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The good life

Crime plummets across province

By Matthew Elliott

Crime rates across Almeria have dropped dramatically in 2017 making it one of the safest provinces in Spain.

Violent crimes, robberies, car thefts have all tumbled according to new statistics revealed by the Interior Ministry.

There were just over 7,000 crimes committed in the first quarter of the year, a huge drop on 2016. It is the steepest decline since the crisis and makes 2017 the fifth consecutive year in which the province's streets have gotten safer.

Almeria now enjoys a crime rate that is six points below the Andalucian average. Violent assaults have plummeted by 29.4 per cent in 2017. Residents of the province are less likely than almost anywhere else in southern Spain to experience violence.

Muggings have shot down. Car thefts fell by more than 22 per cent. Police are seeing huge successes targeting drug and people smugglers.



Still more work needs to be done. Burglaries fell by 12 per cent but the province retains a daily average of seven home robberies per day. The number is concerningly high and boosted by Almeria's largely rural terrain.

Cases of sexual harassment

and abuse bucked the wider trend and shot up by 48.6 per cent. Several incidents of domestic violence, including one gruesome murder-suicide, have led to the establishment of new rapid-reaction police units to defend vulnerable women.

ALMERIA: Shaping up to be one of the safest places.

With police forces across the province adding new officers and equipment, Almeria is shaping up to be one of the safest places in an increasingly volatile world.

We've got the buzz

THE EWN MEDIA GROUP'S (EWNMG) rapid expansion continues with the inclusion of another English-language media brand.

Benidorm-based Buzz Newspapers has now been added to the group's portfolio, bringing the overall number of publications to 13 weekly and two fortnightly titles.

In addition to the Buzz, the EWNMG also includes the Euro Weekly News, RTN and Sol Times, placing the company in a unique position within the sector in Spain.

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THE EWN MEDIA GROUP'S (EWNMG) phenomenal recent expansion on the Costa Blanca continues.

Yesterday (Wednesday) Buzz Newspapers, the Benidorm-based newspaper brand formed four years ago and producing two free fortnightly English-language tabloid titles, joined the EWNMG stable.

Michel and Steven Euesden who head EWNMG plan to immediately stamp their mark on the newly acquired publications - their first exposure to fortnightly rather than weekly newspaper publishing - by increasing local coverage and printing more *Buzz* copies, a formula that has proved a win-win policy for both readers and advertisers throughout the EWNMG empire.

"We are really excited by this latest collaboration and the added potential it offers," Michel said.

"While many newspapers struggle globally in the ever-changing media world, our own EWNMG ethos for hard work to constantly and professionally provide local readers and advertisers with free easily-available and up-to-date local newspapers remains.

"We look forward to further strengthening the service we as a publishing company offer with the *Buzz* titles now added to our previous three different brands."

Over the last three months the



Michel with Steven (left) and Marco displaying some of the EWNMG brands.

EWNMG expands Buzz joins winning team

EWNMG has expanded from publishing six weekly editions of the *Euro Weekly News* to now owning four brands including *Buzz*, in total representing 13 weekly newspa-

pers and two fortnightly publications.

The brands in addition to *Buzz* are the founding *Euro Weekly News*, plus the recently acquired

RTN and *Sol Times*, each with various editions circulated widely from the Costa Blanca down to the Costa del Sol.

Marco Baiardo, founder of *Buzz*

newspapers, spelled out that the agreement took place after long consideration, and admitted that the change in ownership provides the *Buzz* title "to reach another level by using the skills and experience of EWNMG.

"In addition I will head the *Buzz* sales team for North Costa Blanca and will therefore be able to offer new and existing clients the benefit of three EWNMG newspaper editions through *EWN*, *RTN* and *Buzz*.

Baiardo said he looked long and hard at the long term picture before agreeing to join forces with Michel and Steven.

"The *Buzz* newspaper has been growing but it has been tough, with myself and my son Marco Jnr working incredibly hard and without doubt more than ever before in my life.

"But now is the time to join hands with Michel and Steven and to look ahead to an exciting, challenging and successful future."

EWNMG, with its head office in Benalmadena, was founded more than 20 years ago by Michel and Steven. The first editions of *Buzz* under the new ownership will appear next Wednesday.

Michel Euesden confirmed that further expansion this year is "a distinct likelihood."

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Corrupt claim

MAYOR of Olula del Rio, Antonio Martinez, faces a criminal investigation over allegations of fraud and deceit. His deputy, Miguel Angel, will also be charged. A Purchena court ruled that there was enough evidence to take the dodgy duo to trial for crimes against the public administration of the Almanzora Valley town. The trial will last 18 months and possibly result in imprisonment for either or both politicians.

Barking duty

FOUR new police officers are on the beat in Vera, sniffing out dope peddlers, protecting children and securing large events. Apache, Azor, Bimba and Zahir are the first members of the Almeria town's new canine unit, and excel in smelling danger and drugs. They will conduct car checks, park patrols and even be used to calm domestic violence situations and catch fleeing fugitives.

Potted history

A PAIR of Dutch sailors have been jailed without bail in Almeria. The Dutch duo were caught trying to smuggle 12 tons of hashish onto a Cabo de Gata beach. They were spotted 67 nautical miles from the coast by a helicopter performing surveillance duties to combat drug and people trafficking. Armed coastguards then approached the boat and conducted a search.

Horror crimes

AN accused sex offender faces 27 years in prison as he goes on trial charged with molesting three of his daughters. Prosecutors believe the Almeria man terrorised the girls, all aged under 16, into compliance, threatening to divorce their mother if they spoke out. One victim eventually told her neighbour and older sister, who had been spared the abuse.

Rural danger

A SURVEILLANCE campaign across the smaller, rural roads of Almeria Province saw more than 500 drivers caught and punished by Guardia Civil officers in the space of a week.

Aquatic arrivals wreak havoc

ALMOST three dozen men were rescued from a sinking ship in Almeria waters. Salvamento Maritime agents in the capital were notified of the vessel and dispatched a Spanish naval patrol to perform a rescue operation.

All 35 people onboard were African men who had floated slowly over the Alboran Sea from Bouyafar in coastal Morocco. Still far away enough from Almeria

Port, they were instead transported to the tiny Alboran Island, midway between Almeria and Africa.

The vessel is the latest in a bombardment to reach Almerian waters, with the number of rescued smashing previous records. The province is on course to see over 1,000 aquatic arrivals this year as the Red Cross and Coast Guard struggle to keep up.

Further afield in the central Mediterranean, the Ca-

SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE... 14

With mountainous terrain and long coastlines, Spain has plenty to offer adrenaline junkies seeking an extreme sports thrill, with some of the best offerings in Europe you just need to choose your challenge!

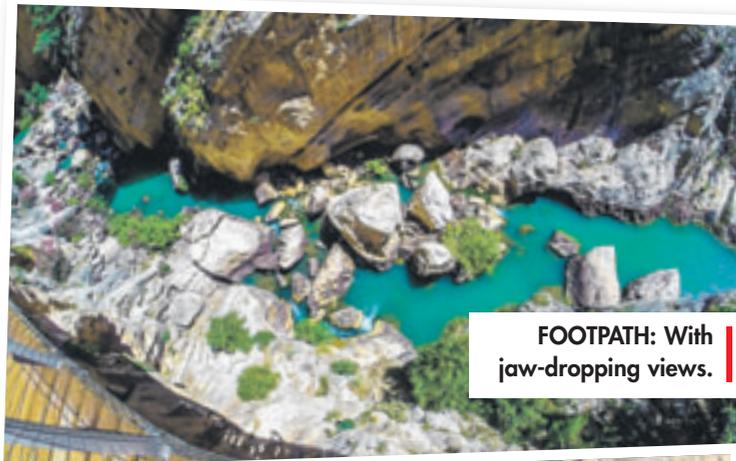
Are you brave enough?

THE Caminito del Rey in Ardales, Malaga, which has been dubbed the world's most dangerous trail, recently celebrated its second anniversary after reopening to the public following a multi-million Euro investment.

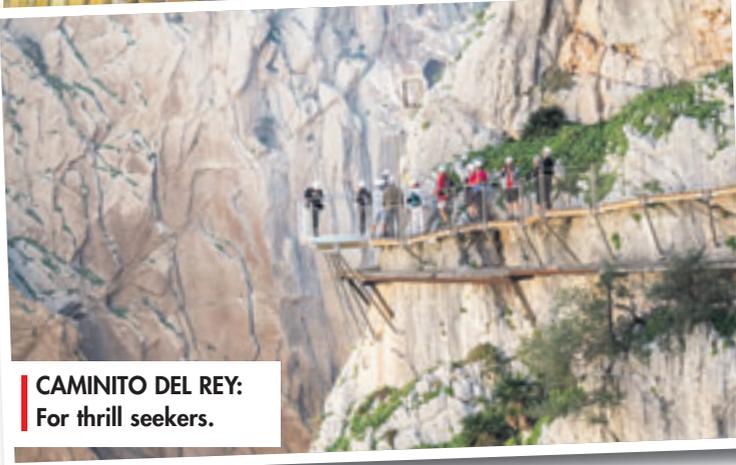
The jaw-dropping footpath which at points rises almost 330ft above the river below, was originally built in 2001 as part of King Alfonso XIII's hydroelectric project to harness the power of three rivers, but swiftly fell into disrepair.

It later became a magnet for extreme climbers, but was closed by authorities after five people plunged to their deaths between 1999 and 2000.

A new walkway with a raft of added safety features opened in 2015 and is now among Spain's most popular tourist attractions, with 600,000 thrill seekers having braved the route.



FOOTPATH: With jaw-dropping views.



CAMINITO DEL REY: For thrill seekers.

From air to sea to snow

IN Sanlucar de Guadiana, Huelva, visitors can take a death-defying 720-metre, 80 km/h zip line across the border from Spain to Portugal.

As they cross the Guadiana River they literally fly though time as they gain an hour due to the time zone difference between the countries.

Lying at the extreme southern tip

of Spain, Tarifa is the kite surf capital of Europe with its notorious strong winds. With plenty of kite surf schools and some of the best-qualified instructors on the planet, it is the ideal destination to throw out some tricks.

For a real extreme adventure, head to Baqueira in the Pyrenees Moun-

tains, where a number of heliskiing companies operate.

Spain is one of the few countries in Europe where it is legal to jump out of a helicopter onto off-piste slopes of virgin powder snow, although with dangers including avalanches and tree wells, this is not one for the beginner.

Just over half of the 569 people fined were caught speeding. Hundreds more were spotted without seatbelts, with vehicle failings, driving dangerously, using their phone or failed alcohol tests.

Flagged up

DAREDEVIL bathers who jump into the water despite a red flag will face a hefty fine of at least €750. The tough new sanction applies to all beaches

across Cabo de Gata-Nijar natural park. The ordinance, decided at a meeting in Nijar, excludes athletes and surfers who have permission to go in the sea.

Blazing boost

FIREFIGHTERS in Turre have been singing the praises of their new state-of-the-art meteorological station. The equipment is worth a thousand extinguishers, pumps and hoses, and is con-

sidered crucial in the long hot summer ahead. It provides real time updates on humidity, pressure, wind speed and direction, and rainfall, to ensure firefighters have the best information available.

Killer roads

MOTORCYCLISTS are being killed on Almeria's roads in alarming numbers. So alarming that the International Union for the Protection of Motorcyclists (IMU) has stepped in to express its concern.

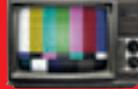
The intervention came amid news that the number of biker fatalities tripled in 2016, rising from two to six.

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117

The total number of news and features appearing in last week's Euro Weekly News Costa de Almería edition, with 31 local stories.

Kiwi touch down

NEW ZEALAND'S all-conquering All Blacks have another trophy for the cabinet after winning Spain's top sporting prize for being an 'example of racial and cultural integration.'

The world champions bagged this year's Princess of Asturias Award for Sports, and according to a statement "having become an icon of the sport worldwide, the New Zealand team is also considered an example of racial and cultural integration, conveying values of unity, friendship, solidarity and sportsmanship."

Messi situation

BARCELONA and Argentina football star Lionel Messi has seen his 21-month jail sentence for tax fraud upheld by Spain's Supreme Court.

The five-time world footballer of the year and his father Jorge, who manages his finances, were both convicted last year of defrauding Spain of €4.1 million in a scam involving the star's image rights.

It is unlikely either will serve time, however.

EU intel share

EUROPEAN Union member states must rack up intelligence sharing to help prevent terrorist attacks like the Manchester atrocity which killed 22 people including children and injured 64.

Spain's Foreign Minister Alfonso Dastis said everyone had to

Eye on SPAIN

Around the nation in 7 stories

Postcard from Valls



Grilled onions.

THE Catalan city of Valls is famous for its calcots - a type of scallion or green onion - and the tradition of building human towers, known as castells. With a population of 24,285, it is capital of the Alt Camp comarca and lies 69km from Barcelona and 26km from regional capital Tarragona.

The feasting on calcots is known as a Calcotada. The large sweet-flavoured green onion is barbecued and dipped into a special sauce. The traditional meal continues with the onion being served with meat and sausages grilled over the same coals, washed down with locally produced wines.

Calcots are available December to May and people travel from Barcelona to sample the crop. Grown locally, the vegetable has a protected geographical status in the same way as many wines.

Valls is also the birthplace of castells, a tradition of human tower building that has spread across Catalonia. Historically a small tower was made at the end of a traditional dance but because of the rivalry of different groups taking part - known as colles - the constructions became higher and more complicated.

The festival of Sant Joan in June is the start of the human tower season and the first Sunday after Santa Ursula's Day on October 21 in Plaça del Blat there is perhaps the most important exhibition of castells.

Valls is the birthplace of composer Robert Gerhard, 1896-1970, and visitors can enjoy exploring an old town and its historic churches, chapels and the Call Jueu, the Jewish ghetto near the gothic church of San Joan.

work together to end "once and for all this wretched scourge."

He said some countries were wary of sharing hard-won secrets; but added they must establish a level of trust to "pool the information we have."

Fonsi is cool

A SPANISH-LANGUAGE song has topped the US singles charts more than 20 years after the Macarena sensation, with Puerto Rican singer Luis Fonsi's Despacito.

The tune which features Justin Bieber and rapper Daddy Yankee hit number one on the Billboard Hot 100 chart after being watched 1.5 billion times on YouTube.

Catalan ban

SPAIN'S Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has accused separatist leaders in Catalonia of "threats and blackmail" over reports they would declare independence unless Madrid agreed to a referendum vote on secession.

The country's leader said the move was "intolerable" and would rupture everything the country stood for as he reacted to an article in *El Pais*.

White lines

AN Austrian fashion model has been arrested in Ibiza after allegedly crashing a €450,000 vintage Ferrari while high on cocaine before attempting to flee on her boyfriend's private jet.

Elif Aksu, 25, was detained at a private airport after reportedly careering into a lorry while behind the wheel of a Ferrari Dino.

Birthdays

• Heidi Klum (44) June 1, Model

A German supermodel who appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated, the swimsuit issue and became 'Victoria's Secret Angel.' She is also a businesswoman, fashion designer, singer, author, actress and TV personality, having appeared as host on America's Got Talent.

• Sergio Aguero (29) June 2, Footballer
Argentinian professional footballer who joined the National team in 2006, then was signed up to play for Manchester City in 2011 after he scored 74 goals in 175 games, when playing for Atletico Madrid, between 2006 and 2011. He contributed to Argentina winning an Olympic Gold Medal at the 2008 Beijing games.

• Michelle Keegan (30) June 3, Soap Opera Actress

English actress most well-known for playing the part of Tina McIntyre, in the long-established soap opera, Coronation Street. Before becoming an actress, she worked in a department store then pursued an acting career and has been voted FHM's sexiest woman in the world.

• Angelina Jolie (42) June 4, Movie Actress

American actress who has won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role in *Girl Interrupted* in 1999. She became famous for playing Lara Croft in the *Tomb Raider* and other films include *Maleficent* and *By the Sea*. She is currently better known for her roles as a filmmaker, philanthropist and humanitarian.



• Liam Neeson (65) June 7, Movie Actor

This actor has had an extremely successful career, receiving so much critical acclaim for his role in *Schindler's List*, that in 2009 he was made a US citizen. Other films include *Taken* and *Star Wars*. Queen Elizabeth II, appointed him an Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

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NEWS EXTRA

Armed bandit

A BANK robber who raided an Almeria branch and six others across Spain was arrested in Madrid. The bandit wore a white mask, wielded a gun and stole thousands of euros.

Stolen cars

GUARDIA CIVIL officers attended a seminar on identifying stolen vehicles in an effort to combat the flood of cars being nicked in Almeria then shipped to Morocco for sale as parts.

Melon crisis

FARMERS are being urged to stop selling melons and devote space from the 30,000 football pitch-sized plots across Almeria to grow other crops after prices fell below 20c per kilo.

OUR VIEW

Don't ignore your vote

THIS year, a number of British councils have been efficient in sending out ballot papers to those abroad eligible to vote in the General Election.

If you are one of those who registered to vote by May 22 as you have not been out of the UK for more than 15 years, then once you have received your ballot paper don't forget about voting.

For many expatriates who expected to be able to vote in the next election - following promises in the Conservative manifesto - this has added to the disappointment of missing out on the Brexit Referendum and now this snap General Election.

If you aren't able to appoint a proxy and wish to vote, there is still time to return your ballot paper since the poll doesn't close until 10pm next Thursday, but you might wish to play safe sending it by registered post.

The Conservative and Labour parties have released their manifestos offering very different social policies but both agree that Brexit should proceed, although they differ on terms of negotiations.

The LibDems are offering a second referendum to allow people to vote on the Brexit agreement while the Scottish Nationalists want to remain in Europe.

Now we want to hear your views.
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Mojacar Council pays its respects to Manchester bombing victims

MOJACAR Mayor, Rosa María Cano, and the town council have paid their respects to the victims and their families of the unjustifiable terrorist attack in Manchester on May 22.

Rosa María Cano said "I want to express my deepest sympathy to the United Kingdom and the people of Manchester, as well as all the towns that have lost loved ones. Mojacar offers them its love, soli-

arity and unconditional support, and we wish a speedy recovery of the wounded."

The mayor also said "if any of the British population in Mo-

jacar has been affected by this act of barbarism, the doors of Mojacar Town Hall are open with all the help that the municipality can offer."



ROSA MARIA CANO:
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Fun in the sun

SOME lost their luggage while jetting in, but being deprived of their clothes failed to dampen the spirits as UK reality TV stars swooped into Marbella.

TOWIE's Amber Turner caused a stir after sharing an Instagram photo of Celebrity Big Brother star Jamie O'Hara with the caption 'My fwendsss' during her trip, prompting the ex-Premier League footballer's fashion model girlfriend Elizabeth-Jayne Tierney to respond 'Errrrr no. Remove.'

The Essex siren later left little to the imagination as she showed off her tan in a series of revealing bikinis.

Irish model Vogue Williams, 31, put on a leggy display as she attended the launch of La Sala's new project Mahiki Beach. The winner of Bear Grylls: Mission Survive rocked a black mini dress and nude stilettos stepping out in style.

Also attending the event were veteran reality star Callum Best, former TOWIE heartthrob Mark Wright, and Made in Chelsea bombshell Lottie Moss.

While Callum, 36, kept a low profile, 30-year-old Mark was seen chatting to a bevy of women during an afternoon DJ set.

Meanwhile, 19-year-old Lottie sported a series of skimpy bikinis while puffing on cigarettes and sharing a series of selfies.

She had earlier taken to Twitter to complain about British Airways, as she penned: "Just arrived in Marbella and no luggage, such poor service from Gatwick airport."

Former Made In Chelsea star Ashley James was also a victim of the weekend travel chaos, as she shared a titillating snap of herself naked in the bath with friend and fellow DJ Charlotte de Carle.



Mark Wright

Cruise control

HE'S a Hollywood heavyweight who has recently been busy shooting heart-stopping scenes for the sixth Mission: Impossible movie in Paris.

But 54-year-old actor Tom Cruise displayed a more relaxed side as he hit the red carpet at the Mummy premiere in Madrid alongside co-stars Annabelle Wallis and Sofia Boutella.



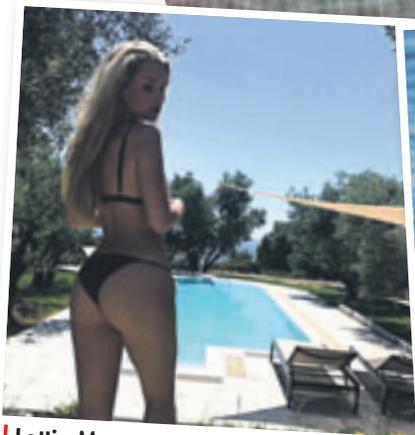
TOM CRUISE: In Madrid.

Sporting a sleek blue suit, the star was all smiles at the first screening of the supernatural horror blockbuster since the London premiere was axed in the wake of the Manchester attack.

He even stretched out a hand to help Annabelle down some steps as she struggled with her long

black and gold gown, before the pair lined up alongside Sofia, who sported a plunging silver number.

The Mummy is a reboot of the 1990s franchise which originally starred Rachel Weisz and Brendan Fraser.



Lottie Moss



Katie McGlynn

Tangerine dream

SHE became famous for her role as frumpish machinist Sinead Tinker in much-loved ITV soap Coronation Street. But Katie McGlynn, 23, showed her outgoing side as she paraded her curves after slipping into a barely-there orange bikini in Mallorca.

The actress seemed keen to show off her newly slender physique as she splashed in the crystal clear shallows, having suffered a gruelling weight-loss regime earlier this year.

Her on screen boyfriend Daniel recently pushed dad Ken Barlow down the stairs after an argument about her, and the stunner certainly stepped up to the mark as she lost two stone after making changes to her diet and fitness schedule.

