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**COSTA DE ALMERÍA » YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE, YOUR OPINION**

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# Autism plight

## Schools 'treat parents like intruders'

by Gregory Kirby

THE Association for Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ALTEA) will take a series of measures to improve the treatment of autistic children in the province's schools.

Parents of autistic students feel 'desperate and unrecognised' because schools are failing to cooperate with them and other professionals, ALTEA said.

The association is planning to form a special legal department to support families whose problems have been overlooked.

Many families said they try to cooperate with schools to help their children develop as best as they can. But each time they are reportedly treated like 'intruders' and their attempts to help shunned.

And those autistic students who are granted specialised classes instead of being placed in standard classrooms make notable progress socially and academically, according to ALTEA.

Much of the support comes from volun-



**BATTLING:** ALTEA charity fundraisers at an event last year.

teers who are often studying for bachelors and master degrees in education or psychology.

And they provide more personalised classroom attention than specialised teaching assistants, who are in short supply regionally.

It is "vital" for autistic pupils placed in standard classes to receive dedicated support because of the more complex social context, ALTEA said.

But the association complained the responsible authorities are "not doing anything" to provide the necessary support.

Some education delegation employees prioritise avoiding complaints and bad news "instead of our young people's education," the organisation said.

But ALTEA did recognise some staff are completely dedicated to their roles.

Families of autistic children facing problems are demanding Education authorities become more sensitive and professional.

The United Kingdom's National Autistic Society describes the disorder as a "lifelong, developmental disability."

It affects people in different ways, which is why autistic people need the right sort of support "to live a more fulfilling life," the society said.

## Two held in murder probe

A MAN and a woman have been remanded in custody by an Almeria City court in connection with the disappearance and suspected murder of Jose Manuel Escudero Ballesta.

The arrest comes as Guardia Civil officers said they unearthed what may be the remains of the 45-year-old who was last seen in 2017. Police added they were unable to confirm the body's identity until forensic tests were undertaken.

Jose Manuel Escudero Ballesta, from Orihuela in Alicante Province, had moved to Almeria around five years ago for work.

He reportedly had two children, aged 24 and 22, who remained in Alicante Province with his mother. They last spoke to him over the phone in May of that year.

Guardia Civil officers found the corpse while conducting searches in the area near where the 45-year-old is believed to have disappeared.

The investigation is set to continue with the upcoming post mortem tests on the remains.

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ENVIRONMENTAL officers have accused two people of trespassing onto a private estate for animal poaching near Tahal.

The Junta de Andalucia alleged the pair were caught on privately-owned land in the El Parralico area of the town last Sunday evening.

Authorities claimed they

## Hunting horror

were taking part in poaching which consists of stalking animals after dark with the aim of killing them. The animals are often baited with food as part of the practice.

They added the alleged poachers could be answerable

for having violated Hunting Laws and rules covering wild plants and animals. They also claimed they did not have permission from the landowner to be on the estate.

Raul Enriquez, the Junta's environment spokesperson,

said poaching had a negative on legal hunting grounds.

"The practice involves illegally extracting specimens susceptible to exploitation," he said.

Enriquez added it was important for those who wished to practice legal hunting to obtain permits and permission beforehand.

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**NEWS EXTRA**

**This will bug you**

SPAIN'S environmental health board has warned of the 'very high' risk of a cockroach plague after an unusually wet spring set up perfect conditions to trigger an insect breeding explosion in the summer heat.

**In a fizz**

US soft drinks giant Coca Cola has moved to quash claims that its most iconic fizzy pop brand was invented in a rural Valencian village, insisting in a statement 'this Spanish story comes up every few years.'

**Gig picture**

A LANDMARK Spanish unfair dismissal case has ruled that a driver for online food delivery company Deliveroo should not have been treated as a self-employed contractor, with a Valencia judge concluding 'there exists an employment relationship between the two parties.'

By Matt Ford

A BRITISH gangster who went on the run through Spain has taunted investigators by shooting a video guide showing how to flee the country.

Convicted drug dealer Sam Walker, 35, who has racked up more than 100 crimes, is wanted after skipping a court appearance for driving without a licence.

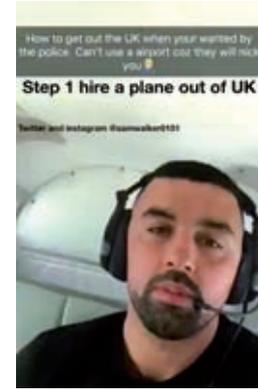
His rap list includes jail terms for offences ranging from possession of counterfeit cash to threatening police officers, while he once hit the headlines over alleged threats to Chelsea footballer Ross Barkley.

He was previously a member of a mob selling heroin and crack cocaine in his native Liverpool.

And he has now reached Sierra Leone in West Africa after clocking up more than 7,000 kilometres on his epic escape from justice.

He posted a clip shortly after arriving to capital Freetown, where he claims to have met the country's Vice President Mohammed Juldeh Jalloh, in which he said: "Better luck trying to catch me when I

**'Step one, hire a plane'**  
Gangster posts guide on how to flee UK



**CON THE RUN:** Sam Walker fled more than 7,000 kilometres to Sierra Leone.

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go out of the country next time, Merseyside Police."

A police official later pointed out that he is in fact wanted by detectives in Cheshire.

The footage is titled 'How to get out of UK when your [sic] wanted by police. Can't use an airport coz they will nick you.'

It shows Walker flying to Belgium in a private plane before taking a 'little 14-hour boat trip' to Morocco, between which he is believed to have flown to Portugal and

hitch-hiked through southern Spain.

He then embarks on a three-day drive across the Sahara Desert, Mauritania and Senegal before taking another boat to Freetown from Guinea.

Walker claims to be in Sierra Leone, where his grandfather was born, to help distribute charity donations sent from the UK.

He insisted: "I was in a Catch-22. I had to fulfil my promise to the people in the

slums, knowing full well that when am caught I will get the maximum sentence of four months in jail plus two months for missing my court date.

"But to me the people were more important. The court date could wait. Sometimes in life you have to do the wrong thing in the eyes of the law in order to do the right thing."

He also claims to have spent thousands on installing fresh water pipes in the city's slums after seeing "men, women and children dying."

He added: "I have not just woke up and changed overnight. I am still the same person and still do what I do.

"I know when I come back to the UK I will be arrested at the airport and put straight in jail.

"I can deal with that knowing that I have fulfilled my promise to the people in the slums by giving them a container full of toys, clothes and food and given them fresh, clean water so no man, woman or child ever has to risk their lives by drinking dirty sewage water again."

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## “Public interest”

THE mayor of Almeria Ramon Fernandez-Pacheco has said the council “does not agree” with the €850,000 claim a construction company is filing due to delays in two projects. The Casas Consistoriales and the Plaza Vieja refurbishment plans have been delayed due to archeological discoveries and the mayor said these set-backs “cannot be blamed on the council.”

## Cycling success

THE fourth La Indomable cycling tour saw some 2,500 people braving the elements to compete. The route, which started along the Almerian coast and ended in Trevelez at more than 1,400 metres above sea level, is quickly becoming one of the most important cycling events in Andalusia with numbers growing each year.

## Scrapped

EIGHT car repair shops have been ordered to shut down in Almeria over a tax evasion probe. Police found 20 mechanic’s garages were not declaring the correct amount of income from their businesses. Of these, two have balanced the books while eight have been shut down and the remaining 10 are being processed.

## Cool summer

WEATHER experts are predicting a cooler month of June than previous years following the fresher start to the summer. State weather agency Aemet does not forecast a repeat of last year’s hottest June this century but do believe there is a high chance of storms due to the unstable pressure in Almeria.

## Sinner Sanchez

THE Bishop of Almeria has said the new Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez’s “personal decision” not to be sworn in with a bible a sign of his socialist policies to come. Although he said “we must respect” his decision, he insisted that the presence of the crucifix shouldn’t be removed “where it doesn’t harm anyone.”

## Peeling lucky

GUARDIA CIVIL officers seized more than three tonnes of stolen citrus fruits last month in Almeria. The first incident, saw two arrested with 1,960 kilos of oranges found in their van after a tip off. The second ended in three being arrested after a car was spotted with “signs of carrying too much weight” which turned out to be 1,580 kilos of lemons.

THE BIG PICTURE Nº 17



OUSTED: Former Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy in Spanish parliament.

# Adios, PM!

**SOCIALIST leader Pedro Sanchez is Spain’s new Prime Minister after Mariano Rajoy was kicked out of office.**

It comes in the wake of a landmark no-confidence vote after Rajoy’s conservative People’s Party was found guilty of accepting kickbacks in exchange for lucrative public contracts.

Madrid’s highest criminal court convicted 29 officials over their involvement in the scandal, with former treasurer Luis Barcenas jailed for 33 years and fined €44 million.

And the fallout - which saw the credibility of Rajoy’s own testimony in the enquiry disputed - proved one scandal too far for the leader once dubbed the great survivor of Spanish politics.

He had been in office since 2011 and weathered a string of corruption probes, but was unable to withstand political anger after opposition parties united to seal his fate.

After the vote, Rajoy, 63, approached 46-year-old Sanchez in the parliamentary chamber and shook the incoming leader’s hand.

“It has been an honour to be the prime minister of Spain,” he earlier told MPs. “It has been an honour to leave a better Spain than the one I found. I hope that my successor will be able to say the same when his time comes.”

See page 18.

## Fruit probe

FIVE people have been arrested in Almeria in connection with an investigation into the theft of more than three tons of oranges and lemons.

Two of those arrested were both aged 39 while the other three were arrested later and two are aged 22 while a third is aged 32. They are all residents of Roquetas de Mar.

The first two arrested were held in connection with some 1,960 kilograms of oranges police claimed to have un-

covered in the back of their van.

