pm        | Orkney: When the Boat Comes In               | 8:30pm  | Britain's Best Junior Doctors           | 7:00pm    | ITV News London  | 7:00pm                | The Simpsons                            | 8:00pm                 | The Wonderful World of Puppies                     | 7:00pm                 | Home and Away                     |
|          | 9:00pm        | Eat Well for Less                            | 9:00pm  | The Family Farm                         | 7:05pm    | ITV Evening News   | 7:30pm                | Hollyoaks                               | 9:00pm                 | Get a Holiday Body: Lose a Stone in Four Weeks     | 7:30pm                 | 5 News Tonight                    |
|          | 10:00pm       | Celebrities on the NHS Frontline             | 10:00pm | Japan's Secret Shame                    | 7:15pm    | FIFA World Cup 2018: England v Belgium                     | 7:30pm                | Channel 4 News                          | 8:00pm                 | Parker   | 8:00pm                 | Arctic Icebreakers                |
|          | 11:00pm       | BBC News at Ten                              | 11:00pm | Mock the Week                           | 10:15pm   | Good Evening Britain                                       | 8:00pm                | Supershoppers                           | 10:00pm                | Building Britain's Canals                          | 9:00pm                 | Building Britain's Canals         |
|          | 11:30pm       | BBC London News                              |         |   | 11:15pm   | ITV News   | 9:00pm                | Humans                                  | 10:00pm                | Cruising with Jane McDonald                        | 10:00pm                | The Last Leg                      |
|          |               |  |         |   |           |  | 10:00pm               | First Dates                             | 11:00pm                | Dale Winton's Florida Fly Drive                    | 11:00pm                | The Big Narstie Show              |
|          |               |  |         |   |           |  | 11:00pm               |   |                        |  | 12:00am                | The Big Narstie Show              |
|          |               |  |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        |  | 1:05am                 | Stath Lets Flats                  |
| 30 JUNE  | 5:15pm        | Flog It!                                     | 7:00pm  | Richard Osman's House of Games          | 6:00pm    | The Chase  | 6:00pm                | Come Dine with Me                       | 4:15pm                 | Jesse Stone: Sea Change                            | 10:30am                | Live European Tour Golf           |
|          | 6:15pm        | Pointless                                    | 7:30pm  | Curious Creatures                       | 7:00pm    | ITV News London  | 6:30pm                | The Posh Frock Shop                     | 6:00pm                 | 5 News at 5  | 8:30pm                 | Live Super League                 |
| 1 JULY   | 7:00pm        | BBC News at Six                              | 8:00pm  | How the NHS Changed Our World           | 7:30pm    | ITV Evening News   | 7:00pm                | The Simpsons                            | 6:30pm                 | Neighbours   | 11:30pm                | Live PGA Tour Golf                |
|          | 7:30pm        | BBC London News                              | 8:30pm  | Britain's Best Junior Doctors           | 8:00pm    | Emmerdale  | 7:30pm                | Hollyoaks                               | 7:00pm                 | Home and Away                                      | 1:00am                 | Live Us Senior Open               |
|          | 8:00pm        | DIY SOS the Big Build                        | 9:00pm  | Gardeners' World                        | 8:30pm    | Coronation Street  | 8:00pm                | Channel 4 News                          | 7:30pm                 | 5 News Tonight                                     | 3:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 9:00pm        | EastEnders                                   | 10:00pm | The Bridge                              | 9:00pm    | James Martin's American Adventure                          | 8:00pm                | George Clarke's Amazing Spaces          | 8:00pm                 | Arctic Icebreakers                                 | 4:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 9:30pm        | Room 101                                     | 11:00pm | Frankie Boyle's New World Order         | 9:30pm    | Coronation Street  | 9:00pm                | The Crystal Maze                        | 9:00pm                 | Building Britain's Canals                          | 5:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 10:00pm       | EastEnders                                   |         |   | 10:00pm   | Lethal Weapon  | 10:00pm               | The Last Leg                            | 10:00pm                | Dale Winton's Florida Fly Drive                    |                        |                                   |
|          | 10:30pm       | Our Friend Victoria                          |         |   | 11:00pm   | ITV News at Ten and Weather                                | 11:00pm               | The Big Narstie Show                    |                        |  |                        |                                   |
|          | 11:00pm       | BBC News at Ten                              |         |   |           |  | 1:05am                | Stath Lets Flats                        |                        |  |                        |                                   |
|          | 11:25pm       | BBC London News                              |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        |  |                        |                                   |
|          |               |  |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        |  |                        |                                   |
| 2 JULY   | 3:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 7:00pm  | Managing England: The Impossible Job    | 3:30pm    | FIFA World Cup 2018: Round of 16                           | 11:55am               | F1: Grand Prix Practice 3 Live          | 7:00pm                 | Blind Date   | 10:00am                | Good Morning Sports Fans          |
|          | 6:10pm        | Money for Nothing                            | 8:00pm  | Coastal Path                            | 6:15pm    | Catchphrase  | 1:25pm                | F1: Grand Prix                          | 8:00pm                 | Karen Carpenter: Goodbye to Love                   | 11:00am                | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 7:10pm        | BBC News                                     | 8:30pm  | Dad's Army                              | 7:00pm    | ITV Evening News   | 1:55pm                | F1: Grand Prix Qualifying Live          | 10:00pm                | Carpenters: Their Greatest Hits                    | 11:30am                | Live RI One Day Cup Final         |
|          | 7:20pm        | Regional News                                | 9:00pm  | NHS: To Provide All People              | 7:15pm    | Regional News and Weather                                  | 4:45pm                | A Place in the Sun                      | 11:00pm                | The Michael McIntyre Story                         | 8:00pm                 | Live GAA                          |
|          | 7:25pm        | Weather                                      | 10:00pm | Eric Clapton: Life in 12 Bars           | 7:30pm    | FIFA World Cup 2018: Round of 16                           | 5:45pm                | Escape to the Chateau DIY               | 12:30am                | Michael McIntyre: Live at the Comedy Store         | 10:00pm                | Live PGA Tour Golf                |
|          | 7:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 1:55am  | Mea Culpa                               | 10:15pm   | Bear's Mission with Anthony Joshua                         | 6:50pm                | Channel 4 News                          | 1:00am                 | Super Casino                                       | 12:00am                | Live Us Senior Open               |
|          | 10:15pm       | Mrs. Brown's Boys                            |         |   | 11:00pm   | ITV News   | 7:20pm                | Titanic                                 |                        |  | 3:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 10:45pm       | BBC News                                     |         |   |           |  | 11:00pm               | Taken 2                                 |                        |  | 4:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 11:00pm       | Weather                                      |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        |  | 5:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 11:05pm       | Little Fockers                               |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        |  |                        |                                   |
| 3 JULY   | 12:35am       | Match of the Day                             |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        |  |                        |                                   |
|          | 2:30pm        | Songs of Praise                              | 2:00pm  | Athletics                               | 2:30pm    | To be Announced  | 2:00pm                | F1: Grand Prix Live Build Up            | 2:50pm                 | Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!                     | 2:30pm                 | Live Austrian F1 GP: On the Grid  |
|          | 3:05pm        | The Silent Child                             | 6:00pm  | Flog It!                                | 3:30pm    | FIFA World Cup 2018: Round of 16                           | 2:40pm                | F1: Grand Prix Live                     | 3:50pm                 | Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!                     | 3:05pm                 | Live Austrian F1 Grand Prix       |
|          | 3:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 6:30pm  | Into the Woods: Stage to Screen         | 6:15pm    | Catchphrase  | 5:30pm                | F1: Grand Prix Live Reaction            | 4:50pm                 | Bewitched  | 5:30pm                 | Live Women's T20 Tri Series Final |
|          | 6:10pm        | BBC News                                     | 8:30pm  | Mortimer and Whitehouse: Gone Fishing   | 7:00pm    | ITV Evening News   | 6:30pm                | Bang on Budget                          | 6:55pm                 | Bride Wars   | 7:00pm                 | Live PGA Tour Golf Final Round    |
|          | 6:20pm        | Regional News                                | 9:00pm  | Russia with Simon Reeve                 | 7:15pm    | Regional News and Weather                                  | 7:30pm                | Channel 4 News                          | 8:25pm                 | 5 News   | 7:00pm                 | Live Us Senior Open               |
|          | 6:25pm        | Weather                                      | 10:00pm | The Misadventures of Romesh Ranganathan | 7:30pm    | FIFA World Cup 2018: Round of 16                           | 8:00pm                | Escape to the Chateau                   | 8:30pm                 | Dirty Dancing: Making Movie Magic                  | 12:30am                | Live Us Senior Open               |
|          | 6:30pm        | Countryfile                                  | 11:00pm | The Fourth Estate                       | 10:15pm   | Caught on Camera   | 9:00pm                | Bake Off: The Professionals             | 10:00pm                | Dirty Dancing                                      | 3:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 6:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 12:00am | Best of Glastonbury 2017                | 11:00pm   | ITV News   | 10:00pm               | The Handmaid's Tale                     | 12:05am                | The Best of Me                                     | 4:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 10:10pm       | Poldark                                      |         |   |           |  | 11:15pm               | Night and Day                           |                        |  |                        |                                   |
| 11:10pm  | BBC News      |  |         |   |           | 12:20am  | Walter Presents       |   |                        |  |                        |                                   |
| 4 JULY   | 11:30pm       | Regional News                                |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        |  |                        |                                   |
|          | 2:30pm        | Regional News                                | 9:30pm  | Today at Wimbledon                      | 6:15pm    | Catchphrase  | 6:30pm                | The Posh Frock Shop                     | 2:45pm                 | Neighbours   | 2:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 2:45pm        | Wimbledon 2018                               | 10:30pm | Versailles                              | 7:00pm    | Regional News and Weather                                  | 7:00pm                | The Simpsons                            | 3:15pm                 | Cagney and Lacey                                   | 3:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 3:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 11:30pm | Newsnight                               | 7:15pm    | ITV Evening News   | 7:30pm                | Hollyoaks                               | 4:15pm                 | The Killer Nurse                                   | 4:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 6:10pm        | Wimbledon 2018                               | 12:10am | Weather                                 | 7:30pm    | FIFA World Cup 2018: Round of 16                           | 8:00pm                | Channel 4 News                          | 6:00pm                 | 5 News   | 5:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 7:00pm        | BBC News                                     | 12:15am | Japan's Secret Shame Exposed            | 1:15am    | Countryfile  | 9:00pm                | Jamie's Quick and Easy Food             | 6:30pm                 | Neighbours   | 6:00pm                 | Sky Sports News at 5              |
|          | 7:15pm        | Regional News                                | 1:45am  | Countryfile                             | 2:40am    | Back to the Land with Kate Humble                          | 10:15pm               | Food Unwrapped                          | 7:00pm                 | Home and Away                                      | 7:00pm                 | Sky Sports News at 6              |
|          | 7:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 3:40am  | This is BBC Two                         | 3:40am    |  | 11:00pm               | 24 Hours in Police Custody              | 7:30pm                 | 5 News   | 8:00pm                 | Sky Sports Tonight                |
|          | 10:10pm       | EastEnders                                   |         |   |           |  | 10:00pm               | Inside the American Embassy             | 8:00pm                 | Moto GP Highlights                                 | 9:00pm                 | Sky Sports Tonight                |
|          | 10:40pm       | Room 101                                     |         |   |           |  | 11:00pm               |   | 9:00pm                 | The Yorkshire Vet                                  | 10:00pm                | Sky Sports Tonight                |
| 11:10pm  | BBC News      |  |         |   |           |  |                       | 10:00pm                                 | Hercules               | 11:00pm  | Sky Sports News at Ten |                                   |
| 11:40pm  | Regional News |  |         |   |           |  |                       | 11:55pm                                 | Fights, Camera, Action | 12:00am  | Sky Sports News        |                                   |
| 5 JULY   | 2:00pm        | BBC News                                     | 8:10am  | The Super League Show                   | 5:00pm    | Tipping Point  | 5:00pm                | The £100k Drop                          | 6:30pm                 | Neighbours   | 11:00am                | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 2:30pm        | Regional News                                | 9:00am  | Super Powered Squirrels                 | 6:15pm    | Catchphrase  | 6:00pm                | Come Dine with Me                       | 7:00pm                 | Home and Away                                      | 12:00pm                | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 2:45pm        | Wimbledon 2018                               | 10:00am | Victoria Derbyshire                     | 7:00pm    | Regional News and Weather                                  | 6:30pm                | The Posh Frock Shop                     | 7:30pm                 | 5 News   | 1:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 3:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 12:00pm | The Daily Politics                      | 7:15pm    | ITV Evening News   | 7:00pm                | The Simpsons                            | 8:00pm                 | Shop Smart: Save Money                             | 2:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 6:10pm        | Wimbledon 2018                               | 12:30pm | Wimbledon 2018                          | 7:30pm    | FIFA World Cup 2018: Round of 16                           | 7:30pm                | Hollyoaks                               | 9:00pm                 | The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies                  | 3:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 7:00pm        | BBC News                                     | 9:30pm  | Today at Wimbledon                      | 10:15pm   | David Walliams Presents... Revenge of Alright on the Night | 8:00pm                | Channel 4 News                          | 9:00pm                 | The Hotel Inspector                                | 4:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 7:15pm        | Regional News                                | 10:30pm | Palace Flower Show                      | 11:00pm   | ITV News at Ten and Weather                                | 9:00pm                | Ackley Bridge                           | 10:00pm                | The Boy with Giant Hands                           | 5:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 7:30pm        | Match of the Day Live                        | 11:00pm | QI                                      |           |  | 10:00pm               | Bride and Prejudice                     | 11:00pm                | Little Divas: Tantrums and Tiaras                  | 6:00pm                 | Cricket                           |
|          | 10:10pm       | Our Girl                                     | 11:30pm | Newsnight                               |           |  | 11:00pm               | 999: What's Your Emergency?             | 12:05am                |  | 10:00pm                | Sky Sports Tonight                |
|          | 11:10pm       | BBC News                                     | 12:10am | Weather                                 |           |  |                       | 24 Hours in A and E                     |                        |  | 11:00pm                | Sky Sports News at Ten            |
| 11:40pm  | Regional News |  |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        | 12:00am  | Sky Sports News        |                                   |
| 6 JULY   | 7:30pm        | Regional News                                | 9:00am  | See Hear                                | 7:00pm    | Regional News and Weather                                  | 3:10pm                | Countdown                               | 6:30pm                 | Neighbours   | 3:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 8:00pm        | Panorama                                     | 9:30am  | Britain in Bloom                        | 7:30pm    | ITV Evening News   | 4:00pm                | A Place in the Sun                      | 7:00pm                 | Home and Away                                      | 4:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 8:30pm        | The Street Food Servants                     | 10:00am | Victoria Derbyshire                     | 8:00pm    | Emmerdale  | 5:00pm                | The £100k Drop                          | 7:30pm                 | The NHS at 70: A 5 News Tonight Special            | 5:00pm                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 9:00pm        | DIY SOS the Big Build                        | 12:00pm | BBC Newsroom Live                       | 8:30pm    | Coronation Street  | 6:00pm                | Come Dine with Me                       | 8:00pm                 | The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies                  | 6:00pm                 | Sky Sports News at 5              |
|          | 10:00pm       | Death in Paradise                            | 12:30pm | The Daily Politics                      | 9:00pm    | Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs                         | 6:30pm                | The Posh Frock Shop                     | 8:55pm                 | Welcome to Paramount Network                       | 7:00pm                 | Cricket                           |
|          | 11:00pm       | BBC News                                     | 2:00pm  | Wimbledon 2018                          | 9:30pm    | Coronation Street  | 7:00pm                | The Simpsons                            | 9:00pm                 | The Highland Midwife                               | 10:45pm                | Best of the 2017 Blast            |
|          | 11:30pm       | Regional News                                | 9:30pm  | Today at Wimbledon                      | 10:00pm   | The Big NHS Singalong Live                                 | 7:30pm                | Hollyoaks                               | 10:00pm                | Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh | 11:00pm                | Sky Sports News at Ten            |
|          | 11:40pm       | Weather                                      | 10:30pm | Palace Flower Show                      | 11:00pm   | ITV News at Ten and Weather                                | 8:00pm                | Channel 4 News                          |                        |  | 12:00am                | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 11:45pm       | Barry Davies: The Man, the Voice, the Legend | 11:00pm | Mortimer and Whitehouse: Gone Fishing   |           |  | 9:00pm                | Great Rail Restorations with Peter Snow |                        |  | 1:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          | 12:30am       | Reggie Yates' Extreme Russia                 | 11:30pm | Newsnight                               |           |  | 10:00pm               | 24 Hours in a and e                     |                        |  | 2:00am                 | Sky Sports News                   |
|          |               |  |         |   |           | 11:00pm  | Stath Lets Flats      |   |                        | 3:00am   | Sky Sports News        |                                   |
|          |               |  |         |   |           |  |                       |   |                        | 4:00am   | Football Years         |                                   |

