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ISSUE No. 1689 | 16 - 22 Nov 2017

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## Marathon winners



**SHAKY LEGS:** Councillor Garcia awards athletes.

WITH a time of one hour, 18 minutes and 26 seconds, Blas Jesus Quiles Parra won the Mojacar half marathon. He edged out Antonio Manual Diaz Rodriguez who finished second.

In the women's race, Esther Galvez Jimenez was victorious with a time of one hour, 33 minutes and 80 seconds. Zacarias Roig Iglesias won the shorter seven kilometre race.

Both amateur and professional runners competed and prizes were awarded by Sports councillor Ana Garcia Fernandez.

## French fiasco

TWO Frenchmen were held at Almeria port with a stolen moped. Guardia Civil officers conducted a search on a van destined for North Africa, uncovering a range of stolen goods.

The French nationals, aged 38 and 45, were placed under arrest. They denied having anything to declare, but police inspectors were suspicious of the bulky van and its unusual cargo.

The first item they checked was a freezer. Inside police found the parts and engine of a moped, which later turned out to have been stolen in France.



Photo credit: Salvamento Marítimo

**RUBBER DINGHY:** Commonly used to cross the Gibraltar Strait.

# All at sea

## Number of migrants almost triples in a year

By Karl Smallman

Spain's maritime rescue service recovered more than 400 migrants from boats making the dangerous crossing in the Mediterranean Sea over the weekend.

It is believed good weather and sea conditions saw the increase in traffic, much of which was bound for Almeria.

On Saturday Salvamento Marítimo tweeted: 'We saved 276 people from seven improvised vessels.'

And, on Sunday, they rescued a further 144 people from another seven boats.

According to the International Organisation for Mi-

gration (since January) 15,600 migrants have made it to Spanish shores by sea with at least 156 killed during the dangerous crossing from Morocco.

However, Spain is still well behind Italy, which has recorded 114,400 arrivals by sea since January.

North Africans appear to choose the Strait of Gibraltar crossing in small crafts of between four and 10 people.

Meanwhile sub-Saharan often use the Alboran Sea crossing in 'pateras' carrying up to 60 people on a journey that can take up to 30 hours.

It comes as the skipper of a people-trafficking boat has been released on bail by an Almeria court. He was caught ferrying a dozen Algerian passengers on a boat intercepted 19 nautical miles south-east of Cabo de Gata.

## Blackspot warning

TWO black spots have been identified as needing urgent attention by the Directorate General of Traffic (DGT). They are at kilometre 3.5 of the AL-12 road through Almeria City and the intersection at kilometre two of the AL-3117 from Mami to Viator.

Black spots are considered areas where there have been three or more accidents in less than a year all within 100 metres of one another.

At the AL-12 blackspot there were 11 accidents with 16 injuries last year.

In the second blackspot there were three accidents last year with four injuries.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

**Break-in bungle**

A BURGLAR is facing seven years in prison after breaking into an Almería National Police officer's home, whom he attacked with an iron bar, after the officer pulled his gun on him.

**Nasty smell**

PLUMBERS tackled a sewage discharge that has caused a regular stampede of bathers from El Palmer beach between Enix and Roquetas. Leaks have also been detected at the mouth of the Andarax river.

**No consent**

TWO men were jailed for 10 months and two years for taking advantage of a drunk woman as she celebrated her 19th birthday in Almería.

# Out of this world!

## NASA comes calling for students

TWO young students from an Almería secondary school have been invited to stay at the NASA Space Center in Houston, Texas. Ana Hidalgo and Pedro Mena from the SEK Alboran de Almerimar school depart next Friday for a 10-day adventure.

Their school is part of the SEK international schools group, which has centres in Almería, Madrid and even Dubai. NASA and SEK have developed a new partnership in Spain that will see 10 Spanish students sent each year to Houston.

Ana and Pedro were chosen for their academic strength, high level of English and ambition to become aerospace engineers.

"Everything has been very fast. They presented the project to us and the next day we had to decide," said Ana.



Photo by Salvamento Marítimo

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**HOUSTON: The space centre and (inset) the lucky invitees.**

"We did not have any doubts because it was our opportunity to gain experience for our future careers."

The pair will experience zero gravity conditions and build miniature rockets. They will have the chance to listen to top NASA scientists discuss their careers, attend robotics workshops and learn about NASA's ambitions and capacity to explore the surface of Mars. Both Ana and Pedro have sat the SAT university entrance exams in the United States and plan to attend American colleges before fulfilling their dreams in space.

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 Latest news and more as it happens  
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**Cheap homes on offer**

SPAIN'S 'bad bank' SAREB has 32,509 cheap properties for sale across Spain, with more than 1,000 in Almería Province.

The bank, formally known as the Company for the Management of Assets proceeding from the Restructuring of the Banking System, was set up in 2012 as a condition for Spain's financial sector to receive billions in EU loans. SAREB took on more than €100bn in bad assets in 2012, which it has steadily been selling ever since. The deadline to offload all of its assets is 2017. So far, American private equity firms, investment funds, and companies have been the main buyers and beneficiaries.

Of the 1,111 pieces of real estate owned by SAREB in Almería, 428 of them are homes. The bad bank's latest offer is to take care of the writing expenses.

The discount is valid until Friday December 15.

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RITA ORA

P6

**CELEB FOCUS**  
Who is doing what and who with, often in front of the cameras!

**COUCH CRITIC**

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S TV THROUGH THE EYES OF A READER



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**LETTERS**

Readers' views on eclectic topics in print and online.

# Farm phrases

A LOCAL farmer has produced a Spanish-English dictionary of agricultural terms. Antonio Quirantes and his English teacher Kas Charles made the effort in the hopes of improving English among Almerian exporters. The dictionary contains more than 1,000 farming words and phrases.

## Walking dead

A ZOMBIE protest is set to take place in Almeria tomorrow (Friday). Roughly 35 school teachers will wear make-up from hit American television show The Walking Dead. They will march through the city to protest job insecurity, while dressed symbolically as members of the living dead.

## Quiet please

WITH just four per 100,000 inhabitants, Almeria Province has the lowest ratio of book shops to people in Spain. In Galicia there are 15 per 100,000 people. Only 45 per cent of Almerians read regularly according to a new report on the Spanish book sector.

## After party

A VIDEO of the Dreambeach Villaricos fifth anniversary festival has been produced. Dubbed the 'after movie' it captures performances from David Guetta and Carl Cox among others. Tickets are already on sale for the 2018 electronic music festival with 8,000 selling in just two hours on Sunday.

## Dodgy motors

IN the first half of 2017 a total of 165,126 vehicles had their Technical Vehicle Inspection (ITV) in Almeria Province. Among them 43,580 vehicles were rejected, roughly one in four. Almost 100,000 serious defects and 152,000 minor problems were found by inspectors.

## SPANISH FACTS OF LIFE...37

With Christmas around the corner, Kat Ashton says it's time to break out one of the season's most beloved tipples - and one of Spain's greatest exports - Sherry.

# A vine art

SHERRY is unique fortified wine closely associated with Spanish festivities, particularly in the southern province of Andalucia. The name 'Sherry' is an Anglicisation of Jerez, a town in Andalucia near Cadiz, where the wine has been made for centuries.

The so-called 'Sherry Triangle' is marked by the towns of Jerez de la Frontera, Sanlucar de Barrameda and El Puerto de Santa Maria. The towns are only about 20 minutes apart and all have a longstanding tradition of producing the drink.

Like cava or Iberian ham, Sherry has protected designation of origin status and only wine produced in the 'Sherry Triangle' can legally be labelled with the name.

Most Sherries are initially dry to begin with, as they are fortified following fermentation, with sweetness being added later. A typical bottle contains 15 to 17 per cent alcohol by volume.

Fino is considered one of the best Sherries out there



**BARREL OF FUN:** The traditional wooden barrels used to make Sherry in Jerez.

and is also one of the driest. It is aged under a layer of yeast which protects it from oxygen, so even though the average bottle might be seven years old, it still tastes very fresh.

Manzanilla is another popular variety, and can only be produced in the town of Sanlucar de Barrameda. It is known for being very pale and dry, and also has a slight salty aroma as it is produced so close to the sea.

# A drop of history

THE practice of wine-making was first introduced to the region by the Phoenicians in 1100 BC. The Moors then introduced the process of distillation, needed to make fortified wine, when they conquered the region in 711 AD.

By the end of the 16th century, Sherry had become popular across Europe and became particularly popular in Great Britain after English sea captain Francis Drake invaded Cadiz in 1587.



# Finest wine

THE world's most expensive bottle was sold at the London auctioneers Sotheby's in 2001 for \$43,500 (around €37,000). The bottle was dated in 1775, and was found in the Massandra cellars in the Crimea, Ukraine. This particular Sherry gained more fame several years later when Russian President Vladimir Putin and Italy's ex-Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi drank a bottle of the 240-year-old wine while visiting the cellar, which had then reached an estimated value of more than \$90,000 (€77,000).

**PRICEY:** The most expensive bottle of sherry sold for more than €37,000 at auction.

## Shrimp surprise

A RED shrimp carpaccio from Garrucha, Almeria won the best tapas concept at the World Tapas Championship in Valladolid. The

dish was prepared by Jonathan Grandy of the Heliport Brasserie in Belgium. Oyvind Boe Dalev won overall with his Norwegian cod tapa with artichoke and seaweed.

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The total number of news and features which appeared in Issue 1688 of the Euro Weekly News Costa de Almería edition, including 51 local stories.

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  - 2010 I Love Marbella - Professionalism award
  - 2005 Working together with Foreigners Department Mijas Town Hall

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# EWN on the web

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## Top 5 stories From 6 - 13 November 2017

- 1 Costa del Sol shelter boss becomes first person in Spain to be jailed for animal cruelty - **5,555**
- 2 Temperatures set to soar this weekend on the Costa del Sol - **4,541**
- 3 Europe's largest man-made beach to be built in Spain - **4,163**
- 4 Out-of-control Chinese Space station could hit Spain 'within months' - **2,771**
- 5 In pictures: Snow falls in northern Spain as weather warnings issued for Balearics - **2,758**

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## Poll of the week

**Should Spain follow Thailand's example and ban smoking on its beaches?**

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**

**Is it wrong not to wear a poppy ahead of Remembrance Day?**

Yes = 38%  
 No = 62%

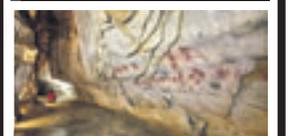
## Top Social Media comments

**INNOCENT: Man accused of dragging dog behind his vehicle released by police** - Now that he is apparently exonerated, I'm sure all the posters of previous, vile, aggressive, messages will publicly retract. *Patrick Murphy*  
 Whichever way you look at this it was stupid. It could also encourage other twisted people to do the same. *Jenny Dodd*  
 Vile! Who tied the dog must be put in prison. And him for even saying this. Vile people. *Beverley Wheeler de Soler*  
**Belt up in Spain and don't get fined!** - Should do it for phones as well never seen so many people driving while on their mobile in Spain. *Pat Ward*  
**Spanish rider Mark Marquez is youngest four-time MotoGP champ** - What an achievement, such skill, and stamina. Congratulations *Debbie Ray*  
 Fair play. You can't beat real talent. *Tomas Kirken*  
**Ex-shelter boss becomes first person in Spain to be jailed for animal abuse** - Not good enough! If it were just the animal cruelty charges, she would not have got a prison sentence! It is the other charges that has gotten her time in jail. That said, I hope she rots!! *Kate Jenn*  
 Not long enough... disgusting woman. The law is long overdue on dealing with animal abusers... they should be given the same sentences as child abusers and murderers. *David Ogilvy*  
**Brits held in one of Spain's largest ever cocaine busts** - That's a great result, nothing to be sniffed at there. *Charles Daniel Darius McDonald*  
 There goes their WHITE Christmas *Matt Silver*  
 Great, glad they are caught. I am ashamed to hear it is Brits. *Janine Turner*  
**POPPY SHOCK: Seller sent packing from Axarquia car boot sale** - Ridiculous. Won't let someone sell poppies for a day outside the gates even, yet beggars are allowed continually outside Lidl, Aldi, Mercadona. Shame on the Lions. *Nicki Morley*  
 This is a shame as the Lions are a pretty together outfit and certainly have raised plenty of money themselves. Perhaps there are now so many people shaking boxes in front of you that this is the way to stop it. *Richard Taylor*  
 No, not justified. She was selling remembrance poppies, not selling goods for her own financial gain. *Carl Glover*



**NORWEGIAN:** All flights to Spain from Birmingham scrapped

## TRIVIA FROM AROUND THE WORLD



The oldest cave painting in the world is found in the Cave of El Castillo in Puente Viesgo, Cantabria, where researchers have found a faint red dot that has been dated to be at least 40,800 years old.

When the mummy of Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses II was sent to France in the mid-1970s, it was issued a passport, labelling him as 'King (deceased).'

The two shortest place names in the world are 'Å', used for five villages in Norway and one in Sweden, and the small French hamlet of Y.

★★★★★★

**Did you know?**

The Vatican Bank is the world's only financial institution that allows cash machine users to perform transactions in Latin.



Prenez garde, cette plante porte des piquants très acérés. Beware, this plant wears very sharp prickles.

**CORRECTIONS**

At the EWN, we pride ourselves that reports are accurate and fair. If we do slip up, we promise to set the record straight in a clear, no-nonsense manner. To ask for an inaccuracy to be corrected.  
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Little bits on the side

**FOR COMMENTS FROM EWN ONLINE TURN TO LETTERS PAGE**

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**OUR VIEW**

# Hoping for a real solution

IT has been an increasing problem in recent years and there appears no end to it.

And more sadly, no real solution.

Last weekend almost 400 migrants heading towards Spain were discovered aboard vessels heading to the nation's terra firma.

Had they not been rescued they might well have died before they even landed and potentially had the opportunity for safer and better lives.

If they had made land safely, they would have merely joined tens of thousands of other illegal migrants now in Europe. They will not be the last to be added to the statistics, so far this year almost 16,000 migrants have been spotted and rescued by various authorities up and down the Mediterranean coastline from Gibraltar, up the coast in Almeria, Murcia and beyond.

Spain does not hold a solution to the problem and it is not only Spain's problem.

Many of the mainly African migrants - but in some cases other migrant men, women and children make the life threatening voyages of hope - frequently travel from an eclectic variety of locations in Libya, Morocco and other North African nations. A humanitarian solution must be found and it is clear that all nations in Europe - and Africa and the Middle East - need to sit down, discuss the issues and provide a solution to the problem.

*Now we want to hear your views.*

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Photo by Guardia Civil

**BRAVE MOVE:** Car owner jumped on thieves before calling police.

# Victim chases crooks

A NIJAR man, aged 27, was arrested by the Guardia Civil and charged with breaking into a vehicle. He and his accomplice were accosted by the owner of the car, who briefly struggled with them before giving up and calling police.

Guardia Civil began investigating once the car owner provided a solid description of the two suspects. Several items were stolen from the car, which was broken into late at night.

Hearing the noise, the car

owner had surprised the two men. They jumped out of the car and ran away. He managed to catch one but, after a physical struggle, the man escaped.

Police investigators were confident that both men were Nijar residents. Following leads they made an arrest but are still on the look out for the other suspect.

# Highway blues

AN amendment has been tabled to increase the 2018 budget for the construction of the Almanzora motorway.

The Popular Party of Andalucía has raised the motion in the provinces of both Almeria and Granada. They are keen for the region to provide both provinces with enough to ensure the completion of the motorway from A-7 in Huerca-Overa to Baza, Almeria.

The intention to raise the budget was announced by Popular Party spokesmen in the Andalusian parliament, Carmen Crespo, and the mayor of Huerca-Overa, Domingo Fernandez.

Crespo said that the €1.6 million set aside by Almeria for the El Cucador to La Concepcion stretch was not enough. "What we want is for the Junta to complete the motorway in its entirety, from the A-7 in Huerca-Overa to Baza. Unfortunately the €1.6 million announced is clearly insufficient," she said.

**2,018** The number of organ donors last year, making Spain the world leader in organ donations, and led to 4,818 organ transplants.

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GLAM: Jenna Coleman.

## Get ready to rock

LEGENDARY rockers Guns N' Roses have announced they are playing two dates in Spain next year.

The band, which reunited in 2016 after 23 years apart, will headline the Madrid Download Festival on June 29 before playing Barcelona's Olympic Stadium on July 1.

The *Knocking on Heaven's Door* hit-makers are coming to Spain as part of their worldwide Not in This Lifetime tour, which will have been running for 27 months by the time the European leg is complete.

The tour will be the band's second longest after their Use Your Illusion Tour from January 1991 to July 1993. The LA-based band formed in 1985 and have sold more than 100 million albums backed up by a string of hits including *Paradise City*, *Welcome to the Jungle* and *Sweet Child O'Mine*.

The new tour is so-named after lead guitarist Slash replied, "not in this lifetime," when asked in 2012 if the band would ever reform.



STILL GOT IT: Guns N' Roses.

## HAVING A BATH: Rita Ora.



Phot by Rita Ora/Instagram

## Forgotten something?

CHART TOPPER Rita Ora set tongues wagging after turning up for the 2017 MTV Europe Music Awards in a bath robe and towel.

The braless 26-year-old songstress then flashed her underwear as she shocked on the red carpet before hosting the glitzy London event.

And after changing outfits a staggering 13 times during the show, the *How We Do* singer revealed that next year's ceremony will be held in the northern Spanish city of Bilbao.



Phot by You Tube

TOP OF THE POPS: J-Lo in her new video.

## Abs-olutely fabulous

SHE'S the Latina songstress known for her stellar figure and racy onstage outfits.

And mother-of-two Jennifer Lopez, 48, has hit the headlines again after her new single shot to number one in Spain.

A happy looking J-Lo was spotted wearing an oversized fur coat in New York after her Spanish-language hit *Amor Amor Amor* topped the charts in both Spain and Puerto Rico within hours of its release.

The track is the second taken from her new album *Por la Primera Vez* featuring Puerto Rican star Wisin. The accompanying video shows an age-defying Lopez flaunting her famous curves as she dances on a New York subway.

J-Lo's latest long player sees her collaborating with ex-husband Marc Anthony with whom she shares nine-year-old twins Max and Emme.

She is currently dating former baseball player Alex Rodriguez.

## Style queen

DOCTOR WHO and Victoria actress Jenna Coleman brought some extra glamour to the Madrid Heroes Comic Con this year. The 31-year-old star, who shot to fame in *Emmerdale* in 2005, made a personal appearance in the Spanish capital and looked stunning in a navy polka dot dress with her brown hair in loose waves.

## Real daddy

REAL MADRID star Cristiano Ronaldo has celebrated the birth of his fourth child with girlfriend Georgina Rodriguez.

The Portuguese captain, 32, posted an image of his 22-year-old squeeze, baby daughter Alana Martina and eldest son Cristiano Jr onto his social media pages yesterday evening, before streaming live on Instagram as they returned home with their newborn daughter.



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# N E X T S T O P A L M E R I A



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



**Los Gallardos - 115,000€ (ref: LGHZ)**  
 4 beds • 2 baths • Build 103m<sup>2</sup> • Garage: 18m<sup>2</sup>  
 A mid-terrace two storey property with private garage. Benefits terraces, courtyard, air conditioning, well maintained and is being sold fully furnished. Short walk to all amenities.



**Los Gallardos**  
**115,000€**  
 (ref: HNAK2)  
 Townhouse  
 2 beds • 1½ baths  
 Plot: 392m<sup>2</sup>  
 Build: 83m<sup>2</sup>



**El Pinar de Bédar**  
**539,000€**  
 (ref: EPHS)

Detached two storey property  
 4 beds • 3½ baths  
 Plot: 1,303m<sup>2</sup>  
 Build: 196m<sup>2</sup>



This elegant and very private four bedroom home nestled in the mountainside of El Pinar benefits magnificent views, contemporary design and presentation with a level of opulence seldom found. With extensive outdoor and indoor living spaces, when first visiting the property it does not stop delivering and will most definitely not disappoint the more discerning viewer.

Constructed in an almost crescent shape, the design of the property flows gently from room to room with the kitchen and reception rooms to one side and the bedrooms and bathrooms to the other.

Being one of only 5 properties in this spur road off El Pinar, and the only one to the south west side of it, the property is gifted with immense privacy and tranquility; both factors for the current owners purchasing it some 10 years ago. With the boundary land being beneath this tiered landscaped plot it is safe to say that the views enjoyed today will be there forever which is sometimes difficult to say of Spanish properties.



A fully furnished south facing townhouse on a plot of almost 400m<sup>2</sup> with a private pool.

Suitable for full time living or holiday use the property benefits spacious living room, terraces, solarium, off road parking, air conditioning and is in walking distance to the village.

A limited opportunity to buy a property at this price with a private swimming pool!



**Los Gallardos - 119,950€ (ref: HNRW2)**  
 3 beds • 2½ baths • Plot: 163m<sup>2</sup> • Build: 103m<sup>2</sup>  
 A semi-detached house with garden, terraces, solarium, allocated off-road parking & communal pool. With low community fees the property is cheap to run and represents excellent value for money.



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



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# Lucrative catch of the day

AN outstanding catch has seen Almería's five key fishing ports earn a combined €20.6 million in the first 10 months of the year.

More than 6.2 million kilograms of fish and shellfish was legally caught across the province from January until October, roughly two million more than last year.

With Christmas just around the corner, fishermen are anticipating a lucrative end to a bumper 2017. It's good news for a sector that has struggled with European regulations and the reduction in fish numbers in recent years.

In the past 12 months, fish populations have recovered and although less boats than before are



**SWORDFISH STEAK:** Fishermen enjoying bumper year.

going out, they are catching more and working more effectively.

All five major ports - Almería city, Adra, Carboneras, Garrucha

and Roquetas - are thriving. Each makes a different contribution to the province's fishing success.

In Adra, sardines, mackerel and red mullet are the most popular catches. In the capital, an abundance of red shrimp and sardines were caught.

Carboneras specialises in swordfish but has missed out on tuna, with Barcelona filling European quotas. Swordfish are also swarming in Roquetas where almost 200,000 kilograms were caught, selling for €7.23 each.

Garrucha has the honour of selling the most sought after prawns in the province. They can command €44.5 per kilo, compared to €30 in Adra.

## Water quality gets a boost

A NEW pipeline connects Vera with the Carboneras desalination plant. The vital pipeline will provide 0.8 cubic hectometres per year to Vera residents, who have been especially blighted by water shortages for years.

The council has long been demanding a permanent connection to the desalination plant. Vera's permanent population has grown in recent years, increasing demand, while in summer the population routinely doubles.

The new pipeline measures 279 metres and cost a total of €230,469. It should not only guarantee supply but also improve water quality.

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# Interstellar tourism

PLANS to bring Almeria residents closer to the stars have been drawn up by the Calar Alto observatory.

Director Jesus Aceituno met with the Amigos de Calar Alto Association to discuss how to reignite public passion in the observatory's work.

A calendar of activities for the year ahead was established and ideas shared on how to attract new visitors to the site, located in the Sierra de los Filabres. Members also discussed how the observatory could help spread scientific knowledge across the province, especially in schools.

Major activities planned include a series of Astrotourism Days that will take place in May 2018. With attendance limited to around 120 people, they offer a unique opportunity to peek into the skies through the largest telescope in continental Europe.

There will also be photogra-



**DISCOVERY:** Calar Alto astronomers want to share knowledge.

phy competitions and a variety of guided tours aimed at different demographics.

The observatory is also keen to raise awareness over light

pollution, which affects the ability of amateur and professional astronomers to see clearly into the night.

The Calar Alto observatory is considered one of the finest on the planet with its telescopes at the forefront of discovering new planetary systems.

**13** People died in car accidents in Spain last weekend according to the traffic directorate DGT.

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**SWEDISH DESIGN:** Path cleared for IKEA'S Almeria debut.

## Final countdown

IKEA is just a hair's breadth away from setting up shop in Almeria. The Swedish furniture and DIY giant has been struggling to overcome the city's bureaucratic hurdles for years.

Now the city's urbanism committee has voted its approval of the most recent project put forward by IKEA. The next stage is for the promoters of the multinational in Almeria, Belenram SL, to request a construction licence to start building on the 27,000 square metre plot.

Here a giant IKEA spanning 20,000 square metres will be built with around 800 parking spaces. The location is the Rambla Belen, on the north entrance to the city.

Concrete is unlikely to be laid until at least 2020 but the decision from the urbanism committee is the biggest shot in the arm yet to IKEA's Almeria ambitions. Mayor Ramon Fernandez-Pacheco says the project will bring thousands of jobs and offer a tremendous boost to the local economy.

# Woman arrested in puppy rescue

POLICE recovered a two-month-old puppy stolen from a farmhouse and advertised online. Guardia Civil officers arrested a woman, who faces charges of stealing the dog from a property in El Parador.

Another individual from Almeria City is being investigated for possible complicity in the crime. Both suspects were stopped by police following a sting operation that saw the puppy returned to its rightful owner.

After the dog was reported stolen, investigating officers placed an advertisement online searching for a dog with the same physical characteristics as the missing pup. They soon saw the dog advertised online and began communicating with the seller.



Photo credit Guardia Civil

**RESCUED:** Puppy saved after sting operation.

Guardia officers arranged to meet the seller at a petrol station near El Ejido. They arrived early and had the dog's owner in the backseat.

Soon the suspects arrived and took the puppy out of the boot.

The owner confirmed it was the stolen animal and officers moved in to question the suspects.

They have since established that they hadn't stolen the dog, but bought it from the Roquetas woman online.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Port plan plotted

COMPANIES have been given eight months to propose a 'masterplan' for the transformation of Almeria port into a thriving tourist attraction with work expected to begin in 2019.

### Chef tricks

TOP chefs from across Spain, including Kosei Takakura from the Japanese embassy, showed off their culinary tricks at the El Ejido Auditorium which held a special 'Almeria Gourmet' dinner.

### Enemy fire

AFTER six months of intensive training, 350 Spanish soldiers flew from Almeria airport to Iraq to help with training the Iraqi army as it continues battling residual Daesh terrorist cells.