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Los Gallardos - 79,500€ (ref: HNOF2)
2 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 181m² • Build: 77m²
With community fees less than 40€ per month this well proportioned, maintained & fully equipped property with communal swimming pool is an ideal purchase for either holiday or full time use.



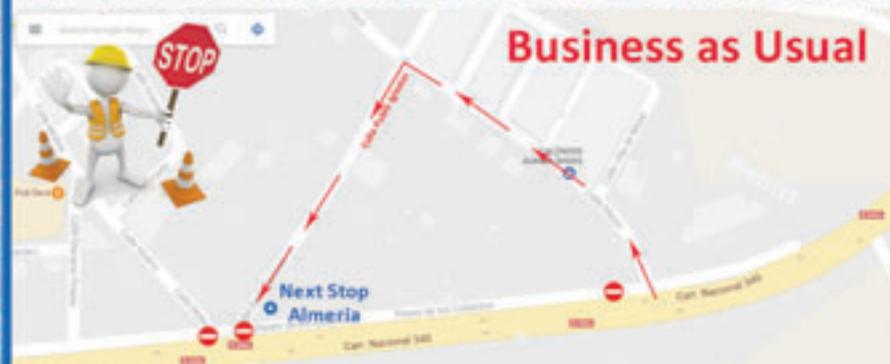
La Huelga - 84,950€ (ref: LHCP)
2 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 564m² • Build: 51m²
Set in olive & citrus trees with rural views the combined package of a property, workshop, land & an additional 64m² plot make it an interesting proposition for anyone looking to taste a true Spanish lifestyle.



Los Gallardos - 89,995€ (ref: LGTB)
3 beds • 2 baths • Garage 37m² • Build: 136m²
With living accommodation distributed over two floors, a roof top solarium above and a large basement garage below, the property would be suitable for either full time living or as a holiday home.



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Los Gallardos
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(ref: LGCH)



5 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms
divided into 3 independent properties in 1 building
Plot: 1,105m² • Build: 235m²

Ideal as a large family home or for use as private accommodation with two rental apartments, the property with walled perimeter is very private and offers tranquillity with the convenience of the village of Los Gallardos 2km away and the larger towns and beaches of Mojicar, Garrucha and Vera all 10 to 15 minutes drive away.

The main dwelling could be described as a single storey villa as its 117m² of build space is distributed over one level. Beneath this there are two self contained apartments; one with 2 bedrooms and another with 1 bedroom. Also with an 8x4m swimming pool, terraces and gardens the property could easily be developed for use as a home and rental apartment to generate an income.



Vera Playa - 219,950€ (ref: VM6P)
3 beds • 2 baths • Plot: 330m² • Build: 98m²
Detached villa in a gated community with private parking, Jacuzzi, terraces & solarium. Located just a few minutes' walk away from the beautiful beaches of Vera Playa.



Bédar - 349,000€ (ref: BDHO)
3 beds • 2½ baths • Plot: 10,000m² • Build: 225m²
Nestled into the mountain side below Bédar, this imposing and eye-catching property boasts a larger than average build size with generously proportioned rooms and amazing views.



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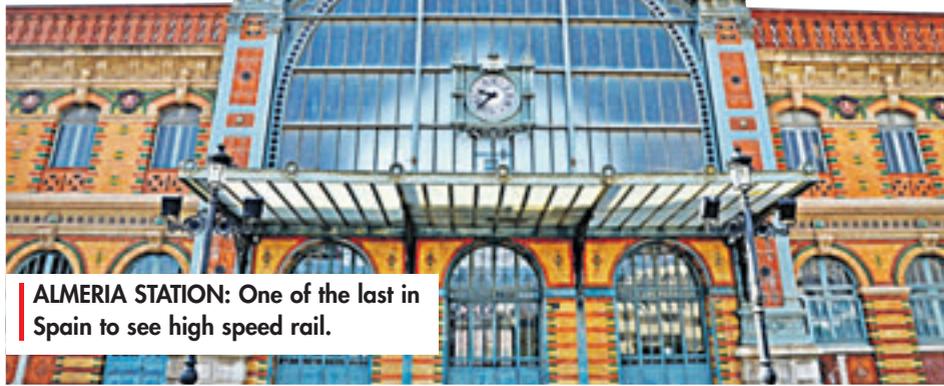
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ALMERIA STATION: One of the last in Spain to see high speed rail.

Death of a dream

By Matthew Elliott

MOURNERS clad in black marched solemnly through the streets of Almería in the second major protest against the delay of high speed rail to the province.

Accompanying a coffin emblazoned with the motif 'the mortal remains of the train,' the 'mourners' included business leaders, politicians, journalists and hundreds of angry locals.

Speakers read a manifesto of demands loaded with morbid symbolism about the railway's gradual decline into old age, betrayed by broken promises and false hopes. A poem was read out and the coffin buried amid dozens of placards denouncing political incompetence.

The protest came as the latest estimate for the arrival of high speed rail was dialed back to 2024, more than a decade after it was promised.

Works are expected to begin sometime in 2019, though none of the protesters are holding their breath.

Just last week hundreds of demonstrators condemned the lack of accessibility for disabled people on Almería's trains, now roundly considered among the worst in Spain.

NEWS EXTRA

Robot wars

PHILOSOPHERS and scientists gathered at the University of Almería to discuss robots, artificial intelligence and how technology's unstoppable rise might help or enslave children growing up in Almería today.

Delay over

ESSENTIAL works on the AL-12 connecting La Canada to the airport have finally finished after causing huge delays to commuters and locals. Asphaltting and safety were top concerns.

Fast food

THOUSANDS of children gathered in the Maestro Padilla Auditorium to learn about the importance of fresh fruit and veg in their diet, knowledge largely forgotten by a fast food generation.

Beach bars

AFTER decades in business 11 chiringuitos on the Almería City coast will be shut down after summer to comply with controversial new beach bar regulations established in Madrid.

Numbers in the news
12,276 hotel rooms available in Marbella, not including hostels along with 11,166 rented accommodation.

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GOLDEN AGE: Almería airport set to hit the one million mark.

Golden age beckons us

By Matthew Elliott

MORE than one million passengers will pass through Almería airport this year if growing optimism proves well founded. It

would be the first time in a decade the massive milestone is reached as the province prepares to enter a new golden age of tourism.

Since being built by the Fran-

co regime in 1968, the airport gradually expanded until tourism reached kicked off at the turn of the millennium. In 2007 passenger numbers reached an all-time high of 1.2 million. Just before the crash, a millionaire invested in infrastructure to give it the capacity to hold two million.

By 2009 in the thick of the recession, numbers plummeted to just 800,000. By 2015 they had sunk to 691,000, a low not seen since before the turn of the century.

Yet today the revival has been every bit as sudden and profound as the crisis. Last year numbers reached 920,000, an increase of more than 30 per cent, far greater than that seen in Malaga or Valencia.

Airlines are now predicting Almería will easily surpass the million mark, and may even exceed the all-time record set in 2007. A total of 46 cities are now connected with Almería, compared to 35 last year, and seats on offer have increased by 14.3 per cent.

With tourism officials working overtime to promote Almería abroad it seems certain that the airport will finally meet the lofty goals it once aspired to.

Burglary is on the increase.

Over recent years the threat of burglary has increased all along the coast and in many inland areas. The unfortunate thing is that in many cases it is often expats and holiday home owners that are the target. Often the criminals that commit these crimes work in groups and are often never caught or convicted.

Unfortunately the British mentality is "It will not happen to me" That's why most people will always wait until they are burgled before they do anything about it.

Simply by taking a few precautions you can prevent yourself from becoming the next target.



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Numbers in the news

£80,000 the cost of an operation a Barcelona neurosurgeon is to perform on a British woman.

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Consultation-ee

CARBONERAS mayor Salvador Hernandez has been barred from holding public office by the top criminal court in Almería. The decision brings to an end the fiery independent's unlikely political career, which was dogged with controversy from day one.

Hernandez was found guilty of deliberately preventing the council opposition from seeing documents related to

Sneaky mayor ousted

the management and giving out of local construction contracts. For three years he thwarted efforts from the Socialists to view contracts that are supposed to be in the public domain.

Though there is no solid evidence that Hernandez was a corrupt nepotist,

handing out public contracts to friends and relatives, rival politicians had their suspicions. He was, after all, a mayor.

But then they submitted requests to view all council works related documents, Hernandez ignored them, despite being obliged under law to comply

within two weeks. Judges condemned his lackadaisical attitude which saw that timeline expanded to three years and counting.

A total of 26 requests for information went ignored. Judges decided that, while not criminal, his behaviour was enough to warrant the mayor being stripped of his title and banished from politics.

NEWS EXTRA

Wheely good

A RAMP was built for the new €30 million maternal unit at Torrecardenas hospital due for completion this year. The facility offers a major improvement in health services for pregnant women.

New centre

A NEW health centre will be built in Almería at a cost of €2.1 million. The huge space will serve communities near Pescaderia with an anticipated 23,000 consultations each year.

Hot stove

AN old lady was carried half-conscious out of her Almería home by police officers after collapsing from smoke inhalation when her kitchen caught fire, panicking neighbours.

Troop trip

AS Spain celebrated Armed Forces Day last Saturday, thousands of schoolchildren visited military brigades and headquarters across Almería Province, where huge numbers of Spanish NATO troops are stationed.

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TEAM SPIRIT: Local Nijar children get involved in sports.

Olympic heroes

MORE than 300 mini-athletes gathered at the San Isidro football pitches and swimming pool in Nijar to celebrate an awards ceremony after a fun-filled sporting season.

The children came from a variety of local schools and were aged between six and 13. Awards included fair play, top scorers, best

players, speediest swimmers and others.

Nijar mayor Esperanza Perez was on hand to tell all the young athletes that each of them was a champion. She said the sports tournaments across the town were a fantastic way of helping keep children fit, active, while making new friends and appreciating teamwork.

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Debate on state of the city

DESCRIBED as a masterful performance in spinning silver linings from dark clouds, Almería mayor Ramon Pacheco defended his record during a major debate on the state of the city.

Pacheco, one of Spain's youngest mayors at just 33, rattled off a list of his successes since taking office in 2015, provoking laughter and

anger from rival politicians at the town hall meeting. He raised eyebrows by pledging to restore the flagging El Cable Ingles project. The massive architectural marvel has long been earmarked for conversion into a huge commercial centre, but enthusiasm and funding has quickly withered away.

Romantic solstice battle



ROMANTIC: Lucainena de las Torres among prettiest pueblos in Spain.

TWO of Almería's most beautiful villages are set to prove which is the most romantic during a spectacular summer solstice event. Mojacár and Lucainena de las Torres are both members of the Association of the Most Beautiful Pueblos in Spain.

On June 24 residents of both villages are being challenged to join more than 300 other pretty pueblos across

Spain and Italy in creating a romantic festival to celebrate the beginning of summer.

Plays, parades, concerts, exhibitions, dances, markets, raffles and food will all be part of the show, which is sealed with a kiss.

Thousands of couples, friends and relatives will kiss one another at midnight in what is expected to be the greatest mass kiss in history

with an estimated 100,000 people puckering their lips.

If it all goes to plan then Mojacár and Lucainena de las Torres will secure their place in the Guinness Book of Records. But both pueblos must act quickly.

They are both well behind in organising any event at all and only have a few weeks to conjure up their inner-romantic.

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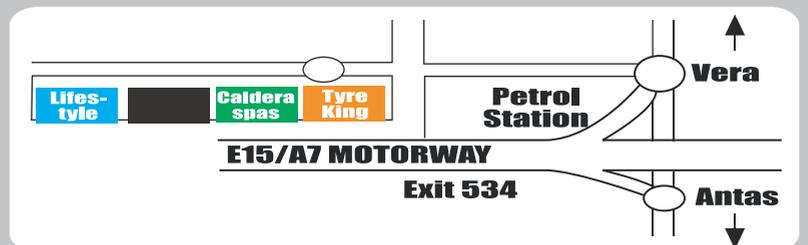
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VINTAGE VEHICLES: Old cars can look good but can also be dangerous.

Old banger paradise

IT'S not only the population which is ageing. So are Almeria's cars.

Despite intensive efforts from Madrid to kickstart the automotive industry, more than two thirds of the province's cars are now over a decade old.

The age is starting to show. Last year more than 75,000 vehicles failed ITV inspections across Almeria's nine authorised stations.

The most common flaws were lighting and signalling defects, followed by problems with tyres,

axles and suspension.

Almost one in five had serious brake trouble, while 14 per cent emitted dangerous levels of pollutants.

The alarming revelations have top brass at the Directorate General of Traffic (DGT) concerned.

Vehicles have an average useful life span of 15 years, meaning 66.3 per cent of Almeria's cars are either past their sell-by-date or have only a few

years of safe service left.

The average age of all cars, motorbikes and trucks across the province is now 11, four years older than it was in 2008 when the crisis struck.

Older cars are considered dangerous, being far more likely to get involved in breakdowns and crashes. They lack the modern safety systems often found in newer models and cost owners thousands in extra bills.

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NEWS EXTRA**Farm day**

AN estimated 2,000 people attended the open day held by Nijar's El Plantel farming facility. The space offers discounted desalinated water, seeds and fresh produce to clients and the public.

Funny stash

PORT police found two Moroccans stashed under suitcases in a car from North Africa. One made a dash for it when his cover was blown but was arrested within seconds.

Bush bound

TWO teenage thieves who nicked a moped were found hiding in a hedge in Nijar by police after they scarpered from officers who pulled them over for not wearing helmets.

Sex crime

AN 18-year-old accused of sexually assaulting a minor was thrown in prison without bail while police investigate. His alleged victim was taken to Poniente hospital with serious injuries.

Fun lovers

NEIGHBOURS of Fernan Perez in Nijar celebrated San Fernando, a traditional event with deep historic roots. Flamenco, food and a giant procession on Tuesday delighted the crowds.

First class

A LUXURY cruise ship stunned onlookers at Almería Port. Insignia holds 684 guests and 400 crew, with four restaurants, 342 suites, a casino, spa and gym.

Bad apples

A BAND of crooks who robbed at least 24 homes across Oria, Vicar and Alhendin were finally caught. Described as highly sophisticated, they used stolen cars to hide their loot.

FURIOUS residents of an Almería neighbourhood destroyed by a landslide say the authorities have done nothing to protect them from future disasters. It is one month since 100 people in the Pedrizas neighbourhood of La Chanca saw their homes either flattened or partially destroyed by dozens of enormous rocks.

They still have no information

Landslide disgrace

about protection measures or proper clean up works. A total of 16 families are homeless, making do with shelter at a local youth hostel and a council building with no indication of when they might return home. Others aren't so lucky and

are staying with relatives in far flung provinces across Spain.

Many have jobs in the neighbourhood and return there each day, depressed to see their home under the rubble with no discernible difference made despite a full month

flying by. Some fear they will lose their jobs due to the large commuting distances, which they can barely afford at any rate.

Affected families have demanded an end to the uncertainty. Those whose homes escaped the landslide claim the threat persists and want assurances from the authorities that urgent action will be taken to protect them.

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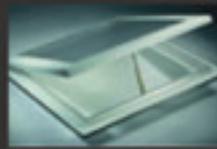
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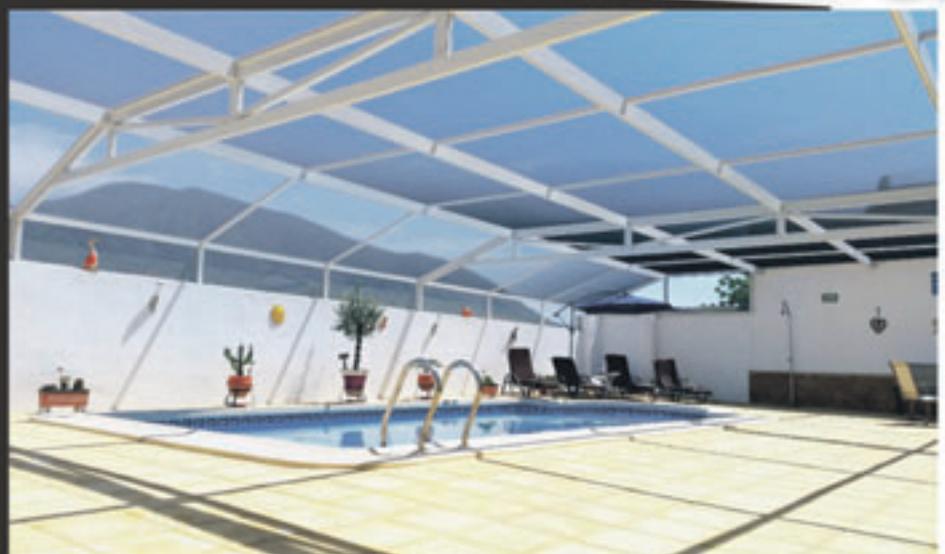
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CORNISH PAINTER: Bernice Willis / Blue Spirit.

More Than Paint exhibits

THE exhibition 'More Than Paint' is open at the Centro de Arte La Fuente de Mojacar from June 4 until the end of June.

Bernice Willis is a professional Cornish painter now living in Spain, where she finds the amazing light and beautiful colours have brought a new dimension to her work, which is mainly portraiture and still life in oils. She previously was kept busy working on a large scale, producing murals for

restaurants, nurseries, large homes and pools. She sells and exhibits extensively in the UK, Holland and Spain and has a beloved local following, well-known for her murals seen at PAWS.

Didi Arias, long term Mojácar resident, has an eclectic background in teaching, art, writing and dance.

This diversity is very apparent in her pieces, which are described from being 'elegant and soulful,' to 'whimsical'

and 'unexpected.'

She explores a variety of mediums such as acrylics, inks, watercolour, collage, charcoals, pastels, encaustic wax, plaster and clay. Animals are heavily featured in her work, and as a professional in the equine industry, it comes as no surprise that horses give her strong inspiration.

In addition, well known local Anika Poort is the invited guest artist and will have a few pieces on show to embellish the event.

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IN THE PINK: FACE Committee Members with Stacy Smith (centre) and pupils of the gym.

FACE donates a wedge!

RECENTLY, some of the committee members of FACE (Fundraising in Arboleas, Caring for Everyone) went along to the Adelante Gimnasia Artística, Arboleas to meet Stacy Smith and some of her trainee gymnasts.

FACE were actually there to present a wedge, not of money, although it did cost €708, but a Gymnastic Wedge Mat that

will assist in the training of the youngsters that use the gym.

The Adelante Gimnasia Artística, Arboleas, is a non-profit making organisation that is available for children, throughout the local area, to use.

It proved impossible to obtain the type of wedge that was required by the gymnasium in Spain, however FACE was able to locate a manufac-

turer in the United Kingdom. Unfortunately, they wanted to charge over €400 to ship it to Spain.

However, fortunately a knight in shining armour came to the rescue and FACE would like to thank Les of DNL Transport who picked the wedge up in the United Kingdom and transported it back to Spain free of charge.

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TYPES OF THIRD PARTY OR PUBLIC LIABILITY

If you own a swimming pool, paddle court or if you are renting out your property as a holiday home, anyone visiting your property could potentially make a claim against you for injury if they hurt themselves. You could be held liable even if it was their fault entirely. This also includes tradesmen entering your property in order to maintain it, such as gardeners, electricians, and swimming pool or boiler maintenance. Public liability insurance will cover you against any potential third party claim resulting from an injury happening on your property. You will need to check which types of third party cover you require for your property and take out a specific policy to cover, for example, medical claims or negligence.

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WHAT DOES PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE COVER?

Should a third party injure themselves on your property, they could make a claim against you for medical costs to cover their treatment. This can be expensive, especially if they have private medical insurance. You may also have to pay for any legal costs incurred should the claim require legal representation or court settlement.

Linea Directa can provide you with advice on how to check how much public liability insurance you currently have and provide you with options on how to adequately cover yourself and your family.

We hope the information provided in this article is of interest.

*If you would like to contact Linea Directa please call 902 123 309
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Optimism for post-Brexit expats

BRITISH Consul Sarah-Jane Morris remains "optimistic" Britain and its former European Union partners will quickly strike a deal over expats rights after Brexit.

She was visiting Calpe, Alicante, and told a meeting all parties were "keen" to protect the interests of UK citizens living in Europe and EU citizens living in Britain.

"We in both the British government and members of the EU are very keen to get a result on citizens' rights as soon as possible; I am optimistic we will find something out in the next few months," said Mrs Morris.

"They will probably fall out over fishing rights for some years to come but on citizens' rights, everyone is on the same page."

"For European citizens who are not living in their home countries, their rights will be respected; I am confident their position will not change; although we do not

know what the final deal will look like yet."

Mrs Morris and Calpe Councillor Carole Saunders were guests of Calpe's Association of Foreign Property Owners; the consul returning to speak about Brexit after last joining AFPO in October.

She said the consulate network in Spain would continue to look at numbers of British nationals living in the country, where they were living and what their situation was; feeding information back to the government's Department for Leaving the EU.

"I listen to your concerns, go back and speak to the ambassador; concerns I pick up and the mood on the street, and what

specific issues come up, some were flagged up right at the beginning," said Mrs Morris.

And she said there were a number of pressure groups that had launched after last year's referendum aimed at p r o -

tecting expats' rights in Europe, such as the Madrid-based Eurocitizens and ECREU.

"If you do have concerns, you might want to look at some of these groups and make sure

your local council, is aware of what the Brexit implications might be," she added.

Mrs Morris said if people picked up things "on the rumour mill" and were concerned; they should contact the consulate or visit the official 'gov.uk' website.

She said health, pensions, education, and property rights were among the top concerns and would be addressed.