# Harry Hill leads BBC One sitcom - surprise star plays his mother

**Richard Shanley**  
*Dishing the Dirt*  
OF EUROPA DIGITAL



HARRY HILL has yet another new show on the way - this time, however, he is trading panel shows and funny clips for a sitcom on BBC One.

The comedian is lining up a new programme - currently titled The Harry Hill Sitcom - with a pilot due to be filmed next month, according to Broadcast.

However, even more excitingly, Jennifer Saunders is set to play his mother (despite being only six years older than Harry in real life).

Producers are dubbing it a 'brilliantly mad story... with an all-star cast,' so hopefully that means more big names



will be added in due course.

Harry recently wrapped up the second series of his ITV show Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule, which featured guests such as the X Factor's (now former judge) Louis Walsh, Sherlock's Una Stubbs, and Strictly Come Dancing stars Anita Rani and Chizzy Akudolu.

And that's not to mention Harry's other TV projects, such as Harry Hill's Tea Time on Sky and the ever-popular You've Been Framed!.

**HARRY HILL: More laughs ahead in 'brilliantly mad' sitcom with an all star cast.**

If you would like me to answer any questions you may have on satellite TV or to expand on anything I have written about please call me on 678 332 815 or email [richard@europa-digital.com](mailto:richard@europa-digital.com). I look forward to your comments and questions. Don't forget to listen to my radio show every weekday from 10am on Spectrum 96.1 and 106.8FM, now covering almost 3,000sq kms of Costa Almeria and Calida or listen online at [costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net](http://costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net) for the latest news and views from the world of satellite television.

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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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

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## Disappointed with the state of cleanliness

WHEN we came to live permanently in this wonderful city of Benidorm some four years ago there were several city council employed road sweepers and cleaners patrolling and cleaning the pavements every day.

They managed, against the odds, to do a good job of clearing up after thoughtless visitors, and indeed some locals who deposit their unwanted rubbish anywhere except the provided bins. I won't go into disgusting dog owners who allow their dogs to foul the pavements in every area, every night.

Just recently there has been a distinct lack of road sweepers and cleaners and when on my walks around numerous parts of Benidorm I've noticed a build-up of litter including plastic bags, discarded cigarette packets, empty beer cans, numerous designs of leaflets, half empty plastic beer glasses and loads of dog mess.

Has the local council dismissed the men/women who sweep our streets? The whole city of Benidorm is looking shabby and smells from the bins, especially the bottle banks, is horrendous since the

### Marbella mayor thanks EWN for support

AS mayor of Marbella, I want to thank you for attending the meeting we recently held with representatives of the international resident community at Adolfo Suarez Congress Hall.

It was undoubtedly a very constructive meeting in which we outlined the main policies that the city council is going to undertake and also where we became aware of your main demands and suggestions, with the aim of continuing to offer a service that matches your needs.

Marbella is a meeting point for 143 nationalities. This is a challenge, an asset and an added value to any city. We want you to be a relevant part of our city and to feel that its management is something of your interest and competence. We would also like to take advantage of your experience



Credit: Ayuntamiento de Marbella

#### THANKYOU: Mayor Muñoz chaired the meeting.

and share your traditions and customs, which I'm sure will make our city richer.

That's why I encourage you to continue collaborating with the city council in order to continue building a great Marbella. You can visit our municipal website to look up all the relevant information about our city, but you also have at your disposal the new facilities of International Residents Department, located at the Congress Hall, where you will always find its doors open for you.

Ángeles Muñoz Uriol, mayor of Marbella

weather is getting hotter by the day. Now that Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey are offering cheap holidays to entice tourists back it is doubly important to offer our great city as a more affordable, cleaner place to visit.

Steve Mangan, Benidorm

### Toll road rip off

WE decided to take a trip to Gibraltar via the toll road last week.

Although we have used this road several times before and although it is never busy on this occasion we only came across a few cars, however after paying all three tolls we understood why. The total cost was €15.90 therefore the round trip was €31.80.

When is somebody going to do something about this total rip off?

Les, Torreblanca, Fuengirola

**Editor's note: The prices on that section of the motorway increase by around 50 per cent from June 1 to the end of September every year.**

### Seeking advice

MY family and I lived and worked in Spain for 17 years and came back in 2012.

We had nominas and autominos employment. Can anyone help me to find out if I can get a presupuesto/estimate of what pensions entitlements we can expect, based upon the contributions to the system we made? I have look on the social security website without success.

Philip Shaw, Back in Spain

### Great work

PLEASE thank David Noon for his great article on Spain's cycling and walking network. Here in Mojacar we used to have a great walking network linking the various cortijos in the Sierra Cabrera Mountains. A map of the tracks resembled the London tube map.

In September 2012 we had the mother of all storms. A lot of the tracks were damaged but we can't get to repair them because the dirt road to the starting points needs a JCB to clear it.

We have been asking the town hall for this work to be carried out but after six years, nothing has been done. It seems that a lot of areas in Spain promote hiking but not Mojacar.

Roger Page, Mojacar Playa

### 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).

## Brit expat living next to 'illegal zoo'

Dear David and Mandy,

Sorry to hear your story which is worse than ours. We too have had similar problems during five years in Alfaz del Pi. We were helped by 'Somos Gos' which is an animal defender association. We also asked for help from a political party which is in the opposition as well as 'El Defensor del Pueblo' and el 'Sindic de Greuges' although these two last ones will tell the Ayuntamiento what to do but have no authority to oblige them to execute the rules and regulations. If all of this doesn't work you'll have to take a lawyer and bring this case into justice.

I hope that with these little advices you'll be able to improve the situation. Good luck!

Berger Micheline

If he has no licence how come they can't take action and take the animals to a proper sanctuary.

Pat Ward

This is typical of most of the councils always excuses. This needs sorting.

Colin Carter

Hopefully these animals can either be released back into the wild or given to local zoos who can look after them properly.

Zara Mária

### Comments from EWN online

#### Magaluf clamps down on boozy Brits

Apparently brought this into Marbella. We will wait and see if it's enforced. Nothing worse than in a cafe/restaurant away from the beach and sweaty bodies on seats.

Norma Bell

Yes, couldn't agree more, but the last jobs I saw a video of were Netherlanders. I hope this applies to all jobs and hooligans no matter what their nationality.

Sandra Lyons

Well done but double the fine for the 2nd time. Hit them in the pocket.

Bob Saunders

Good, it's time they behaved and stopped making all respectable Brits tarred with the same brush.

Rhoda Johnson

#### Alan Sugar in race storm

It's funny, crazy that we have to think about every word we say. The Senegal guys around here are brilliant, polite, not pushy and always smiling. What he said is meant with zero harm on any of them. I'm sure they would have a laugh about it as well. The world has gone bonkers!

Deb Morgan

Unfunny. Try saying something about the Israeli team to him and see what response you get. He can't have it both ways.