### Phony bills

POLICE called to an Almeria City supermarket found eight fake €50 notes on a man accosted by the security guard when he tried to pay with one.

### Italian job

THIEVES smashed through the windows of a motorcycle dealership in Viator and stole three bikes in a coordinated attack that lasted just a few minutes according to eye witnesses.

### Heart help

WORKSHOPS at Torrecardenas hospital will provide nutrition and exercise advice to patients with heart disease, helping them cope physically and emotionally with their diagnosis.

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€69,136 The gross average income of the wealthiest municipality in Spain, Pozuelo de Alarcon in Madrid, according to government statistics.

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VERA Orphanage may yet be saved.

The good news comes as a massive €11,500 was raised to contribute over half of the cost of essential repairs to the roof of Casa Hogar, the Orphanage in the centre of Vera.

Thanks to the efforts of chief fundraiser, Keith Holland, Shea Fox of Restaurante La Parata and their organising team, The 'O' Team, this fantastic achievement will contribute significantly to maintaining a safe and healthy environment at the home for all who live and work there.

Last Monday, over 100 guests were treated to an excellent meal provided by Shea and his team of nine during the event. Donations to the appeal were made through an auction, raffle and other events. Shea Fox made a generous contribution and an anonymous donation of over €4,000 was received. Entertainment was provided by the brilliant Ashley and Dainius and ace crooner, Jack Law. The event was compered by Paratá resident and Wannabee front man, Paul Burt.

# Raising the roof!

Over €11,500 raised for essential repair work at Vera Orphanage



**FINE DINING:** Guests enjoy their al fresco meal.



**ALL SMILES:** A triumphant 'O' Team.

“To achieve such a fund total for a local charity, from local people, is probably unprecedented in Almeria,” Holland said. “I cannot overstate the benefit of the work that can now be completed to help the residents and workers at Casa

H o g a r thanks to the donations

from local businesses and individuals.”

“I must also highlight that this was an event supported by an international, multicultural, multi-ethnic group of generous individuals and businesses,” Holland added. “As well as our Spanish supporters, there was a great representation of European expatriates who now live in Almeria, as

well as from other areas around the globe. I must thank everyone of all nationalities who supported the event for this very important cause.”

**Press: Mark Whitfield**  
634 368 521

**Fundraising: Keith Holland**  
636 798 950

**Restauranté La Paratá:**  
Shea Fox 950 478 186

**2,388**

Companies have moved their headquarters from Cataluña since the independence referendum on October 1 this year.

## A slice of history

CASA HOGAR has been open since 1872 and has a capacity to care for 24 children up to 18 years of age providing care, comfort and encouragement to orphans and underprivileged and, occasionally, abused children and young adults.

The main aim of the home is to create a space where children are looked after, promoting their development as people, combining technical quality and human warmth.

Casa Hogar belongs to the Company of the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul and is dedicated to serving the most disadvantaged groups of society, through planned and comprehensive social action.

During its life it has served social, welfare and educational requirements including nursery facilities for infants, a hospital and a school house.

The Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul is an international congregation founded 384 years ago and is composed of more than 20,000 Sisters of Charity who work in 93 countries.

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# Treasuring every moment...



By Karl Smallman

BRAIN CANCER battler Leo the Lion is putting up a brave fight as his fifth

birthday is now just a few weeks away.

Over the past two years Leo Bermejo, from Almería has undergone major

brain surgery at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in the UK and travelled to Oklahoma in the United States for cutting edge proton-

beam therapy.

But, despite all this, the 'monster' in his brain continues to grow.

Mum, Karen, has said that if he makes it to December 6 then Leo will have a party - only balloons and a birthday cake so he can blow out the candles.

Leo's Go Fund Me account has been closed and his fighting fund collection tins have now been brought in.

Karen said, "We have been very fortunate to receive so much overwhelming financial and emotional support during Leo's illness and we thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts.

"We have been able to give Leo the best chance possible to survive and be cured from this evil disease, but unfortunately the odds have been against him since day one when this monster grew in his head.

"Since Leo became terminal we have been able to take Leo and Sofia to Euro Disney to make lifetime memories for us all to treasure forever.

"We have also been able to give Leo an early Christmas as it looks more



**BRAVE FIGHTER:** Leo, right, with sister Sofia.

and more unlikely that he will survive until then."

She explained how difficult it is watching the lump on the side of Leo's head get bigger.

"It is the hardest thing in the world watching him go downhill. We just need to focus on making him as comfortable as possible."

"There is nothing more we could have done to give Leo a chance and we are at the point where nature has to take its course, even though a tiny part of me is still hoping for a miracle.

"At this stage the most important thing is that Leo does not suffer and he is

made as comfortable as possible and we need to treasure every moment, every minute, every second we have with him now.

"Leo's legacy will live on and has changed so many peoples' outlook on life."

Karen went on to say that in the future she plans to do things to make a difference. To help families overcome the obstacles they have had which has made the fight even tougher.

"I do not know how yet or when I will be able to do this, but I will do something in Leo's name."

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# Anger over single track

BACKTRACKING on the planned high speed rail line between Almeria and Murcia has been heavily criticised.

Just a single track will cover most of the Almeria side of the railway line, instead of the two initially promised.

A single track is "completely insufficient" said the Junta de Andalucía's minister for agriculture, Rodrigo Sanchez. "It does not meet either the present or future demand of

the Nijar region," he argued.

The planned high-speed rail, now delayed until 2023, won't only transport passengers, said Sanchez, but will be vital to Almeria's agricultural and industrial sectors.

It is part of the Mediterranean Corridor project, a planned matrix of high speed rail lines connecting Spain's southern coast with Barcelona, France and the rest of Europe.

Billions of euros worth of agricultural exports will be shipped annually from Almeria Province by rail rather than road. Almeria's booming marble and tourism industries will also rely heavily on bet-

ter, faster rail connections.

Sanchez's comments lend political support to the Platform for the Defence of the Almeria Railway.

The coalition of business leaders, residents, trade unions and town halls has launched a petition against building just a single track through Almeria Province.

So far they have secured more than 3,000 signatures on *Change.org*.

The Platform has argued that infrastructure spending on Almeria by the national government has kept the province anchored in the 19th century with an obsolete and isolated rail network.

## Sinkhole struggle

DRIVERS wanting to go to Malaga or Granada will have to wait a few more months before the A-7 is fully functional.

Work on fixing a major sinkhole between Carchuna and Castell in Granada Province has been delayed.

Fomento, the public transport ministry, says the delay is due to the dangerousness of the works and the difficulty trucks have in accessing the area.

There are steep slopes, curves and busy rush hour traffic to contend with. Repairing the sinkhole was initially meant to be completed by the end of October. The new estimate is the beginning of January.

The landslide which caused the problem occurred almost two years ago. Much of the delay has been due to the commissioning of studies on how to prevent future landslides.

**38,610** properties were sold last month in the whole of Spain, an 11% increase from the same month last year according to official figures.

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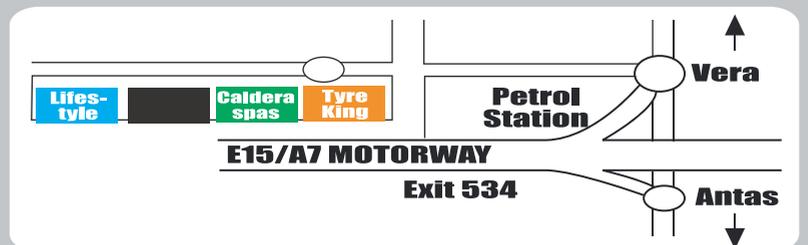
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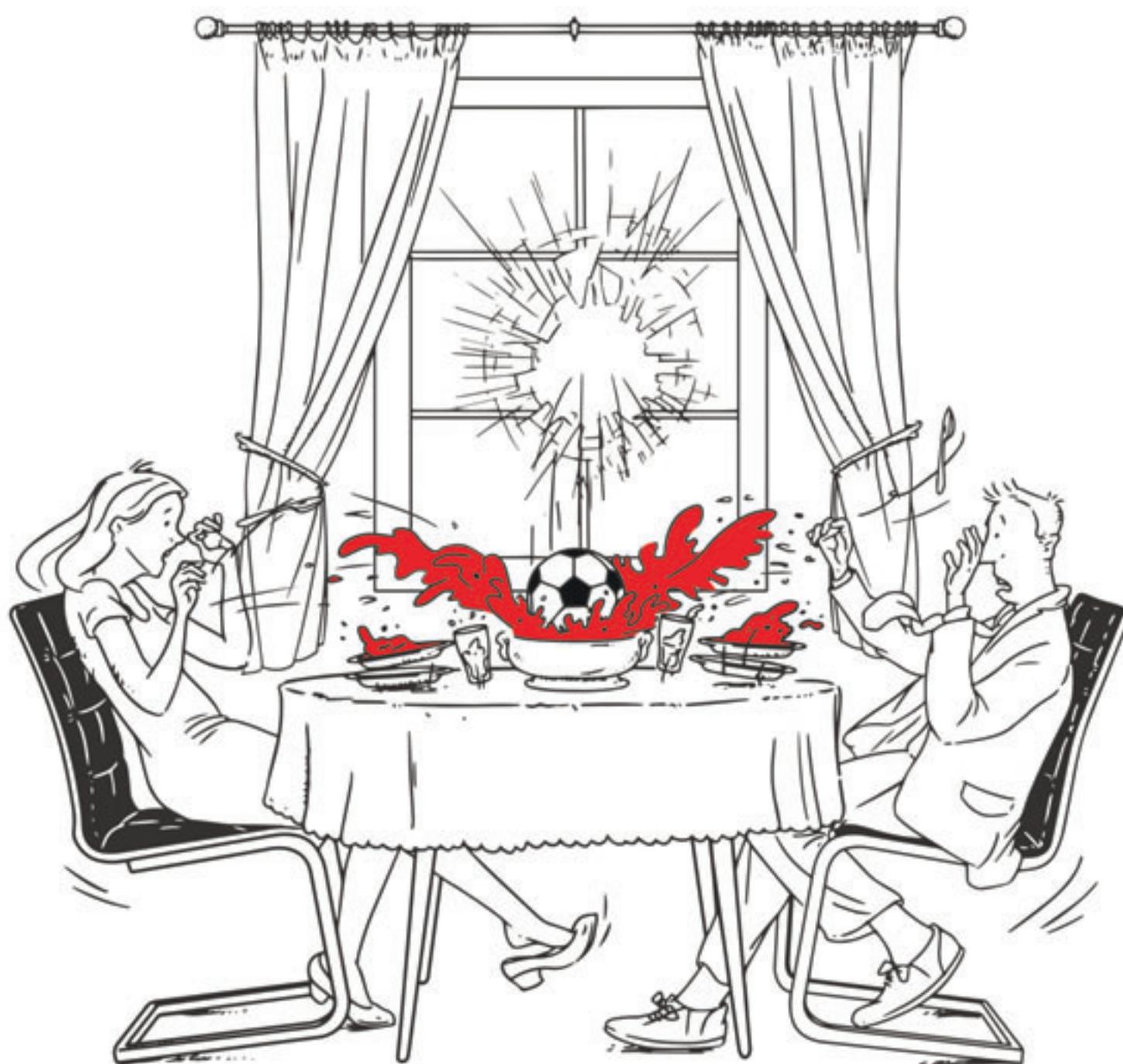
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# Wild at heart

Nudists left out in cold



**FAMILY FRIENDLY: No nudists allowed at Villaricos.**

NUDISTS will still be able to bathe in small coves around Cuevas del Almanzora. The municipality's new beach ordinance is now in force and was softened slightly to accommodate naturist bathers.

Nudism is banned on larger public beaches considered 'urban' by the council. These include Palomares, Villaricos, El Calon, Cala Panizo, and Pozo del Esparto.

The first draft of the ordi-

nance proposed an outright ban on nudist bathing outside of specially designated areas, including Quitapellejos on Vera beach.

"Nudism does not bother us but we have an obligation to regulate it on urban beaches used by families," said Cuevas mayor Antonio Fernandez. "People can still practice naturism in small coves."

Fines of between €100 and €750 are in place to punish

skinny dippers and nudists who go naked in prohibited areas. The ordinance covers the entire coastline of Cuevas del Almanzora, suggesting that the council is reserving the power of discretion over who it fines.

Barbecues, musical instruments and speakers are forbidden if they disturb other beach users. Pets are banned outside of specially designated areas.



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**FIRE FLY:**  
Suspect torched van used in Roquetas robbery.



# Torching the evidence

A SUSPECTED robber and arsonist was arrested by the Guardia Civil in Roquetas de Mar. The local man, aged 36, is accused of the attempted robbery of a local shop, then burning the getaway van used in the crime.

Police were called to the scene of the attempted robbery in the centre of Roquetas. Witnesses described two men trying to smash their way into a shop before giving up and driving away in a van. They were able to describe the vehicle and provide a licence plate number.

Hours later police were again called, this time to the site of a burning van in a Roquetas side street.

The blaze threatened to spread to nearby bins and houses.

Once the fire was extinguished, police realised the van matched the description of the one they were already looking for. Using the police database they established that it had been reported stolen in Belgium and given fake Spanish plates.

Witness descriptions of the man who set the fire matched one of the men suspected of the robbery attempt.

Following leads the Guardia Civil has now tracked him down and charged him with arson, attempted robbery and forging licence plates. They are still hunting for the other robbery suspect.

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Know your budget and don't be pushed into a purchase

# Belt up and don't get fined!

SPAIN'S new roadside cameras that automatically monitor the use of driver seat belts have started issuing €200 fines.

The first 50 cameras have come into full operation and eventually 227 will be rolled out.

The scheme has been trialled over the last two months with 331 drivers receiving an informative letter.

From now on if drivers are caught not wearing a seat belt they will be hit in the pocket with a fine notification in the post.

The Dirección General de Tráfico (DGT) say that the images captured by the cameras are subject to a 'strict quality control.'

They are sent every day to the Automated Complaints Treatment Centre, where software designed specifically for the purpose will review the photographs.

The software will discard photographs in which it detects that the driver is using a seat belt. The remaining images are then manually re-



**DRIVERS: Don't forget to belt up.**

viewed.

If an offence is registered the image is sent to the corresponding Provincial Traffic Headquarters, where it is manually checked again.

The owner of the vehicle will then receive a request in the post to identify the driver that appears in the photographs.

If a passenger appears in the photographs, their face is pixelated, so that they are not identified.

Once the driver has been identified the fine of €200 is issued and three points deducted from their licence.

If the vehicle owner does not name the person driving a penalty fine will be issued for not identifying the driver.

Sixty per cent of the cameras are located on roads with the highest accident rate and the remaining 40 per cent of cameras are located on the busiest roads.

SPANISH Police have arrested three Britons for their alleged involvement in one of the country's largest ever cocaine busts. The trio were held after officers seized 1.2 tonnes of the drug while carrying out raids near Almuñecar, Granada and in the Basque province of Guipuzcoa.

Two Spaniards were also detained during the operation.

A police official revealed that the men were members of an international drug trafficking organisation which smuggled drugs into northern Spain before sending them south and selling smaller amounts to other gangs, including several in the UK.

Lorries registered to a haulage firm were used to transport the narcotics, and a particular British driver raised suspicions, leading investigators to tail him and a car being used as a lead vehicle to tip him off about police patrols.

The spokesman said: "The person driving the lead vehicle, whose job it was to guide the lorry safely, led it to a remote property near

# Busted!

## Trio of Britons held in major coke bust



**DIGGING DEEP: Police man a JCB.**

San Sebastian."

Using secondary routes to avoid busier roads, both vehicles concluded their journey at a warehouse between Almuñecar and Salobrena in the province of Granada.

Police arrested three of the suspects as the driver began to offload his cargo, discovering that inside the boxes there were 483 packets of cocaine with 1,100 grams each in them, making a total of 531

kilos. Detectives then used shovels and a JCB digger to uncover an additional 678 kilos of the drug at an address in Zarautz, Basque Country, where the lorry had stopped on its way south.

A cannabis plantation was also found in an abandoned house on the property.

The official described the drug haul as "one of the largest ever intercepted on Spanish soil."

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# King of the swingers!

## Dad deserts son to visit sex club

A HORNY father has been held after leaving his four-year-old son in the car so he could visit a wife-swapping club.

The 40-year-old, who had allegedly been drinking, was so desperate in his search for a romp that he locked the child inside the vehicle before partying at the erotic nightspot in Dos Hermanas, Sevilla.

But the alarm was raised after Local Police received a call from an irate motorist whose parked car had been blocked in.

And when they arrived at the scene officers found the youngster "crying and screaming because he was cold," a police official said.

A National Police unit brought warm clothes and a search for the missing dad was launched after his identity was confirmed in a call to traffic police.

Having failed to find him in nearby bars and restaurants, he



**SHAMELESS:** The car park where the randy dad left his child.

was eventually tracked down at the sex club, where he had made a payment with his credit card.

He was drunk and spent the night behind bars before being handed a six-month suspended sentence for abandoning a child, while the young boy was returned to his mother.

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# Landmark decision

## Ex-shelter boss jailed for animal abuse



**LAVISH LIFESTYLE:** Carmen Marin (inset) used shelter funds.

By Matt Ford

THE disgraced former president of a Costa del Sol animal shelter is to become the first person ever to be jailed for animal cruelty in Spain.

A Malaga judge has ordered Carmen Marin, who previously ran Torremolinos' municipal cat and dog sanctuary, to enter prison within the next four days.

The landmark decision comes three weeks after the Provincial Court upheld a three years and nine months sentence in the wake of an appeal.

Marin was last year found guilty of slaughtering thousands of animals from 2008-2010, despite preaching a zero sacrifice policy.

In a statement the judge said that Marin injected cats and dogs with euthanasia drugs "without any veterinary control or form of sedation, using inadequate methods and lower doses than

recommended, causing prolonged agony."

This proved lucrative since the shelter received cash from the town council each time it took in a new animal.

Although the majority of the sentence is related to forged documents, it is a historic case since one year of the punishment is for animal cruelty, the first time that someone has been imprisoned for such an offence in Spain.

If Marin fails to present herself to police by Wednesday, a search and capture warrant will be issued in her name.

Her sentence could yet be extended as she and her two daughters remain under investigation by a Torremolinos court for suspected fraud, misappropriation and money laundering.

It is alleged that the trio used money from the shelter to fund a lavish lifestyle including cars and holidays.

# British Ambassador Simon Manley attends Madrid Remembrance Service

THE British Ambassador in Spain, Simon Manley, attended and read a lesson at the Service of Remembrance at St George's Anglican Church in Madrid. The Ambassador, who attends this service every year, was joined by diplomatic colleagues from across the Commonwealth, EU and other countries, as well as serving members of UK armed forces based in Spain, as part of NATO operations or bilaterally. In addition, a number of British consular teams also attended Remembrance Day events across Spain.

Simon Manley said: "Remembrance Day is a special moment for us all to remember those who serve, and have served, to keep us safe and free. I will remem-



**IN ATTENDANCE:** Simon Manley (centre) in Madrid.

ber the members of my own family who served: my father in the Eighth Army in North Africa and Italy, my maternal grandfather with the RAF in Sri Lanka, and my paternal grandfather

with the RFC in France. It's absolutely right, in these turbulent times, to underline that the United Kingdom's commitment to Europe's security remains absolute."

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**GANGSTER:** Sol Dabone holds up one of the patrons at El Cortijo.

# Dabone's persuasive

SOL DABONE, a happy-go-lucky gangster paid a visit to El Cortijo, Bedar recently to help promote the Indalo Players production of The Speakeasy Murder in El Cortijo, Bedar.

It is a murder mystery set in 1920's Chicago. The action takes place on the opening night of the latest Speakeasy bar, The Half Moon Club run by the notorious Big Momma.

The El Cortijo show will be held on Monday November 27. Please try to be there by 7.30pm in time to enjoy your first course as the show will begin promptly at 8pm. The audience is encouraged to participate as the plot unfolds. You can win a prize not only for guessing who committed the murder but

also for best dressed gangster and moll.

If you can't make it to El Cortijo they will also be in the Miraflores Ballroom on Tuesday November 28. Following Miraflores, they will be at La Reva, Vera Playa on Friday December 1 and then Kuki's on Mojacar Playa on Tuesday December 5.

Entry to all venues is €15 including the meal, and tickets are available from the venue.

The Indalo Players are one of the most well-established drama groups in the area so if you are interested in joining then please contact Bill White on 671 810 819 or email [williamwhite9552@aol.com](mailto:williamwhite9552@aol.com) as they are always looking for new members on stage, back stage and front of house.

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**Antas**



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**LV742 199,900€**

**Turre**



Modern 3 bed, 3 bath, end of terrace townhouse of 99m<sup>2</sup>. Great views of the surrounding countryside. A/C & furnished. 2 allocated parking spaces. Community pool.

**LV735 140,000€**

**Mojácar Playa**



3 bed, 2 bath, 1st floor golf apartment of 70 m<sup>2</sup> + 14m<sup>2</sup> terrace. Uninterrupted sea views. Utility terrace. Fly screens & A/C. 2 community pools.

**A1316 125,000€**

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# Fantastic fundraising for local children

THE Lodge of Almeria 74 Mojacar Masons had great pleasure in supporting the local charity ASADIS (which supports seven local special-needs children in

the Los Gallardos area).

A cheque for €500 was handed to Cati Flores Morales, (President of ASADIS) by Victor Childe (Immediate Past Master

of Lodge Almeria 74) on November 9, supported by other officers and members of the lodge.

They also presented an electronic tablet to the charity.

## How to stay safe

THE Guardia Civil and the Red Cross have come together to arrange a talk on 'How to Keep Safe.' They will give advice on keeping safe in the home, in public, on holiday and on the internet, as well as advice on what to do if you find yourselves in trouble.

The event is on Tuesday November 28 at 11.00am in Mojacar Artisan Centre ('Salon de 3rd Edad' room in the semi-basement).

## A festive church fair

THE Anglican churches of Costa Almeria and Costa Calida are holding a Christmas Fair at Levante Bar car park (opposite Price Brown).

There will be many stalls selling bric-a-brac, crafts, raffle, cakes, clothes and much more.

The event will be held on Saturday December 2 from 10am. Entrance is free but this is a fundraising event for upkeep of the churches, which receive no funding from England.

## Get stuck in to reading

MOJACAR Community Library stocks a wide variety of English-language books, as well as fiction and non-fiction books on Spain.

Open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11am to 1pm in the lower floor of the

Municipal Centro de Usos Multiples (formerly the Artisan Centre), near Mojacar Fuente. The yearly contribution is €12 per household. Good quality book donations (including audio) and new volunteers are always welcome.

# Christmas Fayre

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 10am - 4pm



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**DENMARK****Shoot scare**

THREE people have been arrested in Copenhagen after a 22-year-old was killed, and another person was injured, during a shooting on Thursday, with one of those held allegedly connected to an organised crime network.

**Moving forward**

THE Danish Transport Authority has approved a trial run of the first driverless bus service to be operated in the country, which, if successful, could give the futuristic project the green light for the future.

**Singles' sale**

THE Danish electronics retailer 'Elgiganten' has paved the way for China's celebrated holiday 'Singles' Day' to become



**FURRY FRIENDS:** A Danish study found that cats could help prevent children from developing asthma.

equally as popular in Denmark by offering discounts to mark the occasion on Friday.

**Furry friends**

SCIENTISTS from the Copen-

hagen Studies on Asthma in Childhood Research Centre (COPSAC) have concluded that having a cat in the home could help to prevent newborn babies from developing asthma later in life.

**GERMANY****Third gender**

GERMANY must create a third gender category for birth certificates after a court ruling found that forcing those born with characteristics of both genders to choose between registering as either male or female violated anti-discrimination laws.

**Doomsday plan**

A LEAKED German military docu-

ment has revealed the country's concerns about the stability of the EU and has laid out plans in the case of an increase in extremist and terrorist activity.

**Killer nurse**

A GERMAN nurse currently serving time in prison for taking the lives of two people is suspected of

killing over 100 in total, which would make him Germany's deadliest serial killer.

**Lucky escape**

EMERGENCY services were able to rescue a 45-year-old German mountain climber who was trapped for five days after falling into a deep crevice in the Austrian mountains.

**FRANCE****Free ride**

TOWNS in France are choosing to scrap fees on public transport, with 15 towns to date making the move to encourage people to use public transport services instead of cars.

**Airport shocker**

PARIS' Beauvais airport has been named the ninth worst airport in the world by travel site 'Sleeping at Airports,' following the likes of Juba International airport in war-torn Sudan and Port Harcourt International Airport in Nigeria.

**Poor parking**

A LORRY driver in France accidentally parked his vehicle in the entrance to the metro, after allegedly forgetting to put the hand brake on which caused it to roll down the metro steps.

**Meat scrapped**

FRENCH people have been urged by a health watchdog to cut down on the amount of meat and fish they eat in order to improve their health and save money.

**BELGIUM****Smog salute**

KING PHILIPPE and Queen Mathilde of Belgium were greeted on their trip to India by a thick layer of smog as they met with President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi.

**A sour turn**

CARS were burnt and more than 20 police officers were injured when celebrations over Morocco's 2018 World Cup qualification turned violent in Brussels, as many Belgium-based Moroccans hit the streets to celebrate their home team's victory.

**On the loose**

THERE are more than 250 ongoing cases of organised crime in Belgium, according to Home Affairs Minister Jan Jambon, with the number of cannabis-related incidents also on the rise.

**Lagging behind**

BELGIUM is in danger of missing the European Union's target to reduce greenhouse gases by 20 per cent, despite the fact the block as a whole looks set to meet this goal by 2020.

**NETHERLANDS****Paradise lost**

THE Dutch government has agreed to review 4,000 tax deals offered to overseas companies between 2012 and 2016 after the 'Paradise Papers' revealed they gave one company an estimated tax break of almost €145 million.

**Striding ahead**

A NEW study has revealed that Dutch women are more likely to have a university degree than men, as 45 per cent of those aged between 25 and 45, are graduates compared to just 39 per cent of men.