"It is in Spain's interest to get as many Brits to stay here as possible; you are helping keep these local towns afloat; it is in Spain's interest that you don't go anywhere," she said.

And Mrs Morris said the

UK's close relationship with Spain dated back to before Spain became a member of the EU. "I think common sense will prevail, that's just my take but I would like to think people are in a similar position; people will want to carry on with the current position because it works very well."

Mrs Saunders said Calpe Mayor Cesar Sanchez was also the president of the provincial government and it was estimated there were between 250,000 and 300,000 British citizens in Alicante.

"Everyone I meet says 'don't worry' we will get it organised," she said. "I think they know we are important.

"The amount of British people coming on holiday to Spain is still rising; there was a boom in house sales in the last year, it has gone down but only because people are doubtful about the future. Please don't worry. They cannot do without us and they know it."



COUNCILLOR:
Carole Saunders (left) and Consul Sarah-Jane Morris.

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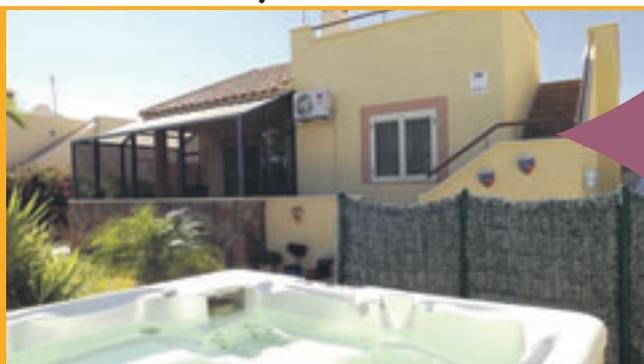
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- 467m2 garden with pool
- Walk to amenities
- Urcal Village (Huercal-Overa)

VH1128 €139,950 CEE TBC

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- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 450m2 low maint plot with car port
- Sun roof, conservatory & porch
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

VH1129 €95,000 CEE TBC

NEW LISTING



- 2 bed, 2 bath Country House
- 95m2 build with 21,500m2 of land
- Fenced garden & sun roof
- 5 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1122 €129,950 CEE F71 41

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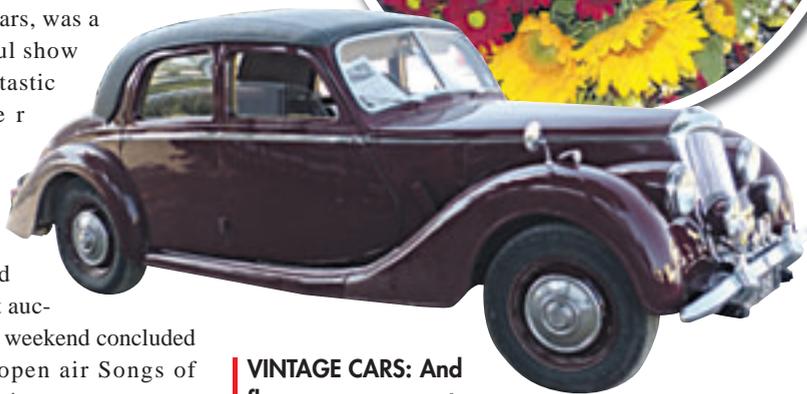
- 2 bed, 1 bath Villa
- 8m x 4m pool on a 538m2 plot
- Walking distance to amenities
- 8 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

Fantastic flowers at the Aljambra chapel

CELEBRATIONS were held at Aljambra Chapel in Albox over the weekend to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the start of Anglican Services at Aljambra.

The centre showcase of the weekend, which included many stalls, refreshments, a BBQ and a display of vintage cars, was a wonderful show of 51 fantastic flower arrangements, some of which were sold at a silent auction. The weekend concluded with an open air Songs of Praise service.

To date, €2,300 has been raised for the Chaplaincy and AECC (Spanish Research into cancer). Congratulations to all the organisers.



VINTAGE CARS: And flower arrangements.

Numbers in the news

31 The percentage of women in Spain thought statistically to be overweight, 9 per cent fewer than men.

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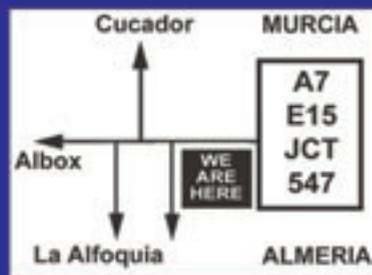
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Billionaire's battle online

■ TYCOON Alisher Usmanov, a shareholder in Arsenal, released an online video ranting about Putin critic and anti-corruption campaigner Alexei Navalny. Earlier this year Navalny accused Usmanov, the 37th richest man in the world, of bribing prime minister Medvedev. He ended the 12-minute video saying "I spit on you Navalny."

USMANOV: A billionaire but definitely not a happy camper.

Gay purge

■ MOSCOW has bowed to international pressure and began investigating reports of a murderous purge against Chechnya's gay community. It is the first time Moscow has interfered with the domestic politics of the extremely conservative region. Human rights groups believe homosexuals have been rounded up in concentration camps.

Mercedes molotov

■ A MOLOTOV cocktail was thrown at a luxury Mercedes parked in central Moscow, causing damage as the driver quickly sped away. Police are investigating the incident, which comes as the city is on high alert following a series of protests. Molotovs are often used as a symbolic



weapon against corruption.

Family legacy

■ STALIN'S grandson, Alexander Burdonsky, has died at the age of 76. Burdonsky was one of the former Soviet leader's 12 grandchildren and a director at Moscow's Red Army Theatre. His father was Vasily, Stalin's second son, who was once jailed as a political prisoner.

Flash priest

■ AN Orthodox bishop raised eyebrows in Oryol when he accepted a Land Cruiser worth six million rubles (€100,000) as a gift. Bishop Nektary said he reckoned Jesus would have accepted it so felt compelled to do so himself, despite Patriarch Kirill urging clergy to reject donations of luxury cars.

Theatre trouble

■ A TOP contemporary theatre famous among Moscow's culture vultures was raided by police in a corruption investigation. The Gogol Centre was swarmed with officers, who also searched the home of director, Kirill Serebrennikov, whose avant-garde films have appeared at Cannes and other major film festivals.

Foreign talent

■ FOREIGN footballers should be prevented from joining Russia's top teams according to some Kremlin officials. A spokesman for the President said he disagreed with the notion but admitted that the country had trouble developing homegrown talent. League champions Spartak Moscow's current squad has three South Americans.



SPARTAK MOSCOW: Squad has three South Americans.

Aena achieves record share

By John Smith

THANKS to purchases made by mainly American banks and investment houses, shares in Aena hit a record €170 on the Spanish stock exchange.

When large corporations such as Goldman Sachs, Charles Schwab and JP Morgan invest in a company's shares, many other speculators follow suit even when company profits obtained are not that high.

Analysts suggest however that with the weakness of the Brazilian

and Chinese economies as well as problems in the US and the UK, sensible money has headed to a safe haven such as Aena which manages airports in Spain and overseas.

Recently, one of the world's largest credit ratings firms, Fitch upgraded Aena's rating to A and the

company continues to turn in increased revenue figures and forecast profits every quarter so whilst other analysts suggest that the shares are over-valued, such a suggestion is being ignored by the large corporate investors.

Latest valuation based on share

€80.9 million

is the profit reported by Aena for the first quarter of 2017.

price which has increased by 14 per cent in the last month shows that Aena is within the top 10 most valuable companies on the Spanish stock market (IBEX) index, being worth more than a number of Banks and other household names.

The reason for the escalation in the price of shares in the company is simply explained by the fact that there are considerably more potential purchasers than sellers and the only way that shares can be obtained is to encourage profit taking with higher bids.

Bid for renewable energy projects

ALERT to the fact Spain needs to increase its production of renewable energy in order to meet EU requirements, new suppliers are being sought.

The government will hold an auction to receive bids for new wind and other renewable projects shortly according to Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy. He made it clear one of the stipulations for the award of any contract would be consumers would not have to pay more for the electricity produced as development costs would be for the winning bidders.

The government hopes that by 2020 renewable projects will account for 10 per cent of Spanish energy production.

Quote of the Week

"Euro area banks are less likely overall to grant loans than they have been on average since 2003," **Mario Draghi**, President of the European Central Bank speaking in Madrid.



Photo Credit: UK in Spain flickr

Ambassador Simon Manley promoting British business.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Foreign owners

DESPITE fears over Brexit, Britons purchase more properties in Spain than any other foreign group. Figures have fallen in the last 12 months but are still significant as far as property sales are concerned.

Gas price

THE cost of an orange butane gas canister has increased by 5 per cent to €14.18. The last increase was in January and the price is set by central government, although gas in silver canisters is not controlled.

Pay TV

IT is reported that more Spaniards are considering pay TV. Sky has indicated that it expects to enter the market. With plans to offer services towards the end of this year, it will be unable to offer Premier League football.

A hard Brexit is scaring majority

ACCORDING to the British Chamber of Commerce in Spain, more than two thirds of its members are now more sceptical about the results of Brexit.

What worries them most is the possibility of a hard Brexit with 82 per cent saying that the consequences of this, especially the shielding of migratory flows or access to the common market, as well as the establishment of tariff barriers to imports and exports of goods, could negatively affect

their businesses.

They are however more optimistic about the option of a soft exit as more than half believe that it would have no effect or could even be positive for their business.

Importantly however almost all the companies consulted agree that Brexit will have negative consequences on the Spanish economy as it may be more difficult for British companies to invest or want to invest in Spain.

Roam free throughout Europe

TELECOMS group Telefonica has advised its Movistar customers that from June 15 they will be able to use their mobile phones within Europe free of roaming charges. Other mobile phone companies have already implemented this change in or-

der to comply with European Union directives following some 10 years of negotiation between member states and telecoms companies.

Apart from all EU states, this change will also apply in Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

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Associated British Foods	2,925.00	-25.00	-0.85	23,504.81
Admiral Group	1,905.00	-101.00	-5.03	5,741.21
Ashtead Group	1,545.50	-24.50	-1.56	7,777.94
Antofagasta	801.50	-23.00	-2.79	8,138.25
Aviva	524.50	-2.00	-0.38	21,603.20
AstraZeneca	5,189.00	-38.00	-0.73	65,925.22
BAE Systems	663.00	-2.50	-0.38	20,848.96
Babcock International Group	919.00	-22.50	-2.39	4,805.70
Barclays	211.13	-0.52	-0.25	36,345.12
British American Tobacco	5,515.00	-76.00	-1.36	102,447.64
Barratt Developments	597.25	-3.75	-0.62	6,112.30
British Land Co	629.50	-2.00	-0.32	6,497.84
BHP Billiton	1,198.00	-7.00	-0.58	25,545.51
Bunzl	2,419.50	-17.50	-0.72	8,189.39
BP	469.78	-4.77	-1.01	93,111.14
Burberry Group	1,739.50	-38.50	-2.17	7,772.48
BT Group	312.00	-1.80	-0.57	31,216.01
Coca-Cola HBC	2,269.00	-2.19	-0.10	8,248.17
Carnival	4,600.00	-335.00	-6.79	10,419.45
Centrica	202.60	-0.60	-0.30	11,292.38
Compass Group	1,616.50	-26.50	-1.61	26,638.66
Croda International	3,922.50	-39.50	-1.00	5,172.47
CRH	2,790.00	-14.74	-0.53	23,185.25
ConvaTec Group	292.55	-32.45	-9.98	6,264.23
DCC	7,290.00	-94.26	-1.27	6,581.29
Diageo	2,324.00	-13.00	-0.56	58,512.44
Direct Line Insurance Group	344.80	-0.60	-0.17	4,798.75
Experian	1,621.00	-20.00	-1.22	15,525.36
easyJet	1,335.50	-50.50	-3.64	5,481.47
Fresnillo	1,528.00	-53.00	-3.35	11,613.44
GKN	329.75	-24.75	-6.98	6,000.20
Glencore	288.75	-3.75	-1.28	41,946.28
GlaxoSmithKline	1,628.00	-15.50	-0.94	79,561.91
Hikma Pharmaceuticals	1,667.00	-25.00	-1.48	3,995.65
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,390.00	-12.68	-0.90	6,664.18
Hammerson	578.25	-2.75	-0.47	4,600.50
HSBC Holdings	670.50	-4.50	-0.67	134,129.99
International Consltd Airlines Gr	587.25	-26.75	-4.36	13,000.22
InterContinental Hotels Grp	4,337.50	-19.50	-0.45	8,635.86
3i Group	857.50	-11.00	-1.27	8,478.03
Imperial Brands	3,650.25	-30.25	-0.82	35,064.85
Informa	680.25	-8.25	-1.20	5,360.15
Intu Properties	265.90	-3.80	-1.41	3,638.28
Intertek Group	4,295.00	-22.20	-0.51	6,962.39
ITV	197.20	-3.00	-1.50	8,010.56
Johnson Matthey	3,175.00	76.15	2.46	5,989.86
Kingfisher	325.45	-2.85	-0.87	7,398.25
Land Securities Group	1,038.00	-37.00	-3.44	8,468.93
Legal & General Group	242.65	-7.65	-3.06	15,012.99

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	71.14	-0.60	-0.84	52,237.24
London Stock Exchange Grp	3,345.50	-45.50	-1.34	11,906.23
Micro Focus International	2,310.00	-108.00	-4.47	5,530.12
Mediclinic International	787.50	-28.50	-3.49	5,960.62
Merlin Entertainments	514.00	-4.50	-0.87	5,256.81
Marks & Spencer Group	370.70	-15.60	-4.04	6,325.07
Mondi	1,957.00	-54.00	-2.69	9,749.92
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	242.30	-5.10	-2.06	5,731.58
National Grid	1,085.50	-5.50	-0.50	40,667.27
Next	4,372.00	-12.00	-0.27	6,473.43
Old Mutual Group	194.40	-2.20	-1.12	9,623.30
Provident Financial	3,088.50	-37.52	-1.20	4,642.03
Paddy Power Betfair	8,315.00	-16.80	-0.20	6,988.59
Prudential	1,734.75	-14.25	-0.81	45,054.76
Persimmon	2,382.00	-61.00	-2.50	7,597.39
Pearson	689.50	-9.50	-1.36	5,675.85
Reckitt Benckiser Group	7,715.00	-154.00	-1.96	54,625.39
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	258.30	-3.30	-1.26	31,500.71
Royal Dutch Shell	2,088.25	-29.75	-1.40	94,525.43
RELX	1,647.50	-6.50	-0.39	17,615.22
Rio Tinto	3,145.00	-45.00	-1.41	43,788.70
Royal Mail	429.65	-9.25	-2.11	4,381.00
Rolls-Royce Group	836.75	-36.25	-4.15	15,668.74
Randgold Resources	6,810.00	-390.00	-5.42	6,668.19
RSA Insurance Group	620.00	-2.23	-0.36	6,340.49
Rentokil Initial	242.85	-21.85	-8.25	4,830.35
Sainsbury (J)	269.45	-12.25	-4.35	6,097.56
Schroders	3,125.50	-39.50	-1.25	7,162.65
Sage Group (The)	710.25	-3.25	-0.46	7,717.34
Shire	4,631.25	-20.25	-0.44	42,959.66
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,089.00	-89.00	-4.09	5,107.94
Sky	861.50	-135.50	-13.59	17,207.36
Standard Life	379.75	-4.15	-1.08	7,693.49
Smiths Group	1,569.50	-12.50	-0.79	6,248.13
Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust	395.50	-4.50	-1.13	5,348.92
Smith & Nephew	1,273.00	-78.00	-5.77	11,743.27
SSE	1,512.50	-6.50	-0.43	15,599.41
Standard Chartered	724.30	-9.20	-1.25	23,914.24
St James's Place	1,120.00	-52.00	-4.44	6,218.83
Severn Trent	2,534.00	-12.14	-0.48	5,996.55
Tesco	183.93	-2.87	-1.54	15,266.89
TUI AG	1,135.50	-33.50	-2.87	6,827.25
Taylor Wimpey	198.45	-1.25	-0.63	6,562.99
Unilever	4,256.75	-53.75	-1.25	54,797.30
United Utilities Group	1,027.50	-7.50	-0.72	7,187.10
Vodafone Group	230.13	-0.07	-0.03	60,724.96
Wolseley	4,605.00	-383.00	-7.68	12,423.87
Worldpay Group	307.40	-10.10	-3.18	6,420.00
WPP Group	1,719.00	-18.00	-1.04	21,881.57
Whitbread	4,025.00	-217.00	-5.12	7,789.75

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COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE	%CHANGE	VOLUME
3M	200,670	+0.57%	1,130	119M
AMERICAN EXPRESS	77,4600	+0.03%	0,0200	69M
APPLE	153,610	-0.17%	-0,260	800M
BOEING CO	186,590	-0.26%	-0,480	112M
CATERPILLAR	105,660	+0.61%	0,640	62M
CHEVRON	104,72	-0.37%	-0,39	198M
CISCO SYSTEMS	31,500	+0.19%	0,060	157M
COCA-COLA	45,39	-0.04%	-0,02	193M
DU PONT(EI) DE NMR	77,8500	+0.59%	0,4600	67M
EXXON MOBIL	81,55	-0.24%	-0,20	345M
GENERAL ELECTRIC	27,4500	-0.15%	-0,0400	238M
GOLDMAN SACHS	223,53	+0.48%	1,06	87M
HOME DEPOT	154,9000	-1.00%	-1,5600	185M
IBM	152,49	-0.46%	-0,71	143M
INTEL CORP	36,2600	+0.00%	0,0000	170M
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	85,3600	+0.01%	0,0100	303M
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	126,9200	-0.48%	-0,6100	341M
MC DONALD'S CORP	149,8600	+0.05%	0,0800	122M
MERCK AND CO. NEW	64,92	-0.18%	-0,12	177M
MICROSOFT	69,960	+0.49%	0,340	540M
NIKE	52,59	+0.46%	0,24	69M
Pfizer	32,1400	-0.06%	-0,0200	191M
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	87,250	+0.45%	0,390	223M
TRAVELERS CIES	123,66	-0.05%	-0,06	34M
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	121,85	-0.33%	-0,40	97M
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	177,50	-0.31%	-0,55	171M
VERIZON COMMS	45,32	+0.02%	0,01	184M
VISA	94,67	-0.39%	-0,37	174M
WAL-MART STORES	78,1300	-0.23%	-0,1800	236M
WALT DISNEY CO	108,4100	+1.06%	1,1400	169M

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES MAY 29

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
Cerus Corporation	\$ 2.35	0.33 ▲ 16.34%
Appian Corporation	\$ 17.11	2.10 ▲ 13.99%
Cellular Biomedicine Group, Inc.	\$ 6.20	0.70 ▲ 12.73%
AmTrust Financial Services, Inc.	\$ 14	1.55 ▲ 12.45%
Nutanix, Inc.	\$ 19.59	2.02 ▲ 11.50%
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 2.55	0.25 ▲ 10.87%
Amphastar Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 16.97	1.50 ▲ 9.70%
Trupanion, Inc.	\$ 18.83	1.65 ▲ 9.60%
Xcel Brands, Inc.	\$ 2.40	0.20 ▲ 9.09%
Web.com Group, Inc.	\$ 23.10	1.90 ▲ 8.96%
Infinera Corporation	\$ 10.35	0.84 ▲ 8.83%
Most Declined		
BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 5.77	0.96 ▼ 14.26%
NantKwest, Inc.	\$ 3.775	0.405 ▼ 9.69%
National Research Corporation	\$ 44.71	4.58 ▼ 9.29%
Juno Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 23.30	2.22 ▼ 8.70%
NeuroDerm Ltd.	\$ 21.30	1.95 ▼ 8.39%
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 7.78	0.70 ▼ 8.25%
Gridsum Holding Inc.	\$ 11.85	1.05 ▼ 8.14%
Lion Biotechnologies, Inc.	\$ 5.65	0.50 ▼ 8.13%
Geron Corporation	\$ 2.77	0.24 ▼ 7.97%
Ardelyx, Inc.	\$ 4.60	0.35 ▼ 7.07%
Sangamo Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 7.25	0.55 ▼ 7.05%

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EUR Fixed Income B
 Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

€0.9513 -€0.0021
 £0.9497 £0.0001

Price Movement

Accumulating Funds

GBP Currency B
 EUR Currency B
 Multi Asset Conservative B GBP
 Multi Asset Conservative B EUR
 Multi Asset Balanced B GBP
 Multi Asset Balanced B EUR
 Multi Asset Growth B GBP
 Multi Asset Growth B EUR

DEALING PRICE

€0.9837.....-£0.0002
 €0.9615.....-£0.0002
 £1.1489.....£0.0031
 €1.0760.....€0.0029
 £1.2889.....£0.0054
 €1.1960.....€0.0050
 £1.4173.....£0.0084
 €1.3226.....€0.0077

Price Movement

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

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GBP, EUR exchange rates react to political news in May

Ask the expert

Peter Loveday



Currencies Direct

Contact me at euroweekly@currenciesdirect.com

WHAT'S been happening?

The falling odds of the Bank of England (BoE) increasing interest rates in the near future saw the pound drop away from its recent multi-month highs against the US, Australian, New Zealand and Canadian dollars.

Over the past four weeks the GBP/EUR exchange rate has fluctuated between €1.1723 and €1.1990 (a difference of over two cents per pound) while GBP/USD has recovered from a low of \$1.2520 to hit highs of \$1.2985 (a difference of four cents per pound).

Although the news that centrist Emmanuel Macron won the second round of the French Presidential election (beating far-right Marine Le Pen) gave the euro a little boost, the currency's gains weren't as impressive as some had expected.

Concerns the European Central Bank (ECB) plans to keep monetary policy accommodative for some time to come kept the euro under pressure. That being said, the past month has seen



PAST MONTH: The GBP/EUR exchange rate has fluctuated.