Suz Roffe

#### Spain to scrap toll road fees

I have no problem paying the toll on the Costa del Sol AP-7 autopista to avoid congestion, but I absolutely disagree with adding a 'special' tariff for four months of the year that nearly doubles the cost of using it. Surely when the summer is here and there are many more cars, they should be encouraging motorists to stay off the A7 which causes congestion through the towns, but no they do the complete opposite.

Leigh Hobson

The town hall of Marbella need to put pressure on the government to scrap or at least reduce toll road fees by at least 50 percent. Help reduce the traffic problems we have.

Giovanni Messina

# SUPINBOX

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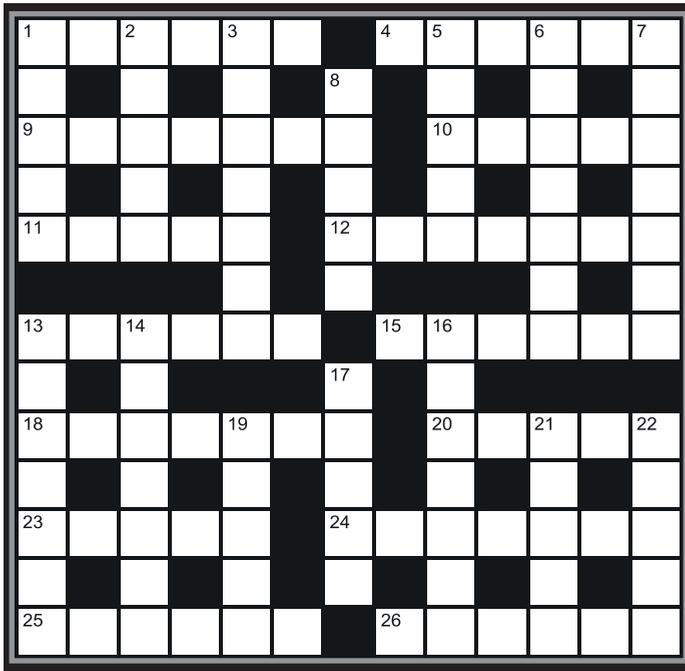


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**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Sturdy old boy in reddish-brown (6)
- 4 Give up work and go to bed (6)
- 9 Notice a wild flower (7)
- 10 Obscene number (5)
- 11 Danes make this type of car (5)
- 12 Cream Eric advertised in the States (7)
- 13 French city girl into Christian Science (6)
- 15 In the middle of Manhattan, Glenda Jackson is in a mess (6)
- 18 Possibly reunite the entourage (7)
- 20 Elegant and stylish like Sting (5)
- 23 Go up and get caught on branch of tree (5)
- 24 Devastation of old horse in care (7)
- 25 Small seal sounds like small swan (6)
- 26 Hesitates to use spa turbulence (6)



**Down**

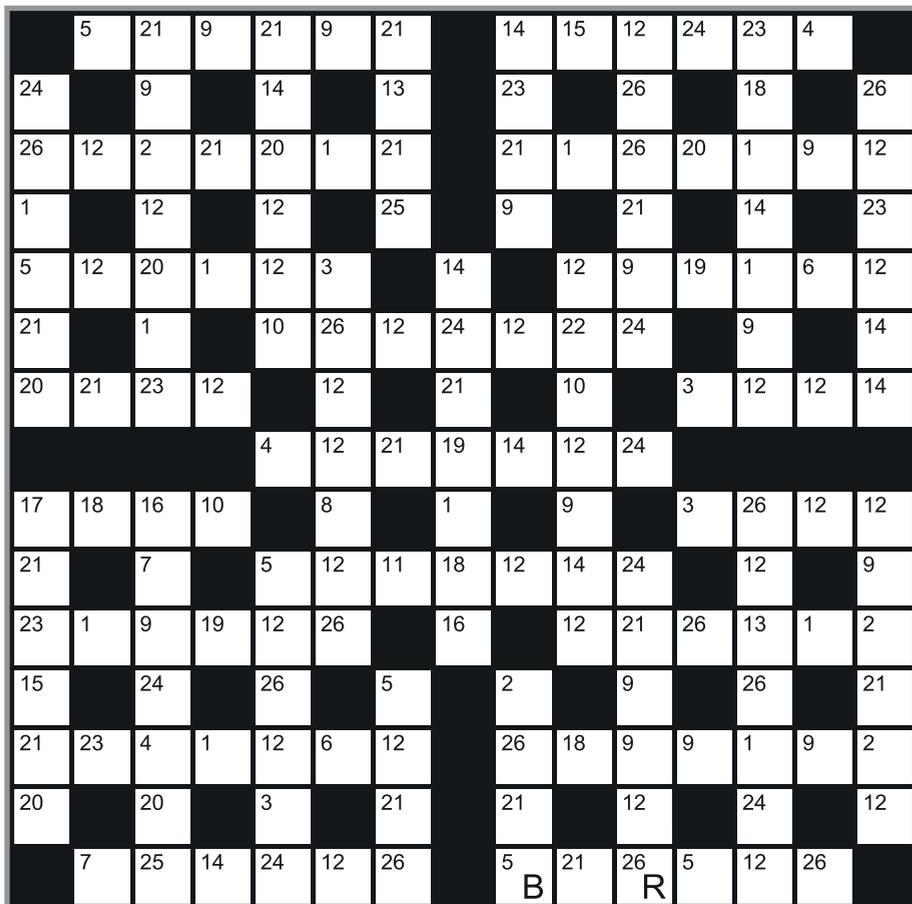
- 1 Ways in which a Greek island may be heard (5)
- 2 Children meditate moodily (5)
- 3 Many nieces reconsidered area of study (7)
- 5 Wild glee when trapping a bird of prey (5)
- 6 Household chore for one man in

- Gateshead (7)
- 7 Trap some veteran sneaking up inside (7)
- 8 Cared terribly for a tree (5)
- 13 Type of transport wanted by conciliation agency in the capital (7)
- 14 Love on night shift (7)

- 16 European country changed its aura (7)
- 17 Tranquil time for a top gym instructor (5)
- 19 Nobel is a rebellious aristocrat (5)
- 21 First man's US president (5)
- 22 Steer away from pines, say (5)

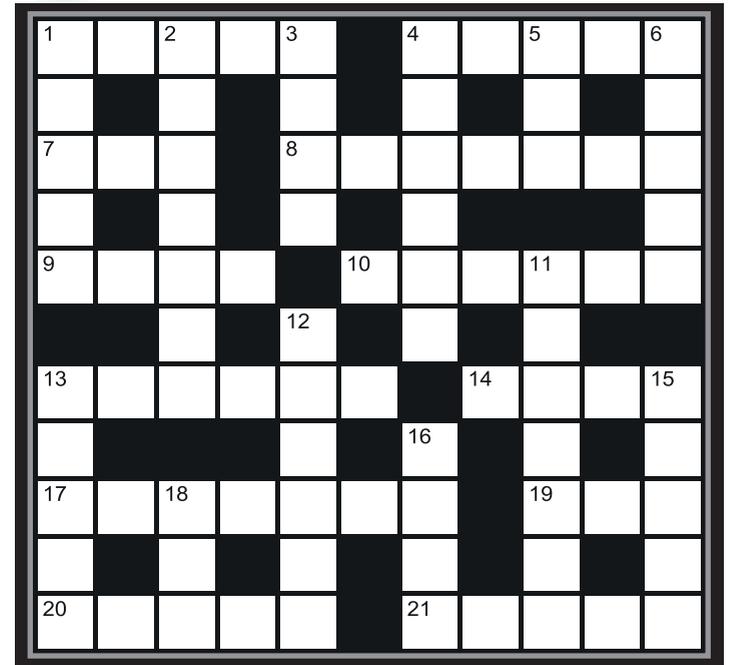
**Code Breaker**

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 5 represents B and 26 represents R, so fill in B every time the figure 5 appears and R every time the figure 26 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.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

**Quick**



**Across**

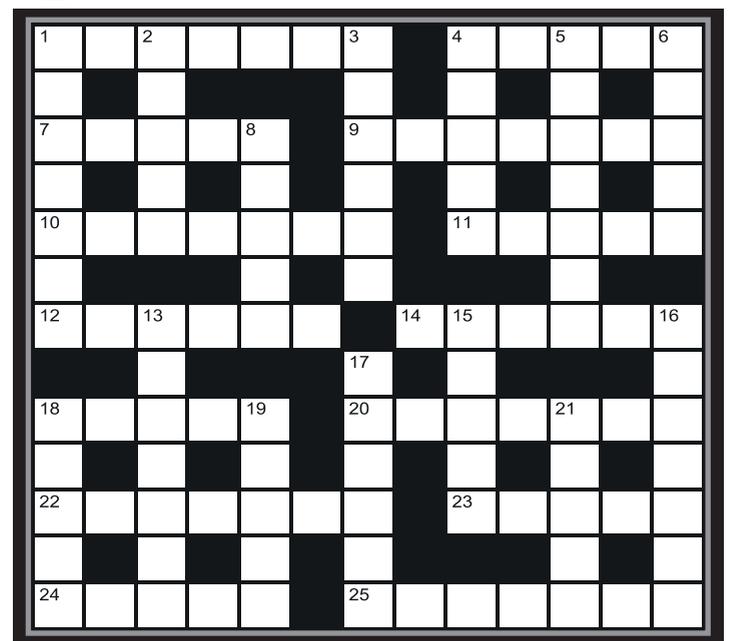
- 1 Distinguish oneself (5)
- 4 Complete disorder and confusion (5)
- 7 Preserve of crushed fruit (3)
- 8 Surgical knife (7)
- 9 Period of time (4)
- 10 Knitted garment (6)
- 13 Children's playground device (6)
- 14 Utter obscenities (4)
- 17 No longer active in your work (7)
- 19 Saloon (3)
- 20 Appeal or request earnestly (5)
- 21 Before the appointed time (5)

**Down**

- 1 Take pleasure or delight in (5)
- 2 Examine and note the similarities or differences of (7)
- 3 Beat severely with a whip or rod (4)
- 4 Ends (6)
- 5 Venomous snake (3)
- 6 Foolish, stupid (5)
- 11 Be asleep (7)
- 12 Excluded (6)
- 13 Abandon (5)
- 15 Abandoned pet (5)
- 16 Not in action or at work (4)
- 18 One of the digits of the foot (3)

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1 Spoon (7)
- 4 Cloth (for cleaning) (5)
- 7 Espinado (cuesta) (5)
- 9 Reign (7)
- 10 Interest (7)
- 11 Oven (5)
- 12 Pink (colour) (6)
- 14 Brakes (automobile) (6)
- 18 Pears (5)
- 20 Handcuffs (7)
- 22 Promedio (7)
- 23 Mancha (de aceite, pintura, etc) (5)
- 24 Monk (5)
- 25 Wealth (7)

**Down**

- 1 Cajero (7)
- 2 Pecho (5)
- 3 A través de (6)
- 4 Muslo (5)
- 5 Scorpion (7)
- 6 Autumn (5)
- 8 Wall (interior) (5)
- 13 Cirujano (7)
- 15 Cuerdas (gruesas) (5)
- 16 Sixty (7)
- 17 To quarrel (6)
- 18 Salmo (5)
- 19 Vergüenza (5)
- 21 Pala (para cavar) (5)

CROSSWORD PAGE

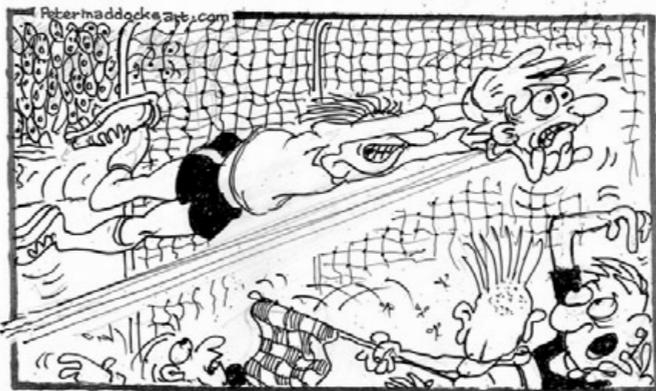
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'CHECK THE AUTO V.A.R. - THIS COULD BE A RED CARD!'