**In cold blood**

AN Iranian political activist, who founded a nationalist pro-independence group for the Khuzestan Province, was shot dead in The Hague and police have detained a suspect who tried to flee the scene.

**Beer-bike ban**

AMSTERDAM has banned 'bierfiet' beer bikes - a bar on wheels popular with stag parties - from streets in the city centre after a petition in 2016 gathered thousands of signatures to get rid of the 'nuisance.'

**NORWAY****Armed forces**

NORWAY's government looks set to bring in armed police at Oslo's Gardemoen Airport for a temporary three-month period as a result of increased global threats to security.

**Firearm fright**

A 'CONFUSED' man in his 20s who allegedly fired a number of shots in the centre of Oslo has been held by police, but no one was injured during the incident and it has not been treated as a terror attack.

**Viking thieves**

TWO people have been arrested on suspicion of stealing up to 400 Viking artefacts from the University Museum of Bergen, and police have already managed to retrieve a number of the stolen objects.

**Tremor terror**

AN earthquake registering 3.8 on the Richter scale was felt in Norway's Bergen region and was the first time an earthquake of this strength had been felt in the region for 10 years.

**SWEDEN****Parent time**

A SURVEY by the Swedish Social Insurance Agency revealed that fathers now receive almost 30 per cent of the childcare benefits allocated to each set of parents, making it one of the world's most generous schemes.

**Topping charts**

SWEDEN has topped the list of the 'Good Country Index' report after coming first in the 'prosperity and equality' and 'health and well-being' categories.

**Theatre drama**

THE Swedish culture minister, Alice Bah Kuhnke, called a meeting of the country's top theatre bosses after 456 stars signed a letter describing experiences of sexual abuse in the industry.

**Lager lovers**

A COUPLE have been forbidden to name their baby boy Pilsner, after the beer, as Sweden's tax agency thought it was 'unsuitable' for a child.

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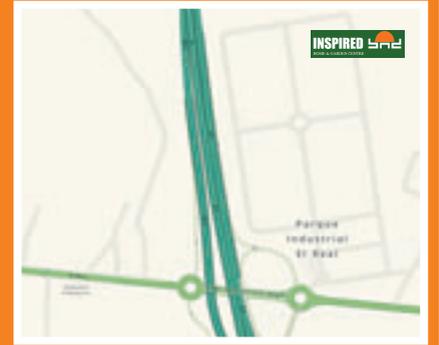
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**Denia 6 Seater Dining Set**  
SALE - WAS 1,699€ **NOW JUST 1,399€**



**Paloma Corner Set**  
SALE - WAS 999€ **NOW JUST 700€**



**Luxury Denia Corner Set**  
SALE - WAS 1,799€ **NOW JUST 1,499€**



**Majorca Conversation Set**  
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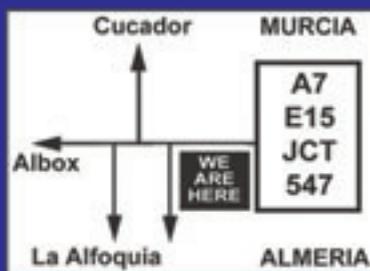
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STILL HERE: Tis but a scratch said rapper poet Gnoyny.

# Rappers war

FAMOUS rapper Vyacheslav Mashnov was attacked by seven people in St Petersburg. They demanded he apologise for his lyrics. Also known as Gnoyny, the rapper has gained fame from his 'battles' with rivals. One battle against a rival called Oxymirrin gained more than 26 million views on YouTube.

## Space travel

FIVE Russians and one German were locked in an artificial spacecraft for 17 days in Moscow. The experiment simulated the time it would take to reach the moon. Scientists will gradually expand the trial period to lengths of up to one year in anticipation of deep space missions.

## Red flag

COMMUNIST leader Gennady Zyuganov will run for president for a fifth time in next year's election. The veteran politician won 17.2 per cent of the vote in 2012. His party has strong support among voters aged under 35. President Putin is expected to win but hasn't officially announced his candidacy.

## Cat rescue

WHEN a cat got stuck up a tree, residents of the Siberian city of Omsk managed to raise enough money online to hire a lorry with a hydraulic arm to rescue the pet. Local firefighters had said it wasn't their problem so locals appealed to the internet for help.

## Retro strip

A RED shirt with white stripes has been criticised for resembling the old Soviet football strip. Russia's national team revealed their new Adidas-designed top as they prepare for the 2018 World Cup on home turf. Stadiums are facing a race against time to be ready for June.

## Star gazers

THE world's biggest planetarium has opened in St Petersburg. There is a museum of space exhibits, a virtual reality room and a dome measuring 37 metres in diameter. It was built on an old gas plant and will hold space-themed workshops and offer guided tours to school groups.

## Holy bikers

FLANKED by Patriarch Kirill, leader of the Russian Orthodox Church, President Putin took stock of a new motorcycle. The IZ motorbike was built by arms company Kalashnikov Concern and has a top speed of 250kph. The company are also producing a limo and sedan for Putin.



ANGELS: President and Patriarch eye new wheels.

Photo by Twitter

## Catalan fear stalls €350m China deal

THE owner of a Chinese business consultancy has put the brakes on a €350 million investment in Spain due to fears over the Catalan political crisis. Veline Ong, owner of the Alicante-based Veline Group, has previously facilitated business deals worth €150 million between Chinese and Spanish firms. But the 37-year-old, speaking in the wake of a trip to Shanghai, said that in China "they are afraid of investing in Spain due to political instability."

# Monarch woe goes on

COLLAPSED British airline Monarch will not be able to sell its take-off and landing spots to other carriers.

The blow comes after the former carrier's administrator lost a legal battle leaving it unable to cash in on assets worth an estimated €67.6 million.

Jet2, Norwegian Air Shuttle, IAG, Wizz Air and easyJet are all rumoured to be competing for the slots at Manchester, Leeds Bradford, Birmingham, Luton and Gatwick airports.

But two judges in London's High Court have ruled that KPMG, Monarch's administrators, do not have

By Matt Ford

rights to the slots. The decision follows an application for a judicial review submitted by KPMG after independent scheduling company Airport Coordination Limited, which manages flight schedules at 39 UK airports, opted not to allocate slots to Monarch for the summer 2018 season.

It represents a major upset for the ill-fated airline's owner, the private equity firm Greybull Capital, which intended to pocket millions by selling the slots, and an appeal is now expected.

KPMG's legal representative, Bankim Thanki QC, said: "Monarch Airline Limited's (MAL) portfolio of slots would represent MAL's most valuable asset.

"MAL would therefore seek to exchange those slots with other air carriers in order to realise value for its creditors." The winding down of UK's fifth-biggest airline in October saw 1,858 people made redundant and the flights of about 860,000 people cancelled, and sparked the country's biggest peacetime repatriation to fly home 110,000 stranded holidaymakers.

## Economy on the upswing

SPAIN is set to meet its latest European Union budget deficit deadline.

The European Commission forecast comes as the country's spending gap - which must fall below 3 per cent of gross domestic product by the end of 2018 - is expected to plummet to 3.1 per cent this year, down from a high of 4.5 per cent in 2016.

### Quote of the Week

No, no, the forecast is for growth of 2.3 per cent for 2018, and this already includes the impact from the Catalan situation." Spain's economy minister Luis de Guindos on the country's economic growth forecast.



Photo by Xiaomi/Twitter

NEW CHAPTER: Wang Xiang in Madrid.

## Xiaomi targets Spanish market

CHINESE smartphone brand Xiaomi has picked Spain as its first market in Europe.

A selection of the firm's flagship products, including the €229 Mi A1 smartphone, are now available alongside scooters, fitness trackers and coffee makers.

The tech giant's senior vice-president Wang Xiang said that the company has embarked on "a new chapter" in its global expansion as he spoke at a launch event in Madrid.

He added: "It's proof we are

very, very serious to be a global company, not only a Chinese company and not only working in developing countries."

Two authorised Xiaomi shops opened in the Spanish capital on Saturday, and sales partners including Carrefour and Media Markt will carry the brand from next Wednesday.

The push into Spain comes after the company pulled out of several overseas markets including Brazil and Indonesia due to regulatory issues and local competition.

### BUSINESS EXTRA

## All aboard

CIVIL ENGINEERING firm Grupo ACS - chaired by Real Madrid president Florentino Perez - is one of seven companies sharing a new €322 million, two-year maintenance contract for Spain's conventional rail network, according to state-owned railway manager ADIF.

## And sold!

MELIA INTERNATIONAL is to add more than 30 new hotels to its 350-strong global portfolio before the end of 2017. It comes after the Mallorca-based chain generated revenue of €1.5 billion up to September, 5 per cent more than in the same period in 2016.

## Sole traders

FRENCH and Norwegian investors are reportedly mulling over an €18-25 million investment to convert the disused Lemoiz nuclear power plant in the Basque Country into a giant fish farm for the production of sole, salmon, trout and prawns.



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## Rotten eggs whip up stink

THE price of eggs is soaring in Spain. A dozen extra-large eggs from caged hens currently costs 20-50 cents more than in 2016.

It comes in the wake of the contamination scandal that hit 24 European nations this summer, leading Spain, which was not affected, to

become one of the main suppliers to other EU countries.

The scare broke out after eggs were found to contain high levels of a toxic insecticide, leading to millions being pulled from supermarket shelves across the continent.

## LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES NOVEMBER 13

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,491.00	6.00	0.40	20,858.44
Associated British Foods	3,076.00	10.00	0.33	24,272.73
Admiral Group	1,843.00	-14.00	-0.75	5,333.57
Ashtead Group	1,910.00	2.00	0.10	9,525.23
Antofagasta	974.25	6.75	0.70	9,538.16
Aviva	493.25	-2.45	-0.49	19,883.55
AstraZeneca	5,002.50	132.50	2.72	61,651.71
BAE Systems	539.75	-16.25	-2.92	17,712.15
Babcock International Gr	781.25	-31.25	-3.85	4,107.97
Barclays	177.65	-1.50	-0.84	30,535.13
British American Tobacco	4,943.25	33.25	0.68	112,616.22
Barratt Developments	619.00	-1.00	-0.16	6,276.69
Berkeley Group Holdings	3,598.00	-15.00	-0.42	4,892.56
British Land Co	590.75	-2.25	-0.38	5,984.44
BHP Billiton	1,437.50	13.50	0.95	30,075.90
Bunzl	2,138.50	-18.50	-0.86	7,245.64
BP	510.55	3.65	0.72	100,431.76
Burberry Group	1,737.00	-9.00	-0.52	7,456.74
BT Group	245.95	-1.80	-0.73	24,571.29
Coca-Cola HBC	2,470.00	-115.00	-4.45	9,448.96
Carnival	4,912.00	48.00	0.99	10,299.89
Centrica	166.45	-0.75	-0.45	9,355.98
Compass Group	1,645.50	10.50	0.64	25,858.08
Croda International	4,197.50	15.50	0.37	5,494.85
CRH	2,703.00	2.00	0.07	22,652.41
ConvaTec Group	190.90	0.50	0.26	3,716.32
DCC	7,317.50	12.50	0.17	6,515.85
Diageo	2,576.25	16.75	0.65	63,998.61
Direct Line Insurance Gr	354.55	-1.15	-0.32	4,890.88
Experian	1,635.50	1.50	0.09	15,132.62
easyJet	1,266.50	-8.50	-0.67	5,064.40
Ferguson	5,315.00	20.00	0.38	13,293.52
Fresnillo	1,316.50	18.50	1.43	9,564.88
G4S	257.20	-1.40	-0.54	4,012.42
GKN	318.75	-1.25	-0.39	5,495.93
Glencore	363.83	1.23	0.34	52,195.33
GlaxoSmithKline	1,327.75	9.75	0.74	64,828.23
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,572.50	-10.50	-0.66	7,508.46
Hammerson	523.75	-0.25	-0.05	4,156.50
HSBC Holdings	735.90	-5.40	-0.73	148,188.50
International Consolidated Airlines	584.75	-12.25	-2.05	12,278.74
InterContinental Hotels Gr	4,288.50	8.50	0.20	8,131.58
3i Group	938.00	-7.50	-0.79	9,198.44
Imperial Brands	3,180.75	-0.75	-0.02	30,384.94
Informa	730.75	-0.25	-0.03	6,023.48
Intertek Group	5,367.50	2.50	0.05	8,658.60
ITV	157.15	0.35	0.22	6,311.84
Johnson Matthey	3,372.00	7.00	0.21	6,512.40
Kingfisher	304.70	-5.10	-1.65	6,719.08
Land Securities Group	938.25	0.75	0.08	6,950.98

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Legal & General Group	264.40	-0.70	-0.26	15,795.16
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	66.06	-0.42	-0.63	47,840.16
London Stock Exchange Gr	3,705.00	-15.00	-0.40	12,898.05
Micro Focus International	2,629.00	10.00	0.38	11,398.86
Mediclinic International	600.50	-3.00	-0.50	4,449.27
Merlin Entertainments	384.15	1.15	0.30	3,890.55
Marks & Spencer Group	316.10	-3.10	-0.97	5,186.17
Mondi	1,800.50	-6.50	-0.36	8,773.96
Morrison Supermarkets	215.55	-0.55	-0.25	5,089.60
National Grid	900.30	5.50	0.61	30,360.64
NMC Health	2,823.50	-94.50	-3.24	5,961.06
Next	4,367.00	-12.00	-0.27	6,406.08
Old Mutual Group	190.40	0.10	0.05	9,386.57
Paddy Power Betfair	8,620.00	60.00	0.70	7,225.50
Prudential	1,856.25	10.75	0.58	47,722.67
Persimmon	2,670.50	-2.50	-0.09	8,249.66
Pearson	697.50	4.50	0.65	5,641.47
Reckitt Benckiser Gr	6,557.00	13.00	0.20	46,042.04
Royal Bank of Scotland Gr	273.70	-1.60	-0.58	32,932.05
Royal Dutch Shell	2,452.25	34.25	1.42	109,883.95
Royal Dutch Shell	2,489.50	32.00	1.30	92,045.34
RELX	1,737.50	17.50	1.02	18,308.93
Rio Tinto	3,723.50	28.50	0.77	50,250.20
Rolls-Royce Group	909.75	-18.25	-1.97	17,080.68
Randgold Resources	6,952.50	47.50	0.69	6,495.76
RSA Insurance Group	608.75	-1.25	-0.20	6,238.73
Rentokil Initial	321.90	1.30	0.41	5,890.49
Sainsbury (J)	230.20	-2.00	-0.86	5,085.54
Schroders	3,433.50	-18.50	-0.54	7,802.29
Sage Group (The)	752.25	3.25	0.43	8,098.46
Segro	548.25	1.75	0.32	5,480.99
Shire	3,552.50	18.00	0.51	32,115.85
Smurfit Kappa Group	2,269.50	4.50	0.20	5,364.56
Sky	917.25	-0.75	-0.08	15,780.58
Standard Life Aberdeen	413.90	-1.70	-0.41	12,373.98
Smiths Group	1,517.50	-0.50	-0.03	6,006.62
Scottish Mortgage Inv Trust	454.70	2.50	0.55	6,307.37
Smith & Nephew	1,349.50	10.50	0.78	11,710.97
SSE	1,352.00	-8.00	-0.59	13,894.25
Standard Chartered	730.90	-3.10	-0.42	24,192.90
St James's Place	1,139.50	-6.50	-0.57	6,063.09
Severn Trent	2,174.50	5.50	0.25	5,124.56
Tesco	176.00	-0.60	-0.34	14,463.73
TUI AG	1,320.50	2.50	0.19	7,737.16
Taylor Wimpey	192.95	0.05	0.03	6,311.66
Unilever	4,287.50	63.50	1.50	52,367.70
United Utilities Gr	839.00	6.00	0.72	5,680.13
Vodafone Group	218.65	1.00	0.46	58,166.11
Worldpay Group	407.60	3.60	0.89	8,080.00
WPP Group	1,303.50	-0.50	-0.04	16,479.73
Whitbread	3,577.00	7.00	0.20	6,548.32

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3M	227.45	-0.41%	-0.94	135,649.75
AMERICAN EXPRESS	93.52	-0.25%	-0.23	81,235.77
APPLE	174.67	-0.69%	-1.21	898,298.71
BOEING CO	260.85	-0.70%	-1.85	155,237.42
CATERPILLAR	136.48	0.84%	1.14	81,202.54
CHEVRON	117.18	-0.05%	-0.06	222,245.74
CISCO SYSTEMS	33.99	-0.18%	-0.06	169,826.83
COCA-COLA	46.54	0.67%	0.31	198,334.49
DOWDUPONT	69.97	-0.37%	-0.26	163,846.12
EXXON MOBIL	82.94	-1.23%	-1.03	351,357.36
GENERAL ELECTRIC	20.49	2.50%	0.5	178,428.15
GOLDMAN SACHS	240.15	-0.27%	-0.64	90,811.26
HOME DEPOT	164.11	0.51%	0.84	193,597.21
IBM	149.16	-0.76%	-1.14	138,327.12
INTEL CORP	45.58	-1.56%	-0.72	213,828.00
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	97.51	-0.12%	-0.12	339,582.04
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	139.56	-0.56%	-0.79	374,742.68
MC DONALD'S CORP	165.59	-0.84%	-1.41	131,487.79
MERCK AND CO. NEW	55.48	-1.30%	-0.73	151,056.40
MICROSOFT	83.87	-0.26%	-0.22	644,804.91
NIKE	56.09	-0.07%	-0.04	73,011.92
PFIZER	35.18	-0.06%	-0.02	208,305.90
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	88.16	0.43%	0.38	224,046.38
TRAVELERS CIES	135.54	0.75%	1.01	37,036.53
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	118.11	-0.22%	-0.26	94,390.96
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	211.07	-0.23%	-0.49	204,715.50
VERIZON COMMS	44.88	-0.42%	-0.19	183,146.50
VISA	111.88	-0.23%	-0.26	203,470.56
WAL-MART STORES	90.92	0.69%	0.62	272,253.56
WALT DISNEY CO	104.78	2.05%	2.1	162,829.52

M - MILLION DOLLARS

## NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES NOVEMBER 13

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
Xunlei Limited	\$ 13.09	3.70 ▲ 39.40%
Omeros Corporation	\$ 18.17	4.08 ▲ 28.96%
Avid Technology, Inc.	\$ 5.10	1.06 ▲ 26.24%
Restoration Robotics, Inc.	\$ 7.19	1.43 ▲ 24.83%
Ovid Therapeutics Inc.	\$ 9.03	1.59 ▲ 21.37%
Teligent, Inc.	\$ 3.74	0.62 ▲ 19.87%
Immunomedics, Inc.	\$ 12.40	1.96 ▲ 18.77%
China TechFaith Wireless Comm. Tec. Ltd.	\$ 2.68	0.41 ▲ 18.06%
Bravo Brio Restaurant Group, Inc.	\$ 2.15	0.30 ▲ 16.22%
Fossil Group, Inc.	\$ 6.60	0.92 ▲ 16.20%
Roku, Inc.	\$ 33.25	4.06 ▲ 13.91%
<b>Most Declined</b>		
Kona Grill, Inc.	\$ 2.05	0.60 ▼ 22.64%
Puma Biotechnology Inc	\$ 103	24.20 ▼ 19.03%
FTD Companies, Inc.	\$ 8.09	1.71 ▼ 17.45%
Frontier Communications Corporation	\$ 6.77	1.19 ▼ 14.95%
The Trade Desk, Inc.	\$ 50.995	8.285 ▼ 13.98%
Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 2.41	0.39 ▼ 13.93%
Veritone, Inc.	\$ 22.07	3.53 ▼ 13.79%
Frontier Communications Corporation	\$ 12.50	1.85 ▼ 12.89%
PetIQ, Inc.	\$ 19.70	2.79 ▼ 12.41%
Yintech Investment Holdings Limited	\$ 11.43	1.50 ▼ 11.60%
Clearfield, Inc.	\$ 12.40	1.40 ▼ 10.14%

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### Distributing Funds

EUR Fixed Income B  
 Sterling Fixed Income B

DEALING PRICE

€0.9419 ..... €0.0012  
 €0.9307 ..... €0.0044

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

€0.9803.....-€0.0007  
 €0.9540.....-€0.0009  
 £1.1659..... £0.0071  
 €1.0856..... €0.0062  
 £1.3356..... £0.0120  
 €1.2316..... €0.0105  
 £1.4935..... £0.0158  
 €1.3842..... €0.0140

Price Movement

Remaining Elite Fund prices available on request

Prices correct as at 08/11/2017



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

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### Paul

Currencies Direct customer since 2013, Calpe, Spain

Watch his story at [currenciesdirect.com/Paul](http://currenciesdirect.com/Paul)



# Teens now appy shoppers

## MOBILE PAYMENTS FOR U18S ROLLED OUT

SPANISH teens are addicted to mobile phones.

A number of studies have shown that young Spaniards clock up more screen time on their devices than in any other European nation.

And the tech savvy teens now have a new payment method after German electronic payment specialist Wirecard teamed up with mobile network operator Orange.

The partnership sees the range of functionalities available for Orange's mobile wallet app Orange Cash upgraded, tapping into the mobile payment market for 12 to 18-year-olds under their parents' supervision.

After the successful launch of Orange Cash Jeune in France, the app feature has now been launched in Spain.

It comes despite widespread fears and expert claims that excessive mobile phone use can have an adverse effect on childrens' mental health.

But the total transaction volume of mobile payments in Spain is set to triple by 2021, according to online statistics portal Statista.

With Orange Cash Joven, Wirecard and Orange believe they have developed a solution that they claim addresses the needs of the younger generation.

To create an account, parents or legal guardians sign up over the web interface of Orange Cash and install the app on their childrens' smartphones. Via the web interface, adults can control the sums of money, which can be charged on the account and get a real-time overview of the expenses.

All financial administration is managed through the parents' Or-



**MONEY TALKS:**  
Teens are now able to pay using their smart phone.

ange Cash account.

Philippe Laranjeiro, Head of Sales Telecommunication at Wirecard said: "Today, nine out of 10 young people in Spain use a mobile device to connect to the internet on the go.

"No wonder teenagers would rather use their smartphones to shop in stores than use cash.

## The future of farming?

SPANISH farmers are selling their expertise to the Middle East.

A group of businesses from the agricultural sector aims to help ensure profitable, year-round production of fruit and vegetables in Qatar.

Dubbed AgroQatar, the alliance was "created especially to facilitate the development of agribusiness in the country," according to Ignacio Escobar, Spanish ambassador to the gulf nation.

"The Spanish solution is the most advanced, efficient and adapted integrated system able to produce throughout the year a variety of crops with the highest quality and in the most sustainable and cost-efficient way in Qatar," he added.

His comments came at a matchmaking event in the Qatari capital Doha, with experts from Almeria, famed for its intensive soil-free farming, flown over to liaise with local investors.

# 'CORRUPTION IN ITS PUREST FORM'

## €120m enquiry returns

THE head of an in-depth probe into Spanish political finances has accused Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's party of "corruption in its purest form."

Manuel Morocho, chief inspector of Spain's Unit of Economic and Financial Crimes (UDEF), said that the national leader's centre-right Popular Party (PP) behaved as a "criminal organisation" after it accepted slush money from illegal donations.

The investigator also claimed that there exists "circumstantial evidence" linking Rajoy himself to the alleged offences.

His comments follow Rajoy becoming the first serving Prime Minister to testify as a witness in a criminal trial since Spain became a democracy in 1978.

The PP allegedly used a secret accounting system in parallel to its official one to channel bribe money into party coffers through the so-called 'Box B' managed by ex-treasurer Luis Barcenás, who stood down as the scandal erupted in 2009.



**PP PROBE:** Mariano Rajoy and (inset) UDEF's Manuel Morocho.

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Barcenás has since admitted that he used to hand envelopes stuffed with undeclared cash to party members.

Addressing a Spanish Congressional commission, Mr Morocho said: "An organisation that has operated for a long time, which has penetrated to very deep levels in public administrations until it has become

parasitic and absorbed the capacity of a political leader to allocate and manage public funds...

"That is the concept of corruption in its purest form."

He added that circumstantial evidence links Rajoy, who would have benefited "indirectly" and former Spanish ambassador to the UK, Federico Trillo, to the payments.

But the Prime Minister is not considered a suspect in the case despite him being included in Barcenás' notes.

The inquiry into the PP's finances, known as the Gürtel case, has been ongoing since 2007, although it was not until October 2016 that most suspects began to appear on trial.

Mr Morocho also added that the UDEF had been placed under pressure to terminate their investigation, a move which led opposition party Podemos to slam the PP's efforts to 'intimidate' the independent body.

Analysts have suggested that the case resulted in the loss of at least €120,000,000 in public finances.

## Green light for €1bn Spanish investment

SPANISH energy company CEPSA is to invest more than €1 billion in 2018.

The announcement from chief executive Pedro Miro comes as the firm looks to create new opportunities for growth in Asia, Latin America and other developing markets.

Miro confirmed the budget was rubber-stamped in Abu Dhabi by sole shareholder Mubadala Development Company, an investment vehicle of the Emirate's government which counts Manchester City FC owner Sheikh Mansour among its directors.

"In Europe, it is difficult to build a new factory because there is no more consumption, but to keep the existing ones, we invest €85 million per year per refinery," the official said.

# IBERDROLA COMMITS TO RENEWABLES Gone with the wind!

SPAIN'S electricity, gas and services giant, Iberdrola, is to invest in new wind farms after announcing a €2.41 billion net profit for the third quarter of 2017.

The boost - 18.4 per cent up on the same period last year - comes after poor results in Spain were offset by a positive performance by the firm's international subsidiaries.

A countrywide drought meant the first nine months of the year saw low hydroelectric power production - some 57.2 per cent below 2016 levels.

And Spain's renewables output was also affected by low wind resources, although results improved elsewhere, with the company growing 34.7 per cent in the UK. Europe's second-biggest power company by market value is also the owner of Scottish Power.

But the UK core profit fell 77 per cent to €53 million in the nine months to September, partly due to the depreciation of the pound, lower output following the closure of a coal-fired power



**CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION: Urged by Iberdrola chairman Ignacio Galan (inset).**

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station in Scotland, an increase in regulatory costs, weaker gas sales and narrowing profit margins.