The latter three were arrested after officers pulled them over on the A-7 motorway and found around 1,580 kilos of lemons in their vehicle.

Police probing the thefts believe the fruit may have come from farms in Huerca-Overa and Santa Pola in Alicante Province.

The Guardia Civil has sent the case to the Court of Instruction in Huerca-Overa.

## Park robbers jailed

THREE men have been sentenced to two and a half years in prison for pummeling then robbing a man in a park and leaving him with internal bleeding.

The perpetrators are known only as BCP, DMPR and JPR.

They agreed to meet the victim - who they knew - to pick up an ‘illicit item,’ according to media reports.

The attackers kicked and punched the man leaving him seriously injured on the ground

with several internal bleeds and back fractures.

They then stole his phone, €30 and identification documents.

The incident happened on November 11 last year in the Generalife Park near to an Almeria hostel.

The aggressors have been sentenced to two years in prison for the robbery and an extra six months for the injuries caused.

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**STONE IMMACULATE:**  
 Rob Macdonald at work in Barcelona and (inset) an impression of the final sculpture.

# Carved in stone

A BRITISH expatriate artist has been commissioned to create a memorial to remember heroes of Spain's civil war.

At least 45 men from across the world were killed when their ship, the Ciudad de Barcelona, was torpedoed by a submarine off the Catalan coast.

They were among 300 International Brigadistas on their way to join the Republican fight against General Franco's fascist Nationalist army.

More than 120 of the soldiers were pulled from the sea by fishermen from the nearby town of Malgrat de Mar, but many sank with the vessel.

Witnesses said that they sang left-wing anthem The Internationale as they went down, while at least 23 others were later killed in the war.

"It was late afternoon," Welsh survivor Alun Menai Williams, who wrote the book 'From the Rhondda to the Ebro,' told UK media. "I was leaning on the ship's rail taking in my first view of Spain and its shoreline, some one and a half miles in the distance, when there came one hell of an almighty bang. "The ship shook, tried to get airborne, before settling down at a crazy angle."

American Jack Freeman added: "It was a pretty

dirty business... some fellows were killed while they were asleep, some were trapped below decks."

General Franco banned talk of the attack in its aftermath, but Robert Macdonald, originally from Rugby, Warwickshire, has decided to sculpt a monument in their honour.

The Barcelona-based stonemason is carving Solidarity Park from locally-sourced limestone, which when complete will include 60 half-metre tall figures representing the brigadistas set atop an abstract ship and stone map of the world.

Macdonald says the figures symbolise "the unity of the struggle of the Brigadiers, but each will have individual carved features thus expressing the diversity of us all."

He hopes the project - a collaboration with students, historians, local people and the families and friends of the fallen - will encourage people to consider the treatment of foreigners, immigrants and refugees.

More than €13,500 of the €20,000 estimated cost has already been raised by crowdfunding, with the final work to be displayed in a Malgrat de Mar park.



## POLL OF THE WEEK

*Do you think Spain will be better off under its new government?*

**LAST WEEK'S POLL:**  
 Following Lidl's announcement that it would stop using plastic bags by the end of this year, should all supermarkets follow suit?

Yes **89%** No **11%**

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**TOP 5 stories**



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- 5,204** views Storms flood town with thousands of litres of rain in just two hours
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**OUR VIEW**

**Political crisis might not yet be over for Sanchez**

SPAIN has a new Prime Minister, but for Pedro Sanchez the real battle might only just be underway.

The socialist is tasked with forming a government that represents the country he now leads rather than just the party he stands for. And with 84 seats in a 350-strong parliament, the task does not appear enviable. He cannot possibly hope to satisfy all 180 lawmakers who lent him their support during last week's no-confidence motion in outgoing rival Mariano Rajoy, since many have openly admitted they sided with him only to see the Popular Party ousted. What Spain needs right now is stability, and it will take all of Sanchez' political skills to achieve it

*Prime Minister Pedro - page 18*

**Not simply black and white**

THE standoff between business owners and street prostitutes in Magaluf has no easy fix. The women are being blamed for robbing holidaymakers and somehow tainting the image of a resort that hardly has a positive reputation when it comes to Brits behaving badly. But reports suggest that many of the women are the victims of sex trafficking, kidnapped from their home countries amid promises of riches after being brainwashed with voodoo rituals.

And when they arrive, they are told to pay off debts they were previously unaware of and forced to prostitute themselves. So who are the real victims?

*Expats held - page 24*

*Now we want to hear your views.*

**YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION**

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by Gregory Kirby

THE first Tomato CASI Popular Running event will offer sweaty runners the chance to cool off and do battle by launching ripened tomatoes at each other within a 150-metre designated zone.

And the tomato throwing addition is likely to be the main attraction, according to sources.

The marketing campaign race will be organised by CASI, Spain's largest agricultural cooperative, which is also the emblematic producer of Almeria's tomatoes.

The challenge offers seven and 10-kilometre races, as well as a 7.6km hiking route and a shorter option for under-12s.

# Tomato racing



**RED RUN: A Tomatina festival-goer cleans tomatoes from her hair.**

The seven-kilometre route will pass by the town of El Bobar and the longer option is an extended version of the former and will run alongside the Andarax river.

A DJ, football pitches bordered with inflatables and paella will be some of the other attractions on offer at the event to be held on June 17.

And participants will also be able to visit the 'village' where CASI's collaborating companies will run stalls.

There are still running slots available at [www.casipopularrunning.es](http://www.casipopularrunning.es).

## Red Cross has award-winning care

A TEAM of Red Cross psychologists has received a national award by the Spanish Society of Pediatric Palliative Care.

Ana Almansa, Trinidad Martinez, Laura Parra and Lucia Perez, part of the Psychosocial Attention Team (EAPS) of Cruz Roja Almeria, have been recognised for work in relation to child loss.

The team has been developing the Pro-

gramme for Comprehensive Care for People with Advanced Diseases at the Complejo Hospitalario Torrecardenas since 2008, funded by the La Caixa Foundation.

One of the hardest things for families who are grieving the loss of a child, is how to tell any young siblings.

"You do not have to use the words that adults use, but you have to tell the truth," said

Ana Almansa.

"When you lie to them, even though it is done out of affection, it's not good, because then questions always arise."

Their work sees these heroic psychologists guide families in the nature of grief in children, how to emotionally manage the loss, and the importance of returning to normal routines as soon as possible.



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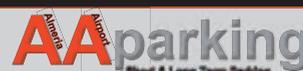
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## What a cock-up

SHE'S among the most beautiful actresses in the world. But Spanish star Penelope Cruz, 44, set jaws dropping for a different reason after her smutty slip-up on Italian TV went viral on social media.

Chatting about her cooking skills and culinary speciality at a charity event, the actress mispronounced 'cacio,' the Italian for cheese as 'cazzo,' a slang word for penis.

**HARD VIEWING:**  
Penelope Cruz.

## Ron the money

HE'S been enjoying a luxurious break in Benahavis, near Marbella, after bagging his fourth Champions League.

And Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo, 33, seemed relaxed as he boarded a private jet in Malaga with 23-year-old girlfriend Georgina Rodriguez ahead of his World Cup campaign with Portugal.

The pair had earlier been snapped aboard an €8.5 million Ascary yacht as they enjoyed some down-time together.



**FLYING WINGER:** Ronaldo and Georgina prepare to board their jet.

## Strict tease

THEIR whirlwind romance was confirmed just four months ago.

But actress Gemma Atkinson, 33, has admitted that Spanish boyfriend Gorka Marquez, 27, is 'The One.'

The pair met on BBC show Strictly Come Dancing, and Gemma told UK media: "I hope he's the one, otherwise I wouldn't be with him."

## Oaten about

SHE'S the ex-Emmerdale star who recently found herself at the centre of a love triangle.

But Gemma Oaten, 34, appeared carefree as she put on a racy display with her new squeeze, actor Stuart Earp, 30, on a beach in Salou, near Barcelona.

The pair met while starring together in a pantomime version of the Wizard of Oz, and got together while he was allegedly engaged to another woman.

Kerryann Clive, 23, said at the time that she only dumped him after pictures emerged of her boyfriend together with the soap star.

But after fiercely denying the claims, the

Hull-born beauty sizzled after slipping into a colourful bikini as she frolicked in the shallows.

She later donned a coral red cover-up dress as the *Love Birds* wrapped their arms around each other.

Gemma was previously living with film producer Scott Walker but they split after a year together.

**PANTO-MINE:**  
Gemma Oaten.



## Jen set for baby break

HOLLYOAKS actress Jennifer Metcalfe has revealed that the return of her character Mercedes McQueen will be filmed in Spain.

The 35-year-old has been on maternity leave for a year, but said at the British Soap Awards: "We're going to Spain, so my first scenes back are in Spain and I'm so excited."

And the star added she's planning to get some sleep during her sunshine filming jaunt.

"Well, you say holiday but I'm

just going to be catching up on my sleep because I have an 11-month [old] baby and he doesn't sleep too good," she said.

The stunner shares baby Daye with boyfriend and former Geordie Shore cast member Greg Lake.

But when asked if her son will be joining her, she smiled: "No, three nights off!"

**YUMMY MUMMY:**  
Jennifer Metcalfe.



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SEEING RED: Jean and John.

BIT OF BULLY: Eric and Jenny.

MATA-GLORY: Domingo.

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**STREET TALK**

# Taking no bull

THOUSANDS protested against celebrations involving bulls in Madrid last week after shocking footage of a suffering animal emerged online. But what do holidaymakers and residents think about Spain's controversial tradition?

**Andy Maddocks, 54, from Bournemouth**

"Civilised people shouldn't kill things for fun. It's just cruel, the animal suffers. It should be banned."