**LOTTERY**

**UK NATIONAL LOTTERY**  
Saturday June 23

1 10 15 **BONUS BALL**  
25 31 47 53

**IRISH LOTTO**  
Saturday June 23

4 6 12 **BONUS BALL**  
20 40 43 21

**EURO MILLIONS**  
Tuesday June 19

7 19 26 **BONUS BALL**  
42 50 4 9

Friday June 22 **BONUS BALL**  
14 25 39 2 41 44 8

**EL MILLON: DWL19465**

**LA PRIMITIVA**

Thursday June 21 **BONUS BALL**  
1 12 34 36  
38 46 48 5

**JOKER: 8 501 788**  
Saturday June 23 **BONUS BALL**  
7 8 9 4  
21 24 25 4

**EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA**  
Sunday June 24 **BONUS BALL**  
7 8 17 7  
24 49

**YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS**

**AQUARIUS**  
(January 21 - February 19)

Are you still in a very positive frame of mind? Okay, then. It is time to decide what is to be done about that problem. If you really can't see a way round this then seek help. Even if you don't agree with the reply, you will feel that you have made a step in the right direction.

**PISCES**  
(February 20 - March 20)

Don't ask a question unless you want to be told the truth this weekend. Go on, you're a big person and you can take it. How can you not go ahead having come this far? Of course, you could change your mind and just walk away.

**ARIES**  
(March 21 - April 20)

Sometimes you wonder why people make promises when they find them so hard to keep. However, losing your temper with someone midweek will not help at all because the person you are dealing with is not very sensitive. Patience will pay off and, by the weekend, a weight will have been lifted from your mind.

**TAURUS**  
(April 21 - May 21)

Somehow you seem to be going every which way round a situation but getting nowhere. Rather than burn yourself out and fray your nerves, just stay still. At the end of the day, someone else wants to solve this dilemma as much as you do. When they see that you have stopped bothering, maybe they will start.

**GEMINI**  
(May 22 - June 21)

It's not so difficult this week to get exactly what you want. Being sure is another matter, however. There are plenty of people who will cast doubts on where you are going and what you are aiming for. What do they know? Be guided by facts this week, certainly not by the opinions of others.

**CANCER**  
(June 22 - July 23)

As you are in the middle of a plan, it would be a shame to stop now. Yes, I realise you have given it lots of time and thought. Even so, events midweek bring a new perspective. Your involvement in something entirely different may be brought to bear on your current situation. Killing two birds with one stone comes to

mind. Be efficient by approaching the problem from a novel angle.

**LEO**  
(July 24 - August 23)

Something has come to your attention and, quite frankly, you don't understand what is going on. It is possible that, if you don't react, the situation will just go away. Equally, you may want to influence the outcome and fear that it will not be to your advantage. That is fine so long as you really do try and get all the facts first.

**VIRGO**  
(August 24 - September 23)

You seem to be in a 'plodding' situation that is starting to cause you some irritation. That is all that it is though, irritation. See it as a big dilemma and it throws up all sorts of anxieties. Let's not go there. I am sure that there are lots of things that your mind and body can work on while you wait.

**LIBRA**  
(September 24 - October 23)

You are being shown a great deal of affection which may be taken for granted. Even you are capable of putting people's backs up. As you dislike making enemies, I suggest that you take a little more time with family and loved ones. Perhaps you were recently asked to be part of a group activity but did not have the inclination?

**SCORPIO**  
(October 24 - November 22)

By deciding now that you will not rise to the bait on a certain matter you are taking the best option. Much as you would like to confront someone head on, it is possible that this is just what they want you to do. Be a little bit canny here.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(November 23 - December 21)

Are you being asked to open your heart? What are you most afraid of about that? On the other hand, what would the rewards be if you did? Sometimes, we have to take a chance that others will not let us down or, at least that if they do, they will let us down gently.

**CAPRICORN**  
(December 22 - January 20)

As you try to control someone else's life, it could be that your own is slipping past you. Have you recently given up on a relationship or job that you dearly would have loved?

**Kakuro**

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



**Nonagram**

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



**TARGET:**

- Average: 7
- Very good: 14
- Good: 10
- Excellent: 18

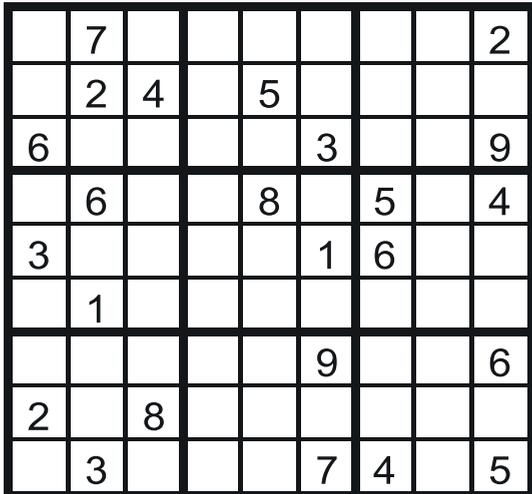
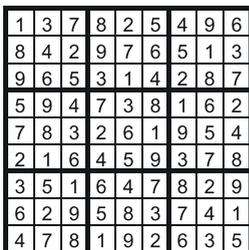
**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**

dint dirt doth grit grot hint into nowt riot thin ting tiro tong tori torn town trig trio trod trow twig twin whit with wont wort writ dhoti dight droit girth griot ingot intro night nitro north right thing third thong thorn throw tigon width wight worth wroth doting godwit growth righto through thrown towing trigon wright trowing ingrowth throwing DOWNRIGHT

**Sudoku**

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

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**



**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

**ENGLISH-SPANISH**

**Across:**

- 1 Postman, 5 Until, 8 Sails, 9 Referee, 10 Sordo, 11 Truco, 12 Oscuro, 14 Scrape, 18 Pearl, 20 Apodo, 22 Pilgrim, 23 Echar, 24 Yerno, 25 Retirar.

**Down:**

- 1 Pasillo, 2 Skips, 3 Mostrar, 4 Narrow, 5 Unfit, 6 Tortuga, 7 Llano, 13 Charlar, 15 Closest, 16 Estirar, 17 Farmer, 18 Puppy, 19 Lirio, 21 Other.

**CRYPTIC**

**Across:**

- 1 Streaks, 5 Orbit, 8 Roams, 9 Ladette, 10 Note, 11 Downbeat, 13 Siskin, 15 Trunks, 18 Shameful, 19 Rain, 22 Leading, 23 Agree, 24 Theme, 25 Embrace.

**Down:**

- 1 Shirines, 2 React, 3 Apse, 4 Salmon, 5 Ordinary, 6 Bittern, 7 Treat, 12 Fireside, 14 Swanage, 16 Sincere, 17 Bungle, 18 Split, 20 Aorta, 21 Garb.

**QUICK**

**Across:**

- 1 Cross, 3 Jeans, 8 Devoted, 9 Defer, 10 Ornit, 13 Hope, 14 Witty, 17 Spinach, 18/6 Dry ice, 19 Lunch,

**Down:**

- 1 Crib, 2 Sudden, 3 Jive, 4 Attempted, 5 Sedate, 7 Exemption, 11 Chisel, 12 Lights, 15 Cash, 16 Byte.

**CODE BREAKER**



**KAKURO**



**QUIZ: COPS ON THE BOX**

- In which city was the early American police series Dragnet set?
- Which Canadian-born actor played wheelchair-bound police chief Ironside?
- In which television drama series that ran from 1982 to 1986 did Star Trek actor, William Shatner, play the part of a police officer? The show also starred Heather Locklear as Officer Stacy Sheridan, Adrian Zmed as Officer Vince Romano, Richard Herd as Captain Dennis Sheridan and James Darren as Officer Jim Corrigan.
- In the television police series The Bill, what was the nickname of the character Alfred Lines, played by actor Kevin Lloyd?
- Which police drama series that aired from 2007 to 2008, was a spin-off of the successful medical dramas Holby City and Casualty?

- Actor Nicholas Ball first found fame on television in 1978 starring as which policeman turned private detective?
- What was the name of the NYPD police officer in the cartoon series Top Cat?
- Which television series of the 60s and 70s was developed from Police Surgeon starring Ian Hendry?
- Which number completes the title of comedy police show set in New York's The Bronx, which premiered in the US in 1961: Car [number] Where Are You?
- In which 1960s television police series did actor Gene Barry play the part of a multi-millionaire captain of the Los Angeles homicide squad, who was chauffeured around to solve crimes in his Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud II?

**Answers:**

- LOS ANGELES, 2. RAYMOND BURR, 3. J. HOOKER, 4. TOSH, 5. HOLBY BLUE, 6. (James) HAZELL, 7. OFFICER Charlie DIBBLE, 8. THE AVENGERS, 9. 54 (CAR 54 WHERE ARE YOU?), 10. BURKE'S LAW

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**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*

# Why everyone is in a pickle over salad cream

NEWS that Heinz is set to ditch its iconic name Salad Cream in favour of 'Sandwich Cream,' in the biggest shake-up of its 104-year-old history, comes after the snack giant revealed just 14 per cent of people actually drizzle it over, err, salad.

According to its own research, the name no longer 'fairly represents the product's ingredients or usage occasions' as the under-30's prefer to plaster the stuff everywhere else, over tuna, ham or cheese in sandwiches or as an alternative to mayonnaise for chips.

But Heinz has form in rebranding. In 2000, it re-launched its Salad Cream by having Graham Norton squeeze it all over Denise van Outen's chest. She reciprocated by having Norton eat a dollop from the end of what looked like a very large sausage. And in 2008, it renamed 'Heinz Baked Beans' as



**SAY GOODBYE: Heinz Salad Cream will soon be known as Sandwich Cream.**

'Heinz Beanz' as they aren't actually 'baked' but stewed and the original title was 'a bit of a mouthful to pronounce,' according to the company.

Well, consumers have already taken to Twitter to vent their frustrations and it remains to be seen if Heinz Salad Cream goes the same way as Kellogg's renamed 'Coco Pops' to 'Choco Krispies' in 1998. But the move received such media attention and public outcry that by popular demand it soon changed back to 'Coco Pops'.

Re-branding, is of course, not new in these more health-conscious times. 'Sugar

Puffs', the honey-flavoured breakfast cereal made from sugar-coated wheat, discreetly dumped the word sugar in 2014, and is now known as 'Honey Monster Puffs.'

'Kentucky Fried Chicken' prefers to be known simply as 'KFC' (presumably to gloss over the less-than-healthy 'fried' bit). Similarly, Coke Zero was replaced with a 'new and improved' 'Coca-Cola Zero Sugar' drink.

A friend of mine loves salad cream on pizza, scotch eggs, new potatoes, pickles, crisps and quiche, as well as in sandwiches and on chips. As someone who's never taken to it, I find this takes the, err, biscuit.

What about you? Where do you stand on the salad vs. sandwich cream debate?

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

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### Problems with committee

**Q.** We recently had our AGM where a new president was unanimously elected. We also voted to have four committee members. Two of the committee members are now in constant conflict with the president, stating that he has no right to send out emails informing owners of various community laws without first having spoken to the committee members. Is this correct?

My understanding is that the president is the legal representative of the community and has the right to send out emails and deal with other aspects of the community as necessary. A meeting of the committee members does not have to be called prior to this. The committee members are there to help the president. Can the president remove the committee members or is an EGM necessary?