In the first three quarters of 2017, Iberdrola carried out investments worth €3.99 billion, up by 31.5 per cent from the same period last year.

A total of 91 per cent of investments were allocated to networks, renewable energy and long-term contracted energy generation.

The group has 7,400 megawatts (MW) of new infrastructure under construction, of which 2,700 MW are ex-

pected to be operational by the end of 2018.

Since announcing the results, Iberdrola's Chairman Ignacio Galan has called on governments and corporations from all sectors of the economy and other actors across the world to take firm action on combating climate change.

Speaking at the COP23 summit in Bonn he said: "Time for talking has passed, it's time for action now!"

Citing Iberdrola's decision to close their remaining coal power plants in Spain he added: "Iberdrola has set very strong targets to reduce carbon emissions, meaning we will reduce our carbon intensity by 50 per cent in 2030.

"In this sense, we have made the tough decision to close all of our fuel oil and coal-fired power plants around the world (almost 7,500 MW), and focus on renewable technologies.

"Iberdrola will continue to do our part, but we need other industries and companies to follow our lead."

## Inequality on the rise says report

THE planet's richest 1 per cent owns more than half the world's wealth.

Swiss financial services company Credit Suisse's annual global wealth report says that the world's most moneyed individuals have seen their share of the globe's wealth increase from 42.5 per cent in 2008 to 50.1 per cent in 2017.

And their combined fortune is equivalent to €118 trillion.

"The share of the top 1 per cent has been on an upward path ever since [the crisis], passing the 2000 level in 2013 and achieving new peaks every year thereafter," the report said.

The increase has seen 2.3 million new dollar millionaires in the last year, with the global total now standing at 36 million of which 428,000 are based in Spain, a rise of 58,000 on 2016.

The world's 3.5 billion poorest adults account for just 2.7 per cent of its riches.

# Losing mental capacity whilst living abroad

**by Stone King**

Charlotte Macdonald

Contact me at [international@stoneking.co.uk](mailto: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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# Politically correct or a step too far for some

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT  
OTHERS THINK IT



IF ever there was a case for leaving the EU then the recent decision to award a Somali criminal nearly £80,000 for wrongful imprisonment, has to be it. Abdulrahman Mohammed had amassed 30 convictions while living in the UK and had been imprisoned more than a dozen times over 15 years.

The government were trying to deport him back to east Africa and detained him for a total of 445 days over three periods between 2012 and 2016. A judge at the High Court ruled that, despite being described as a prolific and violent offender, there was some evidence he could be tortured if he returned to Somalia (oh dear!) and it was unlikely he would be sent back. Therefore, the judge concluded he had been falsely imprisoned and was entitled to 'justice in a civilised society.'

The 39-year-old had initially been refused asylum on entering Britain. He had been granted leave to remain but only until August 2000. In 2008 (it took eight years!) the Home Secretary made a deportation order against him. But lawyers took his case (yes, you've guessed it) to the European Court of Human



**A STEP TOO FAR? Drag queens set to teach British schoolchildren.**

Rights and the UK was ordered not to remove him from the country 'until further notice'.

Because he could not legally be deported, the judge decided the three periods of confinement had been 'improper detention' and were therefore illegal and awarded him £78,500 in compensation! Confused? Don't be.

Basically, some violent criminal illegal im-

migrant thug, has just been given nearly 80K of UK taxpayers' money. You really couldn't make it up. The sooner we say goodbye to the unbelievable and often downright lunacy of these arrogant EU idiots the better for us all.

I know it'll get a few backs up, but I think that allowing drag queens to sing and recite nursery rhymes to classes of two-year-old kids, is most definitely a step too far. As far

as I'm concerned nothing can be gained from this exercise, except more confusion and insecurity among our youngsters, serving no more purpose than teaching these little tots that, instead of a special treat at Christmas, Panto is now a classroom event.

It really is a time to call a halt to all this gender bender extremism; which in the main emanates from a minority of transsexuals, who won't be happy until all the toilet seats are glued down and 'boys and girls' a distant memory. Far from creating more acceptance of transgenderism, all this overkill is actually having a reverse effect.

For heavens, and sanities sake, these extremists must be reined in, before the whole, often commendable cause, is lost in a mire of mistrust and messy misinterpretation.

Got a laugh for you now. On the subject of name combinations, I was delighted to hear Tim Rice is set to marry a Miss Garlick. Apparently Mr Curtain is also about to tie the knot with a young lady called Annette and there actually appears to exist a Miss Flay whose first name is Sue! Can you do any better? I'm all ears. Only genuine combinations need apply!

*Keep the faith*

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

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THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event						
16 NOVEMBER	6:15pm	Pointless	6:15pm	Street Auction	7:00pm	ITV News London	5:00pm	Coast v Country	3:15pm	NCIS	7:00am	Cricket
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	4:15pm	Angels and Ornaments	12:15pm	Live European Tour Golf
	7:30pm	BBC London News	7:30pm	Strictly - It Takes Two	8:00pm	Emmerdale	6:30pm	Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	6:00pm	5 News at 5	2:00pm	Live ATP Finals: London
	8:00pm	The One Show	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	8:30pm	Acid Attacks: How Scared Should We Be? Tonight	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	5:00pm	SKY Sports News
	8:30pm	EastEnders	9:00pm	MasterChef: The Professionals	9:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	6:00pm	SKY Sports News
	9:00pm	Room 101	10:00pm	Exodus: Our Journey Continues	9:30pm	Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	UK's Strongest Man 2017	7:00pm	SKY Sports News
	9:30pm	EastEnders	11:00pm	Match of the Day	10:00pm	Serial Killer with Piers Morgan	9:00pm	Ugly House to Lovely House with George Clarke	9:00pm	Bargain Loving Brits in Blackpool	8:00pm	Live Grand Slam of Darts
	10:00pm	Love, Lies and Records	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm	Trump: An American Dream	10:00pm	The King's Cross Fire: Six Hours That Shocked Britain	12:00am	SKY Sports News
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	12:15am	Ireland with Simon Reeve	11:00pm	ITV News London	11:00pm	British Workers Wanted			1:00am	EFL Matters
	11:30pm	BBC London News			11:30pm						1:30am	Live NFL: Tennessee @ Pittsburgh
	11:45pm	Question Time										
	FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER	6:15pm	Pointless	6:15pm	Street Auction	6:00pm	The Chase	5:00pm	Coast v Country	3:15pm	NCIS	7:00am
7:00pm		BBC News at Six	7:00pm	Strictly - It Takes Two	7:00pm	ITV News London	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	4:10pm	Crazy for Christmas	12:15pm	Live European Tour Golf
7:30pm		BBC London News	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	6:30pm	Steph and Dom's One Star to Five Star	6:00pm	5 News at 5	2:00pm	Live ATP Finals: London
8:00pm		The One Show	9:00pm	Mastermind	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:00pm	The Simpsons	6:30pm	Neighbours	5:00pm	Csa T20 Challenge
8:30pm		Children in Need 2017	9:30pm	Only Connect	8:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:00pm	Home and Away	8:30pm	Football
11:00pm		BBC News at Ten	10:00pm	Extreme Wives with Kate Humble	9:00pm	Australian Wilderness with Ray Mears	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	11:00pm	The Debate - Live
11:25pm		BBC London News	11:00pm	Weakest Link Celebrity Special for Children in Need	9:30pm	Coronation Street	8:30pm	Unreported World	8:00pm	The Gadget Show	12:00am	SKY Sports News
		<i>The latest news, sport and weather from London.</i>	11:40pm	Newsnight	10:00pm	Gone to Pot	9:00pm	Food Unwrapped	9:00pm	The World's Greatest Bridges	1:00am	SKY Sports News
11:40pm		Children in Need 2017	12:15am	Snowfall	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm	Gogglebox	10:00pm	Eight Days That Made Rome	2:00am	SKY Sports News
1:30am		DIY SOS			11:30pm	ITV News London	11:00pm	The Last Leg	11:00pm	Bog Bodies: Secrets Revealed	3:00am	SKY Sports News
									12:05am	Hitler's Death	5:00am	Cricket
SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER		3:00pm	Rugby Union	1:00pm	Rick Stein's Long Weekends	6:00pm	The Cruise	3:00pm	Come Dine with Me	4:05pm	A Belle for Christmas	7:00am
	5:30pm	Final Score	2:00pm	Italy Unpacked	6:30pm	Paul O'Grady: For The Love of Dogs	3:30pm	A Place in the Sun	5:05pm	5 News	11:00am	Soccer A.M.
	6:10pm	Len Goodman's Partners in Rhyme	3:00pm	Tennis	7:00pm	Regional News and Weather	4:30pm	A Place in the Sun	5:10pm	A Belle for Christmas	12:30pm	Live Premier League
	6:40pm	BBC News	5:30pm	Mastermind	7:05pm	ITV News	5:30pm	Best Laid Plans	6:00pm	Christmas in Homestead	1:30pm	Football
	6:50pm	BBC London News	6:00pm	Rugby Union	7:15pm	Catchphrase	6:35pm	Grand Designs	7:00pm	5 News	3:55pm	Live Rugby Union
	7:00pm	Pointless	8:30pm	Dad's Army	7:50pm	You've Been Framed!	7:30pm	Channel 4 News	7:05pm	Christmas in Homestead	6:15pm	Rugby Union
	7:45pm	Strictly Come Dancing	10:00pm	My Country	8:15pm	Ninja Warrior UK	8:00pm	Volatile Earth	8:00pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	8:40pm	Football
	9:10pm	Michael McIntyre's Big Show	10:55pm	QI XL	9:10pm	Pick of the Day	9:00pm	First Humans: The Cave	9:55pm	5 News Weekend	10:45pm	Live Grand Slam of Darts
	10:10pm	Casualty	11:40pm	David Gilmour	10:40pm	The Jonathan Ross Show	10:00pm	Lucy	10:00pm	Football on 5	12:00am	SKY Sports News
	11:00pm	BBC News	12:40am	Spike Island	11:40pm	ITV News	11:45pm	R.I.P.D.	11:25pm	NCIS: New Orleans	1:00am	SKY Sports News
SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER	3:30pm	Escape to the Country	3:00pm	Rugby League World Cup Quarter-Final Highlights	3:35pm	Midsomer Murders	2:00pm	The Simpsons	6:10pm	5 News	7:00am	Cricket
	4:00pm	Songs of Praise	4:30pm	Wild Brazil	5:30pm	Elton John: The Nation's Favourite Song	2:30pm	The Simpsons	6:15pm	Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse	8:30am	Live European Tour Golf
	4:35pm	Children in Need	5:30pm	Coast	7:05pm	Regional News and Weather	3:00pm	The Simpsons	8:00pm	Christmas Makes You Laugh	1:30pm	Football
	5:50pm	Blue Planet II	6:00pm	Flog It!	7:15pm	ITV News	3:30pm	The Simpsons	8:00pm	Out Loud	2:00pm	Football
	6:50pm	BBC News	7:00pm	Tennis	7:30pm	The Chase Celebrity Special	4:00pm	Mr. Popper's Penguins	9:00pm	Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights	4:30pm	Live Nissan Super Sunday
	7:05pm	BBC London News	10:00pm	Britain's Cycling Superheroes: The Price of Success?	8:30pm	The X Factor	5:50pm	Channel 4 News	9:55pm	5 News Weekend	7:30pm	Live Grand Slam of Darts
	7:15pm	Countryfile	11:00pm	Snowfall	10:00pm	Pick of the Day	6:20pm	Men in Black II	10:00pm	Happy 90th: Ken Dodd in His Own Words	10:00pm	Live NFL: Sunday Game
	8:15pm	Strictly Come Dancing	11:40pm	Mock the Week	11:45pm	ITV News	8:00pm	Messages Home: Lost Films of the British Army	10:00pm	Another Audience with Ken Dodd	2:00am	Live NFL: Philadelphia @ Dallas
	9:00pm	Blue Planet II	12:10am	The Lighthouse 1801.	12:05am	Peston on Sunday	9:00pm	Guy Martin's WWI Tank			5:30am	Cricket
	10:00pm	Howards End					11:00pm	Gogglebox				
	11:00pm	BBC News										
	MONDAY 20 NOVEMBER	3:15pm	Armchair Detectives	7:00pm	Eggheads	6:00pm	The Chase	3:10pm	Countdown	3:20pm	NCIS: New Orleans	7:00am
4:00pm		Escape to the Country	7:30pm	Strictly - It Takes Two	7:00pm	Regional News and Weather	4:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	4:15pm	Nanny for Christmas	12:15pm	My Icon
4:45pm		Royal Recipes	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	4:30pm	Emmerdale	6:00pm	5 News at 5	12:30pm	Sky Sports Daily
5:30pm		Flog It!	9:00pm	University Challenge	8:00pm	Emmerdale	5:00pm	Coast v Country	6:30pm	Neighbours	1:00pm	SKY Sports News
6:15pm		Pointless	9:30pm	Nigella: At My Table	8:30pm	Coronation Street	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	7:00pm	Home and Away	7:00pm	SKY Sports News
7:00pm		BBC News at Six	10:00pm	Labour - The Summer that Changed Everything	9:00pm	Pick of the Day The Harbour.	6:30pm	Come Dine with Me	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	8:00pm	Football
7:30pm		BBC London News	11:00pm	Insert Name Here	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:00pm	The Simpsons	8:00pm	FIA World Rally Championship Highlights - Australia	12:00am	SKY Sports News
8:00pm		The One Show	11:30pm	Newsnight	10:00pm	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	9:00pm	Sinkholes	1:00am	SKY Sports News
8:30pm		Fake Britain	12:15am	Exodus: Our Journey Continues	11:30pm	ITV News	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	10:00pm	Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railway Journeys	2:00am	My Icon
9:00pm		EastEnders			12:00am	Regional News and Weather	9:00pm	Dispatches			2:15am	Live NFL: Atlanta @ Seattle
9:30pm		Would I Lie to You?					9:30pm	Tricks of the Restaurant Trade				
TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER	6:15pm	Pointless	6:15pm	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	6:00pm	The Chase	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	3:15pm	NCIS: New Orleans	12:00pm	Sky Sports Daily
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:00pm	Regional News and Weather	6:30pm	Come Dine with Me	4:15pm	Dear Secret Santa	12:30pm	Info not Available
	7:30pm	BBC London News	7:30pm	Strictly - It Takes Two	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:00pm	Hollyoaks	6:00pm	5 News at 5	1:00pm	SKY Sports News
	8:00pm	The One Show	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	6:30pm	Neighbours	2:00pm	SKY Sports News
	8:30pm	EastEnders	9:00pm	MasterChef: The Professionals	8:30pm	Save Money: Good Food	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	7:00pm	Home and Away	3:00pm	SKY Sports News
	9:00pm	Holby City	10:00pm	Rick Stein's Road to Mexico	9:00pm	Pick of the Day	9:00pm	The Secret Life of 5 Year Olds	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	7:00pm	SKY Sports News
	10:00pm	The A Word	11:00pm	Motherland	10:00pm	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	10:00pm	Grand Designs	8:00pm	Yorkshire: A Year in the Wild	8:00pm	Soccer Special Pre-Match
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	11:00pm	The Truth About Muslim Marriage	9:00pm	Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild	8:30pm	Rugby Union
	11:30pm	BBC London News	12:15am	NFL	11:35pm	Regional News and Weather	12:05am	Walter Presents: Mr Avila	10:00pm		11:00pm	The Debate - Live
	11:45pm	Drugsland			11:45pm						12:00am	SKY Sports News
	12:45am	Life and Death Row										
	WEDNESDAY 22 NOVEMBER	6:15pm	Pointless	6:15pm	Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is	6:00pm	The Chase	6:00pm	Four in a Bed	3:15pm	NCIS	9:30am
7:00pm		BBC News at Six	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:00pm	Regional News and Weather	6:30pm	Come Dine with Me	4:15pm	A Snow Globe Christmas	10:00am	Good Morning Sports Fans
7:30pm		BBC London News	7:30pm	Strictly - It Takes Two	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:00pm	The Simpsons	6:00pm	5 News at 5	11:00am	Premier League Daily
8:00pm		The One Show	8:00pm	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	6:30pm	Neighbours	12:00pm	Sky Sports Daily
9:00pm		Mary Berry's Country House Secrets	9:00pm	MasterChef: The Professionals	8:30pm	Coronation Street	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	7:00pm	Home and Away	1:00pm	SKY Sports News
		<i>The Apprentice</i>	10:00pm	Peaky Blinders	9:00pm	Pick of the Day	9:00pm	The Secret Life of the Zoo	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	12:00pm	SKY Sports News
10:00pm		The Apprentice	11:00pm	The Apprentice: You're Fired!	9:30pm	Coronation Street	10:00pm	Violent Men: Behind Bars	8:00pm	All New Traffic Cops	4:00pm	SKY Sports News
11:00pm		BBC News at Ten	11:00pm	Newsnight	10:00pm	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!	11:00pm	Man Down	9:00pm	GPs: Behind Closed Doors	5:00pm	Csa T20 Challenge
11:30pm		BBC London News	12:15am	Britain's Cycling Superheroes	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	11:30pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	10:00pm	Raped: My Story	8:30pm	Football
11:45pm		A Question of Sport			11:30pm	Regional News and Weather	12:35am	999: What's Your Emergency?	11:30pm	The Debate	11:00pm	The Debate - Live
12:15am		Junior Doctors							12:30am	Extraordinary People	12:00am	SKY Sports News
											1:00am	SKY Sports News

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



**TV Couch Critic**

# Ramsay serves up dollop of coke surprises in loo

WITH the scale of cocaine use absolutely staggering in the UK, the new documentary series *Gordon Ramsay on Cocaine* (ITV 1, Thursdays) provided fascinating, if at times very disturbing viewing.

His first out-of-the-kitchen drugs task was to check the toilets of his own restaurants. Surprise, surprise, evidence of cocaine positive in every one, not only the gents and ladies loos but more worrying to him, further drug proof when the staff toilets also turned the wipes he was using blue, signifying Coke use.

Caution... for Ramsay also turned the air blue with his characteristic strong language.

It seems Albanian crime gangs - ever willing to use extreme violence - allegedly control London's cocaine trade, with the UK topping the European league table for use of the white powder!

Ramsay then travelled to Colombia, the main source for cocaine cultivation, and discovered that there are a million people involved in its growth and distribution.



**RAMSAY: A drugs insight.**

My own personal note to cocaine users is that it is manufactured using petroleum, acids and alkaline, so rather than me.

What would Ena Sharples (young readers Google her) make of her beloved *Coronation Street* (ITV weekdays) at present? The chances are she would get her hairnet in a twist at the goings on.

Where did Phelan come from?

How come he's found his long lost daughter? How did he acquire the house which he uses for his captives?

Will Ken Barlow turn out to be his proper dad? Will Aliens be hiding in Roy Cropper's deep fat fryer? Will Schmeichel come back as a poodle? Stay tuned folks as it's turning that unbelievable!

*Blue Planet 2* (BBC 1 Sundays) blasted on to our screens in a wave



**SHARPLES: What would she feel?**

of anticipation and hype that didn't disappoint one bit.

Four years in the making, the filming, expert knowledge and professionalism of Sir David Attenborough, the master of all things in nature and the planet's best friend, were extraordinary.

Another blockbuster triumph from the BBC. *A Rhapsody in Blue* that George Gershwin would have been proud of and a superb must see.

For something totally different that does not tax the brain, try *Pawn Stars* shown on various channels, and centred around one family and a friend of the son, Chumley, working in a Las Vegas pawn shop.

Amazing items arrive through the door, some original worth thousands and some fakes. However, the banter between granddad, father, son and the not-so-bright Chumley make it a pleasant half hour.

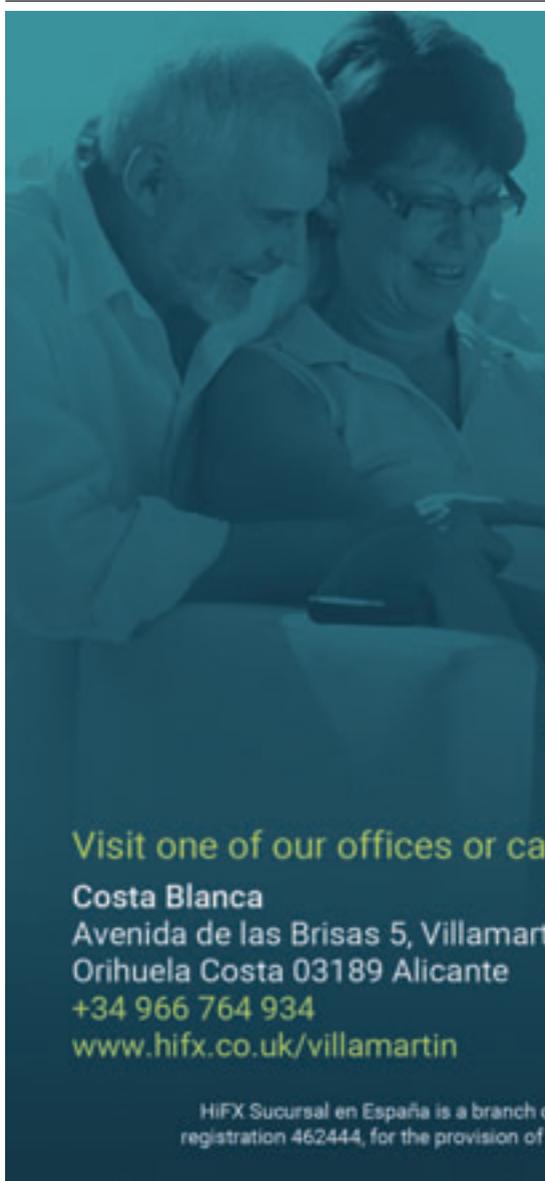
A recent trend in television advertising is slow, re-recorded classic songs played over ads and sung by - to me at least - unknown female vocalists.

One that really grinds me down is the Beatles belter *Across the Universe*, now turned into a melancholy dirge by an anonymous vocalist!

I have no idea what is being promoted as I switched it off. Speaking of advertisements, thank the lord for the Beeb with no mundane interruptions.

Most ITV viewing is advertisement slots with programmes thrown in between. You can cook a three-course meal in the intervals now whereas it was at one time ideal only for making a cuppa!

**Critique: PM, San Fulgencio, Costa Blanca.**



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# spanish property CHOICE YOUR CHOICE for pro

REF:B1180 Townhouse for sale 115,000€



Los Lobos 196m<sup>2</sup> Build  
4 Beds 65m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths E 159-39

REF:B1072 Villa for sale 234,950€



Mojacar 83m<sup>2</sup> Build  
2 Beds 211m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
1 Bath F 211-E 40

REF:B1178 Luxury villa for sale 355,000€



Mojacar 140m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 326m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
3 Baths Applied for

REF:B1179 Villa for sale 495,000€



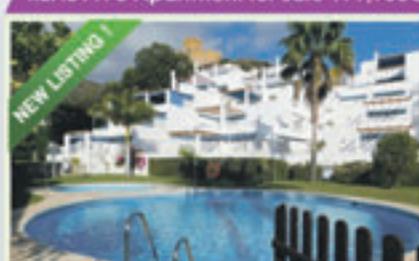
Sierra Cabrera 140m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 1,693m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
3 Baths F 255-E43

REF:B1165 Apartment for sale 115,000€



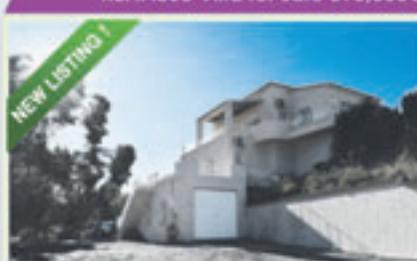
Turre 108m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 140m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths Applied for

REF:B1173 Apartment for sale 179,950€



Mojacar 84m<sup>2</sup> Build  
2 Beds 147m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths G 251-63

REF:AB68 Villa for sale 395,000€



Los Gallardos 195m<sup>2</sup> Build  
4 Beds 1 Hect Plot  
3 Baths F 167-40

REF:B1147 Apartment for sale 129,000€



Mojacar 56m<sup>2</sup> Build  
2 Beds 71m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
1 Bath G 199-E 34

REF:AB57 Villa for sale 189,950€



Arboleas 113m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 1,134m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths E 152-29

REF: B1130 Villa for sale 269,995€



Valle Del Este 126m<sup>2</sup> Build  
4 Beds 582m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths G 190-47

REF:B1145 Villa for sale 319,000€



Mojacar 227m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 339m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths E 162-30

REF:B1142 Villa for sale 325,000€



Vera 275m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 560m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
3 Baths E 191- E 35



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# Properties in Almeria



REF: B1163 Villa for sale 439,950€

**NEW LISTING!**



Bedar 150m<sup>2</sup> Build  
5 Beds 1 Hect Plot  
5 Baths EPC E 171-38

**THE GARNERS**

**PROPERTIES WANTED FOR SALE OR LET**

SPANISH PROPERTY CHOICE

REF: A856 Villa for sale 184,950€

**NEW LISTING!**



Velez Rubio 167m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 20,000m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths EPC E 225-46

REF: A844 Villa for sale 179,950€

**NEW LISTING!**



Arboleas 127m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds 735m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths EPC Applied for

REF: A866 Villa for sale 349,950€

**NEW LISTING!**



Puerto Lumbreras m<sup>2</sup> Build  
3 Beds m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths EPC E 162-D 33

REF: B1170 Luxury Villa for sale 599,000€

**NEW LISTING!**



Mojacar 384m<sup>2</sup> Build  
4 Beds 8,394m<sup>2</sup> Plot  
2 Baths EPC G 248-62

## Spanish Property Choice

The agent with the power of TV behind them!  
Due to the huge success of Series One of Sun Sea and Selling Houses featuring the Garner family of Spanish Property Choice, the replaying of the series recently on Channel 4 More 4 and the ongoing filming for series 2, of which there will be 25 x 1hour episodes due to be aired early 2018, we have never been so busy selling & renting houses.