**Shaun Cahill, 84, lives in Spain, returns to Dublin every six weeks to 'cut the lawn'**

"Yes, it needs to be banned. It is a blood-thirsty sport, the Spanish people have moved on. Let's not forget Spain has the best football in the world to get its hit. In bull-fighting people take their anger out on nature, instead of on other humans in a competitive setting.

"People need aggression. That's why we have Gaelic football. On the whole, the Spanish are huge animal lovers. Everyone's got a dog here!"

**Domingo Ramirez Mora, 62, from Malaga**

"It should not be banned!"

Bull-fighting is an art and a national celebration. To those who think it is cruel, I would say there is a lot of cruelty in the world which goes unspoken. So why focus it all on bull-fighting? For me, it isn't cruel."

**Eric and Jenny Ankers, both 67, on holiday from Cornwall with grandchildren**

"It is not something I can support. What gets me is that the bull-fighters play with the animal. It's not nice. It is a rich man's hobby anyway, it is not cheap to keep the bulls. They are brought up on big farms with dedicated cowboy-type trainers." Wife Jenny said: "It is their heritage - it is up to them! But I do think the Spanish are coming around to the modern way of thinking."

**Jean Simpson, 74, on holiday from Edinburgh**

It should be banned, 100 per

cent! I went to a bull-fight in Torremolinos once, because of the tradition. The animal is kept in the dark before being released into the ring where it is blinded by the sunlight and stabbed to death by men who then call themselves brave! The bull has no chance. But how to stop it? Change takes so long to happen in this world! And don't get me started on the Pamplona bull runs."

**John, 84, Jean's husband**

"The women only go because they fancy the brave and handsome 'toreros.' They are quite brave though! Those bulls like killing humans, otherwise there would be no spectacle and it would be a total disaster! I prefer the way it's done in Portugal really. The bull's horns are wrapped up, a group of men jump on it, count to 10, jump off and run for their lives."

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## Giant shark spotted



**HUGE:** The shark was reportedly dumped at a local tip.

A HUGE shark left sun-seekers stunned after washing up on a popular Ibiza beach.

The three-metre long animal has been identified as a female bluntnose six-gill shark, or cow shark, a harmless species normally inhabiting deep water.

It can reach almost eight

metres in length and was already dead when it appeared on the sandy strip at Cala Sant Vicent near Sant Joan de Labritja.

Many bathers took selfies with the predator before it was removed and dumped at a local tip, according to reports.

# Share of the dog

by Matt Ford

A SMALL dog must spend six months per year with each of her two owners after a groundbreaking Costa del Sol legal battle.

The joint custody case is the first of its kind in Malaga Province and just the fourth ever in Spain.

And the ruling will see Tara, a Pomeranian cross, split her time between Madrid and Antequera - an hour inland from Malaga - after the couple that had owned her for a decade went their separate ways.

It comes after the plaintiff left his former partner four years ago, leaving her to care for Tara alone after he returned to his hometown from the Spanish capital.

But he was unable to live without his beloved pet and submitted a claim that he was her sole owner, triggering a court case.

And after a judge rejected the demand he filed for joint custody of the pooch, which has now been formalised by Malaga's provincial authorities.

The judge said in a statement that the defendant 'has maintained a passionate emotional relationship with her pet for more than seven years, and this merits



Photo credit Shutterstock/Facebook

**BONE OF CONTENTION:** The court ruling will see Tara (inset) spend six months with each owner.

judicial protection.'

Alejandra Leon, the plaintiff's legal representative and an expert in animal law, called the sentence "transcendental."

She added: "It only confirms the ongoing reform of animals' legal status in Spain, with them no longer considered

objects but living creatures with feelings.

"Their welfare should always be the priority in such cases."

Tara will be brought to Malaga for the first six months in the wake of the case, since the plaintiff has 'been deprived of contact' since 2015.

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## Death plunge

AN Irish tourist has died after reportedly falling from an apartment courtyard wall in Magaluf.

Thomas Owen Hughes, 20, was just one day into his Mallorca holiday when he was found by a local resident.

Police believe he fell whilst trying to gain access to the complex from the equivalent height of a seventh-floor apartment.

The Eden Roc resident raised the alarm after spotting his body at around 11am but paramedics were unable to revive him. Investigators believe he fell at night, but due to the secluded area he was in no-one noticed until hours later.

It is not yet clear why Thomas was at the apartment complex, as he was staying at a nearby hotel.

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## Weapons up for grabs

THE Guardia Civil in Almeria are to put up more than 340 weapons for auction.

Although most of the collection has been donated voluntarily, some of the firearms have been confiscated from criminals.

Officers have explained that the main reason gun owners hand their weapons in is due to the expiration of their licence, or their inability to renew it.

Such auctions happen on an annual basis to enable the Guardia Civil to get rid of their stash that

has built up.

Owners of firearms determine the price that they are sold for, and those that are not bought are destroyed.

The majority of weapons are hunting shotguns or pistols used for Olympic-style shooting.

Very few of them come with type-B licences i.e for personal defence, as these are unsurprisingly restricted.

The auction will take place on June 11 at 9.30am at the Guardia Civil headquarters in Almeria.

# All twerk no play

## Revellers face fine over traffic stunt

by **Matt Ford**

A DRIVER faces losing six points off his licence and a heavy fine after two blondes in the back seat of his car shocked holidaymakers by putting on an x-rated twerking display in Mallorca.

The revellers held up traffic as they bopped to loud music blaring from the convertible Opel in front of a packed public bus.

In video footage of the shocking scene shot in capital Palma's port area - where millionaires moor their luxury yachts - one of the scantily-clad women repeatedly slaps the other on the bottom before stripping off her jacket as she writhes suggestively.

Her pal then opens her legs and shakes her backside at waiting motorists who beep their horns impatiently as the pair and a male friend in the front seat take selfies and record videos on their phones.

And she continues her lewd performance as the car performs an illegal U-turn and speeds off.

One Spanish onlooker can be heard shouting: "There are wh\*\*\*s and then

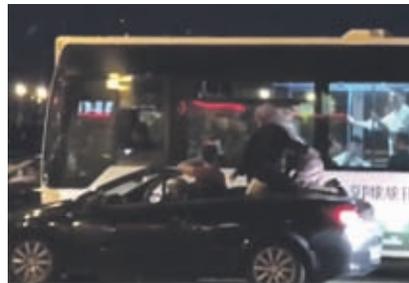


Photo credit: Policia Local de Palma

**TOTAL BUMMER:** The revellers held up traffic.

these girls!"

Local Police said in a tweet: 'We have initiated proceedings for reckless driving, punishable by a €500 fine and six points off the driver's licence.'

'Fooling around like this carries its consequences.'

It comes after two Spanish brunettes were last month filmed dancing sug-

gestively on the roof of a BMW in Javea on the Costa Blanca.

And British Playboy millionaire Jody Sanders recently wrecked his €300,000 convertible Rolls Royce by reversing it through the window of a Calvia tobacconist while two women dressed in thong bikinis danced on the back seat.

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## Farming's fault

By Gregory Kirby

ONE of Spain's most important public worker unions has blamed a recent increase in unemployment on the seasonal nature of the agricultural industry.

The CSIF union said the 1,735 people made jobless in May were failed by the agricultural industry and, by connection, the services sector which provided accommodation for workers.

An almost 93 per cent of the 30,667 job contracts signed in May are temporary, which causes concern that in June the situation will worsen, said Juan Fernandez Cabezas, CSIF Almeria president.

Investing in agricultural research and development could be a sustainable solution to the problem, CSIF president suggested.

It would make more sense to invest in the same market than to change production altogether, Fernandez Cabezas said.

Agriculture is one of the main economic strongholds and it provides for hundreds of Almeria's families, he added.

Despite falling unemployment in Andalucia, CSIF warned of greater workplace insecurity. A total of 286,245 employees were paying into social security in 2017.

# Joint swoop

## €4.6m cannabis stash seized

SEVEN men have been held after a €4.6 million cannabis haul was unearthed in a container shipped to the UK from Spain.

Border Force officers discovered the 400kg stash in the wake of a joint probe with the National Crime Agency (NCA).

The drugs were hidden in crates of lettuces aboard the Wec Vermeer vessel, which had docked at the Port of Liverpool five days ahead of the raid.

A covert surveillance operation was launched, with investigators tracking the container after it was loaded onto an articulated lorry and driven to an industrial unit in Lytham St Annes, Lancashire.

Officers swooped to arrest the driver and two others who were unloading the vehicle, before three suspects were



CREDIT: National Crime Agency

**UNBE-LEAF-ABLE:** The giant drugs haul was tracked after arriving to Liverpool among salad.

held in nearby Kirkham and a fourth individual was detained in the Trafford Park area of Greater Manchester.

Greg McKenna, Head of NCA Investigations for the north of England, said in a statement: "This is a significant disruption of an organised crime network that has stopped the proceeds of crime funding further criminality that would damage communi-

ties and exploit the vulnerable.

"We take importations such as this very seriously, and these arrests show that we will detect criminal activity and arrest those responsible."

All seven suspects have been released on bail after being quizzed by detectives on suspicion of conspiring to import class B drugs.

## Drug trial

A MAN due in court accused of offering two police officers drugs in an Almeria City nightclub could go to prison for four years if found guilty.

Prosecutors have claimed ahead of the trial the defendant was at a venue on the Avenida del Mediterraneo attempting to sell drugs to revellers.

He offered two people 'crystal' and told them it was high quality. The two people then identified themselves as National Police officers and arrested him.

The defendant was searched and police claimed they found various quantities of drugs and cash hidden on him. The trial is scheduled to begin next month.