L.Y. (Costa Blanca)

**A.** Properly, you should have established the rights and duties of the committee in written form when you created it. As you say, the president can indeed send out emails and make decisions necessary to run the community affairs without consulting the committee. The committee is an informal addition. Nevertheless, the members were elected at the AGM and this decision deserves respect. Perhaps you should call an EGM to establish the terms and conditions.

**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, or call 952 667 090.

## Weekend break - almost!

**Mike Senker**  
*In my opinion*



*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*

EVERY time I go back to England I remind myself of why I love living in Spain.

Plus I have decided that I'm only going back for nice things.

This time it was for a friends' 50th wedding anniversary and I'll come back to the party bit in a minute. We decided to just go for a weekend, Friday to Monday. That's a mistake I won't make again.

Do not fly into London arriving at 3 o'clock on a Friday. We were meeting a friend of ours at 7pm for dinner at my favourite deli in Borehamwood. It's a 38-mile drive from Stansted airport which is normally a 45-minute journey. Not on a Friday afternoon on the M25!

By 7 o'clock we still hadn't arrived at the hotel four hours after landing! Then, to put the icing on the cake, my mate phoned me to tell me the deli had closed down so we couldn't eat there anyway. Not a happy bunny I can tell you. So he booked a place called Miller and Carter which is a relatively new chain of steak restaurants. It was overpriced and not all that great but, of course, I'm comparing it to all

the fantastic steak places we have here.

But anyway it was good to see my friend and his family. I haven't forgotten the party but I'm skipping to Sunday, which was Father's Day and we were going to meet our daughter for lunch at 3 o'clock. She lives about 50 miles away from where we were staying which should have taken an hour but it didn't. It took us two hours but we had a nice lunch then went back to hers for a cuppa then we drove back to Stansted to stay overnight for our early morning flight home. That took another two and a half hours for a 50 minute journey!

OK, the party, it was great to see so many people that I hadn't seen for years. There were a couple of observations. How come all these friends have got old and I haven't? And the other thing was, unlike the parties we used to have where we ate and drank and danced for hours, this was at lunch time and everything was done in ten minute increments. A short welcome speech then ten minutes of dancing because no-one can manage more than that.

Then the food, then ten minutes of speeches so no one had time to nod off, then another ten minutes of dancing. It was utterly brilliant! And guess what, the food was all deli food so in the end I actually got what I wanted. Perfect.

mikesenker@gmail.com



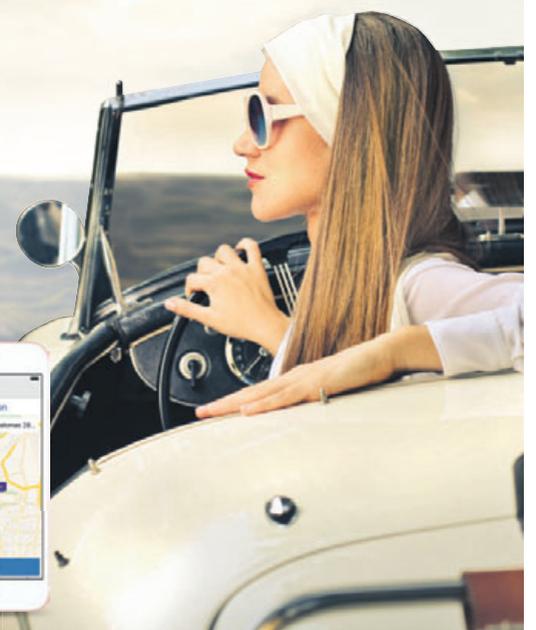
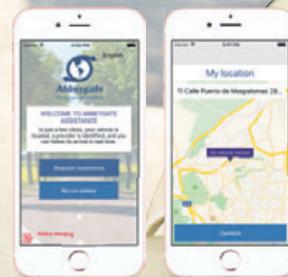
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TO READ MORE



# A little hope

**DETERRENT:** Research found that aspirin can block the formation of tumours.

A RECENT study carried out by Cancer Research UK has shown that aspirin can help block tumours from being formed.

The research is published in the journal *Nucleic Acids Research*, shows that aspirin works to help hinder the development of bowel cancer.

It was previously known that the painkiller reduced the risk of developing colon cancer, but its properties to fight off other tumours wasn't entirely understood before.

This same process is linked to diseases such as Alzheimer's and

Parkinson's and so further research could prove invaluable for the future prevention of these diseases.

Cells grown in the lab and on tumour biopsies removed from colon cancer patients were tested to see what effect aspirin had on them.

Scientists involved in the research found that the painkiller impedes a key process in the formation of tumours.

However, the results were not universal and it was found that not all bowel cancer patients responded to aspirin.

But the hope is that the new research will help to identify those who are most likely to benefit.

But don't start popping aspirin as a preventative measure. The long-term use of this drug is not recommended because of some of its side-effects.



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# Eradicating cellulite



Photo credit: Instagram/fitleca

**SILKY SMOOTH:** Veronica managed to reduce her cellulite.

A BEAUTIFUL woman in Madrid has recently revealed how she got rid of her cellulite.

Posting before and after pictures, the curvy blogger credited the change to drinking more water and less wine.

Veronia Leea shared side-by-side bikini shots taken nine months apart on her Instagram page. The pictures show how in less than one year she managed to reduce her cellulite significantly.

The picture on the left was taken in June 2017 and shows the cellulite on her bum and upper thighs. But in the snap on the right, taken in March 2018, her skin looks much smoother.

The 23-year-old fitness enthusiast, who weighs 70kgs, detailed that she also started doing more weights and less cardio and started eating more protein to eliminate the uneven fatty deposits.

However, the blogger is quick to clarify that she sees nothing wrong with cellulite. She posted that she used to be so “self-conscious about it. When I posted the picture on the left last year, I realised that it’s absolutely nothing to be ashamed of.”

She encourages all women to “embrace [their] bodies: cellulite, stretch marks, scars and birthmarks. These ‘imperfections’ are what make us unique,” she said.



**TUMOUR DETECTION:** Using glucose can help to identify where cancer is active.

## Cancer treatments PET scans

SEVERAL studies have shown the great clinical impact of the PET technique in oncology.

It is a highly tried and tested imaging technique for studying the spread of cancer because it identifies where the disease is located and how widespread it is.

In patients with colorectal cancer, lung neoplasm, malignant melanoma and lymphoma, this technique may change the therapeutic strategy to be followed in up to 40 per cent of the

cases studied.

It is therefore an indispensable tool to be used before proceeding with the surgical removal of a tumour. Results from PET scans help with a better treatment approach and increase the chances of a cure.

Recent research, led by Doctor Aurora Crespo of the Oncology Department at Quironsalud Torre Vieja Hospital, reveals that the technique of using a PET scan with glucose helps to predict a tumour’s behaviour.

Her study, carried out in conjunction with a team from UCAM, showed that glucose (FDG) can highlight where cancer is active.

This is because tumour cells use more glucose than normal cells because they need more energy to meet their goal.

Being able to successfully identify these areas from PET scan results will help with a better treatment approach and increase the chances of a cure.

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Update on food, drink, entertainments, what's on and weekly happenings

# The home of flamenco

THE 52nd festival of flamenco and dance will see six great evenings of performance in Almeria City from Thursday July 12 until Sun-

day July 22.

Artists due to appear include Sara Baras, Carmen Linares, Maria Vargas, Arangel, Miguel Poveda,

Michel Camilo, Tomatito and Marina Heredia.

The first four concerts will be held in the Cathedral Square and tickets will cost between €20 and €40 and take place nightly at 10 pm on July 12, 13, 14 and 15.

The other two concerts featuring Sara Baras and Miguel Poveda will be held in the Almeria bull ring on July 20 and 22 respectively with ticket prices slightly higher.

For full details visit <http://www.almeriacultura.com>.

# Cuevas walk



NEW APP: The team responsible for the app.

A BRAND new app, currently in English and Spanish has been released by the Cuevas del Almanzora Council.

'A walk through Cuevas' is a tourist guide project that allows an independent visit to the most significant places of interest in the area.

Through the APP you can access information on 19 selected points, both in text and

audio format.

In addition, videos have been included promoting the town.

This project has been undertaken by students from IES Jaroso and if successful will be developed further and translated into French and German thanks to the diverse language training undertaken in the institute.



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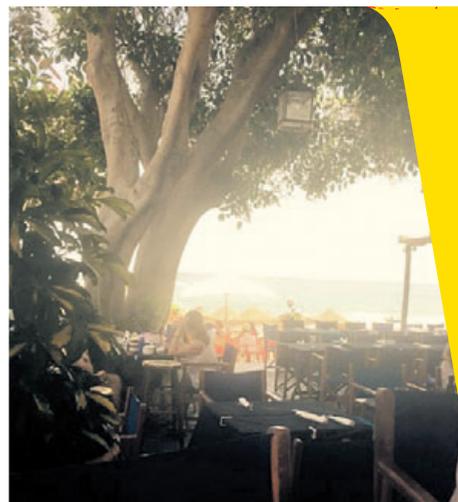




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**Eat Well  
to Live Well**  
by Andrew Harding



# China in your hands



**RICE TO KNOW:** Aromatic crispy duck and chicken fried rice.

I THOUGHT I would share two Chinese recipes this week. I know there are some excellent Chinese restaurants and take-aways in Spain, but these recipes are very easy so you can impress your family and friends with your culinary skills!

### Aromatic Crispy Duck

Serves 4

4 whole duck breasts, skin on

1.25 litres of water

2 whole chicken stock cubes, crumbled

250 ml sherry

1 tablespoon garlic powder

1 tablespoon ginger powder

20 pieces star anise

4 whole cloves

1 litre of vegetable oil

1. Add all ingredients to a pan except for vegetable oil and bring to boil.

2. Simmer for 90 minutes.

3. Remove duck from pan and dry with kitchen roll, discard all the liquid and spices.

4. Pour oil into wok or pan and heat until it starts bubbling and a cube of bread browns in a few minutes.

5. Place duck in oil and deep fry for

five minutes or until crisp.

6. Remove duck from oil, place on kitchen roll to absorb excess oil. Using two forks shred meat and skin.

7. Serve with hoisin sauce, Chinese pancakes and spring onions, shredded lengthways.

### Chicken Fried Rice

Serves 4

100ml vegetable oil

4 boneless skinless chicken breasts,

sliced lengthwise about 1cm thick

3 medium sized eggs, lightly beaten

en

1/2 teaspoon salt

800ml cold cooked white rice

125ml frozen peas, defrosted

Freshly-ground black pepper to taste

2 teaspoons soy sauce

1. Heat the oil in a saucepan or wok. Add the chicken and stir-fry, stirring once or twice, for one to two minutes, or until the meat is almost cooked. Remove the chicken and reserve.

2. Season the eggs with 1/4 teaspoon of the salt. Scramble the eggs for 30 seconds to one minute, then add the rice and peas. Stir-fry for two to three minutes to evenly combine the rice, eggs, and peas and to heat through.

3. Add the chicken, the remaining salt, and the pepper, and stir-fry for 30 seconds. Add the soy sauce and stir-fry for another minute, or until all the ingredients are hot.

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# Church San Pascual yields such great comfort for all

## Ric Polansky



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

IF you had time to burn one could read the history of all the former Saints of the Catholic church.

Many of the more obtuse got up to some exciting affairs, as did one San Pascual de Baylon (1540-1592). Sound familiar? Spain probably has never had such an unremarkable man canonised.

A pastor in his youth, he served no other profession until he went into the church. He gave away most of his earnings to the poor as he knew that once he became a full Franciscan friar he could eat by simply begging.

Pascual didn't enjoy eating, drinking or sleeping in a bed, he lived a most humble life dedicating himself to helping the poor. Yet, for that he



Photo credit: www.mojcar.es

**LITTLE GEM:** San Pascual Church has some architecturally unique features.

became a household name in the region.

Well, nestled in the roadside vegetation alongside the old camino to Carboneras reposes a small hillside church known as San Pascual. An

unobtrusive structure that is used weekly by the Anglican ministry for their growing flock of followers.