### So we need your property, Inland or Coastal!

We give "your property" the best chance to be seen, whether it be in the newspaper or as regional partners of Rightmove, A Place in the Sun.com, Hamptons UK/International and even on Channel4 Sun Sea and Selling Houses. We will never promise we can sell a house, no agent can! however we will guarantee no other agent will try harder. So if you have a property to sell or rent please give us a chance. You are very welcome to call into our office and have a chat about what we can offer you.



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There are 3 to be homed!

If you can home any of the 3 puppies, SPC will pay for them to be microchipped as a thank you.

This is Milo, one of the brothers of Rico & Doc the 2 puppies recently adopted by our family. Milo is still looking for a forever home, he is adorable. He is going to be a medium to large dog but if he has the nature of his brothers he will be your friend for life. Can you help?

# I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! confirm 2017 launch date and it's soon!

**Richard Shanley**  
*Dishing the Dirt*

OF EUROPA DIGITAL



IT'S that time of year again, I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! is returning to our TV screens and it turns out we don't actually have all that long to wait until Ant and Dec are back and terrifying even more celebrities.

"Forget Christmas, this is the ONLY date you need to remember this year," the update read. This means that a new batch of celebrities will be heading to the Australian Outback to take on jungle critters, Bushtucker Trials and each other in the hope of becoming King or Queen of the jungle.

There's no official line-up of campmates just yet, but of course there are plenty of rumours flying about regarding who might be don-



**CHEEKY DUO:** Will they be reunited in the jungle?

ning that incredibly flattering khaki and red uniform later this month, and the official celebrities-in-Australian-airport-swatch starts right here. With an official series premiere date, it won't be long now until we know the confirmed line-up of celebrities head-

ing to the jungle too.

When it comes to what else we know about the new series, all signs currently point to Ant and Dec reuniting on the reality competition, following Ant McPartlin seeking professional treatment for 'prescription

drugs and alcohol' issues earlier in the year. "Ant is doing really well and we're expecting him to return to I'm a Celebrity, so we won't be resting it," ITV boss Kevin Lygo confirmed earlier this year.

We also know that the reigning

Queen of the Jungle, Scarlett Moffatt will be heading Down Under once again as part of the new Extra Camp presenting team, which also stars Scarlett's campmate, Joel Dommett and I'm A Celeb favourite, Joe Swash too. I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here! returns to ITV One on Sunday.

*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 Almeria and Calida or listen online at [costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net](http://costaalmeria.spectrumfm.net) for the latest news and views from the world of satellite television.*

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**TOWNHOUSE IN PALOMARES**  
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132 sqm built, well kept 3 bed/2 bath townhouse, 40 sqm roof terrace, sea views, 60 sqm underground garage connected to the house.  
Furnished & equipped, open fireplace, a/c etc. Community pool.

### VILLA - 150.000€



**TWO LAST VILLAS -MODERN DESIGN NEAR HUERCAL OVERA**  
530 sqm plot, top qualities, near amenities. 6 months completion time

### APARTMENT -100.000€



**APARTMENT IN PUEBLO SALINAS-VERA**  
Lovely 2 bed / 2 bath property with 2 large terraces. Very well presented, furnished, equipped, a/c, storage and parking space included.  
Luxury community areas, pool, paddle, security.

### COUNTRYHOUSE-128.000€



**COUNTRYHOUSE IN CUEVAS DE ALMANZORA**  
Immaculate country house with + 3.300 sqm plot.  
Charming house with open fireplace, ceiling wooden beams, a/c, BBQ house, solar panels and all kind of fruit trees: organic oranges, bananas, lemons, olives, wine grapes, apricots etc. Irrigation system and for only 40€/month free water use.

### PENTHOUSE- 95.000€



**PENTHOUSE WITH LARGE TERRACE PLAYAS DEL SUR – LAS MARINAS-VERA**  
Well kept apartment superbly equipped, 2bed/2bath large terrace. Luxury community areas pool, playground, security and parking.

### TOP FLOOR-70.500€



**TOP FLOOR- NATURIST VERA PLAYA**  
Lovely, comfortable 1 bedroom apartment with open, beautiful views. A very airy and bright apartment with entrance-hall, bathroom, bedroom, living room, kitchen and terrace.  
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### TABERNO

VH1084 €129,950 CEE E32 34



- Large 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 1,295m2 garden with Jacuzzi
- Fantastic View
- 4 mins drive to Taberno

### LA ALFOQUIA

VH1118 €159,000 CEE E192 34



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 535m2 garden with pool
- Full sunroof
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

### ZURGENA

VH1189 €99,950 CEE TBC



- 4 bed, 2 bath Village House
- Quality renovation
- Walk to amenities
- Zurgena Village

### HUERCAL-OVERA

VH1138 €114,950 CEE TBC



- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 449m2 garden, above ground pool
- Walk to amenities in Urcal
- 8 mins drive to Huercal-Overa

VH1177 €149,950 CEE F255 8



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 3,000m2 land, swimming pool
- Great views
- 10 mins walk to Taberno village

VH1128 €124,950 CEE TBC



- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 450m2 garden
- Full sunroof
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia

VH1218 €279,950 CEE TBC



- 4/5 bed, 3 bath Quality Villa
- 1,558m2 garden, pool & garage
- Walk to restaurant / bar
- Zurgena area

VH1221 €139,000 CEE D100 1



- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- Landscaped garden & garage
- 25 mins drive to the coast
- 5 mins drive into El Saltador, Huercal-Overa

VH1139 €345,000 CEE TBC



- 4 bed, 3 bath Country House
- 294m2 build, 48,000m2 land
- Horse Stable
- 3 mins drive into Taberno village

VH1191 €79,950 CEE E182



- 4 bed, 2 bath Village House
- Large 130m2 build
- Small Garden
- Walk to amenities in La Alfoquia.

VH1166 €129,950 CEE E206 81



- 4 bed, 1 bath Village House
- Patio, sun terrace, garage
- Walk to amenities
- Zurgena Village

VH1208 €199,950 CEE F180 42



- 3 bed, 2.5 bath Country House
- 12,800m2 of Land
- Garage & landscaped gardens
- 1km to amenities
- 10 mins drive to Huercal-Overa



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**TABERNO**

VH1030 €134,950 CEE TBC

**BARGAIN**



- 4 bed, 3 bath Village Villa
- 624m2 garden & garage
- Walk to shops etc
- Taberno Village

**LA ALFOQUIA**

VH1131 €104,950 CEE F58 6

**BARGAIN**



- 2 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 301m2 Garden
- Walk to amenities
- La Alfoquia

**ZURGENA**

VH1187 €179,950 CEE TBC

**NEW LISTING**



- Large 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 814m2 garden with pool
- Walk to popular restaurant
- Cucador, Zurgena

**HUERCAL-OVERA**

VH1090 €189,500 CEE TBC



- 3 bed, 2 bath Villa
- 1,000m2 garden with pool
- Walking distance to amenities
- 10 mins drive to Huerca-Overa

VH1122 €119,950 CEE F71 41

**REDUCED**



- 4 bed, 2 bath Village / Country House
- Full of character
- 1,200m2 land
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TECH FOR  
THE TIMID

## Deal or no deal

HALF a million people in the States take out loans every year just to shop on Black Friday.

This year Spain may spend €1.3 billion, and virtually every major retailer is now on board.

But beware of over-inflated discount hype.

A British investigation last year found that up to half the goods on offer were not the real deal, that the 'was' price had been inflated, that the goods were obsolete models, or that some were actually cheaper before or after the big day (or week).

Buy from reputable retailers with a money-back guarantee, use a credit card rather than a debit one if you can because then the bank will foot the bill if things go wrong, and use your browser's bookmarks to keep track as you trawl the web and things get hectic.

## Black Friday's child is loving and giving?

If retailers can afford such massive discounts next weekend, are consumers being scammed the rest of the year, asks Terence Kennedy.

GOT your Black Friday shopping spree planned? Ready to splash out next weekend on that electronic spaghetti fork you've always wanted, a WiFi-enabled toaster or a remote-controlled churros extruder?

In just over a decade Black Friday has morphed into a worldwide shopping frenzy (followed no doubt by Blue Saturday when adding up the resulting credit card bills). For one more bite at the cherry, retailers have added Cyber Monday, so now you really can shop till you drop. Or your bank account does.

Since Spanish rules on sale dates were lifted in 2012, Viernes Negro has taken off here: 90 per cent of Spaniards surveyed knew what it

was, nearly 60 per cent actually buy something, and the country is expected to splash out nearly €1.3 billion next weekend on discounts, real or imagined.

Cynics say the one who profits most from Black Friday is the one smart enough not to go shopping that day. Certainly those who do choose to partake may be safer here than in America, where there have been seven Black Friday deaths listed and nearly a hundred serious injuries. Indeed, two people died during a shooting altercation at a Toys 'R' Us in California. Someone must really have wanted that cut-price Disney princess.

Physical Black Friday shoppers



CHAOS: Black Friday scenes.

(those who will surge to the bricks and mortar retailers this weekend) are said to be older, less internet-savvy and often pay in cash. Cyber Monday shoppers are younger, more affluent, use credit cards and often don't have a lot of time (or patience) for shopping.

So why brave the madding crowds when you can bankrupt yourself so much more comfortably from home? Some online retailers have even extended the buying frenzy to a whole week (here's lookin' at you Amazon).

The trick to coming out on top next week is to know what you want, and to have priced it before the madness strikes. 'Fifty per cent off!'

might indeed mean it's half-price (assuming it doesn't mean only half the product is actually present...). But half-price of what? The price some overhyped designer store might have tried and failed to charge? Or the manufacturer's recommended retail price which no self-respecting consumer would ever expect to pay?

Ask yourself the killer question: it may be hyperventilatingly cheap, but what exactly is a WiFi detector shirt, and do I really need one?

So happy shopping one and all, and where I won't be spending my money next week is on an Irish site with my favourite Black Friday offer ever: 'Two for the price of three!!'

## Defending taking food porn photos Gordon Ramsay style

Nora Johnson  
Breaking Views

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



SNAPPY: Gordon Ramsay has defended those who post food pics online.

HEARD about the latest squabble between rival three-Michelin star chefs Gordon Ramsay and Michel Roux? Ramsay described Roux as "pompous" and an "old fart" for banning diners at his Waterside Inn in Bray from photographing their food on Instagram: "If I see a great-looking picture posted, I'll want to go and eat there immediately, he's just an old fart who's forgotten to move on!"

Personally, I'm not too bothered if people want to take pictures of food provided it's done discreetly, though I do question the motivation. Perhaps they're all keen chefs who want to replicate the dish, though wouldn't it be embarrassing if people started posting photos of Big Macs, KFC bargain buckets or home-cooking disasters, and tagging them as if they were taken at

Monsieur R's establishment?

As for attention-seeking, motormouth Ramsay, it's simply unfortunate that he can't actually discuss anything without his usual unintelligent four-letter expletives, or being rude and pretentious.

Talking of pretentiousness, navigating London's restaurant scene these days is a bit like trying to find Wally in the dark, isn't it? From weird pop-ups in shipping containers in Brixton to no-reservation, foraged-food joints in hipster Hackney.

Why must everything be 'curated' now - hang on while I curate some clothes to put on today - or 'hand-crafted'? My coffee

from a local coffee 'artisan' was 'hand-crafted' (although I'm pretty sure I saw it coming out of a machine). And don't get me started on 'hand-cut'/'hand-cooked' chips - though better, I suppose, than crushed by foot or strained through teeth.

But I confess I'm a connoisseur of foodie pilgrimage stories. I love hearing tales of hazardous journeys to some distant outpost where, in some hovel known only to indigenous mystics, you're served the local black flatbread made from unicorn's ashes and garnished with virgin's tears, and the taste is simply 'a-w-e-s-o-m-e'!

Well, Monsieur Roux. I've just posted on Instagram a photo of my lunch of 'haricots à la sauce tomate sur pain grillé' (or 'beans on toast' to us), everything hand-cut, curated and foraged. Délicieux. So beat that!

Nora Johnson's psychological crime thrillers 'The Girl in the Red Dress,' 'No Way Back,' 'Landscape of Lies,' 'Retribution,' 'Soul Stealer,' 'The De Clerambault Code' ([www.nora-johnson.net](http://www.nora-johnson.net)) from Amazon. All profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity

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

## THURSDAY THOUGHTS

By Susan Piercy (Albox)

## The adventure

LET'S move to Spain we said. It'll be an adventure. We can live like movie stars in a white villa with a swimming pool. Live the dream. The envy of our friends. Enjoy endless sunshine, cheap booze and minimum bills.

We arrived in February; expectations high after years of hard work. Wishful dreamers that we were, the weather was cold, wet and windy. Spain was supposed to be hot; wasn't it? The villa was freezing so we lit our log fire eager to warm our disappointed cockles by the hearty chunks of blazing olive wood. Only when we were choking in a smoke-filled room did we discover the chimney was ornamental.

It rained, the ceiling leaked and the wind howled through the house like a screaming banshee. The tiles were cold and our feet freezing. Why oh why had we swapped our semi in England with wall to wall carpeting and central heating for this?

Swimming pool full of sludge, broken pump and leaking water. What had happened to the film-star life style?

To make matters worse we got our medication mixed up. (Knew we should've learned the lingo.) I suffered head rushes while hubby felt great on my HRT. Reality hit, should we give up our dream? Go home? Had our adventure turned sour?

Suddenly the sun shone, the rain stopped, the wind died down and was replaced by a warm breeze heralding summer. Each problem found its solution and our skin took on a golden glow along with our humour.

We laugh about those early days now because the mishaps were the adventure.

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

Readers interested in submitting articles for this guest column should send articles of around 250 words on topics felt to be of interest to the cosmopolitan EWN readership to [editorial@euroweeklynews.com](mailto:editorial@euroweeklynews.com).

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# The soothing fires of fall!

## 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.

IT still is one of the oldest and most memorable scents of Spain: a wood burning fire. Either for cooking or for heating that light effervescing smoke permeates the atmosphere and confirms that I was right to quit wearing sandals and change into boots for the coming winter.

The smell is highly recognisable, invigorating and an affirmation to life entering a new pattern, a slower waltz. The summer's frantic rush is over and now one can sit glass in hand in front of a simmering fire and speak with old friends concerning what you didn't know about last summer and what new events and developments are to get ready for.

One doesn't want to miss a neighbor's matanza, (pig killing, making sausage and drinking wine) a local wedding or any excuse to reunite with distant but familiar folk.



### I GOT WOOD: Cooking over an open fire.

The shadow smoke streaming up to the sky is an alert to all to slow the pace and linger. Spain is a café society, sitting and chatting you learn more than any and all of the newspapers put together as with oral histories you not only listen to the news but capture the innuendo of the facts.

A few quick hand gestures tells all

and at once mysterious fragments of hearsay are pieced together into a comforting tapestry. Information to exchange with the wife once you are back home when she wonders where you have been. Of course your entire day and all the personal encounters must be spoken of as they will be exchanged in the butcher's line tomorrow

while waiting to be served.

Time returns and becomes part of the day; time to think of our forgotten friends and family. People who need a real remembrance; a session with the soul and the smoke that slowly rises to sanctify the sitting. Better too if you run into an old friend to share the emotion and to adorn the gather-

ing with a few fond stories. If it doesn't happen where you are, there is always another bar just down the road to welcome your visit.

If you haven't been in for a while you'll be hugged and kissed and given wine without asking for it. Within moments you'll be surrounded by all their family waiting for you to speak, to divulge all that you've learned over such a lengthy absence. Another log will be dropped on the fire and more wine passed around.

With the telling of each tale these neighbours become almost family. It's a good and cosy life wanting nothing but more afternoons like this. Time becomes unessential and endless. One drifts like the wafts of smoke floating like resident clouds above the establishment and feigning ownership but only for a moment.

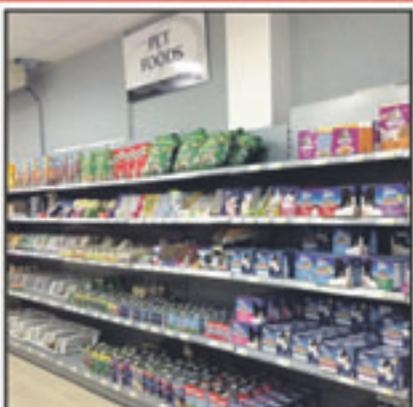
Then, going somewhere else at their own pace and spreading out to announce to all, the scent of fall has arrived.

It's a floating period taking one everywhere and yet never straying far from the new bright kindle.

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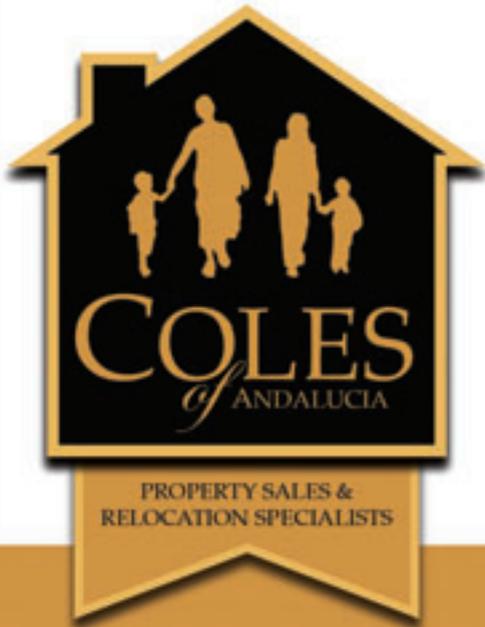
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## REF ARB2VH06



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## REF GAL2A02



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Los Gallardos

€59,950

## How ridiculous they are

**Mike Senker**

*In my opinion*

*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*



I'M lucky because I'm pretty computer savvy. I've always used computers for work, as well as at home, using search engines to look things up. But here's a word of warning about what not to look for on the internet. The worst thing you can do is to google medical symptoms.

Here's my advice - if you don't feel well go to the doctor. Do not self-diagnose because, if you do, I can guarantee you will have some of the worst diseases known to mankind. Every lump, stomach ache, going to the loo a lot or not enough will definitely mean you have got some form of horrible, nasty illness.

The same applies to looking at the side effects of medication the doctor has given you. I did it once and I absolutely had the majority of them and the ones I didn't have before I looked completely scared me about taking the medicines in case I got any of the others.

So now I just don't look and I advise you do likewise and save yourself a lot of worry.

'When are you going to do that?' I asked

the handyman. 'I'll get round to it sooner or later,' was the reply. What does that actually mean? Will it be sooner or later? It's one of those total dumbass sayings. He might as well have said, 'I'm not telling you!'

So of course that got me thinking about a couple of other sayings that makes me think how ridiculous they are.

I was watching one of those US cop TV shows and when they are questioning the suspect, they always say, 'Can you tell us, in your own words, what happened that night.' If that was me I'd be very tempted to say, 'I'm sorry, I don't have any of my own words, I just always use the same words as everybody else. Will that do?'

Another one that doesn't make sense is when you ask someone to do you a favour and they say, 'Sure, I'd be more than happy to do that for you.' What's more than happy? Delirious?

Last one today - when something is as 'easy as pie.' So back to google. What does it mean and why is it used? Apparently it's not the making of the pie; it's the eating of it. Well that's not easy for me because I'm diabetic and I've also googled what happens if I eat too much pie...

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

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

## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### More potential road hazards

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



**OBSTACLES:** If you need to 'moove' into opposite lane you must give way.

EVERY time we get behind the wheel of a car to embark on a journey our fate lies somewhat in the hands of others and there are potential hazards at every turn.

Last week we looked at some of the hazards drivers meet and how you can best avoid the risk.

**Obstacles in the road:** There are countless items that could find themselves in the road and pose a problem to vehicles, fallen trees, items fallen from vehicles, rocks and boulders, parked cars, the list is almost endless. If you encounter an obstruction one thing you must be aware of is that if you have to invade the opposite lane then you must give way to oncoming vehicles and only pass when safe to do so.

**Permanent road features:** It is vital that you pay attention to surroundings by reading and observing the physical signs on a road, like maximum permitted speed limits or warnings of hazards ahead. Also look at the physical

characteristics of the road itself for junctions, narrow streets, dangerous bends, elevation changes and dips, blind corners and merging traffic.

**Parking:** When parking your vehicle, always choose a location that is safe, legal and convenient. Respect distances between vehicles, look for signs or signals that prevent or restrict parking. Be careful when opening your door, look in the mirrors and around the vehicle for cyclists, motorbikes, pedestrians or other cars.

**Reversing vehicles:** Always try to avoid reversing wherever possible as the field of vision is significantly reduced. Reversing into a parking bay makes it safer and more convenient for leaving, and avoid reversing from a minor road to a major road.

**Animals:** Animals in the road pose a major risk, especially in countryside areas. Drive slowly and always respect distance, because animals are unpredictable and can be startled.

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

## Can we change quotas?

**Q.** Some owners in our community have extended their properties by almost 50 square metres, making them into units of three bedrooms and three bathrooms. My own property is a two-bedroom, two-bathroom unit, as originally designed and built. However, I pay the highest community charges due to the original quota system established in the year 2000. Is it possible to have the quota reassessed? I have asked at the AGM for equal shares, but this was refused.

*S M (Costa Blanca)*

**A.** Yes, it is possible to change the assignment of quotas. In your case, it is necessary in order to match the reality of the new construction. Ask these questions: Did the owners have com-

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



munity permission for new construction? Did they have building permits from the town hall?

Are the new extensions registered in the property registry? Legally, your community needs to change its original basic charter and assign new percentage shares that reflect the new reality.

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



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Views expressed and opinions given are not necessarily those of the EWN publishers. No responsibility is accepted for accuracy of information, errors, omissions or statements.

## Are you sure you're on the padron?

SIR,

I wonder whether you could consider including an article regarding an issue which I have only just discovered despite many years serving on the council.

I recently had a few elderly couples come into my office asking for help due to their partners needing 24-hour nursing care, and we helped them get a place in a care facility.

Subsequently, we helped them contact social services with a view to applying for financial assistance. I then discovered that the claimant has to have been resident in the municipality for 10 years and consecutively on the padron (civil register) for the past two years, and if not they are not entitled to financial assistance.

The system for the maintenance of the padron creates a regular check to ensure that it accurately reflects who is in the municipality. But if the town hall are unable to contact the individual (due to changed phone number, no Spanish number, etc) they then drop off the padron and may not even know about it.

The only way to be sure is to check

### Lions are losing roar

IT is very unfortunate that Nerja Lions Club now has members who seem to have forgotten what a Lion Club stands for.

When the Lions Club Nerja market was started many years ago, local charities were encouraged to take stalls and given half price rental rates.

Occasional charity sales were supported and given free access to a standing place by the gate.

This practice was continued until three years ago when a new President shelved the discount on the charity stalls. This also marked the time when a new intake of members created internal frictions which led to some people being forced to leave the club or resign.

These rejected members, believing in the ethics of the Lion Movement, started a new Lion Club in Nerja; the Lions Club, Balcon De Europa, Nerja.

We hope that readers will not think badly of the Lions movement because of the spiteful actions of one group of people.

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### Blooming dispute Poppy seller sent packing

**EXCLUSIVE**  
A recent Poppy seller who was sent packing from a car boot sale in Nerja, after a dispute with the Lions Club, has been revealed. The seller, who was sent packing from the car boot sale, was a member of the Lions Club. The seller was sent packing because of a dispute with the Lions Club. The seller was sent packing because of a dispute with the Lions Club.

PREVIOUS EWN: Covering the recent dispute.

Margaret Barratt, past President, Nerja Lions Club

with the town hall. My suggestion would be that everyone makes that enquiry once a year, maybe on or near their birthday to ensure that they have not been inadvertently removed.

Jim Simpson, Zurgena Town Council, Almería

### On the turn?

WELL, it's official, the Leaping One's virtually owned up to being one of us and not one of them by giving the thumbs down to politicians who came through the public school system and we all know which party that is, well in the main anyway. What a fabulous picture in EWN (Issue 1688) of the chosen ones who believed they were born to rule. As for schemes and skulduggery the ex-Bullingdon's Club members and Tories are the masters of that!

Philip, San Fulgencio

### Rental rip-off

I WISH to advise readers to make sure on returning their rental car to Goldcar at Alicante Airport they have it checked by a representative and take photos of the vehicle. My friends recently returned their vehicle at 6am - before the office was open - and have since been charged €615 for alleged damage!

Images which showed no obvious damage were attached to the bill. Several attempts have been made to contact them without success.

Mel Christie, Calpe

### PC madness

WHY is it assumed that until recently everyone has enjoyed being deliberately rude about blacks and homosexuals so they had to introduce 'politically correct speech' to make sure that no-one would ever be inadvertently offended? But now we are to stop calling children girls and boys? Oh please!

June Rendle, Marbella

### Out of town

HAS your printing equipment lost the word 'town'?

The only city on the Costa del Sol is Malaga! All the other municipalities are towns, villages or hamlets. Some of the places you call cities are not even towns, so please drop city everywhere!

Roberta, Malaga

Editor's note: Although the Spanish also class Marbella as a city, this point is well made and has been passed to the relevant department heads.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

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

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

## Ex-shelter boss jailed for animal abuse

### Pure evil!

IT'S time Spain started awarding minimum sentences of more than two years for animal cruelty - anything less, including the current one-year custodial term, will practically never have to be served as it is always suspended for a first offence. People actually being locked up for animal neglect and cruelty rather than just getting a symbolic black mark may act as a deterrent. Kally

I hope she will spend a long time in prison, absolutely heartbreaking all those poor dogs had to die because of greed. Doris Teasdale

Not enough time in my opinion... but a step in the right direction.

Let's hope this brings to the fore many other facilities that are operating in this way too. Karen Perry

### Boris Johnson infuriates Spanish dinner guests

I JUST don't understand why he hasn't been sacked!!! He's an embarrassment to the UK. Anita Oakes

### Comments from EWN online

How he even GOT that job still astounds me. Anne Sewell

Why does he even bother to open his mouth?? Ann Ayckbourn

And he's supposed to be a diplomat????? Barbara Taylor

### Poppy seller sent packing from car boot sale

SHE'S not SELLING anything. She is taking donations. For which she is licensed.