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# Classroom clash



Photo credits twitter/fiesrosanavarro

**TROUBLED:** Display to celebrate peace day at Rosa Navarro secondary school.

**By Gregory Kirby**

A COURT for children has sentenced a 16-year-old to six months of probation for attacking a 12-year old classmate at Rosa Navarro secondary school.

According to the court ruling, the 16-year-old grabbed his classmate around the neck and pushed him against the white-board 'with the intention of causing physical damage.'

The victim suffered back injuries and required first aid.

The pain took 60 days to pass

because the boy had previously suffered from back problems.

The courtroom also said Andaulcia's Ministry of Education was at fault because it was aware the victim was 'in danger.' The culprit had targeted the youngster months prior to the latest attack.

There had been a request to move the aggressor into another classroom. It was ignored and he stayed in the same classroom.

The Ministry of Education, the Education Inspectorate and the school itself knew about the

risk and are therefore partly to blame, according to the court.

The court ordered the attacker - through his parents - and the education agency to pay the victim €4,546 in compensation.

After the attack the victim - who suffers from a psychological disability - stopped attending school and had to be home schooled for almost a year.

The guilty adolescent will now be released and police will monitor him for six months to ensure he does not contact the victim.

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# Plane ridiculous

A BRITISH couple were unable to fly to their Spanish holiday home using a €115 Ryanair voucher because it was in the name of 'Mum Dad.'

Kathryn and Richard Bolton, from Banbury, Oxfordshire, were told they could not use the voucher, bought for them by son Nick, 34, because the 'names did not match' those on their passports.

But when insurance worker Karen, 60, called the budget airline to resolve the problem, she was told that the correct names should be 'Dear Mum Dad.'

She told UK media: "The whole thing has been a ludicrous farce. It would be laughable if it wasn't so annoying."

The voucher was bought as a Christmas present from Nick, wife Amy and their two dogs Brian and Ernie.

He wrote 'Dear Mum Dad' in the space for the recipients' names, and Kathryn and Richard, 59, tried to redeem it in April for a planned trip to their Costa Brava holiday flat near Girona.

Karen continued: "When I



**FLYIN' SHAME:** The carrier has said it will reissue the voucher.

tried to buy them with the voucher it said 'passenger name doesn't match'. My husband thought I was being silly, so he tried it and it still wasn't working.

"So we rang Ryanair, at 13p per minute, and finally a man said, 'The name doesn't match.' I asked what the 'correct' name was, and he said, 'Dear Mum Dad.' I said that's a salutation, not a name."

The low-cost carrier eventually relented and said they will

reissue the voucher.

Karen added: "To say it's taken the shine off things is an understatement. They had our voucher information online and would have known straight away we were genuine customers, but they put us through all this rigmarole."

A Ryanair official said: "The name on the voucher must match the name on the passport as per our terms and conditions.

"As a gesture of goodwill we

have contacted the customer directly to resolve the issue."

It comes as the Irish operator sparked outrage at London's Stansted Airport this weekend, with hundreds of passengers up in arms over lengthy check-in queues.

Some feared missing their flights after branding the situation 'an utter shambles,' while the airport said cancellations due to bad weather earlier in the week had triggered a bottleneck.

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# Prime Minister Pedro

**PEDRO SANCHEZ**, the leader of the left-leaning Partido Socialista (PSOE), succeeded in unseating Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy to take the top job in Spanish politics for himself last week. The 46-year-old former economics professor faced a number of issues from day one, including his party not having a parliamentary majority and the ongoing situation in Cataluña.

By Joe Gerrard

## Path to power

THE PSOE's no confidence motion came in the wake of the Gurtel kickback-for-contracts scandal.

Spanish lawmakers debated the motion last Thursday and Friday, with the vote taken at 11am on the latter day.

Rajoy said Sanchez's motion was an attempt to get into power without having to contest an election.

"Mr Sanchez is concerned because he is not doing any better in the polls, and he has realised that he will never reach government through elections," he said. Sanchez came next and called on Rajoy to leave office voluntarily rather than face the no confidence vote. "The time has come, there is no middle-of-the-road way to raise the quality of our democracy, which is now being questioned," he said.

The speeches were followed by efforts from the PSOE to win over smaller, regionalist parties to support the motion, accomplished by Thursday evening. The motion passed on Friday morning with 180 votes in favour, 169 against and one abstention. That left Rajoy ousted and Sanchez installed as Prime Minister.

## Pedro's progress

SPAIN'S new prime minister was born in Madrid in 1972. He played in an under-21's basketball team before going on to get several degrees covering business and economics.

Sanchez speaks fluent Eng-



CREDIT: Congreso de los Diputados, via Twitter

## IN POWER: Pedro Sanchez is now the prime minister of Spain.

lish and French as well as Spanish. He served as the chief of staff to the UN high representative in Bosnia during the war in the former Yugoslavia.

His political career began on Madrid City Council before being elected to Parliament in 2009. He lost his seat in 2011 but returned in 2013 and was elected the leader of the PSOE the following year.

He was ousted from the leadership in October 2016 after Spanish voters returned a hung parliament in 2015 before returning to the post just over a year ago.

He does not currently have a seat in the Congress of Deputies but that will not prevent him from becoming Prime Minister. Candidates for the job need only be Spanish and over 18.

## On the agenda

THE head of Spain's govern-

ment faces a number of challenges as he gets his feet under the table in the prime minister's residence of La Moncloa.

The first is the PSOE's position in the Cortes Generales, Spain's Parliament. The party has 84 seats in the 350-seat lower house and 62 senators in the 266-strong upper chamber.

Sanchez said last week he would go to the polls to get a mandate from Spanish voters. He will have to rely on support from the far left Podemos party and small regionalist parties in the meantime to get legislation passed.

Cataluña's push for greater powers looks set to continue which could pose further issues for the prime minister.

Sanchez was a vocal opponent of Cataluña's push for independence and recently branded Torra the 'Le Pen of Spanish politics' in a reference to the nationalist French politician.

He will now have to sit across the table from Torra who may well take advantage of the PSOE's fragile position in parliament to extract pledges for greater Catalan self-rule.

*Next week Euro Weekly News will feature a beginner's guide to Spanish politics which will tell you all you need to know about the state of play following Sanchez's appointment.*

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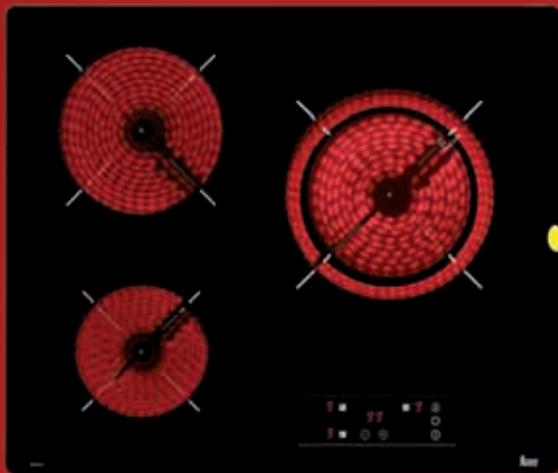


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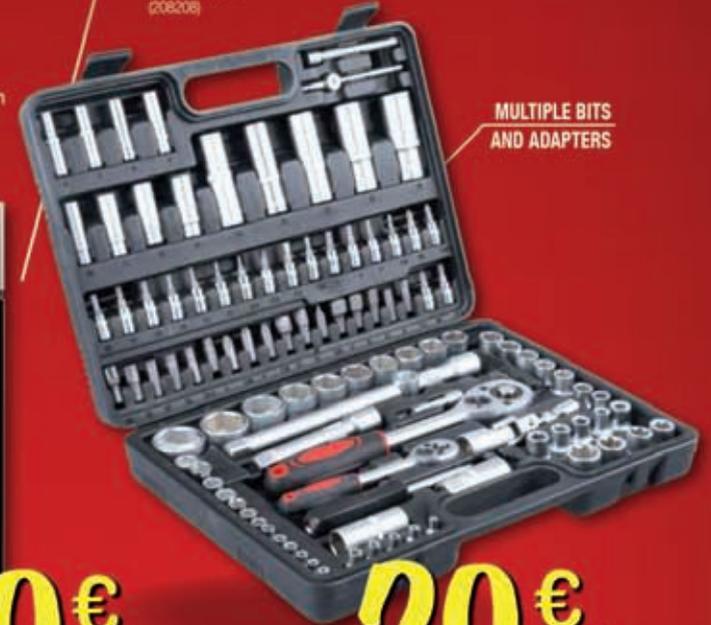


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## Doctor attack

A 69-YEAR-OLD man has been sentenced to two years for attempting to attack a family doctor in an Almeria health centre.

Medical staff could hear two men shouting somewhere in the Berja health centre so the victim approached the desk from where the shouting came from, the court heard.

Two people started to insult him before the perpetrator, known only as FBG, tried to attack the man. But another centre worker was able to intervene preventing any injury.

The victim left to avoid another confrontation and report the aggressor to the Guardia Civil.

A member of the same violent group had threatened the doctor with a bladed weapon at the clinic's entrance on May 5.

Andalucía's health service requested the 69-year old perpetrator's behaviour be classed as an attack. The court agreed and sentenced the man to two years behind bars.

# Man held over rape of Brit tourist



**SEX ATTACK CLAIM:** The unnamed suspect has been remanded in custody.

A ROMANIAN expatriate has been held in Mallorca on suspicion of sexually assaulting a British holidaymaker.

It comes after the unnamed man, who works in a Magaluf bar, was identified following DNA tests performed on the victim's clothing.

The woman, believed to be

in her late 20s, filed a complaint with UK police after returning from a trip to the party resort last year.

She claimed she was partying with a friend on the Punta Ballena strip when the pair became separated, before she was approached by the accused, who invited her for a

drink.

Later in the evening, he took her to a hotel room and allegedly raped her. The case was reported to Interpol, who informed local investigators in Calvia.