EUR/USD see a surge of four cents per euro. The EUR/GBP has recovered from a low, with an improvement of about one penny per euro.

Meanwhile, over in the US President Donald Trump lived up to his reputation for making rash and unexpected decisions by unceremoniously sacking the director of the FBI. Trump's decision raised serious concerns about his leadership and weakened demand for the US dollar, leaving the USD/EUR exchange rate weaker.

What do you need to look out for?

Without doubt, the main pound-moving event

on the horizon over the next four weeks is the UK's general election. The British public will be taking to the polls again on June 8 and as the outcome of the election could significantly change the shape of the UK's Brexit negotiations, considerable GBP exchange rate volatility can be expected.

A Conservative win is expected to be the most pound-positive outcome, while a Labour victory or coalition outcome may send Sterling spiralling lower.

Political motivations will remain one of the

main causes of EUR fluctuations in the weeks ahead as the French legislative elections take place in June. Macron's 'Republic on the Move' party will need to gain support if the new President hopes to push through some of his planned policy changes.

Signs that Macron will struggle to enact change would be euro-negative. Any reports which support the ECB's current plans to leave monetary policy unchanged would also weigh on EUR exchange rates.

The Federal Reserve's hotly-anticipated June interest rate decision on the 14th could also cause euro movement. If the Fed does increase interest rates the US dollar could surge, sending the euro lower in the process. However, if rates remain unaltered or if the central bank indicates that the June rate adjustment could be the last one of 2017, EUR exchange rates may jump as the US dollar falls.

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Ryanair and Air Europa form new partnership

By John Smith

TWO airlines, Ryanair and Air Europa are forming a new flight partnership to offer Air Europa long haul flights through the Ryanair website.

With immediate effect customers can browse and book Air Europa flights on 20 long haul routes from Madrid to 16 countries in North, Central and South America, including Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico and the United States.

The second phase of this Air Europa partnership will be launched later in the year and will allow Ryanair customers to connect onto Air Europa long haul flights through Madrid.

Ryanair is continuing its discussions with a number of other long haul airlines on potential feed and connecting flight partnerships.

In Madrid, Ryanair CEO Michael



Photo by Ryanair

O'Leary said "We are pleased to announce this exciting partnership with Air Europa ...

Ryanair operates over 50 short haul routes to/from Madrid and now our customers can book flights on Air Europa long haul routes to destinations including Buenos Aires, Havana and New York."

Globalia Group - which owns Air Europa - CEO, Javier Hidalgo said "This partnership with Ryanair gives us great satisfaction, and it puts us at the forefront of business and allows us to strengthen our competitiveness. With this agreement Air Europa doubles its connectivity with the European continent adding 53 European cities."

ANNOUNCEMENT of the partnership.

Storage wars as police investigate possible scam

AN investigation into fraudulent pension schemes is being undertaken by the British and Spanish authorities with at least €148 million thought to have been lost.

The investigation has been mounted by the Serious Fraud Office of the Metropolitan Police into at least four UK based companies who have targeted investors overseas, many in Spain, persuading them to buy long leases on rooms in storage houses between 2011 and 2017.

The proposal to these investors was that if they rented at one price, they could then sub-let at a higher price but in most cases this was not possible and often the only beneficiary was the investment company.

A number of companies promoting this type of scheme were made insolvent in 2016 and one adviser has been banned from being a director of a company for nine years after 300 of his clients lost €14 million in a similar scheme.

The investigation will decide whether individuals, many of them pensioners, were deliberately misled and if so, those responsible may well be prosecuted.

Have work will travel for Spanish youths seeking jobs in the US

WITH the lack of work for youngsters in Spain, many have decided, like past generations that they will need to look for work elsewhere.

The stereotype 'Manuel' the good hearted but almost unintelligible waiter in Fawley Towers reflected the fact that in the early second half of the 20th century, huge numbers of Spaniards who could barely speak English found their way to the UK looking for a better life.

Many returned home to enjoy their retirement but there is now a large new breed of well-educated younger people looking to find work and a career outside of Spain and with the uncertainty of future options in the UK, the USA is becoming a very attractive option.

Despite the fact that there has been a serious division in American society with the presidential election results, a recent Mintel survey suggests that a high percentage of Americans believe that they represent a vibrant middle class and at the end of each month have paid their bills and have cash to spare.

The Spanish language is the second most spoken in the USA and at least 41 million people



Photo Credit: bywalet shutterstock

THE USA: Welcome to the land of opportunity.

count Spanish as their primary language and as there is some perceived conflict between Anglo-Saxons and Mexicans within the country, educated Spaniards who speak both English and Spanish are often able to find work.

There are immigration requirements to be overcome but those qualified in Spain and currently with little hope of long term employment here are certainly eyeing up 'the land of opportunity.'

Two troubled banks all set to merge

THE first steps to amalgamate Bankia and Banco Mare Nostrum (BMN), two troubled banks owned by the Spanish government are underway.

BMN was created in 2010 by merging four regional savings banks whilst Bankia was saved by the government as it was crippled by billions of euros of debt.

It is believed by the Fund for Orderly Banking Restructuring (FROB) that merging the two operations will make it easier for the repayment of at least some of the funds pumped into them during the banking crisis although the path to unification will be long.

The first step is for due diligence to be undertaken to ensure that there are no financial restrictions or hidden losses in either organisation now and each will be undertaken by a different set of international accounting firms.

Assuming all proves to be in order the first stage is expected to be confirmed within two weeks and completion should take place by end of 2017.

Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

by Stone King

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at international@stoneking.co.uk



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

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

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



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

What is an LPA?

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

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

Your attorney can be a professional,

such as a solicitor or a family member or friend.

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

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

Why should you get an LPA?

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

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

Will my LPA be recognised in Spain?

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

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



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Have the dissenters gone quiet?

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT
OTHERS THINK IT**



I REALLY am so damn tired. Tired of being labelled a racist, tired of being accused of ranting alarmism, and even tired of being consistently exonerated. At the risk of now being accused of being a monotonous bore, I will once again reiterate that, some 30 years ago, I warned that there was an enemy festering within Western communities.

I also stated that if it was not recognised and dealt with sooner rather than later, it would all be too late. Well, I'm afraid it is now far too late. Actually it's been too late for the last 20 years. With this latest Manchester atrocity the situation is now critical.

My other prophecy, that parts of the UK could one day resemble Beirut, is drawing closer by each alarming minute. Make no mistake, despite the admirable 'don't look back in anger' attitude of many good



TOO LATE: With the latest atrocity in Manchester, the situation is now critical.

people, there are others sitting astride tinder boxes of seething anger and highly dangerous frustration. In short, before it all erupts into unthinkable violence and mayhem; something really must be done.

Although I am reticent to expose myself to even more abuse, and although the politicians are also undeniably at fault, the main 'something'

has to emanate from the Muslim communities. It is no longer sufficient for 'moderate' Muslims to say how appalled they are with these atrocities, or that it's 'not happening in their name.'

They simply have to take action that lends some credence to their statements. They need to show they really do want to integrate into

Western cultures and traditions. I'm not saying they should convert from their chosen beliefs, but I am certainly saying they should cease trying to convert Westerners into theirs.

They need to; desist from referring to non-Muslims as 'Infidels.' Stop calling for Sharia law. Stop public flagellation and other alien culture rituals. Call a halt to all

marches and inflammatory banner waving and stop the wearing of the despised full Burka.

All these actions are designed to provoke and intimidate. They must also do more to root out the hate preachers, who teach their brethren that dying in the pursuit of Jihad will result in travelling to some mythical, virgin drenched Shangri La.

All these moves could go a long way to depressurising the cauldron of resentment and anger, which is reaching explosive proportions. If the lid finally blows, it will be an unprecedented disaster for everyone.

In the name of intelligence, sanity and reason, let us really see an effort to integrate, before it all completely disintegrates into a carnage of violence and mayhem, which will lead us all to heaven only knows where.

I await more accusations of ranting alarmism with my usual anticipation. Or have the dissenters now all gone a bit quiet!?

Keep the faith

Love Leapy.

leapylee2002@gmail.com.

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The SPC Garner Family of Sun Sea and Selling Houses are filming series 2



After a super successful Series 1 of Sun Sea and Selling Houses, Channel 4 have commissioned a second series, again featuring the Garners of Spanish Property Choice.

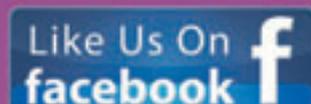
We are about to start filming 25 x 1 hour episodes and you will see us filming for the next 6 months around the areas we cover, to highlight our beautiful province of Costa Almeria.

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Comedian Vic Reeves lands a role on long-running soap Coronation Street

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COMEDIAN Vic Reeves will make his life 'complete' when he appears on the long-running soap Coronation Street. The 58-year-old, whose real name is Jim Moir, is best known for his comedy partnership with Bob Mortimer. He will film a three-month run on the show starting in July, and audiences can expect to see him on screen from the end of the summer.

Reeves will play a television presenter who comes to Weatherfield to film with characters Norris Cole and Mary Taylor after they are chosen to appear on his show. Responding to the news, Reeves said: "I've been a lifelong fan of Corrie. In fact, I think I saw the very first one. I try not to miss any episodes. I'm really looking forward to acting in Corrie. It's a real thrill to be part of a British institution."

Gone is The Great British Bake Off of



VIC REEVES: Has been a lifelong fan of Corrie.

old, as we officially welcome in the Channel 4 era of new hosts, a new tent and, yes, even new work benches. Gone are the pale, soothing tones we've come to associate with former judge Mary Berry, and in their place

are the brighter hues of lime green, purple and turquoise. While new, it's yet to be seen if the move to Channel 4 will improve the much-loved Bake Off, what with its brand new line-up.

Paul Hollywood and Prue Leith will judge the nation's favourite baking competition, while hosts Sandi Toksvig and Noel Fielding take over from the innuendo-loving Mel and Sue.



The Great British Bake Off is now on Channel 4 with a brand new line-up.

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. 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 & 106.8FM, now covering almost 3,000sq kms of Costa Almería and Calida or listen online at costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net for the latest news and views from the world of satellite television.

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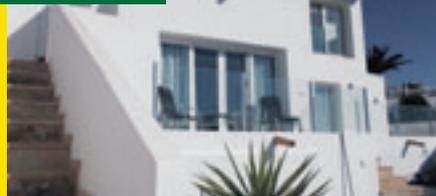
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We would like to thank everyone who listed their properties with us during the month of April. We will be donating a cheque for 400 € to Asprodalba.



If there is a charity you would like us to donate to, please let us know.

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3 bed, 2 bath, traditional village house of 141m2. Beautifully restored with many original features. Close to local amenities. To be featured on A Place In The Sun. **LV732 129,950€**

Palomares



3 bed, 3 bath, linked villa of 235m2 on 116m2 plot. Solarium, integral garage & gardens. Sun room + sea views. A/C & part furnished. **LV729 169,950€**

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Snubs, flops & fashion fiascos

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



IF you could see inside my head, you'd find some profoundly insightful thoughts about the EU's Brexit negotiation tactics. Before you got there, though, you'd find the following: are Theresa May's 'Legs-it' skirts too short (shorter even than Jeremy Corbyn's defence pledges) and should she have posed for Vogue (and, on a previous occasion, in those 'Trousergate' leather trousers)? But like or loathe her, she's weaponised her wardrobe for the battle ahead, with all hems blazing.

Tim Bell, the advertising guru, was asked to compare the PM with his former boss. "Well I don't think Thatcher would have posed for Vogue," he claimed, snubbing Mrs May. Wrong! Mrs T did four shoots for Vogue, with David Bailey and Mario Testino, including one interview (when Bell worked as her adviser) that began: "I am passionately interested in fashion." But Thatcher didn't dally (or do selfies/belfies like today's slebs) in front of the mirror, and was good to go in four minutes flat.

As for slebs, remember that most of the time we see them, they'll be benefiting from designer clothes, fashion stylists, flattering lighting etc. Clearly, most (though not all) are good-looking, but it'd be hard not to look fabulous when you have a team of professionals (celebrity make-up artists, hair stylists, photographers) whose job it is to do just that.

A friend who used to work in the fashion industry in Paris claims that many models look relatively ordinary in 'real life' (except for their height), but spend an hour in hair and make-up, stand in front of a camera and wind machine, and they're stunners.

And a final rant: all those 'beach ready' articles everywhere now. Why do we let ourselves be exposed to such body-shaming propaganda? It reminds me of the splendid put-down about relationships by Blanche, Deirdre Barlow's mother in *Coronation Street*. "Good looks are a curse," she reassured her daughter. "You and Kenneth should count yourselves lucky."

So, do excuse me, won't you, while I totter off to get my body 'beach ready' - modelled loosely on that of the occasional whale washed-up here on Spain's beaches...

Nora Johnson's psychological/suspense crime thrillers '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.



! Margaret Thatcher poses for Vogue in 1984.



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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky SPORTS 1
01 JUNE	7:00pm BBC News at Six	5:15pm Pilgrimage with Simon Reeve	7:30pm ITV Evening News	5:00pm Coast v Country	7:55pm Party Election Broadcast on Behalf of the UK Independence Party	3:30pm Premier League Legends
	7:30pm BBC London News	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:00pm Four in a Bed	8:00pm Secrets of Great British Castles	4:00pm The Gibraltar Darts Trophy 2017
	8:00pm The One Show	7:00pm Debatable	8:30pm Britain's Got Talent	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	9:00pm The Great Fire	5:00pm Football's Greatest
	8:30pm EastEnders	7:45pm Celebrity Eggheads	10:00pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	10:00pm Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords	5:30pm Football's Greatest
	9:00pm Kat and Alfie: Redwater	8:30pm Great British Menu	10:30pm Britain's Got Talent	7:30pm Hollyoaks	11:00pm Extraordinary People	6:00pm WDC Final Gold
	10:00pm Frank Skinner on Muhammad Ali	9:00pm Springwatch	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm Channel 4 News	12:05pm Restless Legs Syndrome: Desperate for Help	6:30pm WDC Final Gold
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	10:00pm Paula	11:45pm ITV News London	8:55pm Party Election Broadcast		7:00pm The Gibraltar Darts Trophy 2017
	11:30pm BBC London News	11:00pm QI	11:55pm Car Wars UK	9:00pm The Supernet		8:00pm Live World Cup of Darts
	11:45pm Question Time	11:30pm Election Spy	12:55pm Tipping Point	10:00pm Catching a Killer		12:00am Nz Lions Documentary
	12:45pm This Week	11:35pm Newsnight		11:45pm One Killer Punch		
	12:20am Cricket		12:45am First Dates			
FRIDAY	6:15pm Pointless	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm ITV Evening News	5:00pm Coast v Country	7:30pm 5 News Tonight	4:00pm Beneath the Black: A Journey Through New Zealand Rugby
	7:00pm BBC News at Six	7:00pm Debatable	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:00pm Four in a Bed	7:55pm Party Election Broadcast on Behalf of the Liberal Democrats	5:00pm Football's Greatest
	7:30pm BBC London News	7:45pm Celebrity Eggheads	8:30pm Britain's Got Talent	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	8:00pm The Gadget Show	5:30pm Football's Greatest
	8:00pm The One Show	8:30pm Great British Menu	10:00pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	9:00pm The Great Fire	6:00pm WDC Final Gold
	9:00pm EastEnders	9:00pm Gardeners' World	10:30pm Britain's Got Talent	7:30pm Hollyoaks	10:00pm The Secret Life of the Long-Haul Flight	6:30pm WDC Final Gold
	9:30pm Question Time: Leaders Special	10:00pm Versailles	11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	8:00pm Channel 4 News	11:30pm Hijacked	7:30pm Darts Gold
	11:00pm BBC News at Ten	11:00pm Have I Got News for You	11:45pm ITV News London	8:55pm Party Election Broadcast	12:30am Car Crime UK: Caught on Camera	8:00pm Live World Cup of Darts
	11:25pm BBC London News	11:30pm Election Spy	11:55pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	9:00pm Posh Pawn		12:00am Lions Tour Preview
	11:35pm The Graham Norton Show	11:35pm Newsnight	12:25am Benidorm	10:00pm Gogglebox		
	12:25am Sliding Doors	12:20am Later... with Jools Holland		11:00pm The Last Leg		
	1:20am Cricket		12:05am The Fake News Show			
SATURDAY	6:40pm Regional News	5:00pm Flog It!	7:00pm Local News and Weather	4:00pm Come Dine with Me	6:10pm The Nightmare Neighbour	12:00pm Beneath the Black: A Journey Through New Zealand Rugby
	6:45pm Weather	6:00pm Gardeners' World	7:10pm ITV News and Weather	4:35pm A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun	7:10pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	1:00pm WDC Final Gold
	6:50pm Raiders of the Lost Ark	7:00pm Grow Your Own	7:30pm Take Me Out	5:35pm Big House, Little House	8:05pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	1:30pm WDC Final Gold
	8:35pm Doctor Who	8:30pm The Lake District: A Wild Year	9:00pm The British Soap Awards Live 2017	6:35pm Location, Location, Location	9:00pm NCIS: Los Angeles	2:00pm Live World Cup of Darts
	9:25pm Casualty	9:30pm Dad's Army	11:00pm The Keith and Paddy Picture Show	7:30pm Channel 4 News	9:55pm 5 News	6:00pm Rugby League
	10:15pm Mrs. Brown's Boys	10:00pm Sgt Pepper's Musical Revolution - With Howard Goodall	11:30pm ITV News and Weather	8:00pm The Restoration Man	10:00pm NCIS	8:00pm Live World Cup of Darts
	10:45pm BBC News	11:00pm The Sapphires	11:45pm UEFA Champions League Final Highlights	9:00pm Walks with My Dog Legend	11:00pm NCIS	12:00am British and Irish Lions Tour Highlights
	11:00pm Weather	12:40am Cricket	12:45am The Chase	12:35am Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy	1:00am Super Casino	
	11:05pm Clique					
	11:50pm Clique					
12:35pm The Spectacular Now						
SUNDAY	7:00pm Question Time Leaders Special	6:10pm Flog It!	3:25pm Tipping Point	5:40pm A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	7:00am Milkshake!	1:00pm British and Irish Lions Highlights
	8:00pm Countryfile	7:00pm Tribes, Predators and Me	4:25pm Michael Carrick Testimonial	6:40pm Homes by the Sea	10:50am The Fairly Odd Parents	2:00pm Live World Cup of Darts
	9:00pm Antiques Roadshow	8:00pm Dragons' Den	7:15pm Local News and Weather	7:35pm Channel 4 News	11:25am The Gadget Show	6:00pm British and Irish Lions Highlights
	10:00pm Planet Earth II	9:00pm The Life Swap Adventure	7:25pm ITV News and Weather	8:00pm The Supernet	12:15pm Police Interceptors	7:00pm Darts Gold
	11:00pm BBC News	10:00pm Paul Hollywood's Big Continental Road Trip	7:45pm Catchphrase	9:00pm Cabins in the Wild with Dick Strawbridge	2:15pm One Chance	7:15pm Darts Gold
	11:25pm Regional News	11:00pm White Gold	8:30pm Britain's Got Talent	10:00pm The Handmaid's Tale	4:05pm 13 Going on 30	7:30pm Darts Gold
	11:30pm Weather	11:30pm Dara O'brain Crowd Ticker	11:00pm ITV News and Weather	11:00pm Gogglebox	5:55pm Dirty Dancing	7:45pm Darts Gold
	11:35pm Election Questions	12:30am Cricket	11:20pm Peston on Sunday	11:45pm Micky Flanagan's Out Out Tour	8:25pm 5 News	8:00pm Live World Cup of Darts
	1:05am The Women's Football Show	1:20am Salvage	12:25am Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera	12:05am Micky Flanagan's Out Out Tour	8:30pm 2012	8:00pm Live World Cup of Darts
					11:00pm The Expendables 2	12:00am Premier League Legends
				12:50am Greatest Disaster Movies		
MONDAY	8:30pm Suzi Perry's Queens of the Road	7:00pm Eggheads	8:00pm Emmerdale	7:30pm Hollyoaks	2:15pm Home and Away	6:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	9:00pm EastEnders	7:30pm Springwatch	8:30pm Coronation Street	8:00pm Channel 4 News	2:45pm Neighbours	6:30pm Premier League 100 Club
	9:30pm Would I Lie to You?	8:00pm Great Continental Railway Journeys	9:00pm Tonight: The Leader Interviews	8:55pm Party Election Broadcast	3:15pm NCIS	7:00pm Premier League Legends
	10:00pm Doctor in the House	8:30pm Great British Menu	9:30pm Coronation Street	9:00pm Food Unwrapped Diet Special	4:15pm Stolen From the Womb	7:30pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
	11:00pm BBC News	9:00pm Springwatch	10:00pm Lord Lucan: My Husband, the Truth	10:00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody	6:00pm 5 News	8:00pm The Premier League Years
	11:30pm Regional News	10:00pm Cosby	11:00pm ITV News	11:00pm Loaded	6:30pm Neighbours	10:00pm F1: Grand Prix Highlights
	11:40pm Weather	11:00pm Detectorists	11:50pm Captain Corelli's Mandolin	11:45pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	7:00pm Home and Away	11:00pm Soccer AM: The Best Bits 2016/17
	11:45pm Have I Got a Bit More	11:30pm Election Spy	2:10am Jackpot247	12:45am Catching a Killer	7:30pm 5 News	11:00pm Party Election Broadcast
	12:30am The Graham Norton Show	11:35pm Newsnight			8:00pm Party Election Broadcast	11:30pm MotoGP
		12:15am Weather			9:00pm Police Interceptors	12:00am Premier League Legends
TUESDAY	7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm Eggheads	5:00pm Tipping Point	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	6:00pm 5 News	4:30pm Football Gold
	7:30pm Regional News	7:30pm Springwatch	6:00pm The Chase	7:00pm The Simpsons	6:30pm Neighbours	4:45pm Football Gold
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Great Continental Railway Journeys	7:00pm Local News and Weather	7:30pm Hollyoaks	7:00pm Home and Away	5:00pm Football's Greatest
	8:30pm EastEnders	8:30pm Great British Menu	7:30pm ITV Evening News	8:00pm Channel 4 News	7:30pm 5 News	5:30pm Football's Greatest
	9:00pm Holby City	9:00pm Springwatch	8:00pm Emmerdale	8:55pm Party Election Broadcast	7:55pm Party Election Broadcast	6:00pm Premier League 100 Club
	10:00pm Broken	10:00pm The Chillenden Murders	8:30pm Tonight	9:00pm Tried and Tasted with Michel Roux	8:00pm MotoGP	6:30pm Premier League 100 Club
	11:00pm BBC News	11:00pm Live at the Apollo	9:00pm Midsomer Murders	9:30pm Supershoppers	9:00pm The Yorkshire Vet	7:00pm Premier League Legends
	11:30pm Regional News	11:30pm Election Spy	11:00pm ITV News	10:00pm One Born Every Minute	10:00pm My Dream Hotel	7:30pm Football's Greatest Teams
	11:40pm Weather	11:35pm Newsnight	11:50pm Lord Lucan: My Husband, the Truth	11:00pm First Dates	11:00pm Big Brother	8:00pm Info not available
	11:45pm Newsbeat	12:15am Weather	12:50am The Cube	12:05am 24 Hours in A and E	12:00am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	10:00pm Fight Night
1:15am Weather for the Week					12:00am Premier League	
WEDNESDAY	6:15pm Pointless	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm The Chase	4:00pm Fifteen to One	4:15pm A Deadly Affair	6:00pm British and Irish Lions
	7:00pm BBC News	7:00pm Eggheads	7:00pm Local News and Weather	5:00pm Coast v Country	6:00pm 5 News	6:00pm Tour Highlights
	7:30pm Regional News	7:30pm Springwatch	7:30pm ITV Evening News	6:00pm Four in a Bed	6:30pm Neighbours	7:00pm British and Irish Lions
	8:00pm The One Show	8:00pm Great Continental Railway Journeys	8:00pm Emmerdale	6:30pm Come Dine with Me	7:00pm Home and Away	7:00pm Tour Highlights
	9:00pm Eat Well for Less	8:30pm Great British Menu	8:30pm Coronation Street	7:00pm The Simpsons	7:30pm 5 News	8:00pm Info not available
	10:00pm The Met: Policing London	9:00pm Springwatch	9:00pm Tonight at the London Palladium	7:30pm Hollyoaks	8:00pm Police Interceptors	10:00pm British and Irish Lions
	11:00pm BBC News	10:00pm Horizon	10:00pm Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera	8:00pm Channel 4 News	9:00pm GPs: Behind Closed Doors	10:00pm Tour Highlights
	11:30pm Regional News	11:00pm White Gold	11:00pm ITV News	9:00pm Ackley Bridge	10:00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	11:00pm Barclays Premier League World
	11:40pm Weather	11:30pm Election Spy	11:50pm On Assignment	10:00pm 24 Hours in A and E	11:00pm Big Brother	11:30pm Boxing Gold
	11:45pm Room 101	11:35pm Newsnight	12:25am Elizabeth: The Golden Age	12:05am 24 Hours in Police Custody	12:00am Big Brother's Bit on the Side	11:45pm Boxing Gold
12:25am Doctor in the House	12:35am Cosby				12:00am Premier League Legends	