People that know me understand that as much as I'm proud of my previous career, I will discuss it when asked, regale when invited to do so but don't walk around with my medals, tie and blazer on all of the time. But at this time of year it is different - it is special to me. It is a time for me to

privately reflect, to remember my comrades, my brothers and sisters of my 'Service Family' and to respect the Ultimate Sacrifice made for this country by some whom I knew and many that I didn't.

I am a Veteran, and a Veteran is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank cheque payable to the United Kingdom for an amount up to, and including, their life. Regardless of personal political views, it is an honour to serve one's country, and there are far too many people in this country who no longer remember that fact. Sean Scully

Very embarrassed as this is our local car boot market and that the Lions have their own event for remembrance ... why stop someone else who is well known in town? Lydia Taylor

### Mother shot and killed by ex-partner

A RECORD of physical and verbal violence against the deceased and released on bail pending trial for domestic violence. Why was he at liberty therefore to do this? Lorena Irwin

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## Women's wit

Some days are just bad days, that's all. You have to experience sadness to know happiness, and I remind myself that not every day is going to be a good day, that's just the way it is!"

*Dita Von Teese - Dancer*



## Famous quote

It's fine to celebrate success but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure."

*Bill Gates, Entrepreneur*

## World of English

Antimetabole - repeats words or phrases in reverse order - "ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country."

*(J F Kennedy)*

## MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE



'FORGET ALL YOUR TROUBLES AT HOME MRS MAY - LET US TALK PROPER MEANINGFUL BREXIT!'

# Spanish fashion brands

**TOP 5**

SPAIN is known for its fashionable styles and trends. Here are five of the country's biggest fashion brands.

### Zara

Known the world over for its unique style, Zara has now become a household name. As part of the Inditex group, the brand reportedly took almost \$16 billion in revenue in 2016 and now has over 2,100 stores across 88 different countries.

### Mango

The Spanish multinational clothing company was first founded in 1984 by two Turkish brothers based in Barcelona. The brand opened its first store in the UK in the year 2000 and now has shops in Europe, Africa, Asia, South America and the USA.

### Stradivarius

Also part of the Inditex group, Stradivarius was reportedly acquired by the group in 1999 having been originally founded in



**ZARA: Has become a household name.**

1994. The international clothing brand recently launched its menswear collection called 'Stradivarius Man.'

and also fragrances.

### Pull and Bear

The brand was originally named New Wear, SA before being officially launched as Pull & Bear in 1991. The style focuses on casual, laid-back clothing accessories for a younger demographic, with a very 'urban' style and now has over 870 stores worldwide.

### Massimo Dutti

Despite the Italian name, Massimo Dutti is inherently Spanish. First founded in Barcelona in the 1980's, the brand offers a number of clothing ranges, accessories, a personal tailoring service

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY	IRISH LOTTO	EURO MILLIONS		LA PRIMITIVA	EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
					
Saturday November 11	Saturday November 11	Tuesday November 7	Friday November 10	Saturday November 11	Sunday November 12
(4) (16) (27) (30) (41) (49)	(9) (16) (27) (41) (42) (47)	(7) (19) (20) (37) (41)	(13) (22) (29) (36) (37)	(6) (8) (22) (24) (43) (45)	(11) (30) (37) (44) (49)
<b>BONUS BALL</b>	<b>BONUS BALL</b>	<b>LUCKY STARS</b>	<b>LUCKY STARS</b>	<b>REINTEGRO</b>	<b>REINTEGRO</b>
(54)	(4)	(2) (12)	(1) (9)	(11) (1)	(4)

**LOTTERY**

# YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

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

A chance remark alluding to your past brings a flashback. This helps you to see a current situation more clearly. We all make mistakes and follow the same old patterns, but this time you are being forewarned. It is in your experience and power to make a different choice of action this time. In doing so, much confusion and upset can be avoided.

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

Someone will most certainly come to the rescue when your situation changes. Well, they will, won't they? Have Plan B ready just in case. In continuing to think in the short term you do yourself no favours. Think now of a '10-year plan' and be determined to reach your goal. Bit by bit and day by day you will progress. You don't have to rush ahead and get stressed.

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

An exciting project is bubbling away in your mind but may need financial backing. Take advice from a professional or someone with successful experience in these matters. Remember that any idea has to grow, so consider what you need to see happen in five years' time.

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

During your social encounters this week you meet someone who offers to help. That is great, but do ask yourself if you would be prepared to give anything in return.

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

Some exciting suggestions make you think twice about a current business matter. However, it may not be necessary to change anything but to consider the new suggestion as a sort of 'add on' to a current project.

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

The moment that you have been waiting for has arrived. A colleague has made a decision that is long overdue. Perhaps you are a little shocked and speechless because there has been such a time lag, but this will pass. It may not be over-convenient but the phrase 'striking while the iron is hot' springs to mind.

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

You work hard for your money. Make it worthwhile by trying to hold on to as much of it as possible. Someone who is charming and plausible may try to get you involved in a fast-track money making scheme.

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

By showing confidence in your own way of doing things, you inspire others. This is chiefly because you are at last finding a balance between work and home life. In the past you may have felt stressed and equated that with working - not so now.

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

Because you are intent on pleasing others, you may be cramping your own style. This is something that you have in abundance and it should be used. You may be feeling that a business idea does not stand a chance.

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

A juicy bit of gossip comes your way this week and it is hard to keep it quiet. You must do so, however, because there is a lot riding on it. When people trust you, they are saying much about the relationship. In this particular case, the person may well be able to progress you socially at some time in the future.

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

The rather more serious side of your nature needs to take over this week. Someone in a higher position is keeping an eye on you. This maybe because they are considering you for promotion, so be on your best behaviour. It is important at the moment to stick to any rules and regulations or your reputation (and pocket) could be hit.

**CAPRICORN**  
(December 22 - January 20)

Letting life get too tame will eventually irritate you no end. Your social life needs a boost which, in turn, helps romance blossom. It is easy to be a bit lazy when things are going smoothly but we all need constant stretching. With an active mind such as yours, the important thing is to keep making progress. This may be in a physical way or in some kind of business. A brisk attitude to your whole life is needed.

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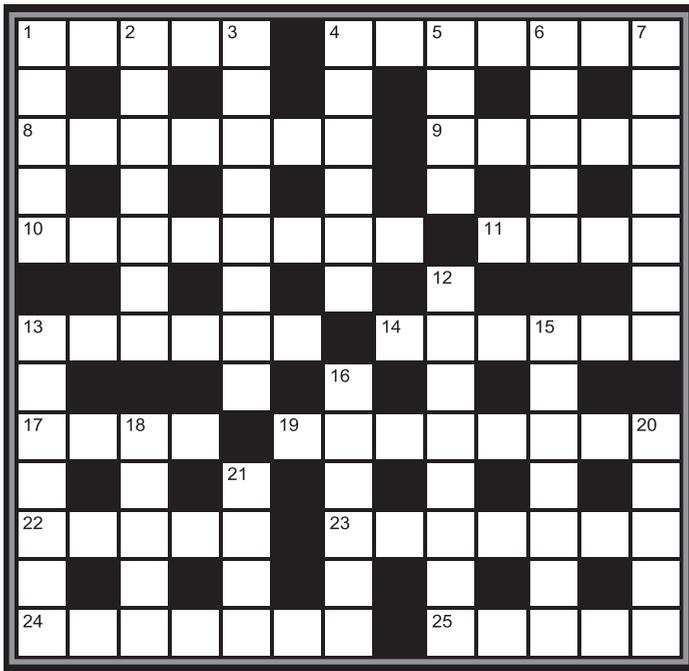
**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Charlie enquires about barrels (5)
- 4 Former pilot's daft adventure (7)
- 8 Object when put into torn clothing (7)
- 9 Ring about never ending internet pest (5)
- 10 I acted in poor show (8)
- 11 Spirit around end of December causes a smile (4)
- 13 Relieves incantations (6)
- 14 Chaplains are spread around (6)
- 17 The remainder sleep (4)
- 19 Pet cried about being infirm (8)
- 22 Saw a daughter get mature (5)
- 23 Blend ten wine ingredients (7)
- 24 Recommend guests start getting organised (7)
- 25 What was a performance to be precise (5)

**Down**

- 1 Dog runs between an officer and a private (5)
- 2 Edwin's upset about Lloyd's first fraud (7)
- 3 Outlines for small, confused clients (8)
- 4 English country property (6)
- 5 Trail from the Carpathian Mountains (4)
- 6 A smell from the food, our dinner (5)
- 7 New Testament stories about

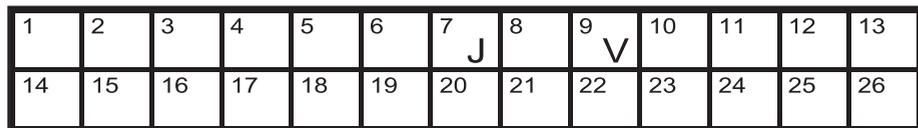
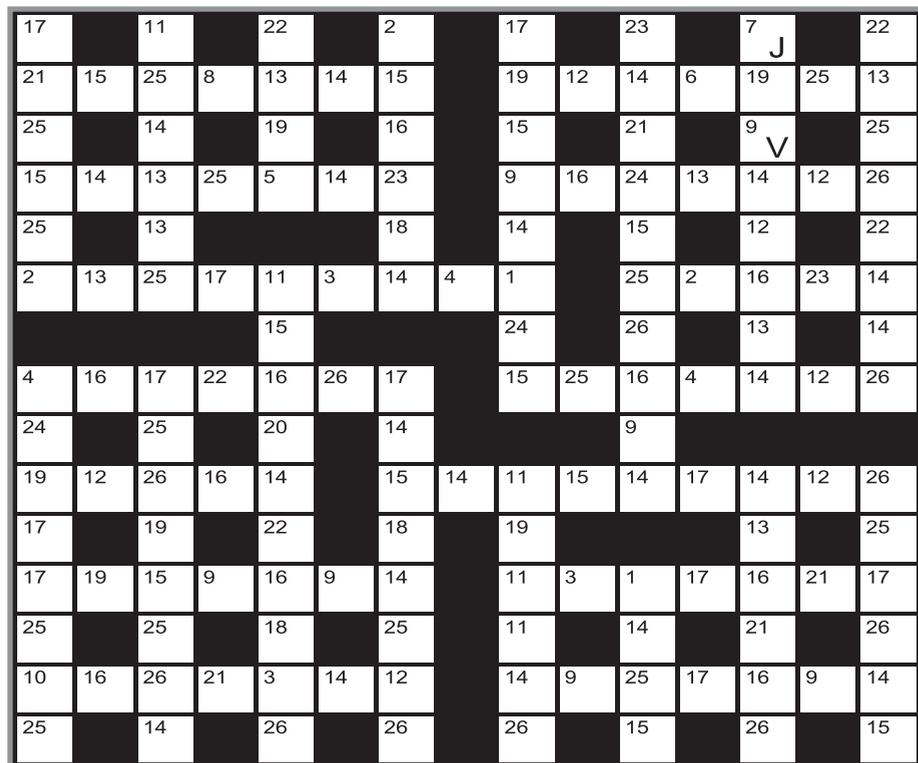


- gifts (7)
- 12 Surrealist friend is filled with determination (8)
- 13 Saint has lots of paper for courses (7)
- 15 Parcel I untied reveals an identical one (7)

- 16 Deprived female in a hat (6)
- 18 Some careless language (5)
- 20 An endless pact to foot the bill (5)
- 21 English monk buying every dinner, excluding starters (4)

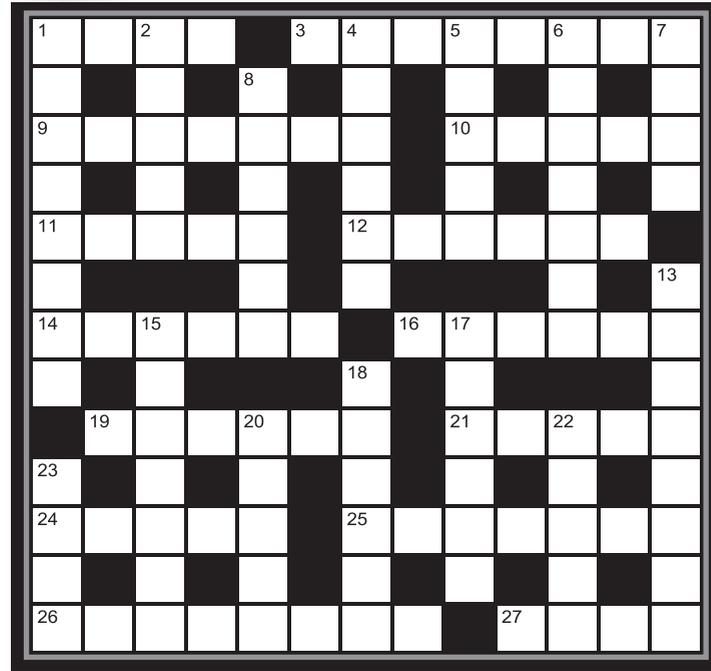
Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 7 represents J and 9 represents V, so fill in J every time the figure 7 appears and V every time the figure 9 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should 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**



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION FACING PAGE

**Quick**



**Across**

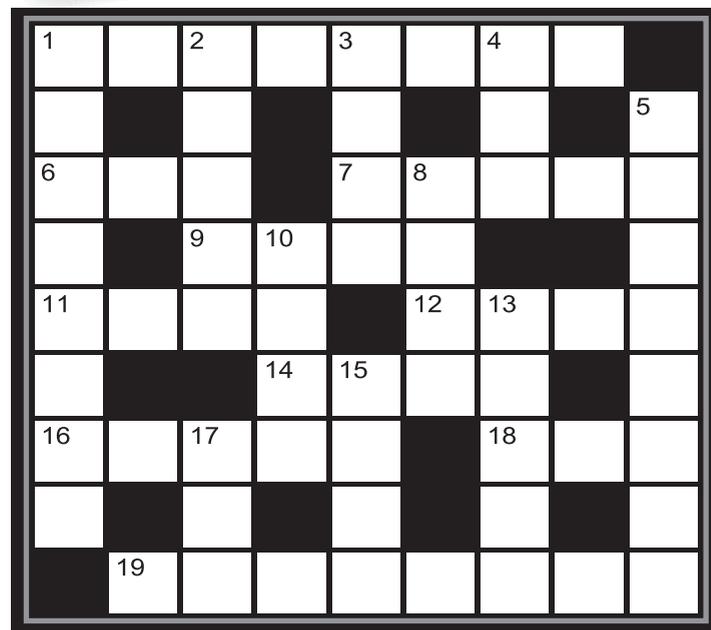
- 1/23 Become quiet or quieter (4,4)
- 3 Answer (8)
- 9 Regular payment (7)
- 10 Japanese dish (5)
- 11 Excessively fat (5)
- 12 Acquire (6)
- 14 Pass by, as time (6)
- 16 Disease of the skin (6)
- 19 Small informal restaurant (6)
- 21 Cause fear in (5)
- 24 Aquatic fish-eating carnivore of the weasel family (5)
- 25 Gun dog (7)
- 26 Drug that produces numbness or stupor (8)
- 27 Nothing (4)

**Down**

- 1 Any undertaking that is easy to do (8)
- 2 Graceful and elegant bearing in a person (5)
- 4 Severe or trying experience (6)
- 5 Disturb the balance or stability of (5)
- 6 Encourage (7)
- 7 Small metal spike with a broadened flat head (4)
- 8 Niche or alcove (6)
- 13 Major London railway station (8)
- 15 Pilot (7)
- 17 Unconcerned (6)
- 18 Japanese dwarf tree (6)
- 20 Body excluding the head and neck and limbs (5)
- 22 Similar (5)
- 23 See 1 Across

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1 Frost (substance) (8)
- 6 Huevo (3)
- 7 Alcalde (5)
- 9 Those (4)
- 11 Expensive (4)
- 12 Ordenado (4)
- 14 Pie (anatómico) (4)

- 16 Granos (en la piel) (5)
- 18 Bird (large) (3)
- 19 Cristales (8)

**Down**

- 1 Ejercicio (8)
- 2 To take hold of (5)
- 3 Oar (4)

- 4 Today (3)
- 5 Hermanos (8)
- 8 Ass (donkey) (4)
- 10 Blando (madera, droga, agua) (4)
- 13 Stage (phase) (5)
- 15 Bears (animals) (4)
- 17 To hear (3)

CROSSWORD PAGE

Bank-beating international money transfers

Your money, wherever it's needed, whatever the reason



Great rates



No fees\*

\*Changes may occasionally be applied by a third party bank when transferring the

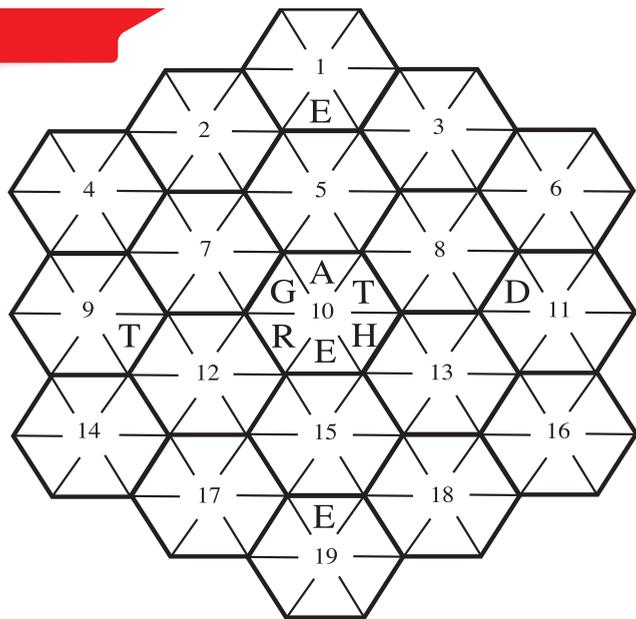
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## Hexagram

- BEETLE
- CHALET
- CORRAL
- ETHANE
- FILTER
- GATHER (10)
- GENIAL
- INVENT
- LEADEN
- OBLATE
- RELIEF
- REPEAL
- SPECIE
- STEREO
- STRAND
- TEASEL
- UNISEX
- UPDATE
- UPTAKE



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

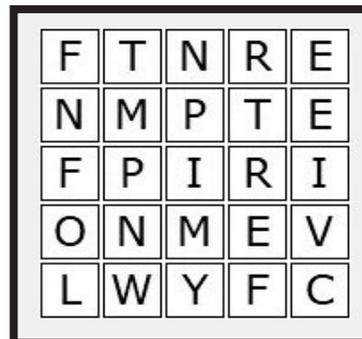
### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

- 1 Lessee 2 Recess 3 Easier 4 Blurry
- 5 Arouse 6 Teeter 7 Subtly 8 Endure
- 9 Enable 10 Bouncy 11 Titian 12 Ninety
- 13 Almond 14 Urgent 15 Encore
- 16 Flight 17 Sortie 18 Armful
- 19 Seamen.

## Boggled

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

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



### TARGET:

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

### SCORING:

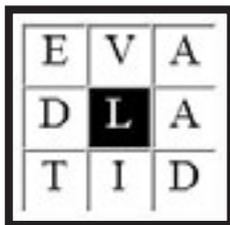
- 4 letters: 1 point
- 5 letters: 2 points
- 6 letters: 3 points
- 7 letters: 5 points
- 8 or more letters: 11 points

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

rowan rowans rows roos rood roods  
rosin rondo rondos rout rods owns  
woos wood woods woodcut wand  
wands awns anis sown sonic swan  
soon snow snood snip snipe sudor  
sinh nows nidus quin quins quid quids  
quip door doors duos duct disown  
dins indoor indoors induct ictus incus  
hind hinds cuds pins penni epic

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



### TARGET:

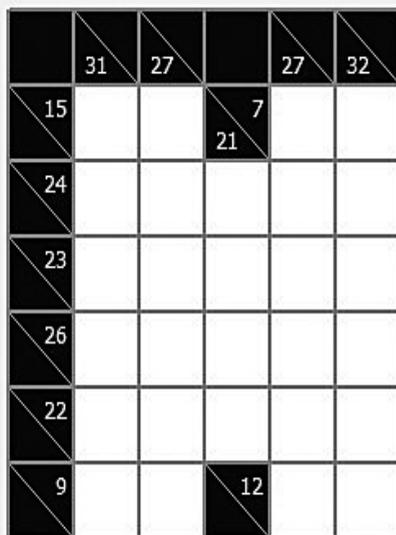
- Average: 12
- Good: 17
- Very good: 24
- Excellent: 31

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

alit alto gait gilt girt goat grit grot iota lilt loti  
rata riot rota tail tala tall taro till tiro toga toil toll  
tori trig trio allot altar aorta argot atoll atria  
gator gloat griot groat raita ratio taiga tiara trail  
trial trill troll aortal atrial lariat latigo latria rialto  
tailor otalgia ALLIGATOR

## Kakuro

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



### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

### ENGLISH-SPANISH

#### Across:

2 Sillas, 5 Cena, 6 Pozo, 7 Pared,  
10 Words, 13 Cosa, 14 Lado,  
15 Loncha.

#### Down:

1 Seda, 2 Sale, 3 Llover,  
4 Stones, 7 Pencil, 8 Raisin,  
9 Dew, 11 Olla, 12 Duda.

### CODE BREAKER

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

### CRYPTIC

#### Across:

1 Rare earth, 8 Silo, 9 Catalonia, 10 Repeal,  
13 Shrewd, 15 Route, 16 Curer, 17 Award,  
18 Oscar, 21 Renown, 22 Starch,  
25 Volunteer, 26 Teak, 27 Celebrate.

#### Down:

2 Aware, 3 Elate, 4 Apollo, 5 Thirst,  
6 Disrepair, 7 Hoarded, 11 Perennial,  
12 Arrow, 14 Heart, 16 Corinth, 19 Snooze,  
20 Assume, 23 Alter, 24 Cheat.

### QUICK

#### Across:

1 Cygnet, 4 Boring, 9 Avarice, 10 Stain,  
11 Slice, 12 Targets, 13 Strict, 15 Census,  
18 Resolve, 20 Scrub, 22 Aroma,  
23 Nervous, 24 Shekel, 25 Ceases.

#### Down:

1 Claws, 2 Glazier, 3 Exile, 5 Observe,  
6 Inane, 7 Genesis, 8 Deity, 13 Surpass,  
14 Collate, 16 Serious, 17 Feint,  
19 Scope, 20 Surge, 21 Basis.

## App of the week



### Crosswords – Spanish version (Crucigramas)

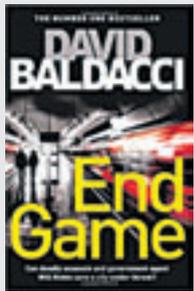
This app introduces the classic pastime of solving Crosswords. To win the game, players must find all the vertical and horizontal Spanish words that make up the puzzle from their definitions.

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BOOKS



Success is a must

IN the newest mission for Will Robie, a highly trained assassin and the US government's most indispensable asset, he is called to London on urgent business.

An imminent terrorist attack threatens the Underground and with the US next in line, Robie is seen as the only candidate who can stop the terror threat before it begins.

Once given the assignment, Robie knows he has one chance to succeed in saving London and make it safely home.

Robie knows that he must return home in order to find out what has happened to fellow agent Jessica Reel following their last deadly mission together, but he is about to learn that even if he succeeds, the worst is yet to come.

books@euroweeklynews.com

Costa de Almería

weather

TODAY



TOMORROW



<b>Malaga</b> Today: Max 19, Min 9-S Fri - 19 9 - S Sat - 20 10 - S Sun - 20 10 - S Mon - 21 10 - S Tue - 20 11 - Cl Wed - 20 11 - Cl	<b>Almeria</b> Today: Max 20, Min 12-S Fri - 20 12 - S Sat - 20 12 - S Sun - 20 12 - S Mon - 20 12 - S Tue - 20 13 - Cl Wed - 20 12 - Cl	<b>Bilbao</b> Today: Max 17, Min 4-S Fri - 15 7 - Cl Sat - 13 5 - C Sun - 14 5 - C Mon - 14 5 - Sh Tue - 13 5 - C Wed - 12 7 - C	<b>Madrid</b> Today: Max 17, Min 9-S Fri - 18 3 - S Sat - 17 2 - S Sun - 16 2 - C Mon - 15 2 - S Tue - 14 2 - C Wed - 14 3 - C
<b>Alicante</b> Today: Max 20, Min 10-C Fri - 20 10 - S Sat - 20 10 - S Sun - 21 11 - S Mon - 21 11 - C Tue - 19 11 - S Wed - 19 11 - C	<b>Benidorm</b> Today: Max 20, Min 11-C Fri - 19 11 - S Sat - 20 11 - S Sun - 20 12 - S Mon - 20 12 - C Tue - 19 11 - S Wed - 18 13 - S	<b>Mallorca</b> Today: Max 19, Min 8-S Fri - 19 9 - S Sat - 19 9 - S Sun - 18 9 - S Mon - 18 9 - C Tue - 17 8 - S Wed - 17 9 - C	<b>Barcelona</b> Today: Max 17, Min 7-S Fri - 17 8 - S Sat - 18 8 - S Sun - 15 8 - C Mon - 17 7 - Sh Tue - 15 7 - S Wed - 15 8 - C

S: Sun Cl: Clear C: Cloudy Sh: Showers Th: Thunder Sn: Snow

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

BIRTHDAYS

• **Paul Scholes, Footballer, November 16, 43**  
English footballer played his entire career for Manchester United, winning 11 Premier League titles and three FA Cups.  
• **Danny DeVito, Actor, November 17, 73**  
The Emmy and Golden Globe award-winning actor has featured in classics such as One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, La Confidential,



Danny DeVito.