The suspect has been remanded in custody pending trial.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Star physicist gets award

NOBEL prize physicist Rainer Weiss, 84, was the star of Almeria's seventh astronomical conference and received an honorary doctorate from the city's university for his life's work, according to local media.

### Go it alone

AN Almeria-based publisher, **Circulo Rojo**, has spoken of the advances in self-editing allowing for a growth in the amount of such books being sold in major retailers, media reports.

### Not wanted

**MOJACAR Town Hall** has declared the perpetrators of the 'Manada' case of sexual violence as 'personas non-gratas,' after a controversial court case committed them of rape, according to media.

### Fort boost

THE southern bastion of Almeria's Alcazaba fort has been renovated for €56,500 and the regional government is reportedly preparing a €700,000 budget to restore the rest of the site.

### Smart future

**CAJAMAR credit cooperative** has announced it will create a new centre in Almeria for small companies and entrepreneurs dedicated to technological innovation and sustainable water management, media reports.

### Bin blaze

**RAMON Fernandez-Pacheco**, Almeria's mayor, has praised emergency services for dealing with acts of vandalism which saw eight rubbish containers burnt to the ground, damaging four vehicles, media reports.

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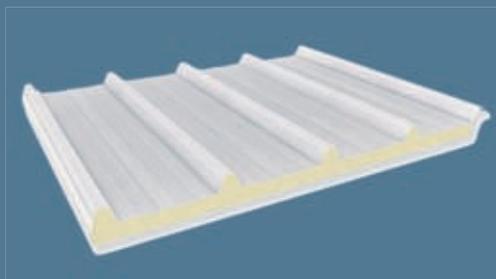
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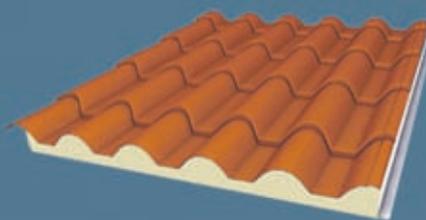
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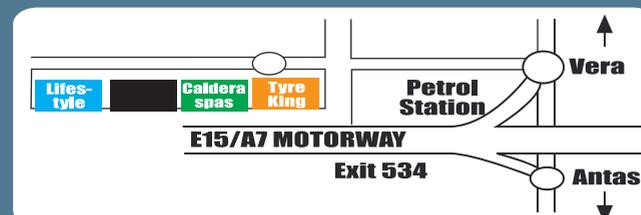
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## Province's future in the balance

ALMERIA'S mayor said he hopes compromises made with Spain's Popular Party national government will be upheld by the new Socialist Party (PSOE) government sworn in this weekend.

Ramon Fernandez-Pacheco said many of the city's upcoming projects had not been officially signed off and were based on "promises, declarations and compromises."

The main projects outstanding include, railway developments in the capital, the extension of the seaside promenade, the regeneration of beaches and the restoration of unique monuments like the 'Cable Ingles' mining relic.

Whether plans go-ahead now depends on new Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, Fernandez-Pacheco said.

He also recognised the possibility that all the projects could be swiped but added it would be a "serious mistake" to paralyse works like the tunnelling of the new El Puche railway line.

Almeria's mayor said Pedro Sanchez's new presidency was 'legitimate.'

He added, the parliamentary conditions are complicated - the ruling socialist party only have 83 seats in parliament - but hopes the president does a good job so Almeria residents would benefit.

## Tribute to London Bridge 'skateboard hero'

By Gregory Kirby

THE father of Ignacio Echeverria, the 'skateboard hero' stabbed to death by terrorists during the London Bridge attacks last year, has paid tribute to his son a year on.

"He did what he had to do. I wouldn't expect less from him," Joaquin Echeverria, Ignacio's father, said.

"I want it to be known that he always wanted to be good," he added. The terrorists were stabbing a woman when Echeverria, from Madrid, intervened armed with just his skateboard.

"And the next thing Ignacio was then being struck by the three terrorists," Echeverria's father said.

The Spaniard, who was an anti-money laundering expert at HSBC bank, had said he would intervene in the event of a terrorist attack during a family conversation just a few months prior to the June 3 attacks, his father said.

The Spanish Government posthumously awarded him the Great Cross of the order of Civil Merit for 'extra-



LOSS: Ignacio Echeverria's father, Joaquin, after an Easter speech in Toledo.

ordinary services.'

Spain's King Felipe VI also honoured his bravery in a speech given to the UK parliament during a state visit last year.

A commemoration to those who died during the attacks was held at Southward Needle on London Bridge last Sunday, marking one year since the attack.

Prime Minister Teresa May attended alongside Labour party leader, Jeremy Corbyn, London Metropolitan police chief, Cressida Dick and mayor of London, Sadiq Khan.

"The many stories of courage

demonstrated that night will always stay with me, such as Ignacio Echeverria, who died after confronting the terrorists with the only thing he had, his skateboard," the Prime Minister said.

Islamic State-inspired terrorists ploughed down pedestrians on London Bridge in a van before crashing it on the south bank of the River Thames.

They then ran to nearby Borough market storming pubs and restaurants and stabbing whoever they could find before Metropolitan police shot them dead.

## NEWS EXTRA

### Flashmob Anniversary

A 'FLASHMOB' of dancers dressed in airport worker uniforms performed in front of passengers arriving in Almeria from European locations to celebrate the city airport's 50th anniversary, local media reports.

### Arnie's back

FILMING of the sixth Terminator film has taken place in Almeria's Isleta de Moro attracting many tourists, some of whom have caught a glimpse of scenes, according to sources.

### Stolen items

THE Guardia Civil has arrested three young people for the suspected forced robbery of four commercial outlets in Almerimar, El Ejido and has recovered some of the stolen materials, according to investigators.



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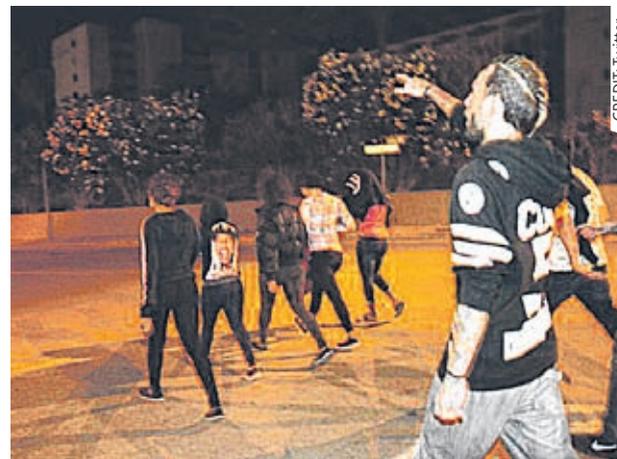
## Brits charged over prostitution protests

FIVE British expatriates have been held on suspicion of hate crimes in the wake of vigilante protests against African prostitutes in Magaluf.

It comes after a group of around 20 Nigerian women filed official complaints with Local Police in Magaluf, claiming they had been physically assaulted and verbally abused while being filmed without their consent.

Those arrested, who have not been named but include a bar manager from Darlington, have reportedly been told they face a court hearing after being fingerprinted at a Guardia Civil station.

They are believed to be members of a social media group set up to curb the 'threat' of the sex workers, who they believe are responsible for muggings and violent attacks on drunk



CREDIT: Twitter

**PROTESTS:** The arrests come amid rising tensions.

revellers in the party resort.

One pal said: "The outcome with the police wasn't good. Our friends are being charged with hate crimes and are awaiting court. We have to rethink this again and change our tactics."

The prostitutes are thought to be brought to Spain from Africa by a sex trafficking

ring, and local businesses, including many owned by Britons, blame them for a drop in trade.

The latest drama follows a string of incidents which have seen holidaymakers join protests against the women and clashes with Spanish taxi drivers chanting 'No prostitutes on the streets.'

## 'Narco-bloc' sting

SPAIN'S Endesa electric and gas company has collaborated with the Guardia Civil to shut down 78 illegal energy supplies to indoor marihuana plantations.

Three people were arrested and 3,000 plants seized in the operation.

A so-called 'narco-block' in the

Joaquinico neighbourhood in the Almeria town of Roquetas del Mar was a hub for 16 of the electricity fraud cases.

Endesa said collaboration with police is 'vital' to alleviate the problem, which is not only a crime, but also risks locals' safety, Endesa said.

## Top brass winner

by Gregory Kirby

A ROBOTICS engineer from Almeria has been awarded a prize by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) for producing one of the world's best military innovations.

His creation is designed to help humanitarian aid convoys find the safest routes in conflict zones.

And NATO recognised it as one of the top-10 military innovations in the world.

"It (the design) was valued for not being a purely military tool," prize-winner Ramon Gonzalez said while holding the prize signed off by NATO supreme-commander Denis Mercier.

The innovation combines 'deep-learning' - technology which brings machines closer to thinking like humans - and geostrategy, which uses geographical factors to inform military planning.

The start-up was founded on a shoestring just eight months ago and with only one other teammate.

And Gonzalez's 'Robonity' was up against multi-million-euro multinational corporations for the prize.

The 36-year-old engineer has had a flourishing career which included being a researcher at the one of the world's best science universities, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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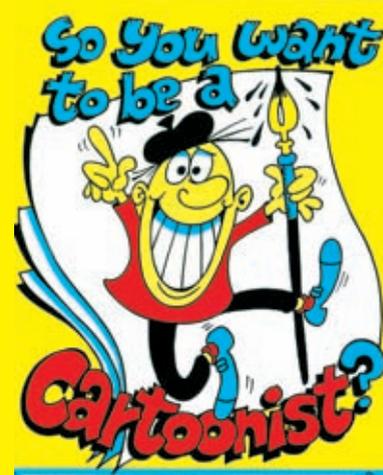
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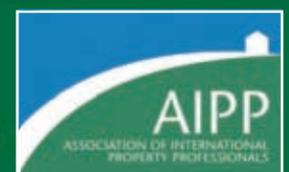


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Línea Directa knows the inconvenience a flat battery can cause and how difficult it can be to get it charged or exchanged for a new one. Now they are offering customers their Roadside Assistance service that will charge a battery and jump-start their car.