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

The biggest change in Mojacar has been the fashions not the buildings!

Ric Polansky



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

WITHIN my first month of being here I became startled to realise how the itinerant folk lived. It was September of 1969 and hotter than an air rifle at the fair, yet everyone still wore what I presumed must have been their winter wear. No one made the slightest attempt to dress for the climatic conditions.

This just didn't disturb me, I was shocked. Here was an entire race of people following a living pattern that obviously hadn't evolved for 500 years or longer. Heavy winter clothing was still being worn daily. I decided to sleep on it. But, when one awoke, had breakfast and finally strolled outside the blazing glare of the sun would almost knock me over. My eyes most certainly had to be shielded to see.

The air was so hot it made breathing difficult so you immediately sought



Photo by Ayuntamiento de Mojacar

BEACHWEAR: Now accepted in Mojacar.

shade and sat for a few moments. While resting you couldn't help but observe the tradesman clad in long sleeve shirts, heavy pants and small black berets balanced for no purpose. Possibly I am not explaining this well.

That summer was hot, really hot. It was so hot that if you stood too long in the same place, the stone terracing under your shoes would cook through and burn your feet. You had to keep moving and most certainly head for the shade.

I expected everyone to have a huge sombrero to keep the constant glaring heat off them but no one did. Nor were shorts worn or sleeveless tops. Yes, some of the braver worked shirtless. It was summer, an evil heat loomed pre-

eminently and embraced each living being - but it wasn't recognised. It was obviously to be faced off in a stoic manner as if something to be endured for what must have been evils or sins committed in previous nights or dreams.

It was unfathomable for me to watch. My understanding of man diminished. Darwin's law of inevitable change hadn't made it to this lost corner of Spain. No one was adopting to circumstances; life was being head on.

About five days later I was asked to leave a bank in Vera because of my inappropriate dress, wearing Bermuda shorts, sandals and a t-shirt. A good 10-15 years must have passed before I witnessed a local Spaniard sporting my same casual garb from way back then.

Now, everyone is dressing cool and comfortable with the metrological conditions considered. But, long ago, back then you met the sun like a man and how they survived is still a mystery to me. But then, they were a strong stoic folk accepting few frivolities in life, unlike the modern 'fiesteros' of today.

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This could be a time of great inspiration

Sally Trotman

www.sallytrotman.com

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



ASTROLOGY: Reach for the stars!

Sun in Gemini: This month the sun is influenced by the airy sign of Gemini. This zodiac sign is symbolised by the twins, a playful and creative influence on your life.

Gemini helps to put others at ease with their friendly communication and flexible nature, so this is a good time to practise loving kindness towards yourself and others. Look for the good in all situations and keep your thoughts positive. Gemini is an air sign, which influences the mind, giving you the opportunity to create more of what you want by keeping your focus positive.

Get in tune with the moon: The new moon in Gemini on May 25 could be a time of great inspiration! Notice the ideas which come to you around this time and share your ideas with others.

Gemini is a sociable sign so accept invitations to meet new people and network as you may just meet the person you need to help you implement your new ideas. The full moon on June 9 is in the adventurous sign of Sagittarius! This fire sign gives you the courage and confidence to take action. Book a holiday to a far flung destination or visit friends overseas to bring new energy into your life.

Numerology: Practice makes perfect

Number 6: Numbers are symbols which carry energy. This number helps you to focus on detail. Check contracts, tidy up ac-

counts, shred old paperwork and get organised! This number encourages you to perfect new skills, so practise anything new with enthusiasm and regularity. To help you relax, spend time in nature, gardening, walking and enjoying the spring sunshine.

On June 21, summer begins. This is a time of great growth so it is worth developing regular routines now to keep you balanced as the busy summer period approaches.

The Tarot: Decision time!

The lovers: The sixth card in the major arcana deck is the card of the lovers. Are you at a fork in the road? Is there a choice you need to make? The month of



GEMINI: Listen to your heart when making decisions.

Gemini can present many different opportunities, so listen to your heart when making decisions. Know what it is that you

need in every aspect of your life and don't compromise. By acknowledging and acting on your deepest needs you will feel better about yourself, and will also be a shining example to others.



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It's all a load of nonsense!

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



I GET a letter from the hospital telling me I have an appointment for June 17 and that I need a blood test beforehand. So I go to the clinic to sort it and am told I can't have a blood test until the 19th which, of course, is two days after my hospital appointment.

I try my hardest to explain that is no good but, of course, it doesn't matter. The receptionist tells me to go to the Costa del Sol hospital and try for an appointment there. I said, 'I didn't know you could do that. Why didn't you tell me this before?' Of course, I was told it was because I didn't ask! I then asked if I could go to any hospital or local clinic and they said 'of course' so I went to Las Lagunas and got an appointment straight away. So, the message is, ask if you want to know anything and don't expect any information over and above the answer to the initial question.

On the subject of information I found out something this week which is very interesting. I had to cancel a flight and on telling my pal he asked if I claimed the tax back. I didn't know what he was talking about. As you

know, when you book a flight a proportion of it is tax so if you don't use that flight you are entitled to a tax refund. Now, of course, no-one tells you this and believe me it's not easy getting it back and, of course, there is a service charge but it's worth doing.

I have been watching the UK election build up and, as usual, the interviews fascinate me. These politicians are just incredible how they manage to sit there and not directly answer any question. I saw May being interviewed by Andrew Marr and she was asked the same question three times and she just would not give an answer.

Corbyn is just as bad and on top of that if they do answer it's usually a pack of lies. Just take May's promise when she took over as PM. She insisted there would be no snap election. This, to anyone with any sense, could not be true as she didn't have her own mandate. I'm glad I don't live there anymore.

I certainly do not profess to understand politics at all but I know bullshit when I hear it and listening to all of them I've heard it all before. Student fees will be abolished by the Lib Dems and when they had a chance to try and get it done when they were in a coalition with the Tories they never ever mentioned it again. Now Labour is promising to abolish these fees. But what good is that to the kids that are already £30k in debt?

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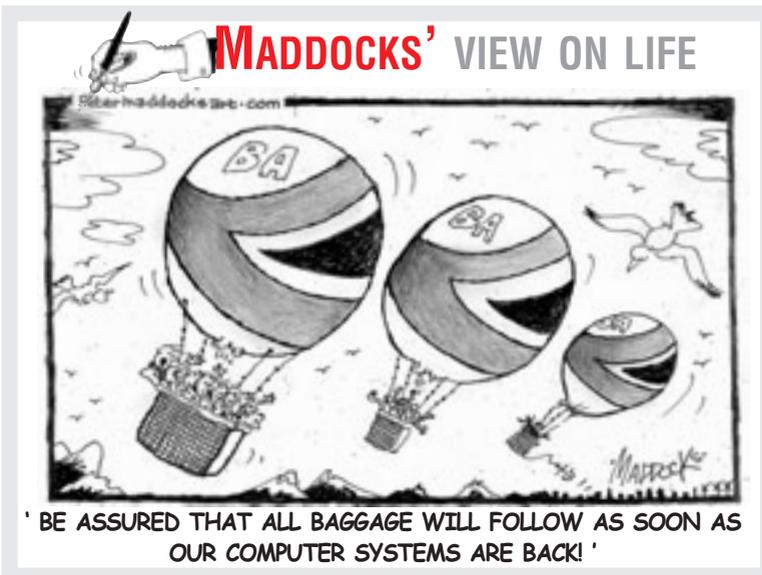
Kakuro

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.

	21	30		32	31
11			12		
23			21		
25					
24					
18					
8			14		

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

	1	5	6	5	
23	2	9	8	1	3
12	4	9	7	2	
14	2	6	5	3	
24	4	3	2	8	7
7	5	2		5	3



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 T) and there must be AT LEAST ONE NINE LETTER WORD. Plurals, vulgarities or proper nouns are not allowed.

L	N	A
U	T	O
I	A	D

TARGET:

- Average: 8 • Good: 11
- Very good: 15 • Excellent: 20

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

anew ewer lawn newt twee twin wail wain wait wale wane want ware warn wart weal wean wear ween weir welt went were wile will wine wire wren writ newel newer renew trawl twain twee twine twirl waler water write twiner wailer waiter wantier waiter winter renewal tawnier tinware WATERLINE

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY

Saturday May 27

20	22	31	BONUS BALL
39	41	54	33

IRISH LOTTO

Saturday May 27

2	5	12	BONUS BALL
34	41	47	29

EURO MILLIONS

Tuesday May 23

8	15	25	BONUS BALL
27	42		1
			4

Friday May 26

5	7	26	BONUS BALL
36	39		2
			10

LA PRIMITIVA

Saturday May 27

18	25	26	BONUS BALL
29	30	39	44
			5

EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA

Sunday May 28

1	11	13	BONUS BALL
50	53		1

YOUR STARS FOR 7 DAYS

CANCER ♋

(June 22 - July 23)

After a hectic start to the week, things seem to have slowed down. Look carefully at what has happened, but remember that there is no point in worrying over something that you cannot change. Sitting tight and waiting for this period to pass could be the best solution. Certainly, it will prove less stressful than fighting a losing corner.

LEO ♌

(July 24 - August 23)

Money is good and this can make you overconfident. Beware bank managers offering loans in large amounts. Nothing is for free and you need to look carefully at interest rates right now. Another, more personal, investment also needs looking at right now. Are things going exactly the way you want them to?

VIRGO ♍

(August 24 - September 23)

Aim a bit higher than usual and you may be surprised at your success. When seeing the bigger picture, you realise that it is not so daunting after all. If one person can do it, then so can another. It is a matter of how you approach it. What you have to ask yourself this week is why you should accept the minimum when the maximum is so close by.

LIBRA ♎

(September 24 - October 23)

This should be a great time for your finances. Any glitch is likely to be because you have overspent. Even if things still need close attention, you can win if you concentrate. A bit of plotting and planning can work wonders at the moment. Most of your big expenses are behind you and if you can just tighten that belt a wee bit more.

GEMINI ♊ (May 22 - June 21)

Partnerships see you leap ahead on something that was a bit stuck in the mud. A leap in your bank balance follows. Some quick decisions may be called for so it is better to share responsibilities, whatever the outcome. You have a chance to show just how clever you can be, but do it because it gives you personal satisfaction rather than to impress.

SCORPIO ♏

(October 24 - November 22)

Although things seem fine, this is not a time to overstretch your finances. Spending a lot this week without thought is problematic later. This is a week of shifting and changing and that certainly means your finances. The other area is your social circle, where people come and go, sometimes without warning.

SAGITTARIUS ♐

(November 23 - December 21)

This is not a particularly lucky week for you, so I would certainly advise caution. Gambling is not recommended. Being clever with money is as much about not spending it as about how you spend it.

CAPRICORN ♑

(December 22 - January 20)

Look at the long-term picture when considering money matters. What seems like a good deal now may not be so a few years down the line. Someone who appears to be telling a lie may simply have either misunderstood or have the wrong information.

AQUARIUS ♒

(January 21 - February 19)

This is a time to consider finances and keep your options open. Someone who tries to get a fast decision out of you by pushing you into a corner is doing you no favours. You will decide what (if

anything) needs to be done when you are good and ready.

PISCES ♓

(February 20 - March 20)

Keep things simple. Getting involved in other people's problems is not for you at the moment. It may be necessary to delay a decision to give yourself time to think. Could you manage a few days away somewhere? Maybe you could stay with a friend or relative. You need some peace and quiet on your own.

ARIES ♈

(March 21 - April 20)

Although things are going pretty well, there are some things that could be just a little better organised. The time and money that this saves could be small, but it's the ongoing positive attitude that counts. There have been times recently when you have wondered if your progress on a certain matter would ever start up again.

TAURUS ♉

(April 21 - May 21)

It is better if you don't get involved in any high profile, high risk business deals. Success is not assured. This is a time for financial consolidation. Count your pennies and see the pounds collecting in the future. On a cold winter's night it can give a pleasant glow to realise your action during the summer is keeping you warm.

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.

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

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Crossword

page

Enjoy filling in the following puzzles and check the answers in next week's edition

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

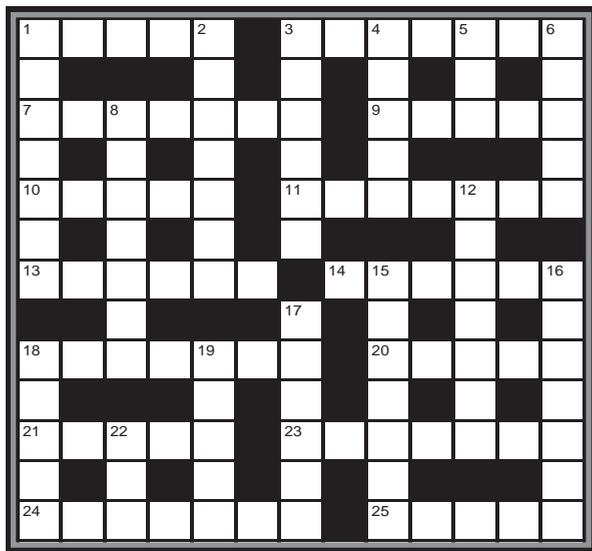
Cryptic

Across

- 1 Search thoroughly to find first bit of custard in tart (5)
- 3 Father secures footwear for royal residences (7)
- 7 Snub potential fur sale (7)
- 9 A topless specimen is quite enough (5)
- 10 Professor or contributor (5)
- 11 Harmony for a musical performance (7)
- 13 One trading from a basement, by the sound of it (6)
- 14 Obstructs city buildings (6)
- 18 Shoe repairer's dessert (7)
- 20 Open wide to swallow first of red fruit (5)
- 21 A different thing at the end of the day (5)
- 23 Phoney art Cher destroyed (7)
- 24 Watches The Seekers (7)
- 25 Many keen to see a Biblical hero (5)

Down

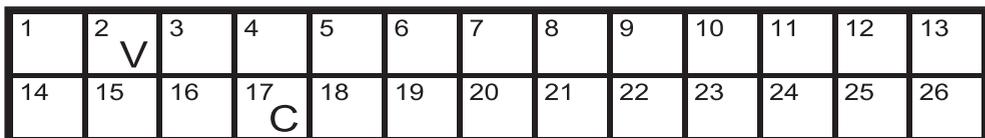
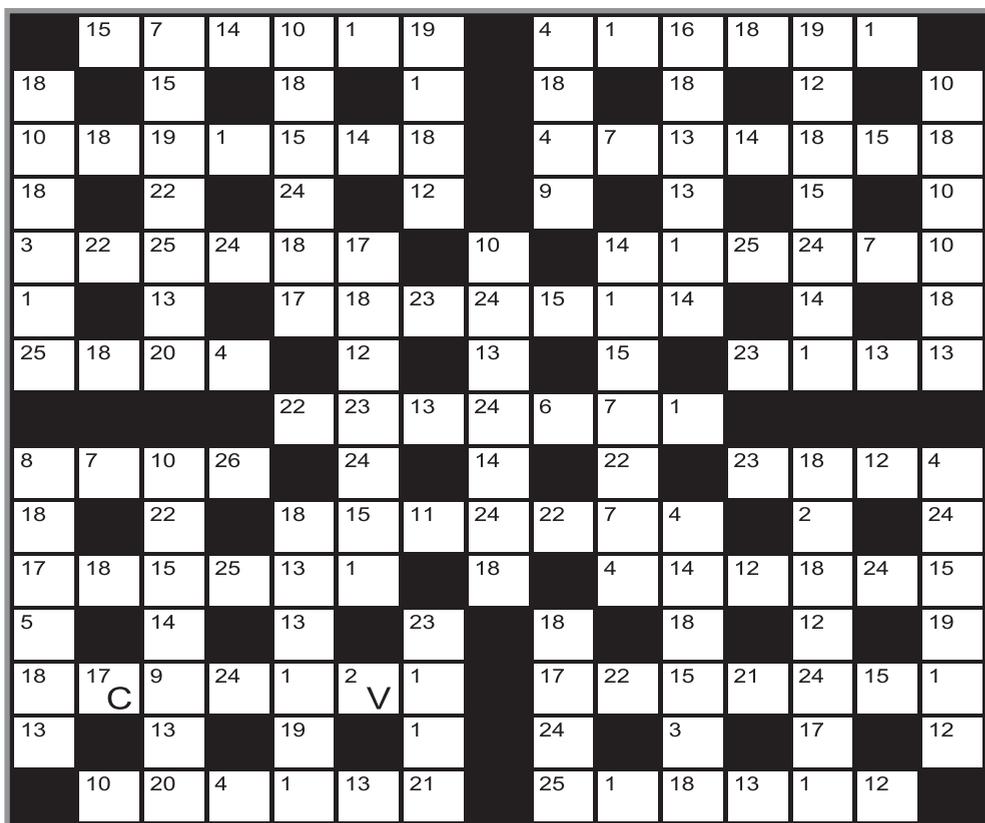
- 1 Steps into one's trousers (7)
- 2 Earmark book (7)
- 3 In Napoli, certainly, a force (6)
- 4 Pick up king, then knight (5)
- 5 Top Hat (3)
- 6 We are in a group that is mellifluous (5)
- 8 A group of supporters went off Flu C ban (3,4)
- 12 Dancing can then charm (7)



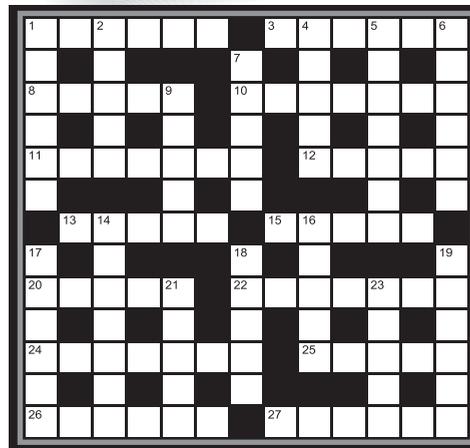
- 15 Fat around a horse will result in a dawdler (7)
- 16 Becomes angry when eccentric reseeds (4,3)
- 17 Quarrel about a scarf (6)
- 18 Note the measure is a sure bet (5)
- 19 Turner is delayed outside hospital (5)
- 22 Machine found in original condition (3)

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 2 represents V and 17 represents C, so fill in V every time the figure 2 appears and C every time the figure 17 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.