Get Shorty and Matilda.  
• **Anthony McPartlin, TV Host, November 18, 42**  
First introduced to audiences in Byker Grove, McPartlin is part of the famous duo Ant and Dec and will host the new series of I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here later this month.  
• **Calvin Klein, Fashion Designer, November 19, 75**  
Born in New York, the fashion designer has

become recognised for revolutionising men's underwear. He is also known for his red carpet runway looks and ready-to-wear accessory lines.  
• **Kimberley Walsh, Singer, November 20, 36**  
Discovered on the show 'Popstars: The Rivals,' Walsh shot to fame as part of group Girls Aloud and recently featured as Princess Fiona in the production of Shrek the Musical in London.  
• **Carly Rae Jepsen, Singer,**

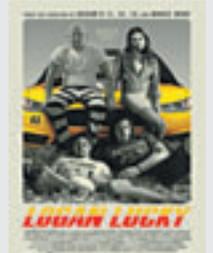
**November 21, 32**  
The Canadian singer is best known for her debut single *Call Me Maybe* which reached Number One on the US and Canadian Billboards and was also streamed over 400 million times on YouTube.  
• **Scarlett Johansson, Actress, November 22, 33**  
Acclaimed actress Johansson first made her film debut at the age of nine with a role in the film *North and* is now a huge part of the Marvel franchise, starring as *Black Widow*.

This week in history

**1900 - First Mercedes test drive**  
The first car under the Mercedes name is taken for its inaugural drive in Cannstatt, Germany after being built for buyer Emil Jellinek.  
**1916 - Battle of the Somme ends**  
British Commander in Chief Sir Douglas Haig calls a halt to his army's offensive close to the edge of the Somme River in northwestern France.  
**1947 - Princess Elizabeth weds Philip Mountbatten**  
The 21-year-old Princess Elizabeth marries her distant cousin Philip Mountbatten, a former prince of Greece and Denmark who renounced his titles in order to marry the English princess.  
**1963 - John F Kennedy assassinated**  
The 35th President of the US, John F Kennedy is assassinated while travelling in an open-top convertible through Dallas, Texas.  
**1969 - Pele scores 1,000th goal**  
Considered one of the greatest players to ever play the game, Pele scores his 1,000th professional goal against Vasco da Gama in Rio de Janeiro's Maracana Stadium  
**2001 - First Harry Potter film opens**  
British author J K Rowling's creation of a bespectacled young wizard makes its big screen debut in *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.

DVD

Ultimate heist



**FAMILY** man Jimmy Logan (Channing Tatum) teams up with his one armed brother Clyde and sister Mellie to steal money from the Charlotte Motor Speedway in North Carolina.  
Jimmy and Clyde also recruit demolitions expert Joe Bang to help with heist and break into the track's underground system.  
The heist does not go to plan of course as complications arise when a mix-up forces the crew to pull off the theft during a popular NASCAR race while also trying to dodge a relentless FBI agent.

Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Word Ladder

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

RACE

BELT

BELT  
MELT  
MALT  
MALE  
MACE  
RACE  
Solution

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

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

Trivia Fact

Spain is the second highest country in Europe behind Switzerland, with an average altitude of 660 metres.

# Avoid the dreaded lurgy

By Sally Underwood

WE all know we are more prone to coughs and colds in the winter months.

Poor sleep patterns, lack of fresh air and colder temperatures all lower our immune systems and increase our risk of catching a bug. The constant supply of hugs and kisses from friends and family at festive parties also heightens our chances of catching something someone else has.

However, there are some simple hygiene changes you can make this winter to avoid contracting bugs.

According to Heather Leslie, director of infection prevention and control at Benenden Hospital, a sneeze can travel around 30 metres if not captured in a tissue, while vomit can also travel far. She explains "just one particle" can spread infection to others.

So if you are ill, try to limit your contact with other people, particularly the very old, the very young and pregnant women and avoid spreading the infection further.

Leslie also encourages eating five portions of fruit and vegetables a day and getting as much sleep as possible. While this is sensible advice for any time of year, Leslie says this will avoid putting unnecessary strain on your immune system, therefore lowering your risk of contracting bugs.

She says it is also important to wash our hands more thoroughly than normal when there are bugs floating around. She explains an equally important part of the process is drying our hands, saying "wet hands are as dangerous as dirty hands." The NHS advises washing hands for between 40 and 60 seconds, reaching every part of your fingers, palms and nails.

Finally, Leslie recommends keeping our houses as clean as possible to avoid bugs spreading. She says we should use antibacterial sprays and disposable cloths on all kitchen and bathroom surfaces as well as ensuring we close our toilet lids before flushing as germs can travel up to six metres.



**RUN DOWN:** You can make small changes at home to avoid getting dreaded winter bugs.

## Aching muscles?

COLDER temperatures mean many of us suffer from aches and pains we do not notice the rest of the year.

Whether it is an old injury flaring up or muscles contracting when cold, these pains can reduce our quality of life in the winter months and prevent us being as active as normal. The good news is there are several steps you can take to avoid and treat aching muscles and limbs.

While advice for years has involved using either heat or ice packs to relax muscles or reduce inflammation, the latest medical advice recommends alternating the two.

To make a heat pack, fill a long sock with rice and then tie or sew the end shut before heating in the microwave for 60 seconds. Checking the pack is not too hot, place it on the affected area.

To make an ice pack, use a bag of frozen peas or other small vegetables or fill a freezer bag with one part rubbing alcohol to two parts water and freeze. Place inside a freezer bag to prevent leaks for a reusable gel ice pack.

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email: alboxgirasol@hotmail.com

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**DREAM ON:** Make sure you create the right environment for a good night's sleep.

THE changing seasons can affect our sleep patterns, leaving us tired and more vulnerable to illness.

In addition to affecting our immune systems, lack of sleep also increases our risk of diabetes and depression, lowers our concentration levels and alters our mood. A recent study even found our brain cells slow down when we are tired, meaning we process information slower and making driving, whilst tired, as bad as drink driving in some cases.

Creating the right environment to get some shut eye is crucial and The Sleep Foundation has some suggestions.

Firstly, the organisation recommends getting your body clock into an optimum position by going to bed and waking up at the same time every day. The Sleep Founda-

tion claims this will regulate your sleep patterns, helping you to stay asleep for longer.

Next, it recommends establishing a relaxing routine you practise before bed each day, whether this is taking time to massage in a moisturiser or clenching then unclenching all your bodies muscles in turn starting from your toes.

The Sleep Foundation also suggests checking your room for distractions, including light and noise. It is well-known 'blue light' - the sort of light emitted from mobile phones and tablets - can disrupt sleep and even induce depression so make

sure to turn off any devices at least 45 minutes before trying to get to sleep. Block out excess light with lined curtains and reduce any noise pollution, including snoring, by using a white noise machine to mask the sound.

Use good quality mattresses, pillows and linens in breathable fabrics to make your bed as comfortable as possible and reduce your risk of being woken up.

Finally, if you are struggling to relax before sleep, why not turn your bedroom into an oasis by using a lavender pillow spray or diffuser and get ready to sleep like a baby!

## Sleep tight

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## Prostate cancer: what to look for



**SPECIALIST:** Doctor Luis Perez Belmonte.

**HOW often is prostate cancer present in middle-aged men?**

Prostate cancer is extremely common, although its exact cause is unknown. Around 29,000 men in Spain suffer from the disease each year, making it the most common form of male cancer, affecting up to 50 per cent of males over 70.

**When should you get checked?**

All men over 50 should get checked even if they present no symptoms. If any symptoms present themselves or if you have any queries before this age don't hesitate to see a specialist.

**What are the symptoms of the onset of prostate cancer?**

Symptoms can take a long time or even years to manifest. In the early stages, when the tumour is confined to the prostate, it may be asymptomatic or accompanied by mild obstructive symptoms such as urinary incontinence, interruption of the urine stream, increased frequency of urination, especially at night, difficulty urinating or a burning sensation during urination.

When tumours are in an

advanced stage they can be accompanied by blood in the urine, infection, back pain and difficulties in sexual relations.

When it comes to advanced tumours, legs may appear swollen (due to the growth of regional lymph nodes), bone pain can present itself (due to the tumour spreading to the bone) and even weakness or loss of strength in the legs can appear (due to compression of the spinal cord or nerve roots). It can also cause kidney failure, loss of appetite and weight loss or anaemia.

**What is the prognosis for the disease?**

The evolution of the disease is usually slow, allowing early and timely treatment to control the disease in the majority of cases.

**If diagnosed, what is the treatment?**

Treatment depends on how the disease evolves and data, such as the grade and stage of cancer, age and health status of the patient are important to deciding treatment. Currently there are four ways to proceed to reduce and/or remove prostate cancer: surgery, radiation, hormonal therapy and permanent observation.

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

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Update on food, drink, entertainments, what's on and weekly happenings

# Flavours of Almeria

HUERCAL-OVERA will showcase the flavours of Almeria this weekend with the celebration of the Degustho Gastronomic Market in Plaza Mayor.

The fair will be officially opened tomorrow (Friday) at 7pm by the authorities and will be followed by a performance by the Ría Pitá Association with their show 'Tauromaquia.'

On Saturday, there will be a number of workshops, including a children's cooking show highlighting the flavours of Almeria with Javier de Mastarchef Junior, and a children's cooking workshop.

At 1pm, there will also be a sushi workshop with chef Alvaro Garcia, followed by a chocolate workshop 'La Virgitana' and there will be the opportunity to witness a demonstration by the Association of the Centro Casco Histórico demonstrating the typical Huerca-Overa almond pie.

On Sunday at 12pm, the 2017 Tapa Route awards ceremony will be held with the presence of Chef Juan Moreno and Chef Yolanda García, from Restaurante Alejandro, (Roquetas de Mar Michelin Star), who will perform a cooking show at

1pm with her exhibition 'Chocoespato.'

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Teatro Villa de Huerca-Overa or through the representatives of the Foundation in the municipality.

Registrations to the workshops are free and can be made via [www.huercal-overa.es](http://www.huercal-overa.es).

DegustHO Gastronomic Market Sabores Almería is the prelude to the Gastronomic Festival DegustHO Almería that will return next year as part of the 350 anniversary of the Villazgo exemptions celebration.

## 3rd Disabilities race day

THE third Aspapros race for people with disabilities in Almeria will be held later this year.

The day will take place on Sunday December 3 between 10am and 12pm at the Maestro Padilla Auditorium and will have a number of different events that people can participate in.

Events will include the 10km race, 10km bi-

cycle race, 3km walking, 3km roller skate race and the 400m children's race.

Registrations for the event are open until December 1 and for more information, visit the group's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Carrera-Solidaria-Aspapro-965551923589050>



Credit: @aedeteatro/Twitter

**PERFORMANCE:** The Aedea Teatro will give their adaptation of the popular musical Grease.

## Grease is the word

AMATEUR theatre group Aedea Teatro are set to bring the popular musical 'Grease' to the Maestro Padilla Auditorium.

The performance will be the group's interpretation of the popular 1978 musical that follows the story of Danny Zuko and Sandy Olsson.

One of the most successful films of all-

time; Grease follows the summer love story of the two teens in the 50's but when they unexpectedly end up at the same high school after the summer finishes, they face difficulties trying to rekindle their initial romance.

Tickets are available online and are priced at €10 each.

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Nov 25th Zodiac duo

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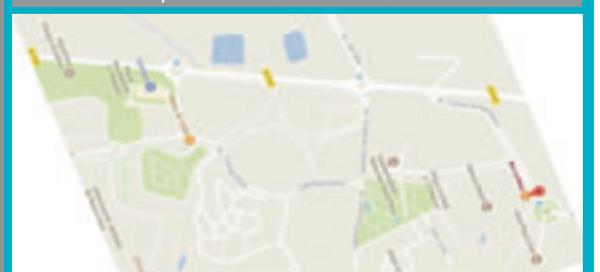
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Credit: The Arts Fuse/Facebook

**RENOWNED:** Mike Gibbs is regarded as one of the world's most influential composers.

# World famous composer coming to Almeria

THE Apolo theatre is set to host one of the most influential and important composers of all time.

On Sunday December 10, the theatre will play host to world-renowned composer Mike Gibbs and the Almerian Clasi jazz big band in celebration of Gibbs' 80th birthday.

Born in Southern Rhodesia, which is now Zimbabwe, Mike Gibbs has spent most of his career based in the USA and the UK.

An internationally renowned composer, Gibbs has worked with the likes of Peter Gabriel, Pat Metheny, John McLaughlin, John Scofield, Gary Burton and Whitney Houston.

Over the course of his career, Gibbs has composed and arranged music for films, television, albums, ballet, jazz groups, symphony orchestras and is equally conversant in modern, traditional, jazz and classical styles.

The concert begins at 7pm with tickets priced at €15.

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THIS year's Beaujolais Nouveau will by now have been heralded in various parts of the world after being held in bonded warehouses for release at one minute past midnight (CET) today, the third Thursday of November.

A red wine from Gamay grapes grown in the Beaujolais region of France, nearly 4,000 vineyards produce the 12 officially designated types of Beaujolais Nouveau.

Initially meant to celebrate the end of the harvest and intended only for local consumption, around 70 years ago producers saw the potential for marketing Beaujolais Nouveau and the idea of a race to Paris carrying the first bottles of the new vintage was consequently born.

This attracted wide media coverage, and by the 1990s it had become an international event.

The wine - from grapes

# It's Beaujolais Nouveau time

## BACCHUS CELLAR

by Lorenzo Barbareschi



**BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU: Grapes must be hand-picked.**

fermentation period and is bottled only six to eight weeks after harvest. Purple-pink, fresh and very low in tannins, Beaujolais Nouveau's fruity flavours include banana, figs and grapes.

Definite variations between vintages are an early indicator of the quality of the year's regional harvest and it is recommended to serve Beaujolais Nouveau slightly chilled to 13°C (55°F), ideally with light meals, and within six months from harvest.

While connoisseurs do not regard it as a great wine, I feel it is worth trying.

which by law must be picked by hand - has a short

Sante' and Happy tasting!

## Carboneras' classical music celebration

CLASSICAL music lovers can look forward to a month full of music in Carboneras with a number of concerts taking place across the month of December.

The first edition of the Carboneras Classical music series will take place between December 2 and 16 and is composed of three concerts at the Teatro Casa de la Musica.

On December 2, the series will be opened by Cadiz-born pianist Jose Luis Neto, who will interpret Isaac Albeniz's 'Suite Iberia.' Malaga trio 'Picasso Chamber Ensemble' will then present their 'Aire de Romanza' on December 9.

Finally, Sevillian artist Totem Ensemble will perform a family based concert on the eve of the traditional New Year's, December 16, with his tribute to traditional Viennese music with 'Polkas and Strauss waltzes.'

All performances begin at 9pm and tickets for all three events cost €12. For more information, visit Carboneras Town Hall's Facebook page.

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**Cassandra Nash**  
A weekly look

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

RAJOY'S go-to strategy for political predicaments has always been to hide behind the courts or the public prosecution department.

Now it has come and bitten him on the backside.

The Fiscalía - less detached from the government than it should be - accused the Catalan government of sedition and



**COOL OPERATOR:** Mariano Rajoy's decision to imprison Catalan politicians could come back to haunt him.

# Crime and punishment

rebellion. With these charges there was little for investigating Judge Carmen Lamela to do than remand the nine politicians remaining in Spain.

Result? Instant martyrdom and a probable slew of votes in the Catalan elections on December 21. Rajoy has blown it again.

Sometimes the punishment does not need to fit the crime and there has been too much stick and not enough carrot over Cataluña.

All the present government has ever made clear is what would happen if the Catalans left, and the punishment that awaited them. They have never been told how much every-

one would like them to stay.

Rajoy could have tried that, but he never comes across as anything other than a third-time-lucky president unable to tackle a problem requiring instinct and warmth, not rulebook logic.

## Alternative vocabulary

THERE was a point during and immediately after the Catalan UDI when the separatists were in disarray and ex-president Carles Puigdemont hightailed it to Brussels.

The disarray was not only

due to the Constitution's Article 155 that suspended Cataluña's autonomy. Companies were leaving Cataluña, unemployment was rising, tourism and the economy were less robust. What was promised as epic and heroic turned into a cowardly shambles, a deflated balloon after the party has ended.

The elections announced for December 21 were welcomed inside and outside Cataluña. The voices of the anti-independence majority, drowned out until now by the two million separatists would be heard, and a pro-remain vote would make everything ticketyboo once more.

Then the remaining government members were remanded for rebellion and sedition.

Esquerra Republicana is rising in the polls and will not repeat the Juntspel Si coalition with Carles Puigdemont's downwardly mobile centre-right PDeCat.

Left wing pro-independence parties might or might not go hand-in-hand but if the separatists win it, it will be thanks to voters who believe that words like rebellion and sedition, unheard in Spain for decades, are too redolent of former regimes.

## Food for thought

ORIOL JUNQUERAS, leader of Esquerra Republicana de Cataluña (ERC) was criticised for his low profile following the region's short-

lived declaration of independence.

The same can't be said for Junqueras' silhouette which was as rotund as ever when he was remanded on November 2 for sedition, rebellion and misuse of public funds. He is likely to get rotunder: prison food is notoriously calorific nowadays.

## Keep smiling

WHO knows what Barcelona mayor Ada Colau truly feels regarding Catalan independence? What we do know is her much-criticised equidistance between 'stay' and 'go' means she wants to have her cake and eat it.

She wants to remain mayor and needs PSC-PSOE support to do so. Her party Catalunya en Comu is not separatist but she needs separatist votes too.

Colau's pussycat smile does not falter but only she knows if the cream is curdling.

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## Travel



**CULTURE LINK:** This bridge in Girona was built by Gustav Eiffel just before he built the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

# A city full of charm

A HUB of Catalan culture in its own right, Girona is packed to the brim with museums, galleries and stunning buildings. The historic centre built by the city's abundant wealth during medieval times has been well preserved over the centuries, surviving wars, sieges and revolutions.

The best way to see the city is to take a walk along the medieval walls, known as the Passeig de la Muralla, that border the city centre and offer great views.

Girona has one of the best preserved Jewish quarters in all of Europe called El Call, which

is a maze of narrow, cobbled streets that look just how they would have 500 years ago when the Jewish population occupied this area of the city.

Another highlight that should not be missed is Girona Cathedral, which has a picturesque long staircase leading to the entrance that was used as a location to film Game of Thrones.

The city has its own small airport but there is also a high-speed train service that links Girona to the Catalan capital of Barcelona, so it makes a perfect destination for a quick day trip.

## Arrested for same offence

GUARDIA CIVIL officers have arrested a resident of Seron for allegedly breaching a restraining order.

According to reports, the victim stated that the events occurred at the door of his home in Seron.

In his complaint, the victim reportedly informed officers that a person was continuously knocking on the door of his house, and that at the time he opened it, the accused individual attacked them.

It is reportedly the second time that the individual has been allegedly arrested for the same offence after also being arrested on September 27 as the alleged perpetrator of the same crime.

# People's Party ask for second Albox Ambulance

THE People's Party of Albox has submitted a motion to request a second ambulance and a second 24-hour medical team at the Albox Health Centre.

The request comes in the hope of avoiding delays that can pose serious risks to the health of users and alleviate the current pressures of only having a single ambulance.

At present, the Emergency Service is available on Monday to Friday from 3pm to 8am and Saturdays, Sundays and holidays 24 hours, with a single ambulance and two medical teams.

However on certain occasions, only one team is 24 hours while the other is only available until 10pm, meaning that if the 24-hour team has to attend an emergency after 10pm, the Health Centre will be left unattended by medical staff.



**ADDITION WANTED:** The People's Party has suggested that the Albox Health Centre are provided with a second ambulance and 24-hour team.

The Emergency Service provided by the Albox Health Centre covers the municipalities of Albox, Arboleas, Partaloa and Cantoria, with a territorial area of more than 350 kilometres

and around 20,000 people. The distances that the single ambulance is required to cover have also reportedly seen it take up to two and a half hours to attend to a single emergency on occasions.



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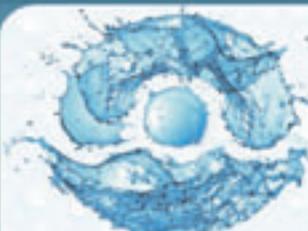
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## Day of sport for disabled athletes

MORE than 120 Almerian people with disabilities participated in the second Inter-provincial Meeting of Adapted Sport Murcia-Almeria recently.

This day was part of the 'Adapted Sports 2017' project aimed at helping people with different intellectual abilities.

Held at the San Antonio Sports Complex in Lorca between 11am and 2pm, members of 16 different organisations participated in the day, eight of whom belonged to the province of Murcia and eight from the province of Almeria.



Photo by @dipalme\_almeria

**TURNOUT:** More than 120 people from Almeria participated.

Those who participated were from Los Carriles, San Marcos, Virgen del Socorro, El Saliente, Asprodalba, La Esperanza, Vir-

gen del Río, Apafa.

The main events were focused around swimming and petanque and at the end of the

day, winners of each event were awarded with medals by the deputy of Sport, Ángeles Martínez.

## Charity Gala Against Cancer

AROUND 300 people gathered in the auditorium Adolfo Suarez de Hijate recently for the Charity Against Cancer Gala.

Head of the Local Board of the Hijate Association, Catalina Rodríguez, hosted the event which featured a performance by Almerian comedian Pepe Céspedes. The event began with words of welcome from the mayor of Alcóntar and son of Catalina Rodríguez, Antonio Ramón Salas, followed by the performance of the Municipal Band of Hijate and also featured

a presentation by Paqui Martínez. The final total of money raised will go to the AECC who work tirelessly for the development of new research projects that achieve greater results in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

The gala had many important people in attendance including mayors, deputies, senators, Head of Social Services of the province and President of the Spanish Association Against Cancer in Almeria, Francisco Balcázar.



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**WORKING:** The works were attended by Mayor Antonio Ramon Salas and Territorial Delegate Joaquin Jimenez.

## Roadworks begin

ROADWORKS have begun on the A334 in Alcóntar that gives access to the neighbourhood of Los Segundas in an attempt to improve road safety.

The works have a deadline of two months and have a budget of just over €140,000 and were recently visited by the Territorial Delegate in Almería, Joaquín Jiménez and mayor of the municipali-

ty, Antonio Ramón Salas.

Joaquín Jiménez told local Spanish media that the highway, known as the REDIA del Almanzora, "does not comply with the specifications of the layout norm, which makes it a point of high accident rate in the road network of the Junta de Andalucía in the province."

The project aims to redesign the intersection in a

type B access, with a number of accessories that will improve road safety in the area including a deceleration wedge as well as a semi-direct branch for turns left of the highway exit.

Greater security conditions will also be provided to the intersection, by putting in a visibility berm in the hope of allowing a greater reaction and manoeuvre distance.



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By Matthew Elliott

MINI-HOMES are coming to Spain. Popular in the post-recession US and UK, the tiny houses are winning over Spaniards lured by cheap prices and easy maintenance.

Typically less than 40 square metres, these pre-fabricated homes emerged in Japan in the 1990s as rents skyrocketed in Tokyo. They have a Zen vibe and are popular among young professionals who haven't a hope of stumping up enough money for a regular deposit.

In 2013 Spanish television ran a show called Minicasas. Now demand has grown and there are specialist architectural companies, including Microcasas, Pequeñas casas Bioclimaticas and Abaton Arquitectura, who are happily building small, cheap, personalised homes across the country.

Some of the homes are so light that they can be

# Mini casa revolution

## Small homes, big imagination



Photo credit Facebook/Microcasas. Pequeñas casas Bioclimaticas

**THINKING FREE:** Many of the homes are energy efficient and constructed with natural materials.

moved on wheels. This means owners can rent space to place their property, without having to purchase plots of land.

Many of the homes are energy efficient and constructed with natural materials. Prices are appealing with €1,000 per square metre an average guide. A smartly constructed 30 square metre space can provide owners with a kitchen, bathroom and bedroom for €30,000. These homes can be built in as little as six weeks.

Demand in Spain is currently strongest in Galicia and Cataluña. Expecting young professionals, buyers including people looking for a second home, and others who buy the minicasas to place on their own property as an extension.

One problem area is regulation. Different regions have different definitions of housing and water, sanitation and electricity rules to be enforced.

## Home prices' rosy future



**PROPERTY MARKET:** Prices are expected to rise by 5.6 per cent next year.

CREDIT rating specialist Moody's has predicted that Spanish house prices will increase by 8.6 per cent over the next three years. The American giant has analysed the expected impact of recent demographic trends on seven European residential property markets.

In Spain, Moody's expects property prices to rise by 5.6 per cent on average next year. In 2019 and 2020 this will stabilise at 1.4 per cent.

The firm's analysis cites

a stronger economy and lower interest rates as key to price increases. The proportion of young workers in the marketplace has also risen by 8 per cent in the past decade.

Moody's suggested there were a few areas Spain could improve on to support the property sector. More affordable homes and a boost to the construction sector were chief among them.

While the outlook is positive for Spain, Neinor

Homes has expressed fears that activity in the Catalan real estate sector could fall by as much as 25 per cent. Juan Velayos, CEO of the major property developer, said that the political crisis was generating distrust and instability.

He welcomed the call for fresh elections and reiterated Neinor's support for its Catalan operations. Neinor is set to build 12,000 homes across Spain in the coming years, including 1,900 in Cataluña.

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NOW in their eighth year of trading, Neater Heater are still being asked the same questions. What makes Neater Heaters special? Why should you choose them over other electric heaters? The simple answer is; design and build quality.

Many families throughout the Costa Blanca are already enjoying the soft warmth given off by these cleverly designed and unobtrusive Norwegian heaters. A good discreet central heating system has never been so affordable.

As Richard and Tony explain: "The basic choices for heating your home are either a full central heating system with water-filled radiators and pipes, gas heaters, electric, or a combination. Obviously with central heating the main obstacle is the high installation cost. Also, there is quite a high ongoing maintenance cost.

Gas estufas are effective, but quite unhealthy and give off a huge



NEATER HEATERS: Can be wall-mounted or freestanding.

amount of vapour which causes black mould. This brings us to electric. Until we started Neater Heater the options were awful. You either bought Jell-filled heaters that were as expensive as a central heating system to buy, or cheap - but mostly inefficient - heaters that would make your electric meter wheel spin like a helicopter. There was nothing affordable, economical, and effective available in Spain. We know, believe

us - we looked."