One call and a trained technician will be on hand to help, wherever the breakdown occurs. Sometimes the battery may have completely run out and jump-starting won't work, then they can be towed to the nearest

approved garage.

The Roadside Assistance service is an emergency breakdown service and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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

*If you would like to contact Línea Directa please call 902 123 309  
More information about Línea Directa online at [www.lineadirecta.com](http://www.lineadirecta.com)*



**SUMMIT:** Lavrov (right) was in Pyongyang for meetings with Kim Jong Un (left).

# Lavrov meets Kim in North Korea

RUSSIA'S Foreign Minister has travelled to the North Korean capital Pyongyang to meet with the country's leader Kim Jong Un. Sergey Lavrov told senior officials Russia supported its earlier joint declaration with the South on denuclearising the peninsula and invited the country's dictator to a future meeting in Moscow.

## Crash closes airline

AN airline's fleet has been grounded in an ongoing probe into a plane crash which killed everyone on board. Saratov Airlines Flight 703 fell from the sky minutes after taking off from Domodedovo Airport near Moscow in February, with Russia's Transport Ministry revoking the company's operating licence last week.

## Zuckerberg visit call

LAWMAKERS in Russia's Parliament have called for Facebook's Chief Executive to testify on privacy as the company continues to reel

from a data scandal. Senators in the State Duma issued the call for Mark Zuckerberg to visit, with the company also yet to comply with rules requiring tech firms to store Russian citizens' data.

## Art vandal hearing

A 37-YEAR-OLD man has appeared before a Moscow court on charges of attacking a painting of Ivan the Terrible and his son at a museum in the Russian capital. Ilya Podorin, who could go to prison for up to six years if found guilty, told the court he struck the canvas with a pole because it 'distorts' historical fact.

## World Cup forecast

AN international credit ratings agency has said it expects there to be 'little' long term effects from the World Cup which starts this month. Moody's said any boost from increased visitors to Russia was likely to be short lived, with authorities having spent billions on preparations.

## Birthday bash

ELEPHANTS, tightrope walkers, biker gangs, marching bands and fireworks have all featured in St Petersburg as the city marked its 315th anniversary last week. Russia's second city, which was founded by Tsar Peter the Great in 1703, held parades down the Nevsky Prospekt thoroughfare in which a variety of marchers took part. Rasul Abakarov also tightrope walked 40 metres across the Neva River.

**CELEBRATIONS:** Elephants paraded down the city's streets.





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## Thanks from Paws-Patas

PAWS-PATAS gratefully received €300 from the Dames of Turre AGM.

They were one of three charities to receive generous donations and this amazing amount will go towards the much-needed constant and vital renovation at the shelter for both cats and dogs.

The shelter in particular is at a critical point and needs urgent assistance with the daily functioning of feeding and cleaning, plus walking the dogs. They also need drivers to collect overseas volunteers from the bus station or airport (petrol money reimbursed). Volunteers can also get involved in working in one of the locales situated in Mojacar, Turre and Las Buganvillas.

Also help is needed distributing the bi-monthly newsletters, collection tins, fundraising, accountancy and DIY. Whatever your interest and availability, they will be able to find a job for you.

For more information please visit [www.paws-patas.org](http://www.paws-patas.org) or email [info@paws-patas.org](mailto:info@paws-patas.org).

## Footballers Walk for life

WALKING football team Mis Amigos recently turned out in strength for the annual 6km Walk4Life in Arboleas. Based in Los Gallardos, the team has over 60 members and supported by family and friends managed to raise €500. The team's sponsor Calida Homes, raised a further €350.

Walk4Life Arboleas supports people in the area affected by cancer. To date, this year's walk has raised over €4,000 and there is more sponsorship money to come in. If you have sponsor money you can pay it in at Unicaja Arboleas or email [w4lifesweet@btinternet.com](mailto:w4lifesweet@btinternet.com) to arrange collection.

For more information about Walk4Life please email [judi@walk4lifearboleas.com](mailto:judi@walk4lifearboleas.com).

# Dames in Spain

THE Dames of Mojacar recently made a €1,000 donation to Asprodalba Vera. In return, the dames were presented with the special 'butterfly with the broken wing' plaque which is only given with special permission from all the members of Asprodalba.

The Dames of Turre will be holding their AGM this Monday at the Hostel Rural in Turre at 12.30pm. This meeting is for members only, and the group requests that all registered members attend.

Guests are welcome to join following the AGM for lunch at the Hostel Rural at 1.30pm.

For more information please contact president Lesley Barlow on 661 085 551 or membership secretary Eileen McGill on 652 208 072.



**BUTTERFLIES:** Ignacio from Asprodalba Vera receives the €1,000 cheque from the Dames of Mojacar.

EQUINAC will be holding its bumper general knowledge quiz at the Sawardee Thai Restaurant on Mojacar Playa this Monday.

The quiz will start at 5pm with an optional two-course meal afterwards (€8). Entry to the quiz is €2 per person. All proceeds in aid of the Equinac Organisation fund.

Equinac has been established for more than 15 years.

## Quiz night

It is an organisation which rescues, rehabilitates and reintroduces sea creatures in difficulty, including dolphins and sea turtles.

Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated to boost funds.

For more information call 634 393 235, visit [www.asociacionequinac.org](http://www.asociacionequinac.org) or check them out on Facebook (@Equinac).

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Tennis & paddle courts  
Security



**API-VDE0120 92,500€**

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Air conditioning  
Outdoor pools



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Outdoor & indoor pool, Jacuzzi  
Lift with panoramic views



**API-V0358 110,000€**

**VERA PLAYA**

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**STAT OF WEEK****€15.5** billion The amount lost by Spanish banks on the international stock market in the immediate aftermath of the no-confidence vote and axing of former Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, according to reports.

## UK firm's €1.9bn package deal set

BRITAIN'S biggest cardboard box maker has swooped on a Spanish rival.

It comes after DS Smith revealed it plans to fork out €1.9 billion to snap up fast-growing Europac.

The takeover will see the London-based firm - which each year produces millions of tonnes of packaging for clients including Amazon, Asos and Next - expand into Spain, Portugal and France.

Its business has boomed with the rise in online shopping and it was promoted to the FTSE 100 last December.

**PP threatens budget chaos**

SPAIN'S ousted People's Party (PP) has threatened to use its Senate majority to disrupt the new government's budget.

PP parliamentary spokesperson Rafael Hernando said his party now wishes to "improve" its own long-delayed budget that was only passed a few weeks ago following months of negotiations.

He suggested this could include reigning in some of the promised €500 million infrastructure investment for the Basque region that enabled his party to pass the budget with support from the

by Matt Ford

Basque PNV party.

The PP has an absolute majority in the Senate and although it cannot nullify the budget, it can send revisions back to the lower house for revoting.

And the move threatens to destabilise the new Socialist PSOE-led government, which currently has just 84 politicians in the 350-seat parliament.

Socialist lawmaker Jose Luis Abalos said any move to renegotiate the budget would be an "unedifying [act of] vengeance" by the PP following last week's no-confidence vote which saw

former Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy kicked out of office.

But Hernando said his party's relationship with one-time ally the Basque PNV has changed after its MPs voted with the Socialists to remove the PP from power.

"At this moment, we do not have a link with the PNV because it has broken the trust," he confirmed.

PNV official Aitor Esteban added that the move could offer the PP "satisfaction for five minutes," but would "be very bad political business that would mean punishing the Basque society."

## Usual suspects not so budget

THERE is no British or Irish representative in this year's top 10 cheapest budget airlines.

The most cost-effective operator was Malaysia's Air Asia, with a rate of €0.06 per kilometre travelled, with the top five completed by, in order, Air India Express, Indonesia AirAsia, Iceland's Primera Air and India's Indigo.

Irish low-cost specialist Ryanair placed seventh most affordable on the list, which was compiled from economy-class flight prices returned in search results from transport search engine Rome2rio.



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## Budget brand sorry after fans get shirty



**SPAINFUL:** A Primark store and (inset) the shirt in question.

WALLET-FRIENDLY Irish clothing chain Primark is again selling t-shirts emblazoned with the Spanish flag in Cataluña.

It comes after a recorded telephone call between an irate customer and an employee went viral on social media.

The shopper rang to complain that the firm was selling themed World Cup shirts for all competing nations except Spain in the troubled northern region.

And in the audio clip, the shop worker is heard to respond

that no Spanish version would be sold locally "to avoid a fracas," sparking outrage online with calls to boycott the brand.

Hours later, an official said in a statement that the decision, made due to "the political situation" had been reversed, and that Spain shirts would be available "as soon as our logistic services permit."

He added: "We recognise that the idea was wrong and has been interpreted as a lack of respect for the Spanish national team, for which we apologise."

## » BUSINESS EXTRA

**Summer is just the job**

MORE than 1.5 million people in Spain are expected to find work on temporary contracts this summer, according to the world's largest staffing agency Adecco, with seven out of 10 employed in Andalusia, the Valencian Community, Murcia, Cataluña and Madrid.

**Brakes off**

SPAIN'S automotive industry generated 5,300 new jobs and raked in more than €28.1 million for the Spanish tax agency last year - a year-on-year increase of 5.7 per cent - according to the latest government statistics.