Code Breaker



Quick



Across

- 1 Easy and not involved or complicated (6)
- 3 Lacking intelligence (6)
- 8 Pieces of a chain (5)
- 10 Lacking substance or significance (7)
- 11 Watch attentively (7)
- 12 Selected (5)
- 13 Feeling or showing pleasure or contentment (5)
- 15 Keen (5)
- 20 Fire-raising (5)
- 22 Easily broken (7)
- 24 Extreme greed for material wealth (7)
- 25 One skilled in caring for young children or the sick (5)
- 26 Refuses to accept or believe (6)
- 27 Act on (6)

Down

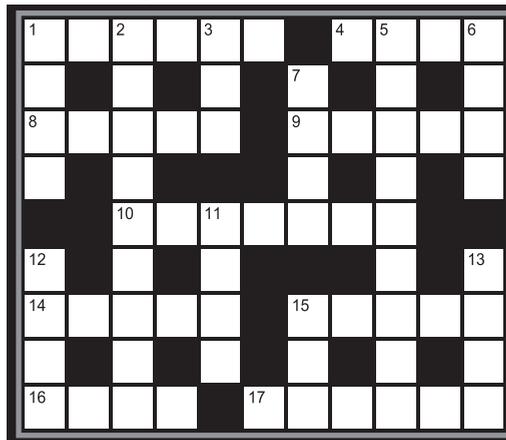
- 1 Not often (6)

Across

- 2 With subtraction of (5)
- 4 Close-fitting soldier's or police officer's jacket (5)
- 5 Present for consideration, examination, criticism, etc (7)
- 6 Force to go away (6)
- 7 Alloy of iron with small amounts of carbon (5)
- 9 Small fragment (5)
- 14 Choose not to consume (7)
- 16 Of or relating to birds (5)
- 17 Source of danger (6)
- 18 Monastery ruled by an abbot (5)
- 19 Of the immediate past or just previous to the present time (6)
- 21 Marked by or showing unaffected simplicity and lack of guile or worldly experience (5)
- 23 Brief and to the point (5)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Kind (nice) (6)
- 4 Useful (information, advice, tool) (4)
- 8 Pencil (5)
- 9 Otra vez (5)
- 10 Enamel (7)
- 14 Abril (5)
- 15 Flea (5)
- 16 Talón (de pie, calcetín, zapato) (4)
- 17 Zanahoria (6)

Down

- 1 Classroom (4)
- 2 Manzano (5-4)
- 3 Light (not darkness) (3)
- 5 Viajero (9)
- 6 Wool (4)
- 7 Cola (de animal, avión, cometa) (4)
- 11 Leche (de mamífero, planta) (4)
- 12 Lavado (4)
- 13 Último (final) (4)
- 15 Guisante (3)

CRYPTIC

Across:

- 1 Fusspot, 5 Canal, 8 Dingo, 9 Chicago, 10 Passive, 11 Drama, 12 Sashes, 14 Aghast, 17 Preen, 19 Curator, 21 Netball, 22 Torch, 24 Seems, 25 Residue.

Down:

- 1 Fad, 2 Sands, 3 Profile, 4 Ticker, 5 Cried, 6 Niagara, 7 Look after, 10 Postpones, 13 Sheathe, 15 Gyrate, 16 Ocular, 18 Nears, 20 Tired, 23 Hue.

QUICK

Across:

- 1 Chaotic, 5 Speed, 8 Terms, 9 Sincere, 10 Dull, 11 Hatstand, 13 Laptop, 15 Gender, 18 Cardigan, 19 Bits, 22 Another, 23 Ahead, 24 Minus, 25 Surplus.

Down:

- 1 Citadel, 2 April, 3 Task, 4 Casual, 5 Sinister, 6 Emerald, 7 Dread, 12 Polishes, 14 Purlain, 16 Resides, 17 Walrus, 18 Claim, 20 Ideal, 21 Fair.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:

- 1 Calabacin, 6 Edges, 7 Mosca, 9 Ahi, 10 Crab, 11 Sand, 13 Use, 15 Snore, 16 Trigo, 17 Translate.

Down:

- 1 Caer, 2 Lagarto, 3 Bisabuela, 4 Camisetas, 5 Lead, 8 Sonrisa, 12 Osos, 14 Bone.

CODE BREAKER



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LETTERS

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

Letters for Your Say should be emailed to yoursay@euroweeklynews.com or make your comments straight on our website: www.euroweeklynews.com

Learning about religion

IT was so good to read the item on Shavuot.

This is a most important festival in the Hebrew Calendar and is certainly enjoyable.

Estepona and District Jewish Community will be hearing about the importance of the date and will enjoy an Afternoon Tea with cheesecake of course.

It is good that we all learn facts about all religions and we thank you for this inclusion.

All good wishes and continued success.

*Gerry Crest
Estepona and District Jewish
Community*

SG Haulage

IN this day and age of average or poor service, it is good to be able to recommend SG Haulage who advertise in this paper.

I wanted a Saab estate car taken back to the UK from Castalla near Alicante. They gave me a price and organised a suitable date and time.

The truck was at the meeting point near my home on time and without any hassle loaded up, then transported the car back to their depot near Lincoln.

Also, they had no problem with me not collecting the vehicle for three weeks, without further charges.

I duly arrived from Scotland at their depot with a trailer. They jump-started the car, helped me load it and tied it down; at no extra cost. I was most impressed.

If anyone is thinking of transporting a car, motorhome, van or boat, from Spain to the UK or vice versa, contact them.

You won't be disappointed.

Ian Smith, Alicante

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HI Garry,

Read your column with my usual interest as a 'foodie.' I find it great to see the other side of the trade, to that of customer.

I have found that the hardest thing for a restaurant to achieve is consistency, nothing more embarrassing than having a great meal, great service etc, all value for money. You then take friends there having found this 'gem' and the evening is awful, it may be poor food quality, poor service, or whatever but you end up feeling disappointed and bit of a fool. No doubt we have all have had this experience.

But there is no excuse for a lazy or incompetent chef/cook, I have had duck breast, that on the menu states it will be cooked 'pink' unless ordered different, then get an overcooked and dry portion. Now I appreciate that in a busy kitchen a piece of meat may be left too long and therefore not cooked as required, OK.

But when the said breast is sliced it is then obvious that a mistake has occurred, if this is ignored it either means the chef/cook, does not care or cannot see what he has allowed to happen,

Key is training



either way the problem is unacceptable, now whilst you can send it back and get a replacement, that is not always desirable if the rest of the party have their food and want to eat it, You either wait until they have finished before you eat, or they wait for you.

I am blessed here in Mojacar, there has been somewhat of a revolution in many of our restaurants recently. There is now a cluster of adjacent businesses that have cracked it! Waiting staff, all trained, dressed in smart clean uniforms (black outfits) service is swift, drinks and orders dealt with quickly, and delivered all with a smile.

The menus all offer a reasonable three-course meal at a very

acceptable price €12/13, the menu choices are amazing, catering for all tastes, drinks are not expensive (surprisingly) house wine around the €10 mark.

The greatest benefit is the consistency, of service, prices, menu offerings, portion size, quality and atmosphere.

Long may it continue. The key seems to be TRAINING!

These places are busy summer and winter, the winter being the testing time, when resident expats are picky and only leave warm villas for value and quality.

Love your column, as an ex marketing guy I appreciate your process.

*Regards,
James from Turre*

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

Readers who have missed earlier correspondence can see all letters posted on: www.euroweeklynews.com

COMMENTS from EWN Online

» Football most important says Spanish TV presenter

THIS stupid, Antonio Jiménez, is a typical representative of the ultra-fascist 13 TV television network and blatantly supports all performances of the government party, including corruption acts.

He is immoral, unworthy to appear before the public. As a Spaniard, I am ashamed of 'compatriots' like this.

My condolences to the British people.

Un Español

IF this had happened in Spain and he was unsure of the location I wonder if he would have had the same view. Perhaps he cannot remember the Madrid train bomb.

Adrian Brooks

» Giant bear-huggers

SPAIN, like all European countries must wise up and start the deportation of immigrant criminals immediately. Spain owe it to the citizens and holiday-makers.

Spain relies on a lot of tourism and the tourists and Spanish citizens need priority protection because they pay the taxes and in this case didn't commit any crimes, other than believing Spanish authorities would look out for them. Europe needs to take a hardline stance on criminal immigrant criminals.

Theft, rapes, assaults and murders are becoming the normality. This isn't the Europe I grew up in, this isn't the Europe we want for our children.

Voice of reason

» Hotels crack down on fraudsters

THE Brits abroad continue to shame us with their behaviour. I've watched news items about this problem and it is ONLY Brits who do it. It's shameful and embarrassing.

Pamela Howlett

» Man arrested six times in one week

GIVE the guy his money back and put him on a plane to London that's where all the other kranks and undesirables end up, and are welcomed with open arms and an emergency giro, oh and emergency housing.

James Boyle

» Eight injured after drunk driver hits pedestrians

ISN'T it about time there was a zero tolerance policy here for drinking and driving.

Gillian York

JUST so sad. Bloody idiots. Hope they get the book thrown at them. The roads are bad enough, without idiots getting pissed up, then thinking it's OK to get in a car and drive. Scum!

Sandra Christina Furlong

» Brexit Taskforce

I await the UK's reciprocal response for the many more British people living in Spain.

Annie

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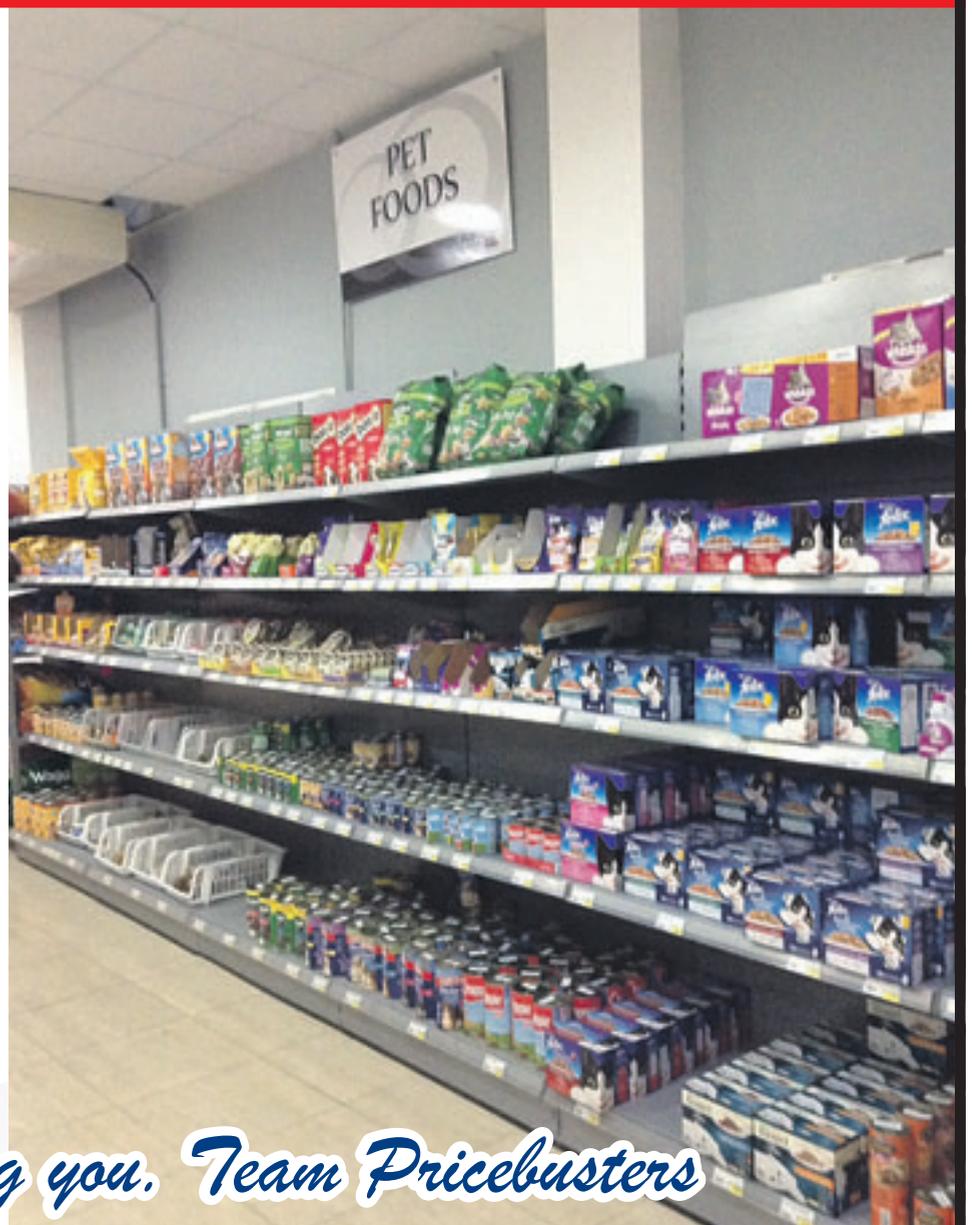
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Advertising feature

Fundraisers - the cornerstone of MACS work in the community

MACS cancer support group has helped hundreds of people since its inception some 10 years ago.

Cancer sufferers and their families and carers have benefited from the various forms of assistance offered by this group which has become invaluable to the community.

Unfortunately, MACS receives no government grants and care, however compassionate, doesn't come cheaply.

MACS relies heavily on kind donations from organisations and groups throughout the area and is always grateful for the ongoing support.

Fundraising plays a big part in the life of the MACS volunteers and is vital to the survival of the charity. Fundraising events take place throughout the year and are extremely varied in their nature.

Kicking off the year for the last three years has been 'The Big Mac,' a music extravaganza which has grown from strength to strength to become a key event in Mojacar's social calen-

dar. Local bands and volunteers give up their day to make this event really special.

The 'Moon Walk,' which takes place this year on July 8, brings dozens of people together, many dressed in colourful costumes, to walk in solidarity along a five or 10 kilometre route along the Mojacar beachfront, under the light of the moon. Walkers visit the various bars and restaurants en route rattling their cans and accepting donations.

Smaller, but equally important fundraising events, include quizzes, fashion shows, raffles and numerous other activities, all of which allow MACS to continue to help a growing number of people.

Fundraisers don't just happen overnight, volunteers spend days planning the various events, preparing publicity, recruiting helpers and generally ensuring everything runs smoothly.

Numerous business owners throughout the area are kind enough to allow MACS collection tins to be placed in their establishments and an-

**MACS:
Relies
heavily
on kind
donations.**



other job of the volunteers is to distribute and collect these tins which also play an important role in bringing much-needed funds to the charity.

The MACS team is always on the lookout for new ways to raise money and the latest initiative is the equipment-hire service, offered from the recently opened Las Baganvillas shop.

While equipment is free to hire for cancer patients, the new shop can rent out items such as beds, wheelchairs, commodes and other items to non-cancer patients for a nominal fee. Monies raised from this new service will go a long way to helping boost the MACS coffers

including the vital hospice fund.

MACS welcomes ideas from groups, businesses or individuals, of new ways to raise money and of course one-off donations are always gratefully received.

As we approach the second half of the year, MACS would like to thank everyone who has contributed in some way to keeping the charity in operation and its founders and volunteers hope for the generosity to continue throughout 2017 and beyond.

Contact MACS on 634 656 555 for the care line and 634 328 334/5 for general enquiries.



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We speak



New base for nutritional pyramid

TO mark National Nutrition Day, the Spanish Society of Community Nutrition (SENC) has made a series of recommendations based on a new nutritional pyramid which offers a more holistic vision of food.

It presents an approach focused not only on food, but also takes into account emotional, social, and economic implications, which are important

“ It is important to adapt physical exercise to our diet.

and related to eating habits.

Whilst the food pyramid cites what foods we should be consuming in greater and lesser quantities, the base of the food pyramid now shows that lifestyle is directly related to healthy conditions:

First, it requires a moderate daily physical activity of about 60 minutes, or walking 10,000 steps would be equivalent. It also alludes to emotional balance. There is a close relationship between obesity and eating to reduce the negative effect of an emotion.

The balance of energy is another key when it comes to having healthy lifestyles. It is important to adapt physical exercise to our diet, and vice versa to help maintain a healthy weight and look at how food is cooked to reduce calories such as grilling and steaming rather than frying.

Finally, hydration is taken into account as another of the fundamental pillars in the nutritional pyramid. The daily recommended amount, which is set at 2.5 litres for men and at two litres for women, should be increased if it is hot, if sports are performed or for diseases that require a greater consumption of water.



FOOD PYRAMID: Shows lifestyle is directly related to healthy conditions.



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Ask The Doctor

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What is arthritis?



SPECIALIST: Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

ARTHRITIS is a common condition that causes pain and inflammation in a person's joints with the most common types being osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis.

What is the difference between the two?

Osteoarthritis initially affects the smooth cartilage lining of the joint, making movement more difficult than usual and leading to pain and stiffness.

Once the cartilage lining starts to thin out, the tendons and ligaments have to work harder, causing swelling and the formation of bony spurs.

Severe loss of cartilage can lead to bone rubbing on bone, which can alter the shape of the joint and force bones out of their normal position.

Rheumatoid arthritis occurs when the body's immune system targets affected joints, leading to pain and swelling. The outer covering of the joint, known as the synovium, is the first place affected, causing further swelling and a change in the joint's shape. This can cause the bone and cartilage to get

What are the symptoms?
 The symptoms of arthritis can vary depending on the type, so it is important to get

an accurate diagnosis if you have any of the following: Joint pain, tenderness and stiffness. Inflammation in and around the joints. Restricted movement of the joints. Warm red skin over the affected joint or weakness and muscle wasting.

Who are most likely to suffer from arthritis?

Osteoarthritis most often develops in adults who are in their late 40's or older, and is more common in women and people with a family history of the condition.

Rheumatoid arthritis often starts when a person is between 40 and 50 years old, and women are three times more likely to be affected than men.

How do you treat it?
 Although there is no cure for arthritis, there are many treatments to help slow down the condition. For osteoarthritis, painkillers, corticosteroids and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs can be used to manage symptoms. In extreme cases, surgery such as joint replacement can be used.

Treatments for rheumatoid arthritis aim to slow down the condition's progress and minimise joint swelling. Analgesics, physiotherapy and regular exercise all can help.

If you have any questions for Dr Perez Belmonte, please send them to:
 jefemedico@helicopterossanitarios.com

Growing trend of the lotus birth

A LOTUS birth, is an increasingly popular trend amongst new mothers. It involves not cutting the umbilical cord after the baby is born and leaving it attached to the placenta until it falls off on its own.

This method is seen by many as a natural and spiritual option and is common in some cultures such as in Bali before the idea was introduced in the 1980s in the USA and Australia. Followers believe it allows the baby to continue obtaining all the nutrients the placenta has to offer, such as stem cells, before the placenta dries up and that cutting the cord can be traumatic for the infant. However studies are still underway on any potential benefits of the placenta and now experts have warned of the risk of leaving the placenta attached. With some leaving it attached for up to two weeks before it drops off naturally, the British Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists warns about the risks of infection and bacteria developing in the placenta and spreading to the baby.

With a growing number of women in the UK reportedly opting for a lotus birth, the British Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists said the placenta is particularly prone to infection as it contains blood and recommends that babies be monitored carefully for any signs of infection.



PLACENTA:
Is prone to infection.



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TO READ MORE

Jimmy Rabbitte returns

LOVERS of brilliant Irish classic The Commitments are in for a real treat later this month. On Monday June 19 Charlie the English Singer in Spain will kick off an incredible tribute performance to songs from the acclaimed musical comedy.

She will be starring at Orasaca, Turre and strongly advises anyone attending to bring their dancing shoes for a fantastic night of top tunes, drinks and fond memories. One of the finest expat singers in the business, every show is a guaranteed gem that is certainly not to be missed.

Incredibly The Commitments is now 26 years old. Based on Roddy Doyle's book and set in Dublin's Northside, it was a huge hit in the UK and US, sparking a cult following of young Jimmy Rabbitte and his odds-defying Irish soul band.

Festival season storms in

WITH June finally here and the summer well and truly underway, it's festival season in Almería. Throughout summer the province will hold dozens of concerts catering to all tastes, from low-key affairs in dark, smoky basements, to one of the biggest parties on the continent.

Tickets are selling quickly for the summer's top three shows but are still available. So pick your pleasure, your genre and your weekend and secure tickets for Pulpop, Juergas or Dreambeach today. Or attend all three!

Pop lovers can opt for Pulpop, a two-day festival that runs over the weekend of July 7 and 8. Sponsored by major Spanish station, Radio 3, the event already has dozens of top British and Spanish bands signed up to perform in Roquetas.

Major acts include The Spitfires, Corizonas and Leon Benavente, one of the finest indie-rock bands Spain has

ever produced. Gigs begin in the early evening on the Friday and Saturday with dozens of local artists setting the stage for the big acts. The best part? It's entirely free.

Just a few weeks later from August 2-5 rockers will be treated to one of loudest thrash metal events of the year with the Juergas Rock Festival hitting the shores of Adra, Almería. Dozens of top acts have been confirmed and tickets can be bought online from just €40 for a three-day pass.

Then, from August 10-15, some of the world's top DJs, including Chase & Status, Netsky and Wilkinson, will take over Villarcos for the 2017 Dreambeach Festival. Tickets start at €65, a fair price for one of the hottest festivals in Spain this year.



CHASE & STATUS:
English electronic duo hit Almería this summer.

Top tapas tournament

IN just a few weeks Turre will be holding its annual Tapas Route. The delicious spectacle is renowned for showcasing the finest foods of Almería Province at some of friendly Turre's top bars and restaurants.