But sometimes in life luck plays a strange hand. It was while Tony was looking for a heater for his son's bedroom that, quite by chance, he saw a heater in a house he was doing some maintenance jobs in and it fit the bill perfectly. It was a neat and very efficient wall-mounted Norwegian convector heater. It could be used as an individual room heater, or as part of a complete integrated sys-

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tem. The rest, as they say, is history and eight years down the road he, and Richard, are making "Neater Heaters" available to us all.

The heaters can be wall-mounted or if you are limited for wall space additional feet can be purchased to enable them to be freestanding.

Last year they added to their range the Turkish-made Vigo heater and towel radiators. These heaters share the design technology and ethos of the current Neater Heaters, but it has two differences: The Vigo comes with a carrying handle, wall bracket, and feet included in the price; They also have a digital display which in-

dicates the reduced wattage that the heater regulates once the room has reached the desired temperature, thus saving more money through reduced running costs.

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## Time to plant your veg

WINTER is actually a great time to work on your vegetable garden if you live somewhere with a Mediterranean climate.

Those who live in places blessed with warmer summers choose to wait until later in the year to plant their crops in order to use the natural rainfall, which tends to come in winter months.

However, the ground is still quite warm at this time of the year, even as the temperature starts to drop, which makes it a great time to plant grasses, shrubs and trees. Leafy vegetables tend to do well when planted at this time of the year, such as cauliflower, kale, celery and

broccoli, as do root vegetables like parsnips and beetroot.

While potatoes are traditionally planted in the spring, they can also be planted in Mediterranean gardens while it is still quite warm outside, so you can time your harvests to make sure you have a year-round supply.

The only plants that can't be planted during winter months are 'fruit' crops, such as tomatoes, courgettes and peppers, as they need continuous warm weather in order to ripen.

It's a good idea to plant your crops in stages, so they mature at different times, but still try to get them all into the ground as soon as possible in case the temperature suddenly plummets.



COMFORT FOOD: Winter is a great time to plant root vegetables, such as carrots and beetroot.

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# Olives trees - the marvel of the Mediterranean landscape and cuisine

**GRAEME TYRRELL**

THE olive tree is the most symbolic tree of the Mediterranean. Spain has been the centre of olive oil production for thousands of years with olive oil being traded by Spain with the Roman Empire importing boat loads of the golden oil for centuries.

Mountains have been terraced and stone walls built in abundance to host the olive tree on thousands of hectares of otherwise unproductive land where the olive tree can grow and bear fruit for hundreds of years. There are olive trees that are known to be more than a thousand years old.

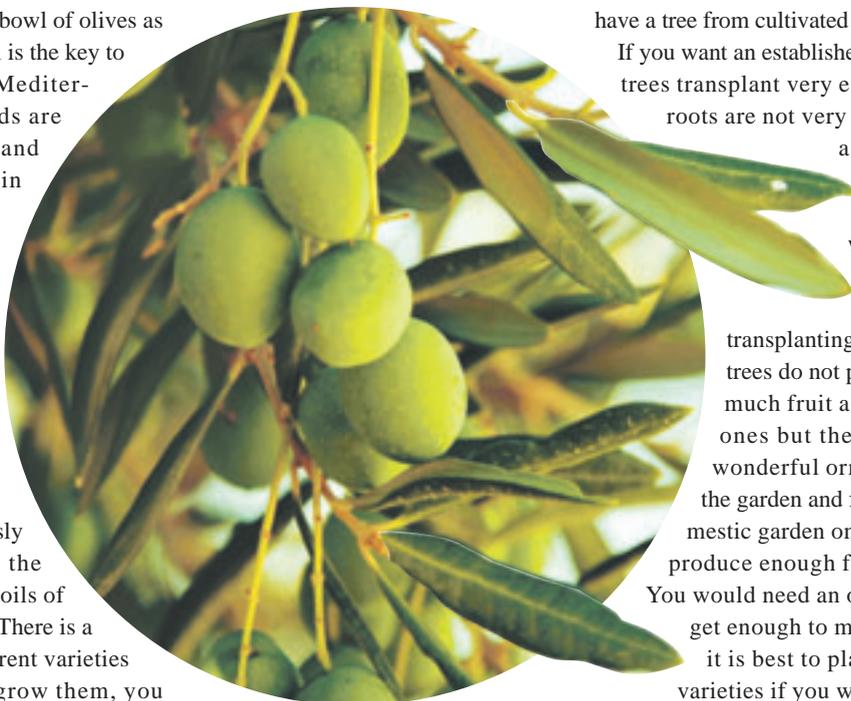
The branches of the olive tree are displayed in hieroglyphs in Egypt and are on the current United Nations flag. It has been allocated as a symbol of victory by the ancient Greeks and Romans and Noah is said to have received a branch from a dove in the Bible when the flood waters receded.

Any Mediterranean cuisine is not

complete without a bowl of olives as an appetiser. The oil is the key to giving paella its Mediterranean taste, salads are anointed with it and bread is drenched in it.

The olive tree can grow up to 50 metres high but are usually kept severely pruned to allow easy harvest and to give maximum size of the olive fruit.

The trees obviously grow perfectly in the naturally alkaline soils of the Mediterranean. There is a wide range of different varieties so if you wish to grow them, you need to decide if you want the olives for eating or oil as they have different characteristics. It is then a matter of finding the best of the type you want for your region. Wild olives



**SYMBOLIC: Mediterranean olives.**

have very small fruit so if you want to have larger olives it is necessary to

have a tree from cultivated varieties.

If you want an established tree, the trees transplant very easily. The roots are not very extensive

and reshoot well when pruned to allow

transplanting. Very old trees do not produce as much fruit as younger ones but they make a wonderful ornament in the garden and for the domestic garden one tree can produce enough for eating. You would need an orchard to get enough to make oil so it is best to plant eating varieties if you want to use the fruit.

The fruit is bitter due to glucosides that are present when first picked so it is a process to make them edible. There are so many variations on how

to do it. The ancient Greeks used to tie baskets full of olives to their boats and let the sea water naturally cure them of the bitterness.

The basis of curing olives is to soak them in salty water and keep changing the water until they are the right taste. It is an art form to prepare the olives to be just right, although right can have regional preferences.

The oil is usually extracted by crushing the fruit and filtering it. It can take around 10 kilos of olives to make one kilo of olive oil depending on the olive and the extraction method.

The virgin oil is graded as Extra with less than 1 per cent acidity, Corriente that does not exceed 3.3 per cent acidity and Lampante with above 3.3 per cent acidity. The virgin oil can be further refined into regular olive oil and blended to find the right taste for its purpose.

The olive tree is a must for the Mediterranean garden as a tradition that has occurred for thousands of years.

ONE of the best things about the festive season is comfy nights in at home with a roaring fire.

Snuggly blankets, warm cocoa and a good box set to watch all make hibernating fun. But if you want to make your home even cosier, why not try adding some seasonal scents to really create a winter wonderland?

According to *Country Living*, there are several cheap ways you can create home-made perfume for your home.

While it is a little early to be thinking about Christmas trees, if and when yours does arrive, use the spare trimmings to create scent sachets using scrap fabric. These can be placed under pillows or cushions and in drawers and cupboards to create a fresh and seasonal smell

## It's mistletoe and wine time

which is sure to get you in the festive spirit!

*Country Living* also suggests making home-made garlands which will provide both a free decoration and an uplifting fragrance.

Bake thin slices of orange and cinnamon coated apple in the oven before using a needle to connect them with ribbon or string and hang them from your mantelpiece or ceiling.

Take advantage of Spain's abundance of pine trees by collecting any fallen cones and spraying them with cinnamon essential oil before arranging them in a bowl. Festive and pretty!

Another decorative suggestion includes taking a Styrofoam wreath and filling it with sage. This minty smelling herb will mimic the scent of candy

canes, filling your home with a pleasant, Christmassy aroma, as well as saving you money on your decorations this year.

Finally, give your fire an aromatic lift by throwing in any excess pine cones. These will help get your fire going as well as giving off a cosy, wintery smell.

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# Some dog training tips



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**THE sit and stay**

This is an exercise that can only be correctly taught if each stage is perfected before continuing on to the next stage. The training for this exercise should be started indoors, the dog on the lead and no distractions. Initially the handler should be kneeling on the floor with the dog close to the handler's left side.

1. Give the SIT command once only, whilst putting the dog into the sit position at your left side, thereafter NEVER recommand, even if the dog moves. Pull up and back with your right hand in the collar, simultaneously push

down with your left hand on the dog's back just above the base of his tail. Never apply pressure any higher up the dog's back as this could cause injury. Remember - even if the dog does not sit immediately - DO NOT repeat the sit command.

PRAISE the dog quietly once he is settled and comfortable in the SIT and remains there without any physical restraint from the handler. If the dog moves, replace him into the SIT with no further commands. Do this as often as necessary, until he is sitting still and comfortable, praise quietly, then give the release command and at the same time move the dog from where he is sitting. PRAISE.

2. Repeat stage 1 until the dog is sitting when commanded with confidence. Always use the method described in stage 1 to guide the dog into the sit position. Gently try to pull or push the dog out of position (the handler should still be kneeling next to the dog), but be prepared to place him back into the SIT should he move. If he resists your gentle attempts to dislodge him, PRAISE and give the release command. If the attempts to

move succeed - place him back into the sit position without commanding and go back to stage 1 and start again - until he is doing the exercise with more reliability.

The more frequently stages 1-2 are repeated the easier it will be to progress through this exercise and the more reliable your dog will be.

3. When the dog is doing stage 2 confidently, without moving, the exercise can be expanded. Put the dog into the SIT and with as little fuss as possible, stand upright. If he moves, put him straight back into the SIT without saying a word. When you are able to stand next to him use the lead, gently applying pressure to the collar to test the sit. If he moves again, replace him giving

no extra commands and start stage 3 again.

NB On no account should you proceed any further if he is not reliable on stage 3.

4. When he is doing stage 3 reliably and confidently, the exercise can again be expanded. Place him in the SIT, take a couple of steps

the lead again gently apply pressure to the collar, return to the dog immediately, PRAISE profusely and then



**TRAINING: The sit and stay way.**

RELEASE.

NEVER release the dog until you are standing by his side or he will never do a reliable sit stay.

**The down stay**

This is taught in exactly the same stages as the SIT - remember to only command the dog once and only when you are standing next to him, always replace him into position using no extra commands and always PRAISE and RELEASE at the end of each sit/down.

When both the sit and down are perfected with no distraction indoors, use different places where there are no distractions and start again at stage 1, working through all the stages. Perfect the technique by gradually increasing the distractions i.e. rattling a bunch of keys, dropping your hanky etc.

NEVER TEMPT FATE by leaving the dog in a stay where a sudden distraction could cause an accident ie untethered outside a shop.



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### Clarkson Quote of the Week

“It’s called a Kubang which, being a Maserati, is probably also the sound it’ll make when the warranty expires.”

Some might say...



### Motoring shorts

## Easy money

FERRARI is on course to make €1 billion in profits this year. It would be a record for the Italian giant, registering a 14 per cent increase on 2016’s takings.

The one billion milestone was set as a target for 2020 by CEO Sergio Marchionne in 2014. Despite Ferrari racing to that finish line quicker than expected, this year’s record profits are below those anticipated by shareholders who hoped for a 24 per cent profit increase.

Profits are expected to shoot up if Marchionne makes good on his pledge to take Ferrari out of Formula One. He plans to do so by 2021. It would be “totally beneficial to the profit and loss,” he said, “the board would be celebrating here until the cows come home.”

# Speed record smashed

By Matthew Elliott

CLOCKING an average speed of 277.9mph over two separate runs through the Nevada desert, the Koenigsegg Agera RS is now officially the world’s

fastest production car.

During the runs the Swedish-built hypercar struck a top speed of 284.5mph, smashing the previous record set by a production car, the Hennessey Ven-

GT, which stood at 270.5mph.

Despite tackling an incline the Agera RS managed to reach 271.2mph on the first run. Enjoying a decline on the second it hit 284.5mph.

The average was calculated from the two runs in the opposite direction on the same stretch

of Nevada’s Highway 106.

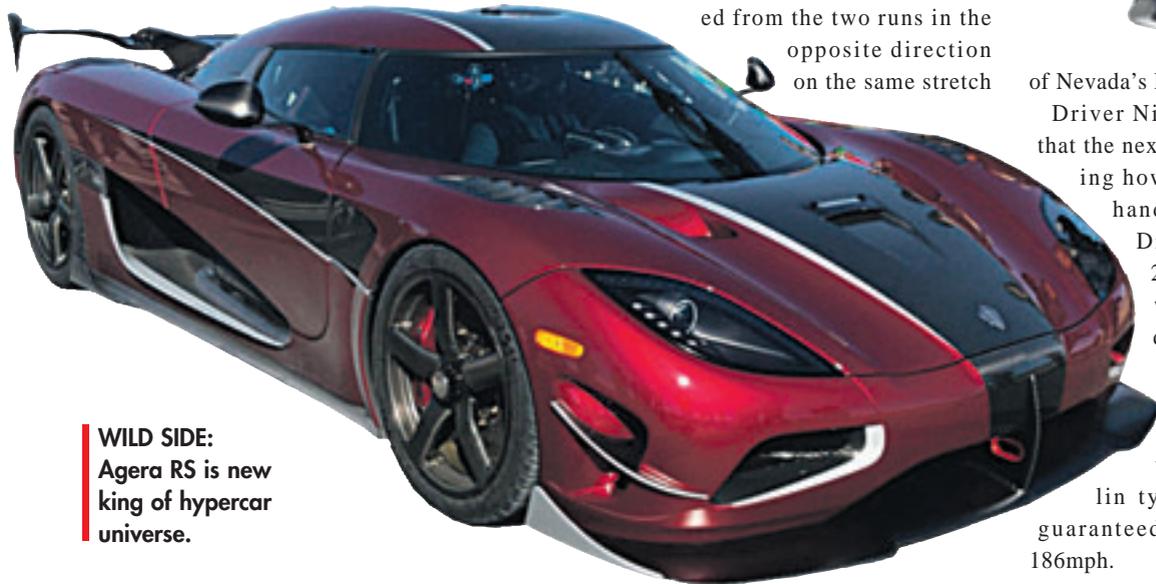
Driver Niklas Lilja said that the next stage was seeing how the Agera RS handles corners. Driving at 280mph plus was “really quite bumpy,” he said, with his only concern being that the Michelin tyres were only guaranteed for speeds of 186mph.

A five-litre V8 engine with 1,300hp helped Koenigsegg engineers challenge the limits of aerodynamics. Ground force was tailored to prevent a disastrous flip on a small imperceptible bump.

Unlike the Bloodhound SSC aiming for a land speed record of 1,000mph plus next year with its jet engine, the Agera RS is road legal, though pushing 300mph might lead to a spell inside.



Photo credit: Twitter



**WILD SIDE:**  
Agera RS is new king of hypercar universe.

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**ROAD TEST** by Nick Fletcher

# Ford Kuga ST-Line

IT'S been almost 10 years since the Ford Kuga was launched and since then, demand for SUV models has expanded greatly, creating many more contenders vying for sales.

To meet this challenge, the Kuga was face-lifted for 2017, which gave the model a more distinctive exterior look, though interior changes are less obvious. Even so, the Kuga stacks up well against more recent competitors, offering a wide choice of engines, 4WD options, roomy cabin and a good level of standard kit.

Prices start at €25,690 (£22,595) for an entry version which still boasts features such as alloy wheels, sports seats and cruise control but my test model was an ST-Line 2.0 litre diesel version with a price tag of €32,374 (£28,475). This model features darkened alloys, black grille and roof rails and a body kit to give it a more rugged sporty image.

There is plenty of equipment too, including sports suspension, climate control, auto lights and wipers, cruise control with speed limiter, keyless start, touch-screen, sat-nav, connectivity, audio voice control and tyre pressure monitoring.

The 148 hp diesel engine is a capable unit, proving smooth and responsive and the 0-100 kph time of 10.1 seconds is fairly typical of class standards. Top speed is 195 kph (121 mph) and the fuel consumption is 25.5 kpl (60.1 mpg).

On the road, the car has a slightly heavier feel than some rivals, with well-weighted steering and stiffer ST-Line suspension giving good grip and composed cornering, albeit at the expense of a firmer ride. Inside, there is decent room for five adults, a 456 litre boot and easy flat-fold

seats to boost capacity to 1,603 litres. The dashboard looks a little ordinary compared with more recent rivals but it is logically laid out and easy to use which arguably is better than looking flashier but being more complicated.

The Kuga is up against strong opposition in a crowded SUV sector which includes Mazda CX-5, Honda CR-V, Peugeot 3008, SEAT Ateca and VW Tiguan yet the Kuga does have its own presence and plus-points and the recent styling touches and upgrades keep it well in the mix of best-buy SUV models.

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

## Stats panel

**Model:** Ford Kuga ST-Line  
**Engine:** 2.0 litre diesel  
**Transmission:** 6-speed manual  
**Performance:** 0-100 kph 10.1 seconds, top speed 195 kph (121 mph)  
**Economy:** 25.5 kpl (60.1 mpg)  
**Emissions:** 122 g/km

**FORD KUGA:**  
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# Baggies boss Pulis pipes on sun cream in Barbados

**UNDERFIRE** West Brom boss Tony Pulis - whose Baggies host Champions Chelsea on Saturday - spent the international break tanning himself in Barbados.

Despite only two wins from their last 20 Premier League games Pulis relaxed with a trip to Barbados, having been booed by fans, following their 1-0 defeat against Huddersfield.

"I've been here nearly three years and talk was about us finishing in the top eight. If you go on a bad run supporters are unforgiving," rued Pulis, on a winless run of nine games.

Ander Herrera and Chris Smalling will be back in Premier League action on Saturday - as Manchester United host Newcastle United - at Old Trafford.

Herrera was given a week off by United boss Jose Mourinho.

"After so many matches



## UK SPORTSCENE

with Andrew Atkinson

Herrera deserved to have a week off," said Mourinho, who also gave United defender and England's Smalling - left out of England's friendlies against

Brazil and Germany - time off.

United, who face six games in 17 days, are set to see the return of Paul Pogba and Marcos Rojo following injury.

Mourinho is hopeful that Pogba and Rojo will return to face Newcastle: "They have to work every day, but they are in a good position now," said Mourinho.

Striker Zlatan

Ibrahimovic, sidelined with cruciate ligament injuries, has been pencilled in for a return in late December.

While United have been hit with injury woes their chances of narrowing the gap on league leaders Manchester City have faltered, with Pep Guardiola's side eight points ahead of United, going into their fixture at Leicester on Saturday.

Spain and United star Juan Mata, who was left out of United's squad at Chelsea, and Spain's squad against Costa Rica and Russia said: "There's

still a lot to play for."

Ex-Barcelona defender Dani Alves has not ruled out a move to City, despite snubbing a summer move to the Etihad, when joining Paris St-Germain: "I was considering going to play for Manchester City," said Alves.

"I don't hide my admiration for Pep and my will to play in the Premier League in the future," said Alves.

Liverpool, whose left-back Alberto Moreno was recalled to the Spain squad for friendlies against Costa Rica and Russia, host Southampton at Anfield on Saturday.

Moreno returned from the international wilderness having started eight Premier League matches and all four of Liverpool's Champions League group stage games this season.

Liverpool midfielder Jordan Henderson, who missed the 4-1 win against West Ham prior to the international break, is set to

return after a thigh injury.

Spurs, who meet Arsenal at The Emirates Stadium on Saturday, are hopeful trio Dele Alli, Harry Kane and Harry Winks, who withdrew from the England squad, will return from injury.

Arsenal's Olivier Giroud, Rob Holding, Santi Cazorla, Danny Welbeck and Shkodran Mustafi are nursing injuries at the Emirates.

Struggling West Ham are hoping that David Moyes can turn round their fortunes as they face Premier League relegation - starting against Watford - on Sunday.

The Hammers turned to ex-Preston, Everton, Manchester United, Real Sociedad and Sunderland boss Moyes after snubs by Carlo Ancelotti, Roberto Mancini and Rafa Benitez, to replace axed Slaven Bilic.

Moyes has yet another mammoth task, underlined with facing Manchester City, Chelsea, Arsenal and Spurs before the new year.

"I've managed five clubs since starting out nearly 20 years ago at Preston and I'm hungry to make sure I get things right," said Moyes, whose historic Georgian mansion formerly belonged to Squire Anderton, and has a helicopter pad, private chapel, tennis courts and ancient woodland.

Chelsea boss Antonio Conte has a debacle whether to recall defender David Luiz, dropped for the game against Manchester United prior to the break, when replaced by Andreas Christensen.

Conte criticised Luiz following poor displays in two Champions League games with Roma: "He has to work hard," said Conte, who said he didn't know whether the Brazilian has a future at Chelsea.

Luiz believes he is being punished - because of his close ties with ex-teammate Diego Costa - who had a rift with Conte, prior to rejoining Atletico Madrid in September.



**DAVID MOYES: Under the hammer.**

Photo credit West Ham United/Twitter

## SPORTSCENE SPAIN

with Andrew Atkinson

**QUALIFIED** Advanced Open Water Scuba Diver, Zoe Connolly who successfully defended her Open Water Junior World Oceanman Female World Champion title in 2017 is eyeing further glory.

"I intend to participate in Oceanman for the third time in 2018. I'm going to try my best to maintain my title as World Champion," said Zoe.

"Another goal for 2018 is to achieve Elite Athlete Status, as it will also help me get a place in a Spanish University," said Zoe, who lives in Los Montesinos, Alicante.

"I am also aiming to get into the Spanish team for Fin Swimming. My aim is to win a medal in the Fin Swimming National Championships," said ambitious Portsmouth born Zoe, who has lived in Spain for 10 years.

"Last year I was very close to achieving both goals," said Zoe, who trains in the pool six days a week and also Fin-swims two days a week.

"When I don't do double sessions I go to the gym for an hour, after swimming three times a week," said Zoe, placed first, second or third in every race, with distances from 1,500m to 8km, in the 14



**Zoe Connolly's Elite Athlete aim.**



**2017 Half Oceanman Tabarca.**

## Elite Athlete Status aim for teenage swimming star Zoe

sea races during 2017.

"Each distance has its own difficulties. It always depends on the conditions of the sea," said Zoe.

"The most difficult part of any race is

just after the second half, when the lactic acid kicks, and your muscles start aching," said Zoe.

"It's pointless putting extra pressure on. I do my best and have fun. I don't

think the experiences make it easier - you still give 110 per cent - but it helps you know how to swim it, what speed to go, when to go faster and slower," said Zoe.

"It helps you to be able to control the waves - how to orientate yourself - and to not get lost or go off course," said Zoe, who has been the youngest swimmer in a plethora of competitions.

"I wouldn't say it puts extra pressure on me. It motivates me. It's pointless putting extra pressure on yourself, over things you can't control. I just go out there, do my best, and have fun," said Zoe.

"To know, not only am I placed highly in my age group, but also one of the better female swimmers in competition, is a fantastic feeling," said Zoe.

"Every time I finish a race the first question I ask my parents, who are watching is: 'How many girls have come in before me?'"

"My parents signed me up for swimming classes when I was four and swimming has always been for me, without a doubt. I started competing when I was seven and it's been my life ever since," said Zoe.

*\*NEXT WEEK: Zoe Connolly reveals the financial costs to compete - with competition costumes costing anything up to €400.*

SPANISH MotoGP rider Marc Marquez has become the sports youngest four-time World Champion. The 24-year-old clinched his fourth world title in the last five seasons with a third-placed finish at the Valencia Grand Prix.

**TO READ MORE**

Costa de Almería's best guide to local sport

[www.euroweeklynews.com](http://www.euroweeklynews.com)

## Aguilon Golf Members club report

IT'S been a great couple of autumn weeks for the members of Aguilon Golf.

Wednesday November 1 saw 31 members turn out for the dreaded monthly medal

Thirteen two's were recorded, which is exceptional golf, with three members, Bill Gibb, Jim Laing and Bob White managing to score two two's each.

The winner of the medal was Dick (I don't like medal) Hull with a great score of 80-14 = 66, 5 under par. We don't want to hear him complaining about medals ever again.

Wednesday November 8

saw 39 members play a Stableford and the fourth qualifying round for the Campbell Lamont Golf League. Scoring was very high with six members playing below par and a lady, playing off a handicap of 8 showing them the way.

1st: Julie White 41 points

2nd: Bill Gibb 40 points

3rd: Derrick Stephenson 40 points

Two's: Ann Miles, Dave Simpson, Lynne Whibley, John Bridgen, Julie White, Peter Death, Dick Hull, Mark Newall.

[www.aguilonmembersclub.com](http://www.aguilonmembersclub.com)

# Memorial Trophy

CABRERA LAWN BOWLING CLUB hosted the Doreen Sands Memorial Trophy between November 3 and 10.

This was the third year of this competition and was in honour of Doreen Sands, who was the club secretary and a long term member who sadly passed away after a short illness. The competition was sponsored by her husband Peter and her family.

It took the form of handicapped triples which Doreen before her illness was keen to introduce. Each player had their own individual handicap which was added to the other members of the triples to form the team's total handicap.

There were some very interesting rounds and one of the stand out triples was David and Maureen Ives with Arthur Lees.

Considering that Arthur is 89 years young, they did very well to get to the semi-final but were beaten by Joyce Sheard, Ray Harris and Joe Sibley.

They met David Schofield with Nigel and Karen Rushton who had also been on great form during the competition.



**WINNERS: David Schofield, Karen and Nigel Rushton with Peter Sands.**

It was quite evenly matched as after six ends, Joe's team were only leading 10-9 but then they pulled away and after 11 ends were 20-10 up.

Sadly for Joe and his team, they dropped a 7 on the 16th end and a 3 on the 17th end

putting Karen's team in the lead and they went on to win 26-21 after 18 ends.

Many congratulations to Karen, Nigel and David who never gave up.

On behalf of Peter Sands, many thanks to all the teams that entered.



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