**Blast compo**

ENERGY firm Gas Natural must pay €2.1 million compensation to victims of a gas explosion which killed five people in Tarragona, Cataluña, a court ruling said, with more than half paid to a man who lost his wife and three children.

**€21.3m tourist bonanza**

MORE than 20.5 million tourists visited Spain during the first four months of 2018, as the country raked in more than €21.3 million.

The figures represent year-on-year increases of 2.3 and 4.6 per cent, respectively, according to data from the National Statistics Institute.

And while British holidaymakers retained top spot in the ranking, with 4.3 million sun-seekers

flocking to tourist hot spots from January to April, the total dropped by 1.6 per cent compared with 2017.

The most popular destination for foreigners was the Canary Islands, with 4.8 million visitors, followed by Cataluña with 4.7 million and Andalusia with 2.9 million, while the average break lasted 6.8 days.

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## LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JUNE 4

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,786.50	-59.90	-3.24	25,259.02
Associated British Foods	2,665.00	26.00	0.99	20,979.37
Admiral Group	1,968.50	51.50	2.69	5,540.46
Ashtead Group	2,330.00	-20.00	-0.85	11,425.93
Antofagasta	1,059.50	-12.00	-1.12	10,395.86
Aviva	524.50	7.30	1.41	20,448.20
AstraZeneca	5,440.00	19.00	0.35	69,233.10
BAE Systems	632.50	-20.30	-3.11	20,414.00
Barclays	200.00	-1.90	-0.94	33,741.24
British American Tobacco	3,836.50	11.00	0.29	88,741.43
Barratt Developments	555.50	-3.90	-0.70	5,524.45
Berkeley Group Holdings (The)	4,198.50	-57.50	-1.35	5,696.29
British Land Co	686.00	4.80	0.70	6,663.76
BHP Billiton	1,742.50	8.30	0.48	36,517.72
Bunzl	2,320.50	12.50	0.54	7,693.39
BP	572.00	-4.70	-0.81	114,947.07
Burberry Group	2,070.00	-7.00	-0.34	8,654.20
BT Group	211.10	5.00	2.43	20,329.98
Coca-Cola HBC	2,586.50	29.50	1.15	9,455.56
Carnival	4,840.00	30.00	0.62	9,978.26
Centrica	145.05	0.10	0.07	8,183.41
Compass Group	1,489.50	-107.00	-6.70	25,615.06
Croda International	4,624.00	-95.00	-2.01	6,137.20
CRH	2,869.00	84.00	3.02	23,231.16
DCC	7,240.00	0.00	0.00	6,437.36
Diageo	2,729.00	13.00	0.48	67,980.64
Direct Line Insurance Group	357.00	3.70	1.05	4,915.63
Evrax	536.30	13.70	2.62	7,314.93
Experian	1,840.50	-19.50	-1.05	16,908.50
easyJet	1,715.00	1.50	0.09	6,788.29
Ferguson	5,865.00	-27.00	-0.46	14,332.28
Fresnillo	1,337.00	28.50	2.18	9,789.63
G4S	272.25	-3.25	-1.18	4,187.75
Glencore	380.00	-1.30	-0.34	53,667.25
GlaxoSmithKline	1,526.00	3.20	0.21	75,579.77
Hargreaves Lansdown	1,890.25	-38.25	-1.98	9,045.26
Halma	1,383.00	15.00	1.10	5,125.16
HSBC Holdings	723.25	-1.55	-0.21	144,505.18
International Consoltd Airs Grp	685.50	-0.30	-0.04	13,894.90
InterContinental Hotels Grp	4,840.00	-16.00	-0.33	9,178.85
3i Group	991.25	36.05	3.77	9,271.77
Imperial Brands	2,625.00	-87.00	-3.21	25,846.27
Informa	784.00	0.40	0.05	6,463.50
Intertek Group	5,505.00	5.00	0.09	8,821.75
ITV	164.50	0.10	0.06	6,545.32
Just Eat	863.00	14.00	1.65	5,735.45
Johnson Matthey	3,362.00	-293.00	-8.02	6,798.83
Kingfisher	304.00	-1.00	-0.33	6,549.34
Land Securities Group	955.00	20.00	2.14	6,892.61
Legal & General Group	276.00	4.40	1.62	16,076.90

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	64.30	0.95	1.50	45,358.00
London Stock Exchange Grp	4,543.50	59.50	1.33	15,579.37
Micro Focus International	1,320.00	-11.50	-0.86	5,815.47
Mediclinic International	662.70	55.10	9.07	4,504.56
Marks & Spencer Group	290.00	5.40	1.90	4,614.33
Mondi	2,080.00	-10.00	-0.48	7,671.66
Melrose	218.30	-18.20	-7.70	11,109.56
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	247.50	2.00	0.81	5,790.74
National Grid	836.75	8.35	1.01	27,966.89
NMC Health	3,203.00	-209.00	-6.13	7,335.65
Next	5,805.00	15.00	0.26	8,176.18
Old Mutual Group	235.35	-3.35	-1.40	11,828.80
Paddy Power Betfair	7,827.50	-1,207.50	-13.36	7,711.80
Prudential	1,837.50	-3.00	-0.16	46,936.75
Persimmon	2,848.00	-17.00	-0.59	8,816.18
Pearson	895.00	-0.20	-0.02	7,038.51
Reckitt Benckiser Group	5,850.00	75.00	1.30	40,589.70
Royal Bank of Scotland Group	280.50	1.20	0.43	33,084.55
Royal Dutch Shell	2,615.00	-1.50	-0.06	119,847.34
RELX	1,648.50	-0.50	-0.03	17,341.29
Rio Tinto	4,253.50	-38.50	-0.90	56,351.35
Royal Mail	570.50	74.30	14.97	5,090.00
Rolls-Royce Group	835.70	-1.30	-0.16	15,336.38
Randgold Resources	5,900.00	-60.00	-1.01	5,631.96
RSA Insurance Group	662.00	0.60	0.09	6,690.40
Rentokil Initial	309.55	-34.45	-10.01	6,315.26
Sainsbury (J)	262.50	-53.10	-16.83	6,992.27
Schroders	3,489.50	218.50	6.68	7,316.35
Sage Group (The)	669.50	5.50	0.83	7,176.97
Segro	657.40	0.00	0.00	6,607.04
Shire	3,975.00	-60.00	-1.49	37,468.21
Smurfit Kappa Group	3,005.00	-97.00	-3.13	7,315.17
Sky	1,361.00	24.00	1.80	23,155.16
Standard Life Aberdeen	354.50	-3.50	-0.98	10,442.74
Smith (DS)	548.70	-13.70	-2.44	5,942.10
Smiths Group	1,763.50	-16.00	-0.90	6,967.30
Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst	530.50	19.00	3.71	7,214.78
Smith & Nephew	1,360.00	9.00	0.67	11,967.24
SSE	1,372.50	9.50	0.70	13,882.43
Standard Chartered	765.00	12.60	1.67	24,928.65
St James's Place	1,196.00	0.00	0.00	6,307.19
Severn Trent	2,035.00	49.00	2.47	4,706.04
Tesco	246.00	0.10	0.04	24,038.10
TUI AG	1,666.25	-75.75	-4.35	10,261.65
Taylor Wimpey	195.00	5.30	2.79	6,230.26
Unilever	4,148.00	2.00	0.05	50,657.81
United Utilities Group	779.50	-1.30	-0.17	5,290.09
Vodafone Group	193.60	-1.32	-0.68	51,170.19
WPP Group	1,239.00	-2.50	-0.20	15,569.83
Whitbread	4,360.00	165.00	3.93	7,738.03

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CLOSING PRICES JUNE 4

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE%	CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	199,590	+1.20%	2,360	118,503,95
AMERICAN EXPRESS	98,2500	-0.05%	-0,0500	84,560,70
APPLE	190,240	+1.80%	3,370	935,006,70
BOEING CO	356,720	+1.29%	4,560	207,882,37
CATERPILLAR	153,520	+1.06%	1,610	91,785,29
CHEVRON	123,85	-0.36%	-0,45	236,634,17
CISCO SYSTEMS	43,660	+2.22%	0,950	210,284,62
COCA-COLA	43,12	+0.28%	0,12	183,508,20
DOWDUPONT	66,17	+3.21%	2,06	153,496,83
EXXON MOBIL	81,83	+0.73%	0,59	346,412,33
GENERAL ELECTRIC	14,1000	+0.14%	0,0200	122,463,27
GOLDMAN SACHS	228,35	+1.09%	2,47	86,233,04
HOME DEPOT	187,3500	+0.43%	0,8000	216,180,30
IBM	141,95	+0.45%	0,64	130,278,06
INTEL CORP	57,0800	+3.41%	1,8800	266,449,44
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	108,4000	+1.30%	1,3900	368,907,58
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	121,2600	+1.37%	1,6400	325,210,68
MC DONALD'S CORP	159,1600	-0.53%	-0,8500	124,968,83
MERCK AND CO. NEW	60,56	+1.73%	1,03	162,817,19
MICROSOFT	100,790	+1.97%	1,950	775,831,14
NIKE	72,76	+1.34%	0,96	93,322,38
PFIZER	36,2500	+0.89%	0,3200	211,929,96
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	73,450	+0.38%	0,280	184,684,76
TRAVELERS CIES	129,29	+0.60%	0,77	34,939,38
UNITED TECHNOLOGIE	125,81	+0.79%	0,99	100,699,49
UNITEDHEALTH GROUP	243,35	+0.76%	1,84	233,739,47
VERIZON COMMS	47,81	+0.29%	0,14	197,256,74
VISA	130,85	+0.10%	0,13	233,683,81
WAL-MART STORES	82,9900	+0.55%	0,4500	244,937,62
WALT DISNEY CO	99,3600	-0.11%	-0,1100	148,098,40