This year's Tapas Route runs for more than a week between June 16 and 25. There are dozens of terrific local establishments competing for glory.

The full list and details can be found on the Facebook page Camino de la Tapa de Turre which is chock full of useful information about the Tapas Route's schedule, event locations, opening hours and much more.

Additional details on prizes and any other trinkets, treats and parties should be released in next week as Turre residents and visitors from across the province whet their appetites for another top tapas tournament.



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Charity Gala for Leo the Lion



IT'S the last week to grab tickets for an incredible local charity fundraiser. A Gala Concert for young cancer fighter Leo the Lion is being held at the Village Theatre in Zurgena. Some of the very best local performers will play live next Thursday to help raise much-needed funds for little Leo, who has been battling brain tumours for more than a year.

The four-year-old hero has recently returned from 31 sessions of proton beam

therapy in Oklahoma. Last week he travelled to Alder Hey hospital in the UK for an MRI scan. The next few weeks will be crucial for little Leo, his mum Karen, family, friends and his thousands of supporters.

All of which makes next Thursday's fundraiser incredibly important and a wonderful gesture from the local Almeria community.

Just 100 tickets are available for the Gala do. Performers include Charlie the

English Singer in Spain; Geoff Murrell; Jim Mackie; Geoff Thomas; The Gilsons; Herman & Chloe. All have donated their time, talent and energy to help this young fighter whose battle has attracted love and support from across the world.

You can help too. Limited tickets for this fantastic

event cost just €5. The Gala takes place at Zurgena Village Theatre on Thursday June 8 at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from the Attic (El Cucador) and Zurgena Town Hall. Call 634 321 734 for more details.



BISBAL: Finally back home to open new Almeria concert venue.

The prodigal son returns

BELIEVE it or not tickets are still available for the biggest gig on Almeria's 2017 calendar. There are a few seats left for platinum-selling superstar David Bisbal's homecoming concert at the province's spec-

tacular newly opened open air concert venue tomorrow night.

Bisbal will play in front of roughly 12,000 adoring fans at the new venue, on the former site of the Almeria fairgrounds. One of the most hotly anticipated gigs of the year, Bisbal's performance will bring old classics and new tracks from his latest album as he returns home to Almeria after a hugely successful world tour.

The 37-year-old singer, songwriter, TV personality, and newly revealed UN Ambassador is easily the biggest star in his home province and enjoys worldwide fame with millions of Latin American fans and followers. Unlike many other global celebrities he has never forgotten his roots and regularly makes music videos promoting Almeria to the world, while engaging with local charities and fans.

His is a fitting opening to the debut concert of the newly revamped venue, which will hold hundreds of top events in the near future. Tickets begin at just €34 and the show starts fairly late at 10pm, scheduled to last just over two hours.

After the horrific Manchester Arena terrorist attack, Almeria police have confirmed that there will be beefed up security at and around the Bisbal gig. Anyone with tickets should expect slight delays.

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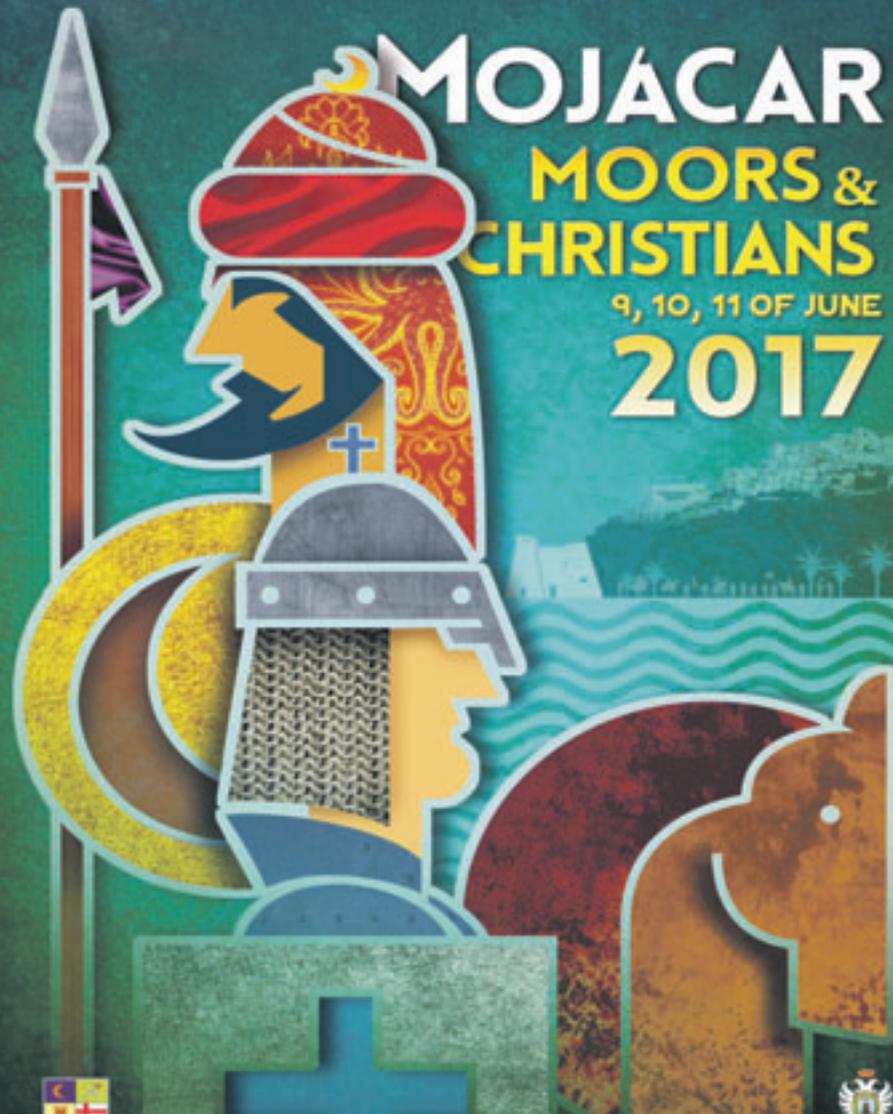
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GOOD FRIENDS**
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I DON'T WANT TO JUMP ON THE band wagon regarding the dreadful atrocity that was the Manchester bombing. Nor do I wish to get involved with the political and emotional battles that are going on.

If I voiced my opinion I would probably make my esteemed colleague Leapy Lee look like a liver-lilied-liberalist! I would instead like to talk about the good things that happen in the face of such occurrences. Whether it's the 'Dunkirk' spirit or something built into the British DNA that makes otherwise normal people do extraordinary things, I don't know.

Apart from those people who rushed in to the arena to help the injured while others were rushing out, there were of course all the amazing emergency services such as Paramedics who helped those with the most horrific injuries. From this emerges the usu-



The Modern 'Room at the Inn' Manchester.

al human interest stories such as the man that cradled the little eight-year-old, Saffie-Rose Rousos, as she was dying and asking for her 'mum' and the two homeless men that rushed from their nocturnal resting place, away from the blast, but then returned to care for the fallen.

Those two have been rewarded. One has found his long lost mother and the other became a subject of a 'go fund' giving page on the internet that has raised so many thousands for homeless people.

And then there was the Hospitality Industry. In the early hours of Tuesday morning, Manchester hotels and staff were using the

hashtag #RoomForManchester to offer rooms to anyone displaced by the attack. Hotels around the arena including the nearby Holiday Inn Express, opened their doors to those that were frightened and alone, offering accommodation and refreshment as did McDonald's and other bars and restaurants in the immediate area. The Mancunians are a hardy lot but just like great toffee sweets, have a soft centre.

What really does concern me is a recent admission that there are 3,000 known jihadists in Britain under observation, 500 of which are under constant watch but a further 20,000 that are known, but considered low risk.

Where was the scum bag in Manchester in the pecking order? Yes, in the 20,000 along with the maniac on Westminster Bridge.

Maybe the only sensible thing Jeremy Corbyn has said in a while is that we have to accept the fact we are not winning the war against terrorism. Is Colonel Mike Kemp right? If they don't have British passports, deport them! And for those against whom there is insufficient evidence to prosecute - intern them without trial! Their families too!

Just as well that most of us are not in a position to make such decisions, let's hope our elected leaders - worldwide - are able to sort out the huge problem.

“ About 20 per cent of the population believe themselves to have a food allergy and only about 5 per cent actually do.
John Warner

ALLERGIES - LOVE 'EM OR HATE 'EM they are now part of our lives! When we were younger, I can't remember anyone having food allergies can you? But then I suppose children died from anaphylactic shock without anyone knowing.

What some people considered 'fads' are now being recognised as healthy options. We all know people allergic to nuts for instance. I have a friend that suffered from an allergy to pine-nuts. Not any other, just them. More women than men go gluten free. Celiacs have different sorts of reactions from what they consume than others. Lactose intolerant is another. I had a friend who was allergic to garlic. He only had to smell it and he would come out in a rash.

He's in good company, my friend and colleague, wine aficionado Pancho Campo reacts to garlic and onions. Difficult for a man that loves the Mediterranean diet!! Thankfully he is not allergic to wine!! However a wine merchant friend of mine loves red wine but it gives her an unpleasant reaction so she has to avoid it.

Is there a difference between an allergy and an intolerance? Of course there is. After all we do not refer to Gluten free or Lactose intolerant as allergies, people are just better off without the things that cause them problems. Restaurants are aware of this now, more than ever before. Sandwich group Pret a Manger has seen sales grow 15 per cent to £776.2m, they claim driven by sales in dairy and gluten-free ranges. They introduced a number of dairy-free products in 2016, including a dairy-free, gluten-free soup range all under 250 calories. This recent offering increased UK soup sales by 16 per cent like-for-like. Their dairy-free, coconut porridge, accounts for one in five porridge sales in the UK, and now coconut milk sales exceed soya milk. (Never did understand that stuff!!)

In this day and age, any restaurant worth its salt grinder has now got allergy symbols on their menus. But is it the responsibility of restaurateurs to inform the clients of ingredients in every dish? It's good that the symbols reflect certain allergies and intolerances, Celiac, Lactose, nuts etc. but I know someone who is allergic - yes allergic - to coriander. But not to flat parsley, which is the same family!! And just because it says 'Nut Free,' my dear friend with the pine-nut allergy had to always inform the restaurant that, and sometimes they still used to put 'Pesto' on his dish!!

So while the restaurant has to legally be responsible for allergy training with their staff, they can't do anything without the client informing them. So, no matter how obvious your allergy maybe to you, please inform the restaurant.

Now, I have to admit, that after all my years, I have developed an allergy. After months of a dry hacking cough, I went to my doctor who had allergy tests done on me and - wait for it - I have a dust allergy!! Who would ever have thought? "Excuse me waiter, I am allergic to dust, was it the coco powder on the chocolate cake or the gold dust on the fish, the crushed rhino horn - or have you just not vacuumed in a while?"

ON THAT NOTE I will bid you farewell until next week and should aspiring restaurateurs need some help or advice, please do not hesitate to contact me. A toast to Good Food, Good Wine and Good Friends.

DEBIT CARDS WILL OVERTAKE CASH as Britain's most frequently used method of payment by 2018 thanks to the rise in contactless cards. Many years ago I can remember being told that this would soon become the norm. However with people's love of the 'folding' I can't see it disappearing!! I mean imagine a window cleaner or gardener whipping out his contact credit card machine. I don't think so!

Worldpay, which handles 40 per cent of all UK card transactions, said that spending on all forms of contactless systems now accounts for 28 per cent of all non-cash transactions in the UK, with total spend exceeding £10b for the year in 2016. They processed over £1.5b in contactless payments in December alone, with shoppers spending an average of £10.39 per transaction.

Today one in five of us will use the technology at least once a day, rising to a third of people in London. Already more than half of UK shoppers say they'd happily leave their wallet at home and pay for everything on their smartphone instead. It's bad enough to lose your phone at the moment. How often do you hear people say, "my whole life is in that phone," Imagine, "I've got no money - it was all in my phone"!!

The future of all transactions?



But that wonderful activity 'survey' shows that

- A quarter of UK consumers claim they've started avoiding shops that don't take cards, while a third (30 per cent) say they only use cash if absolutely necessary.
- Two-thirds (60 per cent) of 24-34 year olds say they would prefer not to carry cash.
- One in 10 small and independent retailers are still refusing to accept card payments, whilst a further 10 per cent impose a lower limit on non-cash payments.

(information courtesy of Worldpay)

Now, where's my wallet? Ooops! Forgot to plug it in last night!!

SPEAKING OF CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS, according to new data from Barclay-

card. Spending in pubs and restaurants held up strongly during the month of April, despite a fall in consumer confidence around household finances, The 5.5 per cent increase in overall consumer spending during the month was driven by inflation on essential goods and a late Easter, while meals out during the bank holiday led to a 20.4 per cent and 16.5 per cent rise in spending in pubs and restaurants respectively despite the interest charges levied by credit card companies.

One of the reasons given is that of a warmer climate during that period and a late Easter. But the increase can also be associated with higher prices generally. Food and entertainment spending overall has risen. Which proves that when things are good people comfort eat and drown their sorrows while when things are good people celebrate by wining and dining. It's a win win!!

Garry Waite is a well-known foodie and restaurateur as well as a Hospitality Management Consultant. If you are contemplating setting up an operation in Spain, or indeed having problems with an existing project contact him on garrywaite@euroweeklynews.com.

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MORTAR: Macael's marble quarries are central to the town's character.

Travelling in Time

TRADITION was king as Macael went back in history to recreate the glory years of the early 20th century when the Almanzora Valley town struck marble. Thousands of residents celebrated the 70th anniversary of the resolution of a 30-year lawsuit, which brought back control of the lucrative marble quarries to Macael's stonemasons.

The historical reenactment of that turbulent but glorious period took place last weekend. It was boosted by hundreds of actors, dancers and singers from the Travelling in Time theatre group.

The event was the first of its kind and involved eight months and over 2,000 hours of intense preparation.

Travelling in Time compiled an impeccable script detailing the battle between the Canteros (Stonecutters) and Caciques (Chiefs) for control over the quarries which began in 1919. Actors captured the looks and spirit of Macael one century ago, while the crowd provided the passion.

Historic photos and diaries from the period were on display. Descendants travelled from all over to participate in what was a huge success.

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Gun-toting husband

A CANTORIA councillor has accused Mayor Purificacion Garcia of violating his democratic rights by tossing him out of a meeting after he became embroiled in a spat with her husband.

Pepe Lamas, a PP councillor was booted out of the meeting for raising his voice. He claims Garcia violated the constitution in doing so as he was a democratically elected official exercising his right to free speech.

Lamas reckons the mayor wanted revenge for a previous incident. He once insulted her husband Antonio Cerrillo, likening him to a place where the sun don't shine. Cerrillo flew into a rage during the council meeting and was restrained by Local Police.

Lamas now claims to feel intimidated by the mayor and her husband whom, he notes, is a licensed hunter with a rifle and evident anger issues.

A pet emergency

RESIDENTS of Zurgena were given a heads up on what to do in the event of an emergency during practice military manoeuvres. Almost 100 locals were divided into groups and shown around nearby military facilities where there are vehicles, ambulances, showers, shelter and food.

Some were given first aid training as officials explained the best course of action in different hypothetical emergencies. One of the most popular questions from British expats was whether they could take their pet with them; fortunately they can, but without a search.



PETS: Always a number one priority to the owner.

Zurgena also welcomed two civil protection volunteers to safeguard festivals, carnivals and possible emergencies.

Super saver

ALBOX has saved itself €365,000. The town will not have to pay back the money paid by a waste consortium for a licence to build on the industrial estate. The consortium took Albox to court over the hefty fee but judges dismissed the case.

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Kickboxing exam success

IT was Grading Day for students at Nemesis Kickboxing Academy this week. A total of 15 students successfully passed their grading exams and were awarded their belts at a presentation ceremony at Maloan's, Albox, on Saturday cheered along by friends and family.

Third Dan Coach Steve Evans (42) was joined by his former fellow coaches Third Dan Dr Claire Walker and Second Dan Lee Evans who flew in from Dragon School of Blackbelts in the UK to help put the students through their paces, followed by a week of fun but intensive training.

An experienced Kickboxing Coach, Steve established the Academy in February after moving to the area and failing to find somewhere to continue training and coaching in light contact/points kickboxing.

Now with 15 classes a week in Albox and Cantoria and as a member of the World Kickboxing Association, the club offers classes to students from



KICKBOXERS: Happy students passed their exams and were awarded with belts.

age three through to adult.

Steve, currently working towards his Fourth Dan, comes from a family of kickboxers with his mum, brother, sister in law, nephew and son all black belts, while five-year-

old grandson Hayden follows in their footsteps.

Training continues again in earnest as students look forward to their next grading in August and the formation of a Fight Team competing both

nationally and internationally.

Classes are held on Tuesdays and Saturdays in Maloan's, Albox, and on Thursdays at the Escenario in Cantoria, where everyone is welcome.

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With impressively landscaped and easy to maintain gardens this is an ideal full time 'ready to move' in full time residence or 'lock up and leave' holiday home. Its modern, clean lines, lots of windows and white painted built-in wardrobes and doors give this villa a light, spacious, contemporary feel.

The villa comprises of a large fly free seating/dining area which wraps around the front and side of the villa with views over the pool and garden. This leads into the spacious living



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The villa forms part of an established development and within 200 metres there is a popular restaurant / bar, open air community swimming pool, gym and bowling green and a little further takes you to more shops, cafes, restaurants, doctors, vets, bakers, school etc in La Alfoquia village.

For more information or to arrange a viewing of VH1127 Villa Argo please contact Voss Homes on 0034 950 616 827 or 0034 678 002 006 or email us at info@vosshomespain.com or visit our office in Huerca-Overa just 1km off of junction 553 of the A7 motorway 100m from Lidl.

room/dining room. Opposite the dining area is the large modern style fitted kitchen with plenty of cupboards. A breakfast bar separates these areas.

A corridor leads to the three double bedrooms and built-in wardrobes. The larger than average master bed-

room has both his and her separate built-in wardrobes and en suite shower room. One of the other bedrooms is currently used as a study. There is also a family bathroom.

Outside to the front and side is the established easy to maintain garden

with a variety of Mediterranean plants, palm trees, decorative stones and swimming pool. To the side is a storage shed and to the other side is a tiled driveway easily large enough for three cars. External stairs lead up to the sun roof with country views.

A SWEEPING analysis of the Spanish property scene found that prices have recovered to the same levels seen in 2004. The news is the latest milestone in the country's property recovery, which gathers strength with each passing day.

A thorough analysis from the Real Estate Review Report 2017 said the upward trend in property prices seen in the last few years 'can be sustained,' which is terrific news for homeowners and those interested in engag-

Sustainable success

ing with the property market.

The report cites the continued strength of second-hand housing over new builds, noting that for every new home sold, another eight old ones change hands. It also noted that the number of transactions taking place is roughly half that seen in 2004, figures

which are in line with today's market's more sustainable characteristics.

Spain's 'two-speed' market continues to be a significant issue when trying to generate averages across the country. Runaway property success is being seen in Barcelona, Madrid and Spain's coastal hotspots.

Spain flush with foreign interest

MORE Brits visited Spain than any other country last year. The latest official stats from the British government show that there were 14.7 million individual trips made to sunny Spain in 2016, a record number and a healthy 13 per cent increase on 2015.

With flight companies and tour operators dramatically expanding their Spanish coverage this year, Britain's swooning love affair with Spain has not gone unnoticed by the property industry.

British property developer Taylor Wimpey was already ahead of the curve with its Espana subsidiary. Now Taylor Wimpey Espana is capitalising on the record numbers of Brits visiting Spain to launch an ambitious new expansion.

The firm is set to build almost 100 eco-friendly

homes on a stunning southern Spanish estate. Homes include solar panels, thermal insulation and even soundproofing. And that's just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to Taylor Wimpey's plans.

They, and other major developers, are set to transform the Spanish property scene in the coming years. Flush with British, foreign and professional Spanish interest, developers are racing to construct quality new builds with the lashing of luxury that wealthier expats now expect.

Now boasting one of the strongest property markets in the business, with excellent forecasts for the years ahead, Spain is the number one option both for Brits flying abroad, and high end property developers.

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Agapanthus – the flower of love

By Graeme Tyrrell

FINDING plants that will look good, require minimal care to tolerate the long dry Spanish summer, long lived, easily propagated and provide alluring flowers is a great way to have a bright healthy garden.

Plants that come from Mediterranean regions and around the world provide a good starting point as they are adapted to survive naturally and usually just help to get established.

Mediterranean type climates exist in California including Los Angeles and San Francisco, in parts of Australia around Perth and Adelaide, in southwestern South Africa including Cape Town, sections of Western and Central Asia, and in Central Chile. This gives us a greater variety of plants to choose that will be easy to grow in Spain.

A wonderfully attractive green strappy leaved plant with spectacularly large, either, blue, mauve, pink or white flowers that makes a great under storey plant for treed gardens or shaded balconies and terraces is the Agapanthus.

The name is derived from the Greek agapé, meaning love, and anthos, meaning flower. So it can be interpreted as the Lovely flower or Love flower. It is also known as the African lily or the Blue lily.

There are many varieties available that have different leaf variations and flower colours that have been cultivated by growers which may need additional care with watering in summer, but the original plants are very hardy.

Agapanthus make a great

less than metre high border or background hedging. Flowering in late spring until autumn, its showy cluster or umbel of bell-shaped flowers can be appreciated in summer when flowers are scarcer but more able to be appreciated.

Originating from South Africa in areas of wet winters and long hot, dry summers it has adapted, with its fleshy, rhizomatous root system to store water, to need minimal care once established.