As much as the church blends into the scenery it fulfils an important mission built by a most unusual Mo-

jaquero, Pascual Artero. He made his money in distant Guam, having spent more than 50 years away from his beloved country.

When he returned to his home farming area (Macenas beach-Mo-

jacar) residents still did not have a church.

The strange architecture comes directly from the prodigal son's vision long established living in the orient. Old world values reinvented for a long lost homeland. He had the church built and gave money to more than 200 relatives and fellow farmers that had treated him and his family with such kindness on his return.

The Madrid papers made much fun of the circumstances calling Pascual the King of Guam and inventing many stories about him and his family. Yet, the goodness of his legacy lives on to benefit the entire area. His gesture gave the foreigners a church in which to kneel and worship.

For many it has been an important establishment of 'remembrance' as so many funerals have been held there. Once you've been to one of those services the building then stands out poignantly each time you pass it. The unusual frontage beckons to be seen and respected. And, notice it you do.

## Cassandra Nash

### A weekly look

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

IÑAKI URDANGARIN, erstwhile Duke of Palma de Mallorca, brother-in-law to Felipe VI and son-in-law of Juan Carlos I, is now in prison.

He got five years instead of the 17 requested by the public prosecutor and is inside a cushy women's jail for misappropriation of public funds, tax evasion and money-laundering.

Possibly Urdangarin always had the makings of a criminal but it's doubtful that he would be imprisoned if he hadn't married a king's daughter.

King Cophetua and the beggar maid? No problem because she married up.

But Iñaki and Cristina? Big trouble, because you have a princess and the pea situation. She was brought up knowing she's a royal princess and he strove to make sure she lived in the manner to which she was accustomed.

But she was a royal princess and was always to feel that ruddy pea however high Iñaki piled up the mattresses that he bought with public money.

# The princess and the pea

## Two, two, the rivals

CAT FIGHT on the horizon. Soraya Sainz de Santamaria is having a shot at the Partido Popular leadership.

So is her eternal rival Dolores de Cospedal and these are the two that everybody will be watching rather than Jose Manuel Margallo, Jose Ramon Garcia Hernandez or Pablo Casado.

Margallo, Rajoy's Foreign Minister until 2016 often talked sense and national MP Ignacio Garcia Hernandez still does. Casado is preppy in the same way as Ciudadanos leader Al-



**TOP CAT:** Soraya has her eyes on the leadership of the Partido Popular.

bert Rivera but otherwise colourless. Galicia's regional president Alberto Nuñez Feijoo won't run at all which is unfortunate as he makes more sense than the lot of them put together.

So we're left with a cat fight that will be interesting to watch as either woman could draw in the punters who always vote PP, come hell or high water or incontrovertible proof of corruption.

But they are tainted by association with the Rajoy Government and a victory for either means curtains for the PP in its present form.

The party's only hope of regaining power is with a new and attractive face that can give Pedro Sanchez, Pablo Iglesias and Albert Rivera a run for their money. More importantly there can't be the slightest whiff of scandal attached linked to their names.

This narrows the choice dramatically, which means that the PP is con-

demned to making do with the same-old, same-old.

## State of anxiety

THERE was once a policeman named Antonio Gonzalez-Pacheco. He was nicknamed Billy the Kid and in 1977 was awarded the Police Medal for Merit for having enjoyed torturing Franco's opponents in the dying days of the regime.

The calls for him to be stripped of the medal and the 15 per cent increment to his police pension began immediately after Spain's transition to democracy.

Successive governments have tried half-heartedly to remove both and Pedro Sanchez has said that this time he will see what can be done.

Meanwhile the Director General of Police maintained that detailing Gonzalez-Pacheco's 'merits and services' could infringe his privacy and leave him in a 'constant state of anxiety.' But not as anxious as he left his victims.

## Late justice

PEDRO SANCHEZ'S government is prepared to remove Francisco Franco's remains from his Valle de los Caidos mausoleum for burial elsewhere.

"An established democracy like Spain can't permit sym-

bols that separate the Spanish," the president said, provoking an outcry from the usual suspects.

At least Franco won't be dug up, hung in chains and belatedly beheaded like before-his-time, Oliver Cromwell.

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**CUEVAS DEL ALMANZORA: Getting with the times.**

## Beaches get Google gloss

THE council of Cuevas del Almanzora has introduced its 'smartplayas in 360 degrees' initiative, designed to show off the area's 17 kilometres of coastline using all the services of Google.

It is a timely announce-

ment with peak season not far away, and a variety of information has been made available online for tourists.

Mayor of Albox, Antonio Fernandez Liria said:

"Our coast is one of the great attractions of our lo-

cality and we want to make it known to all corners of the world."

The council believes that Google's tools, including maps, images and streetview, will pique the interest of potential visitors.

## Generous gift

THE town hall of Zurgena recently received a large quantity of arts and crafts pieces which were donated to be distributed to craft clubs in the local schools and villages.

The donation was the remaining stock after John and Shelagh Copeland of Cucador closed their arts and crafts shop, Serendipity, in Albox.

The mayor Luis Dias Garcia, deputy mayor Lola Antas and councillor Jim Simpson received the donation and the mayor said, "Thank you very much. This donation will be very much enjoyed by the children and residents in the future."

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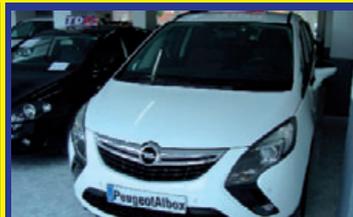
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**OPEL ZAFIRA ENJOY**  
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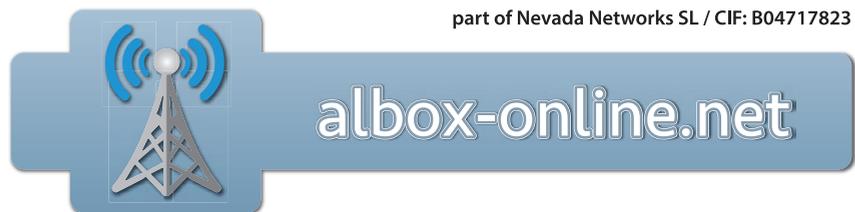


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# Charity night

AGE SUPPORT of Almanzora is holding a fundraising event at Maloans in Albox this Saturday from 5pm.

There will be stalls and a raffle with live music starting at 7pm with Kay Francis, Emma Wild and DJ Mad Mark.

Tickets are only €5 from Maloans and the Age Support shop, opposite the Peugeot garage in Albox.

Donations for the raffle prizes will be gratefully received before the event at the



**AGE SUPPORT: An evening of fundraising sounds fun for all.**

shop. With plenty of music and opportunity to dance, it is sure to be a good night and you will be supporting a charity which helps many elderly people in the area.

# Diabetic emergency

THE Guardia Civil in Purchena have assisted a diabetic person who experienced hypoglycaemia whilst driving.

The police were alerted by the driver's family who had received a phone call alerting them of the emergency. However, the driver had been unable to let his family know of his exact location.

During the phone call with his family, the driver told them that he was losing his vision and that he was disorientated. The last

known point he could remember was near the funeral home in Purchena.

Given the possible seriousness of the incident, several police patrols searched the area and were able to finally locate the car two kilometres from his last known location.

The driver was dizzy and trembling but was being supported by a passer-by.

The police gave the driver a water and sugar mixture and called an ambulance, who took the driver to Huerca-Overa Hospital.

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# Trees make summer gardens

DICK HANDSCOMBE



FEW really enjoyable Spanish gardens are without trees, especially during the summer months. So over the next few

months decide whether you need more, where and of which varieties.

A mix of trees can jointly provide:

**a.** A continuous stream of new colours in the garden canopy and in the undergrowth.

**b.** Shade during the hottest part of the day.

**c.** Shelter for birds and insects and a source of grubs for their food.

**d.** Strong safe branches for supporting hammocks and sky chairs.

**e.** Pruned twigs and logs for the winter fires and Mexican oven fires.

Meeting those needs will depend on three things:

**1.** Luck that your builder or previous owners were wise to retain healthy and safe trees, perhaps even some wonderfully-shaped ancient trees.

**2.** Whether the previous owners of your property planted some well-located trees and



**BRANCHING OUT:** Jacarandas are very attractive when flowering.

cared for them well.

**3.** Your own choice and location of trees in developing a new garden or improving an existing garden.

First, evaluate your existing stock of trees and decide which you want to keep and those that can be dispensed of.

If the house is about to be constructed negotiate with the builder that he will minimise the percentage of the plot used for the storage of materials and machinery and the building itself in order to minimise the number of trees that are felled or damaged during construction. Unfortunately tree protection laws and regulations are not as widespread or as stringent in Spain as in the UK.

If you are lucky you will have inherited a good number of trees providing ample shade and semi-shade. They may be oaks, pines, carobs, fruit and nut trees

such as almonds, avocados, olives, cherries, mulberries, and walnuts, or flowering trees such as acacias, albizias, cercis, parkinsonias, magnolias, or jacarandas.

You may find that you have some small self-seeded trees that can be trimmed as informal bonsais by leaving them in situ.

Part four of *Your Garden in Spain*, from planning to planting and maintenance includes a good selection of flowering, fruiting and evergreen trees to choose from.

Make your choices on the basis of:

- The quality of shade.
- Leaf, flower and trunk colours.
- The time and length of the flowering season.
- The extent of perfume emitted.
- The probability of being able to harvest edible fruit.

• The speed of growth and mature size, especially important in small gardens, and most importantly if you aim for a minimum maintenance garden.

• The extent of dirty fall outs of leaves, fruit, pollen and in the case of pine trees their needles. In general deep summer shade is worth the inconvenience of having to sweep up leaves.

• Their frost hardiness.

• Their speed of growth.

Trees can obviously be planted as part of a boundary hedge, as isolated specimens, as copses or as formal/informal orchards in the case of fruit trees. Beware of the dangers of planting trees too near the pool or the walls of buildings and think about what would happen if a mature tree was to be blown down in a storm. When you get round to planting your new trees prepare planting holes at least twice the size of the pot in which a tree comes in and work plenty of rotted compost and manure into the base of the hole before planting.

Stake securely to avoid wind damage and water well until established. The amount of water required by mature trees can vary from nil to copious depending on your ambient temperatures, exposure to hot winds, water retaining power of your soil and the needs for producing good fruit.

Best of luck as your garden grows.



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**Nick Horne** *The Rich Pick*

Freelance correspondent, London, England



# Summer means classic car shows

THERE are car shows and there are classic car shows.

Among the very best for seeing, hearing and indeed smelling the oil rubber and petrol is the Pebble Beach Concours in California, USA and the Concours of Elegance at Hampton Court Palace, England. The palace is the one time home of Cardinal Wolsey, Chancellor to Henry VIII, he of the six wives and presented by the Cardinal to the King. Held in the extensive gardens the Concours is an occasion graced not only by beautiful classics, but is also a special social occasion with the cars, the palace gardens and house a perfect backdrop for elegant people.

The Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance 'Best in Show' winning 1929 Mercedes-Benz S Barker Tourer 'Boat Tail' - some say the finest car in the world - is now confirmed for the Concours of Elegance 2018.

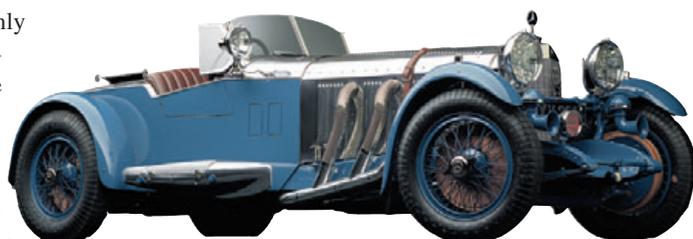
This year's event, hosted at Hampton Court Palace from August 31 to September 2, is a near-unique opportunity for European petrol heads to see the award-winning Mercedes as it comes to the UK for the first time since 1958.