Its main enemies are slugs and snails which can be minimised with a container of stale beer for them to drown happily in or by trapping with a tile placed near the plants and checked regularly to remove the slugs and snails as they shelter underneath during the day.

Removing the expired browning leaves will keep them looking good and reduce the harbouring of insects.

They are easily propagated by division every few years. Dividing does reduce the production of flowers of the clump so it is best done after flowering has finished for the season in autumn, but it can also be done in late spring. When dug up carefully, it is easy to separate the plants.

Plant in soil with plenty of compost or add a good water retentive potting mix to the natural soil before planting. They tolerate acid and alkaline soil and don't need a lot of additional nutrients as they may provide only a lot of green leaves and not many flowers. They should also have periods of full sun and a bright position to encourage flowering, but do well naturally in the shade under the canopy of trees.



Photo by James53145 S

AFRICAN LILY: There are many varieties available that have different leaf variations and flower colours.

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Monthly gardening tasks – June

DICK
HANDSCOMBE



MANY of us experienced mixed weather during May. Weather that gave some thrills as many flowering shrubs looked their best early, but also some disappointments especially when just one windy rainy night decimated record flowerings and fruit formation on avocados and grapes.

But in general it was a steady changeover from late spring to early summer.

So what do we now need to do to improve the chances of wonderfully colourful and productive summer gardens.

Ten important actions for June

1. Deadheading and tidying pruning regime.
2. Watch out for fast growing weeds that escaped your earlier mulching, hoeing and sowing.
3. Turn up the frequency



SUMMER GARDENS: Plan some late window box plantings and provide shade for plants on terraces.



Photo by © Dick Handscombe May 2017

and volume settings on watering systems and check throughout the pipe/hose runs for leaks and blockages caused by insects grit or calcium deposits in jets.

4. As the heat and humidity rises watch out for signs of insect and fungal attacks and be ready with your eco armouries of garlic, thyme, sulphur, neem and propylis sprays.

5. Give all plants in pots and

other containers a good feed.

6. If you have been growing early vegetables in raised beds or containers such as growing tables and large builders buckets replace eaten crops by immediately filling gaps with seeds or plantlets.

7. Be ready to shade the more tender salad crops including tomatoes during the middle of the day to reduce their watering needs, slow

down their maturing and lengthening their harvesting periods.

8. Ensure you pull down blinds to provide welcome, even essential shade, to plants in containers on apartment terraces, balconies and windowsills.

If you do plan some late window box plantings preferably do this on north and wet facing situations.

9. Late planting of flowering plants

We are now in June and can expect steadily rising temperatures, reducing rain falls, the drying out of soils and lowering water tables so it makes sense to:

- a. Minimise new plantings until the autumn rains,
- b. Restrict new plantings to drought resistant plants,

c. Buy plants that are not root bound,

d. Buy plants that have been grown and are being sold in deep pots,

e. Improve soils in areas in which plants are to be planted to minimise water losses from waterings or rains if they occur from excessive drainage, surface evaporation, running off across hard impermeable soil surfaces, sponging away into super dry surrounding soils,

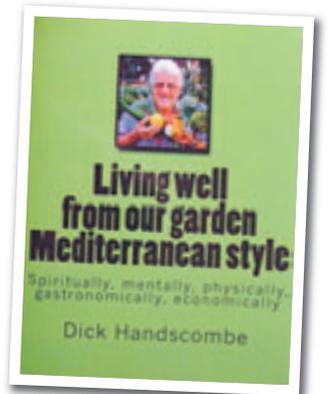
f. Invest in a five-kilo tub of Terra-Cottem water absorbing gel soil improver. Technically minded readers will find the website interesting,

g. Immediately mulch well around new plants. Unfortunately more than 50 per cent of mulching that I see is suboptimal.

10. Irreversible fruit losses

Fortunately the yields of early fruits such as strawberries and cherries have in many areas been great, and yields of stone fruits such as apricots, plums and olives, the first time for three or four years, look promising.

However just one windy rainy night in early May destroyed, in many gardens and commercial plantations, next autumn's grape and avocado crops. Unfortunately there is nothing one can do to avoid or recover from such natural disasters. Fortunately there are other garden crops to help sustain good living from one's garden.



The inexpensive book 'Living well from our garden Mediterranean style' describes my personal experiences of living healthily for 25 years after two dangerous cancer operations. Continuing to do so is an important objective beyond 80.



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Flying with pets

loaded into the hold of the aircraft, where they will be placed in a container (which some airlines can provide) but to be on the safe side it is worth purchasing your own carrier which is IATA approved (and will have a sticker or label stating this).

As only certain airlines and airports in the UK have the facilities to transport pets (BA and Monarch being the main carriers), when making a booking for you and your pet check first that the necessary transport can be arranged.

Animals must carry the correct documentation, either with a pet passport or veterinary certificate or with all required vaccinations (in some countries with an evaluation of antibodies). All animals are identified by a microchip, and you need the

correct documentation for this. Preparing pets for travel can be a lengthy business, with all the health checks, documentation and pet passport. So if you are thinking about bringing your pet into Spain make sure you leave plenty of time to make the necessary arrangements.

You can find more information on the Pets Travel Scheme (PETS) for the UK at www.defra.co.uk.

Guide dogs

trained to accompany a passenger with a disability will usually travel in the cabin, unless prohibited by national regulations or the airlines. The dog's transport, whether in the hold or in the cabin, will not be chargeable.

It is not necessary to carry out any special procedure, but the dog must wear a muzzle, collar and lead. If the dog is to travel in the cabin, it will be placed next to the passenger in a place indicated by the crew.

PET TRAVEL: Animals must have correct documentation.



WITH more and more people owning properties in Spain and spending a large part of their year here, pet travel has increased dramatically with owners preferring to bring their animals with them rather than leave them at home for any length of time.

Pets accompanying their owners on a trip to Spain can be accepted as luggage when the corresponding excess baggage tariff has been paid (regardless of the class in which the passenger is to fly).

As a general rule, these animals must be checked in and

Disabled dog seeks loving home

A BRITISH expatriate couple have launched a desperate appeal seeking a new owner for Luque, an unfortunate 11-month old German shepherd.

Christine McMahon, 77, and her husband Philip, 79, are unable to care for him themselves after he was shot in Fuente-Alamo, Murcia, leaving his back legs paralysed.

He is currently undergoing several types of therapy in order to repair the damage to his nerves, and it is thought that he will be able to walk again with the necessary love and care.

If you are interested in taking Luque on please call 634 324 262.



LUQUE: Was shot.

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Clarkson
Quote of the Week

“This is the new Maserati 4x4: It's called the Kubang. Which is probably also the sound it'll make when the warranty expires.”

Some might say...



Motoring shorts

The glory of
Goodwood

MAJOR details regarding the highlights and lineup of the iconic Goodwood Festival of Speed have been announced. The 2017 festival at the grand Chichester estate runs from June 29 to July 2 this year.

It will feature rally cars from the past four decades competing in the Forest Rally Stage. There will be two main celebrations, one over the 20-year anniversary of the latest world rally car regulations, and the other showcasing the 'game changers' of motorsport.

Vintage rally cars will include an MG Metro 6R4, Audi Quattro, and even a Citroen 2CV Bibip Dakar from the 1960s.

A new drift stage will see top stars including Vaughn Gittin Jr, James Deane and Dean Kearney compete for Goodwood glory.

Chinese take over Lotus

By Matthew Elliott

CHINESE corporations are making major advances into the global motoring industry. Giant car manufacturer Geely has just announced that it will take over both Proton and Lotus. The multinational based in Hangzhou already owns Volvo and the London Taxi Company.

Geely is taking over the parent company of British sports car maker Lotus and Malaysian-based Proton, DRB-Hicom. The Chinese firm beat off stiff competition from Peugeot and saw its shares skyrocket on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

The expansion gives Geely a major name in Lotus which, despite making substantial losses in recent years, retains a giant reputation in the motoring world. It also gives Geely control of a huge Proton-owned production plant in Malaysia with capacity to produce

13th

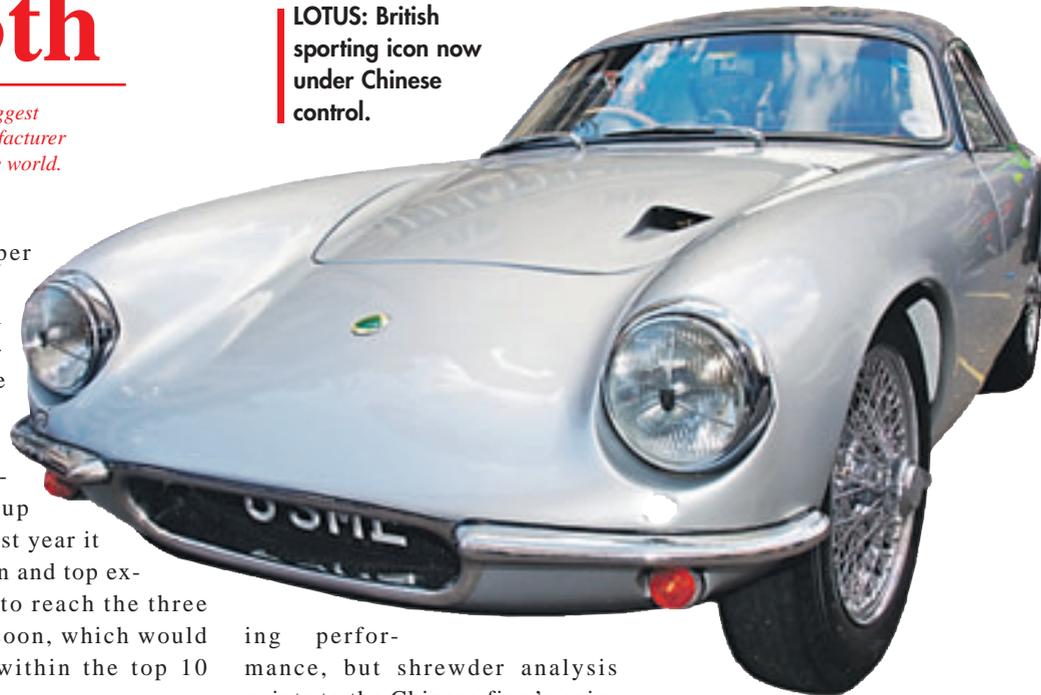
biggest
manufacturer
in the world.

150,000 cars per year.

Now the 13th biggest manufacturer in the world, Geely sold roughly 300,000 cars before linking up with Volvo. Last year it sold 1.3 million and top executives plan to reach the three million mark soon, which would easily put it within the top 10 worldwide.

There is debate over whether Geely can transform Proton's flail-

LOTUS: British
sporting icon now
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control.



ing performance, but shrewder analysis points to the Chinese firm's gaining a major position in the lucrative south-east Asian trading mar-

ket with stronger links to India's billion plus population.

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ROAD TEST by Nick Fletcher

Jeep Renegade

THE Jeep brand dates back more than 70 years, and is widely known as 'the American legend.' While these days Jeep is owned by the Fiat Group, the marque still retains its tough formidable image.

The Cherokee may be the best-known name in the Jeep line-up, but the smaller Renegade, a compact crossover model, is making its mark, appealing to those who want a cool street image yet when necessary, genuine four-wheel drive capability.

Many models in the SUV/Crossover sector have either two-wheel drive or a rather limited 4WD system which cannot cope with difficult terrain. All Jeep 4x4 models can calibrate the differential to maximise grip and control in snow, mud or on rough rocky terrain.

But though the Renegade is a rough-stuff mud-plug-

ger, its distinctive visual cachet means you can still park outside a trendy cafe and make a style statement.

Renegade prices start at €21,050 (£18,250), with petrol and diesel options and 2WD or 4WD. Many buyers opt for upper range versions laden with extra kit, and Limited models start at €27,998 (£24,265).

My test model was a Limited in 4WD form with auto transmission and with the 138 hp 2.0 litre diesel engine, and that combination costs €33,507 (£29,050).

For that you get a comprehensive spec which includes touchscreen infotainment centre, DAB radio, Bluetooth and sat-nav, plus alloy wheels, heated leather seats, front and rear parking sensors and plenty of safety features including lane departure and front-collision warnings.

The Renegade's styling is

unmistakable - a plus-point in a sector which is quite image-conscious, and while it loves being off road, it is pleasant to drive on the tarmac, at least if the surface is smooth. The firm suspension does jolt in potholes but otherwise, the ride quality in town driving is quite acceptable.

The overall driving refinement is not as good as rivals such as the Skoda Yeti, Nissan Juke or Mini Countryman but you have to weigh that against the Jeep's superior off-road ability and its more charismatic look.

The 2.0 litre diesel engine pulls well, giving a nippy 0-100 kph time of 9.9 seconds and top speed of 182 kph (113 mph). Fuel economy is 17.2 kpl (48.7 mpg).

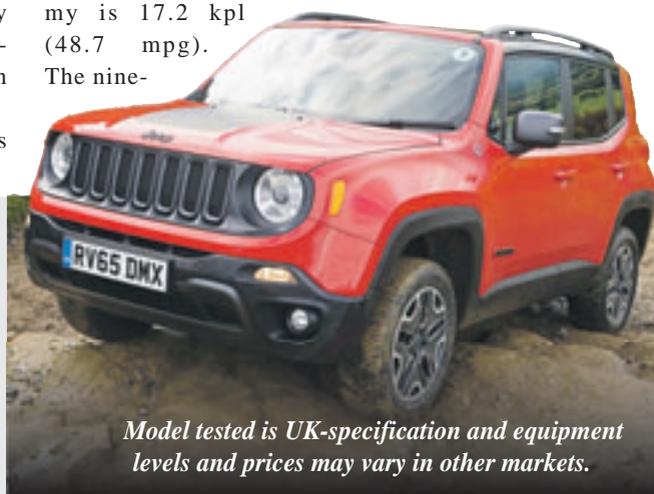
The nine-

speed auto gearbox is excellent, giving smooth and fluid shifts.

The cabin has a stand-out radically-styled dashboard, unlike anything else in the class. There is a logical layout of instruments and switchgear and the touchscreen is quick to respond.

There is space for four adults in comfort, or five if everyone's friendly! Boot space is adequate at 351 litres and expands to a useful 1,297 litres if the rear seats are folded. Only downsides - a deep load lip and the rear seat doesn't go fully flat.

RENEGADE:
A distinctive visual cachet.



Model tested is UK-specification and equipment levels and prices may vary in other markets.

Stats panel:

Model: Jeep Renegade Limited
 Engine: 2.0 litre diesel
 Transmission: 9-speed automatic
 Performance: 0-100 kph 9.9 seconds, top speed 182kph (113 mph)
 Economy: 17.2 kpl (48.7 mpg)
 Emissions: 150 g/km

The planet's most popular sports car

AFTER storming into the European market, the Ford Mustang is now officially the most popular sports car on the planet. Last year more than 150,000 Mustangs were sold across the world, well ahead of major rivals Ferrari and Porsche.

The Mustang's surprisingly late entry to European markets made all the difference with sales outside the US leaping by more than 100 per cent. It was also the most popular 250hp plus sports car in the UK with almost 5,000 shifted in 2016.

Sales this year are continuing the trend, bolstered by rave reviews of the latest edition of the iconic model, which debuted in 1962. The 2018 model is due for release in North America this autumn, and in Europe by next spring. British buyers are opting for the full Mustang shebang. Seven in every 10 UK sales are for the V8 5.0 GT Mustang option as buyers demand the biggest bang for their buck.

Mustang was also the best selling sports car in Poland, France, Finland, Sweden and Greece.

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Tony Matthews



International Sports

A former player, Tony is now the world's most prolific author of football books with 150 published since 1975. He has also been a PE teacher and a policeman, and is now a quiz-organiser, fund-raiser, for various charities, and sports correspondent for Spectrum Radio.

Costa de Almería

Forthcoming Events

Starting with football and on Saturday in Cardiff, we have the Champions League final between Italian giants Juventus and Spain's La Liga winners Real Madrid who will be aiming to become the first team to retain the coveted trophy since its introduction in 1992 when it replaced the European Cup.

The Oaks (tomorrow) and the Derby (Saturday) take place at Epsom and my each-way choices are Natavia (in the former) and Yu-

catan (latter). See my Derby Preview elsewhere.

Today, England's cricketers, fresh from their ODI series triumph over South Africa which included a dramatic two-run victory in the second encounter at Southampton last Saturday,



Bangladesh in their first 2017 Champions Trophy tournament at The Oval. It's Australia-New Zealand tomorrow, Sri Lanka-South Africa on Saturday and India-Pakistan on Sunday; England's second match is against New Zealand next Tuesday.

The French Open Grand Slam tennis tournament continues at Roland Garros - where women's top seed Angelique Kerber suffered a first round exit, as did GB's Dan Evans, while Petra Kvitova has returned to action 25 weeks after a knife stabbing which threatened her career.

FA CUP WINNERS:
Aaron Ramsey
and Rob Holding
of Arsenal.

ROUND UP

Last Saturday, Arsenal deservedly won the FA Cup for a record 13th time, beating 10-man and out-of-sorts double-chasing Chelsea 2-1 in the final... Celtic, unbeaten in all domestic matches in 2016-17, claimed a historic treble by lifting the Scottish Cup with a 2-1 victory over Aberdeen... and Barcelona overcame Alaves 3-1 in the Copa del Rey final... all this after Manchester United had earlier won in Europa League final with a 2-0 win over Ajax.

After their play-off finals, Huddersfield or Reading will play in the Premiership next season... Blackpool will be in League One... and Hamilton Academical will compete in the SPL.

Around 37,000 fans saw Sebastian Vettel, Kimi Raikkonen (stitched up) and Daniel

Ricciardo finish 1-2-3 in last Sunday's F1 Monaco Grand Prix in Monte Carlo where Jensen Button returned for one more race! Lewis Hamilton came seventh and now trails Vettel by 25 points in the driver's championship. The next race is in Montreal, Canada on Sunday, June 11.

In the Indianapolis 500 in the USA, Spain's Fernando Alonso failed to finish in his first drive in the race due to engine failure.

In Rugby Union, Exeter Chiefs beat Wasps 23-20 in the Premiership final, Northampton edged out Stade Francais 23-22 in the Champions Cup final and Scarlets lifted the Pro12 trophy with a 46-22 victory over Munster. And two England players suffered irritating injuries in their international friendly win over the Barbarians at Twickenham.

In boxing, GB's Kell Brook lost his IBF Welterweight world title after an 11th round stoppage against Errol Spence Jr but George Groves is, at last, the WBA super-middleweight champion after beating Fedor Chudinov.

In athletics, Sir Mo Farah won the 5,000m at the recent Diamond League meeting in Oregon and Holly Bradshaw (pole vault) and Greg Rutherford (long jump) were victors at the Manchester Games which attracted over 100,000 spectators despite the recent bombing which killed 22 people, young and old. Tirunesh Dibaba from Ethiopia won the Great Manchester City Run (marathon) for the fourth time.

Tom Dumoulin won the 100th Giro d'Italia cycle race by 31 seconds from Nairo Quintana. Adam Yates was the best placed British rider (ninth).

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ITALIAN football international Francesco Totti has retired from top-class football after 25 years.

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Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

Valle Del Este Golf Society turn out for Captain's Day

ON May 25, a full house of players turned out for their 2017 captain, Tish Bigelow, on her Captain's Day. Many thanks to Tish for keeping everyone in line this year and particularly for treating the group to a traditional American meal of burgers, fries and delicious home-

made chocolate brownies.

The competition was the usual weekly Stableford and once again the scoring was very close, but Patrick Vickery put the disappointment of losing in the last round of the Knockout Cup to register an amazing score of 38 points to take first

place, with Geoff Owen in second place on 34 points followed by Paul Sedge in third with 32 points.

Nearest the pins Mike Thomas (8th hole) Bill Gill (14th hole) Valle Del Este Golf Society is affiliated to the Valle Del

Este Golf Resort in Vera. They play every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Singles competitions are played every Thursday including a monthly Medal.

Visitors are welcome (subject to available tee times). Please contact Alan Townsend on 634 379 887.

The 19th Hole Golf Society, match report

ON Thursday May 25, 34 members and a couple of guests of the 19th Hole Golf Society made their way south to La Envía Golf Resort to play a Texas Scramble.

Scramble results are always difficult to predict, but rank outsiders Darren Banks Ron (The Rocket) Curtis, Michael Palmer and Chrissie Edwards would not have been viewed as contenders for the win or even a place. But win they did with a nett 60 shots.

In second place with a nett score of 61.5 were Ter-

ry Ayling, Paco Ocaña Grajal, Alan Brigden and Jerry Edwards. With the Dream Team of Sean Curtis, Sharon Stevens, Chris Gledhill and John Kay in a disappointing third place on 61.9 strokes. Nekana Galindez had a productive day taking two Nearest the Pins and converting one into two.

The 19th Hole Golf Society arranges weekly games around the area playing Aguilon every other week. For more information call 634 315 813 or email gs19thhole@hotmail.co.uk.

Windy day at Alboran

THE Badgers headed off towards Almeria to Alboran Golf Resort on May 24. The conditions seemed to be favourable early in the day, however, as they got on the first tee the sea breeze started to blow stronger and persisted throughout the 18 holes.

It showed as the scores came in, with Dave Wright coping better than anyone on the day with a battling 32. 'Trying to make a funny,' everyone else got blown away.

Full Results: 1st Dave Wright 32 points, 2nd Mark Newall 30 points, 3rd Ann Kavanaugh 29 points. Near-

est the pin 2nd Mark Newall, 6th Dave Ryder.

11th Tony Rowbottom. 17th Malcolm Smallwood. There were no Two's.

Badgers also play Saturday morning, for further information call Duncan Smart on 634 331 059.



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