Based on the 1927 Mercedes S-Type,

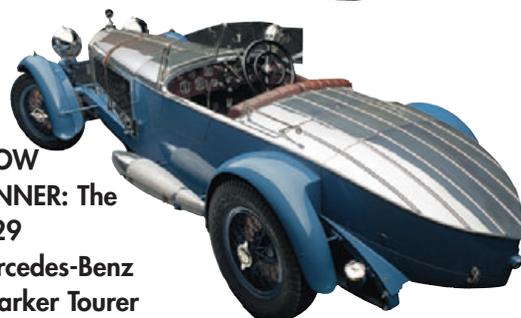


Photo credit: Concours of Elegance

**ELEGANCE:** The Concours of Elegance at Hampton Court Palace, England.



**SHOW WINNER:** The 1929 Mercedes-Benz S Barker Tourer 'Boat Tail.'



the unique 'Boat Tail' was one of the most powerful road-going automobiles in the world in period, developed as the perfect road-going, race capable car. Originally owned by racing enthusiast and British Racing Drivers' Club co-founder Earl Howe, this car was fitted with a revolutionary body which incorporated a lightweight and aerodynamic shell with unique aircraft-inspired aluminium side pods crafted by English coach-builders Barker.

The car was a regular on tours, trials and competition events in the UK before new ownership in 1958 took it to America, where it has remained since.

When it was first sold to American owners, the car was repainted in a dark maroon colour and the rear renovated to sport an additional spare tyre instead of its distinctive 'Boat Tail.' But, its most recent owner has just

**REAR OF THE YEAR:** The Mercedes' distinctive back end.

completed a multi-year project of restoring the car to its former glory.

The majority of Earl Howe's unique specifications were all-but-lost until a host of photographs unearthed aspects of the original vehicles. They revealed the missing 'Boat Tail,' numerous reflective surfaces, custom touring luggage and a red spotlight which was given to Members of Parliament to alert other road users to their status.

Upon disassembly patches of the Earl Howe's signature Peacock Blue paint were also discovered, which has now been sympathetically recreated.

Concours of Elegance Managing Director, Andrew Evans, said: "The Mercedes S-Type 'Boat Tail' is such a special car, and we're incredibly privileged to have it at Concours of Elegance 2018. This car won't have turned a wheel in the UK during many people's lifetimes, so it's an opportunity for our visitors to come and see a real piece of motoring history. Add that to the other 60 cars in our main concours, and nearly 1,000 others across the weekend, and you'll see why we're so excited about this year's event."

Telling the complete story of the motorcar, the Concours will begin with a 1903 Panhard et Levassor and finish with one of 2018's most exclusive supercars.

# Palm honey is worth a gold medal

## LETTERS FROM CANARIES

By Barbara Belt  
barbarabelt@gmail.com

SINCE my last missive, we've sung, dressed up, danced traditional dances, eaten and drank too much, and generally enjoyed Canaries Day, as we do every May 30.

It's a celebration of all things Canarian, marking the Canary Island parliament's first session, which was on May 30, 1983, since which time the islands have constituted one of Spain's autonomous regions.

The then Provisional Parliament had to choose a date for Dia de Canarias which: 'Has a historical, but at the same time contemporary, significance, with a future focus' (!) This, understandably, created lots of argument and near fracas for the fledgling parliament. Commemorating the date of the first Canarian Parliament then saved the day. Politicians like a bit of immortality.

Dia de Canarias has become an institution, featuring national dress that's rocketed in popularity over the last 35 years, with each island boasting its own. There are romerias, fiestas, sporting events, concerts, school parties, performances of Canarian legends and history.

To mark the date, worthy Canarians are award-



**INSTITUTION:** Canaries Day celebrations.

ed the Canarian Gold Medal. The list of winners is long and dignified, but let's skip to the 'Los Guaraperos de La Gomera, for keeping alive a 500-year-old tradition' award.

These guaraperos (palm sap tappers) climb tall, swaying palms to work with sharp tools at the top. It's risky. The award, sadly, comes too late for father-of-three Jesus, a leading guarapero who was found dead under a palm tree in March.

"On the islands, the indigenous population made honey from palm trees. This liquid looks like cloudy lemon water and has a very agreeable flavour. When concentrated by boiling, it pro-

duces a syrup known as miel de palma (palm honey) used in the confection of desserts and sweets," said A J Benitez in Historia de las Islas Canarias.

When the Spanish arrived in the 15th century, the native populations of all seven islands were tapping guarapo and drinking it, or boiling it down to make palm honey, and had done so for millennia. Since then, the practice has disappeared everywhere but La Gomera.

The guarapero climbs to the top to clean off greenery and expose the crown. He uses a chisel to gradually form a hollow there, inserting a hori-



**GUARAPEROS:** The palm sap tradition lives on.

zontal length of cane to drain the guarapo off into a bucket suspended below. Early next morning, it's collected and filtered. Once a palm's been tapped, the delicate, exposed area needs protecting from sunlight. New fronds quickly sprout. The palm mustn't be tapped again for three or four years. The guarapero's work is sustainable. Palms aren't harmed.

Today, guarapo's poured into stainless steel cauldrons, slowly cooked for several hours and gradually becomes thicker, darker and sweeter. When a thin, continuous string of boiled guarapo falls from a spoon, it's miel de palma and is left to cool before bottling for sale. Try some if you can get it. It's delicious! Congratulations to all Canarian Gold Medal winners, especially Los Guaraperos de La Gomera. Rest in peace Jesus.



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# Allergies and tinned food

David  
THE Dogman

columnists@ewnmediagroup.com



FOOD allergies can cause dermatological discomfort. It has been estimated that at least 1 per cent of all skin problems in cats and dogs are caused by dietary allergies. These can be

triggered in minutes, hours or days. Sensitivity to an allergy caused by a protein can often be life-long.

Some dogs can digest the lactose in cow's milk while the

undigested lactose quickly produces an upset stomach with others. This is not a true allergy but demonstrates how sensitive to certain food pets can be. Stop the milk.

Most dogs react in some way to incorrect feeding and, apart from allergic reactions, flatulence and inconsistent stool quality, large smelly motions can result. If the balance of the food is incorrect, hyperactivity or indeed low activity can be the consequence.

A well balanced diet should not have to be supplemented.

Scratching and licking could be an indication of an allergic reaction to food and the eating of grass, twigs and roots sometimes is an indication that the food is not being digested properly.

Many pet shops and vets are now selling artificial bones. Beware of anything coloured since this must have an additive. I would only buy one which had a label stating what chemicals had been added. These toys have been known to cause hyperactivity and low activity. If your dog needs something to chew, try a rope or Kong stuffed with goodies which can occupy your pet for hours.

Concerning tinned food, the water or moisture content can be as high as 80 per cent, this makes a tin of dog food the most expensive way of buying water in the world.

## Fancy a spot of cat-sitting?

MILO needs a sitter - can you help?

Milo is a well-travelled cat, having come over from Hastings on his own with a specialist pet transportation company. He did well and has begun to settle into life in his new home near Marbella. However, his human mum is worried that leaving him again when she goes on holiday this August might disrupt his sense of well-being having just settled in to their new Spanish home and garden. So, she is looking for a cat-sitter to stay with and be a companion to Milo this August.

Cat-sitters give peace of mind.

Lisa his owner says it took him a few weeks in the house before he was calm and settled. He had already moved house with them once in the UK, yet

he was still a little unsettled at first. After a couple of months of management of his routine she said he was calm and relaxed and enjoying his new life in Spain. The search for Milo's cat-sitter is on.

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Ruth Dowse, Cat owner

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**MOTORING FACT**

“It would take less than six months to get to the moon by car at 60 mph (95 m/h), and only an hour to get into space.”

By Matt Ford

SPANISH motor-racing team SPV has hit top gear.

The Costa del Sol-based outfit entered a pair of Ligier JS P3 cars in the two Road to Le Mans LMP3 class races which took place ahead of this year's 24-hour event at the world famous circuit.

Forming part of the 2018 European Le Mans Series, the 55-minute contests saw a bumper 50-car grid battle it out, with SPV's best finish 18th in race one, although the number 44 car finished ninth in qualifying for race two.

Speaking exclusively to *Euro Weekly News* team manager manager Lars GV Linberg said: "The pace was good, the cars were good, the team was good, we were just bl\*\*dy unlucky!"

The next round of the championship takes place on July 22 at the Red Bull Ring in Austria.

Earlier, the team's new Mercedes SLS AMG GT4 crossed the line first in the third round of the Spanish CER-GT championship in Navarra, where it also entered an Audi RS8 V10 GT4 car.

And in Barcelona, Electric GT Hold-

**MAN UP:** One of SPV's Ligier JS P3 cars at Le Mans.



**MAKING ITS MERC:** The team's Mercedes SLS AMG GT4 after coming home first in Navarra.

# Revved up!

## SPV Racing on the march

ings Inc. and SPV unveiled the world's first race-ready version of the EPCS V2.3 Tesla P100DL ahead of the first season of its headline racing category, the Electric Production Car Series (EPCS).

Finished in SPV Racing's testing livery, the EPCS car completed a shake-down in the morning at Circuit de Barcelona-Cataluña, with SPV Racing development drivers Emma Kimilainen

and Alvaro Fontes behind the wheel.

Fifth Gear presenter Tiff Needell was also on hand to take the stunning car for a spin before it was then officially unveiled to partners and media at a reception in the centre of Barcelona.

Lars said: "The car has been quite heavily modified by QEV Tech, the team behind Mahindra Racing's Formula E car.

"All removable panels like doors

and the bonnet have been replaced with a new kind of biofibre which is basically a specially-treated linen.

"It is more flexible than carbon fibre and extremely light.

"Driving the car is an unbelievable experience, and we expect it down on the Costa del Sol in two weeks ahead of November's first race in Jerez."



**ELECTRIC DREAM:** The world's first race-ready EPCS V2.3 Tesla P100DL.

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# Stadler arrested in 'dieselgate' probe

AUDI CEO Rupert Stadler has been arrested in relation to the emissions cheating scandal.

A spokesman for parent company, Volkswagen confirmed the development and said: "The hearing to determine whether Mr Stadler will be remanded is ongoing."

"We cannot provide more information about the investigations in progress, and he is still presumed innocent."

The Munich prosecutors said Mr Stadler's arrest was not made at the behest of US authorities.

A judge in Germany has ordered Mr Stadler to be remanded in custody to apparently prevent him from obstructing or hindering the diesel investigation.

Police searched Mr Stadler's home as part of an operation against suspected fraud and impropriety with documents.

A total of 20 people are under suspicion in the probe, which focuses on cars sold in Europe that were believed to be equipped with software which turned emissions controls off during regular driving.

Mr Stadler has been under fire since Audi

admitted in November 2015, two months after parent company, Volkswagen, that it also installed illegal 'defeat device' software to cheat US emissions tests.

Volkswagen has pleaded guilty to criminal charges in the US and nine managers, including former CEO Martin Winterkorn, were charged there.

Two managers are serving prison terms. Although Winterkorn and others in Germany are unlikely to be extradited.

Audi had said in a statement that it is 'co-operating with the authorities.'



Credit: automotive-future/Flickr

**UNDER PRESSURE:** Rupert Stadler is under scrutiny for his role in the scandal.

IT is a mystery worthy of the pen of Ian Fleming himself, featuring a high stakes theft, shady middle men and a 20-year hunt for the bad guys responsible.

When the 1964 Aston Martin DB5 that featured in the James Bond film Goldfinger was stolen from a Florida airport hangar in 1997, there were fears it would never be seen again.

Its location, according to those supplying the information, is classic espionage territory, the Middle East.

Art Recovery International (ARI) which was hired by an unspecified insurance firm to help track down the stolen Aston Martin, has now been told that it is being held at a specific location in the region.

A six figure sum is being offered for information leading to its safe return, but ARI are wary of the possibil-

## Hunt for 007's car continues



Credit: S.R. Breitenstein/Flickr

ity that the vehicle is simply one similar to the actual Aston Martin used in the Bond film.

The stolen Aston Martin was one of two used in the filming of Goldfinger, with another deployed for the scenes featuring Connery behind the wheel.

ARI says that some auction houses believe the missing DB5 could now be worth between €8 and €11.5 million, given its iconic status as a 007 vehicle.

The DB5 was designed for Aston Martin by the Italian coachbuilder Carrozzeria Touring Superleggera, and named after Sir David Brown, Aston Martin's owner from 1947 to 1972.

**MISSING MARTIN:** James Bond would have recovered the vehicle with ease.

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# Alfa Romeo Giulia Speciale

## ROAD TEST

by Nick Fletcher

FEW cars can match the Alfa Romeo Giulia saloon for gorgeous styling, brilliant handling and sheer pulse-raising charisma.

This beautifully designed executive express is so sleekly styled it seems to be moving even when parked, and

with powerful engines and old-school rear wheel drive, delivers tremendous driving pleasure.

There are petrol and diesel engines and Giulia prices start at €34,018 (£29,875), but my test model was an upper-range Speciale with a 180 hp 2.2 litre diesel engine and costing €40,440 (£35,515). And an optional performance package and other extras took

the price to €46,897 (£41,185).

Top speed is 230 kph (143 mph), the 0-100 kph time just 7.1 seconds. Fuel economy is impressive at 24 kpl (67.3 mpg) and the emission figure low at 109 g/km.

The cabin is a tribute to stand-out Italian design, far more impressive and eye-catching than German rivals and adding to the character and kudos of this legendary Italian sporting marque.

Standard equipment includes touch-screen with sat-nav, Bluetooth, DAB radio, dual-zone air conditioning, powered front seats, leather upholstery, cruise control and rear parking sensors

On the road, the Giulia is fast and fluent with 50-50 weight distribution and accurate steering for planted cornering. The car is agile and grippy, and while the ride is

firm at speed, it is compliant and comfortable in urban use. All models have a smooth eight-speed auto gearbox but drivers wanting manual engagement can use the paddle-shifters on the steering column.

There are also three driving modes which can vary steering and throttle responses. On the top-spec Quadrifoglio version, there is also a Race Mode.

For looks and performance, the Giulia gets top marks, and it scores well for practicality too. With its long wheelbase, this four-door saloon offers good head and legroom front and rear and there is a large 480-litre boot, though the aperture is surprisingly narrow.

In an executive sector dominated by accomplished though often rather dull models, the Alfa Giulia shines like a beacon attracting those who yearn for more engaging, more joyous motoring.

## STATS PANEL

- **Model:** Alfa Romeo Giulia Speciale
- **Engine:** 2.2 litre diesel
- **Transmission:** 8-speed automatic
- **Performance:** 0-100 kph 7.1 seconds, top speed 230 kph (143 mph)
- **Economy:** 24 kpl (67.3)

Model tested was UK-specification and equipment levels and prices may vary in other markets.



**SOMETHING SPECIALE:** The Alfa Romeo Giulia delivers tremendous driving pleasure.

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World Cup 2018

# Late Group B drama

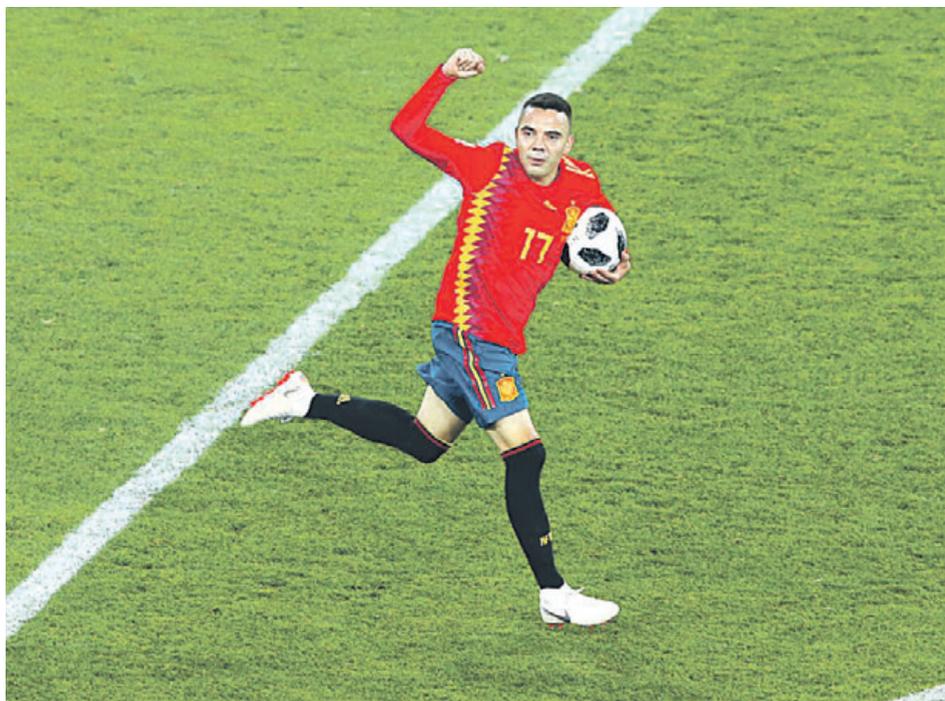
IAGO ASPAS scored a stoppage-time equaliser, with the aid of VAR, as Spain scraped an unconvincing draw with Morocco to top Group B and secure a World Cup last-16 tie against hosts Russia.

Youssef En-Nesyri - who plays in Spain for Malaga - looked to have won it for Herve Renard's side when he powered in a superb header from fellow substitute Faycal Fajr's corner.

But Aspas flicked in Dani Carvajal's low cross to make it 2-2, with referee Ravshan Irmatov initially disallowing the goal before overturning the decision.

After all the drama Spain won the group on goals scored, extending their unbeaten run to 23 games, while Portugal were held to a 1-1 draw by Iran to finish in second and set up a date with Uruguay.

Three games into his international managerial career,



**LAST GASP:** Iago Aspas' goal guided Spain into the knockout stages.

Spain coach Fernando Hierro can breathe a sigh of relief at coming through a tricky group unscathed.

Yet La Roja are by no

means the finished article, conceding five goals in three games amid a series of individual errors.

They will now play Russia,

the lowest ranked team in the tournament in the last 16, on July 1 and are likely to avoid heavyweights Brazil and France until the final.

LEWIS HAMILTON reclaimed the world championship lead with a dominant victory in the French Grand Prix.

The Mercedes driver led from start to finish apart from one lap around his pit stop, to move 14 points ahead of Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel, who finished fifth.

Vettel got straight into trouble in a collision at the first corner with Hamilton's team-mate Valtteri Bottas.

The German fought back through the field impressively, but earned a five second penalty for causing the crash, which put both to the back of the field.

It was a costly error for Vettel, who was one point ahead of Hamilton before the race, and is one of several uncharacteristic mistakes this year that has lost him ground in the championship.

Hamilton will welcome the gift from Vettel at the start of a crucial run of three races in three weeks, one of them being the British Grand Prix in two weeks' time.

The Briton made a good enough start to be just clear of the crash between Vettel and



**DOMINANT DRIVE:** Hamilton now leads the championship by 14 points.

Bottas, and after the intervention of the safety car, sped off at the restart and was not trou-

bled again.

Hamilton built a comfortable gap to Red Bull's Max Verstap-

pen who finished second, with Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen completing the podium in third.

## Transfer rumours

*Who is in, who is out, and who is most wanted in England and Spain?*

**Arsenal** boss Unai Emery has made a personal call to Sevilla's Argentine midfielder Ever Banega in an attempt to convince the 39-year-old to join the club. (*Daily Mirror*)

**Real Madrid** and Croatia midfielder Mateo Kovacic is looking to leave to get more regular football, with the 24-year-old a target for Manchester City. (*Manchester Evening News*)

**West Ham** are only willing to offer English midfielder Jack Wilshere, 26, a one-year contract because they have reservations over his fitness. (*BBC*)

**Chelsea** and Belgium midfielder Eden Hazard, 27, was offered to Real Madrid before the Champions League final in May. (*Sport360*)

**Leicester's** Riyad Mahrez's proposed move to Manchester City is being held up because the Algeria midfielder, 27, wants a pay off from the Foxes before leaving. (*Sun*)

**Liverpool** forward Mo Salah, 25, is considering retiring from international football with Egypt over concerns he is being used as a "political pawn." (*Metro*)

**Manchester United** are ready to battle Manchester City and Real Madrid to sign 19-year-old France striker Kylian Mbappe, from Monaco. (*Daily Star*)



**FANTASTIC FRENCHMAN:** Kylian Mbappe is coveted around the world.

**Liverpool** are interested in signing unsettled Real Madrid playmaker Marco Asensio. (*Daily Express*)

**Juventus** are considering moves for Atletico Madrid's Uruguay defender Diego Godin, 32. (*SportsMole*)

**Liverpool** are ready to join Barcelona in the race for PSV Eindhoven's 22-year-old Mexican winger Hirving Lozano. (*TeamTalk*)

**Manchester United** are now targeting Valencia's Spanish left-back Jose Luis Gaya, 23, after a chase for Juventus' Alex Sandro came to nothing. (*Talksport*)



80

JOS BUTTLER made a brilliant unbeaten 110 to give England a dramatic victory in the fifth one-day international and a first 5-0 whitewash over Australia. Chasing only 206, England collapsed to 114-8 before Buttler guided them home in style.

28 June - 4 July 2018

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TO READ MORE

NORTHERN IRELAND'S Jonathan Rea completed his first double race win at Laguna Seca to extend his lead at the top of the World Superbike standings to 75 points.

Rea's victory in Sunday's race was his 62nd career triumph in the series.

The 31-year-old Kawasaki rider took his eighth win of the season, with Wales' Chaz Davies second.

Isle of Man based Rea becomes the first rider to win four World Superbike races at the California circuit.

Rea is chasing a fourth consecutive world title to equal the career tally achieved by Englishman, Carl Fogarty.

## Rea doubles up



Credit: @WorldSBK/Twitter

RIDING HIGH: Rea is now well ahead in the standings.

Early leader Eugene Laverty secured the final podium position on his Milwaukee Aprilia, his first top-three finish since returning to the series in 2017.

Rea carved his way through from ninth on the grid and passed his compatriot with 18 laps remaining, before pulling clear to take victory by five seconds from Ducati's Davies.

"I'm so happy," said Rea. "The weekend went really well and the guys gave me an even better bike today."

Yamaha riders Alex Lowes and Michael van der Mark were fourth and fifth, with Spaniard Xavi Fores sixth.

The next round of the championship will be staged at Misano in Italy in July 7 and 8.



WINNING HABIT: Matt Wallace is now a three-time winner on the European Tour.

## Wallace on course

ENGLAND'S Matt Wallace won his second European Tour event of the year with victory at the BMW International Open in Germany.

Thorbjorn Olesen had set the clubhouse lead earlier in the day with an 11 under 61.

Wallace, 28, reeled the Dane in with a bogeyless 65 and finished on 10 under to beat Olesen by a shot.

Home favourite Martin Kaymer, who was tied for the overnight lead, finished level with Olesen and Mikko Korhonen.

Olesen's round was the lowest in the tournament's history and the joint-lowest of the season.

It was the third win of world number 91 Wallace's career, coming on the back of victory at the

Hero Indian Open in March and the Open de Portugal in May 2017.

"Obviously this gives me a lot of confidence to go on and play well and I want to kick on and hopefully do this in the bigger events from now on," said Wallace.

England's Aaron Rai, another of the overnight leaders, finished in a tie for fifth on eight under, while compatriot Andy Sullivan was on six under.

Mark Foster was tied with former Masters champion Sergio Garcia and Scotland's Scott Jamieson on five under.

Tommy Fleetwood, the US Open runner-up, finished on four over.

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