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COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
<b>Most Advanced</b>		
Liberty TripAdvisor Holdings, Inc.	\$ 17.0486	2.9436 ▲ 20.87%
lululemon athletica inc.	\$ 122.19	17.14 ▲ 16.32%
OrthoPediatrics Corp.	\$ 24.20	3.14 ▲ 14.91%
trivago N.V.	\$ 5.30	0.66 ▲ 14.22%
Nektar Therapeutics	\$ 90.35	10.08 ▲ 12.56%
iQIYI, Inc.	\$ 28.46	3.16 ▲ 12.49%
Scholar Rock Holding Corporation	\$ 19.65	2.16 ▲ 12.35%
DAVIDsTEA Inc.	\$ 4.1489	0.4489 ▲ 12.13%
Evolus, Inc.	\$ 27.28	2.78 ▲ 11.35%
Sesen Bio, Inc.	\$ 2.52	0.25 ▲ 11.01%
ACM Research, Inc.	\$ 14.06	1.35 ▲ 10.62%
<b>Most Declined</b>		
Sears Holdings Corporation	\$ 2.28	0.53 ▼ 18.86%
Zion Oil & Gas Inc	\$ 3.165	0.395 ▼ 11.10%
Curis, Inc.	\$ 2.49	0.29 ▼ 10.43%
scPharmaceuticals Inc.	\$ 8.92	1.02 ▼ 10.26%
Clean Energy Fuels Corp.	\$ 2.85	0.31 ▼ 9.81%
Golar LNG Partners LP	\$ 15.14	1.63 ▼ 9.72%
A V Homes, Inc.	\$ 16.80	1.55 ▼ 8.45%
Credit Suisse AG	\$ 5.05	0.44 ▼ 8.01%
Novelion Therapeutics Inc.	\$ 3.89	0.31 ▼ 7.38%
Viper Energy Partners LP	\$ 30.40	2.18 ▼ 6.69%
United-Guardian, Inc.	\$ 17.95	1.25 ▼ 6.51%

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# Euro and pound flounder, US dollar rises

## Ask the expert

Peter Loveday



Currencies Direct

Contact me at [euroweekly@currenciesdirect.com](mailto:euroweekly@currenciesdirect.com)

### Euro

EUR/GBP: Fluctuating, but unmoved at £0.87  
EUR/USD: Down from \$1.20 to \$1.15

The euro (EUR) posted a mixed performance in May, encumbered by ongoing political uncertainty in Italy and Spain, and enduring concerns that the European Central Bank (ECB) will extend their bond-buying programme beyond September this year.

As May draws to a close, however, there has been some good news in the form of a Q2 recovery in German data.

This includes the unemployment rate falling from 5.3% to 5.2% in May and retail sales rising from the -0.4% contraction in March, to grow by 2.3% in April (month-on-month).

Looking ahead, investors will be keeping a close eye on Eurozone data - particularly the looming inflation print - but given the current dovish outlook of the ECB it seems unlikely that the euro will find much purchase.



**LOOKING AHEAD:** Investors will be keeping a close eye on Eurozone data.

### Pound

GBP/EUR: Up from € 1.13 to € 1.14  
GBP/USD: Down from \$1.37 to \$1.32

The pound struggled to make much headway in May, limited in the early weeks by easing consumer price inflation and the ongoing burden of Brexit negotiation stagnation.

On a brighter note, the UK's labour market

continued to jump from strength to strength, with unemployment sliding to a surprising 4.2% low in the three months to March, whilst retail sales also recovered from 1.3% to 1.5%.

Whether this will be enough to push the Bank of England (BoE) towards acting in a more hawkish fashion with regards to policy remains to be seen, but many analysts are hopeful that the

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) will raise interest rates by 25bp in August.

As we move through June investors will be desperately looking for any signs of progress in Brexit negotiations, particularly with the EU summit scheduled for the end of the month.

If progress is made then we could see the pound make a comeback.

### US Dollar

USD/GBP: Up from £0.72 to £0.75  
USD/EUR: Up from €0.82 to €0.86

The US dollar stormed ahead in May, driven by ongoing expectations for monetary tightening by the US Federal Reserve, as well as the robust performance of the US labour market and improving trade relations with China.

A marked rise in US inflation towards the start of the month was good news for USD bulls, with the Fed expected to continue on their gradual path of monetary tightening this year and next.

Beyond this, China has agreed to compromise on various aspects of trade, including agreeing to buy more US goods and services and even plans to address the questionable usage of foreign intellectual property rights.

The outlook remains positive, though any signs of cooling relations between China and the US could send investors to safer shores.

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# Media blackout is what's most worrying

**LEAPY LEE SAYS IT**

**OTHERS THINK IT**



I DON'T think the position of British politicians could have been demonstrated more clearly than their actions concerning two situations that arose in London recently.

On one side of the city a man was being arrested outside the law courts (under some weak excuse of a past contempt charge), for talking on his telephone about a paedophile grooming case being heard inside; while in another part of the city, hooded Islamists, marching with megaphones and spouting anti British propaganda, were being given a police escort!

The one glaringly obvious fact that emerges from these two occurrences is that something is clearly not right. The arrest of Tommy Robinson was a disgraceful act of politically motivated injustice. A decision that should send shivers up the spines of all decent people who believe in the free speech and the democratic society our forefathers fought and died for.

**TOMMY ROBINSON JAILING: 'A disgraceful act of politically motivated injustice.'**

When this man Tommy Robinson first appeared on the scene, I didn't particularly like him, or the far-right policies he appeared to stand for. In those days it was relatively easy for the government and law enforcers to write him off as a fascist yobbo.

But over the years things have changed. The man has now earned a far more acceptable cloak of respectability. He has appeared

on a number of serious political discussions in the media. His views on rape gangs, sharia courts, no go areas and Islamic appeasement, that were at one time dismissed as 'racist propaganda,' are now coming to pass and a large and rapidly growing section of the British public are finally beginning to sit up and listen.

In their usual 'out of touch' manner the authorities thought that it would all blow over if they simply locked him up and put him out of sight and out of mind. Well this time they have made what could turn out to be an extremely serious mis-

take. They reckoned without the social media. The gagging orders they arrogantly put on all events that could 'cause embarrassment,' (or worse), simply don't work any more, and this latest was no exception.

Despite their efforts to suppress information thousands of people turned out, not only in London, but in many major cities across the world; they actually stormed Downing Street!

All of them calling for the release of this man and the injustice of his arrest. At the time of writing half a million people have signed a petition with the same message. It would take a brave or extremely stupid politician to label all these people knuckle dragging right wing bigots. The most worrying, and indeed insulting aspect of all, is the media blackout.

This is a blatant dictatorial attempt to suppress our most precious freedom of all. Our right to free speech. Millions of decent people are, at the moment, either worried or utterly peeved off with it all. Heaven help our leaders if this worry turns to serious anger. Let us hope no harm comes to Tommy Robinson in prison, particularly from an Islamic extremist. In this event, he could turn into the catalyst which triggers off the scenario this ol' boy has also been warning of for the last 25 years.

*Keep the faith. Love Leapy.*

*leapylee2002@gmail.com*



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

**TECH FOR THE TIMID**



CAN it be true that the jostling passenger who stole my phone on the packed 916 bus in Rome last month really was a Catholic priest?

Of course I ignored all the warnings about pick-pocketing in Rome. Couldn't happen to me.

Though it's unlikely to have been my priestly neighbour, I would have felt less humiliated if my phone had indeed transitioned that smoothly from my zipped pocket into the folds of a cassock as we both headed for the Vatican and redemption.

Almost half of all thefts reported now are smartphones, routed virtually anywhere in the world within days by well-oiled syndicates.

If you're insured you're in for a challenging round of musical chairs at a Local Police station to file the required report. Harbour no illusions: they almost certainly won't look for it.

But replacing the actual device is not the main issue.

Indeed it's an opportunity to buy a shiny new gadget even if it does mean living on bread and

## Smartphone stupidity

Terence Kennedy suffers a holiday property redistribution



**PHONE FILCHING: Fifty per cent of all thefts.**

water for the next month.

Nor is it mainly about one thing many people forget: that if you don't block a lost phone immediately, the bad guys have a nasty little wheeze of using it to call premium numbers back in Desolatistan at €20+ a minute on your account, ka-ching.

Nope, it's all the confidential stuff we keep on our phones these days which hurts. Banking apps, online shopping apps, vulnerable information of every hue and cry and all those access codes.

Tackle the damage limitation and you quickly learn just how many websites simply aren't

geared up for your scenario. 'Register a new phone to your account? No problem, for security reasons first send us confirmation from your old one.' Ummm....

And of course there are lessons to be learned. If only I had set up the wonderful 'find my phone' facility which both Apple and Android devices offer - before it got stolen. If only I had kept a separate note of all my online banking and other confidential information so that I would know who to call and what to say in the event of.

If only...

But look on the bright side. A third of the users in a recent US study said they would pay a thousand dollars to get their phone back. I'm not one of those people.

I would have loved to see the look of disgust when my thief realised he'd stolen a six-year old dinosaur of a phone. Heck, given time to first extract my information, I'd actually have paid him to take it.

**Steal away**

AS the FBI keeps discovering, current phone security erects a daunting fortress wall around your device. If you enable it.

Short of the rather uncomfortable option of cutting off your finger, thieves find a fingerprint-protected phone a nightmare to crack. Ditto a good password, and that doesn't mean 123456.

At the very least, when you get a new phone install a security app or suite which lets you wipe your phone remotely in a worst-case scenario.

Phone-tracking apps can certainly work. But if your phone is stolen, not just lost, consider very carefully what you would do if a tracker does indeed find it - in the middle of a mafia stronghold or a neighbourhood where even the shadows won't go. Good luck finding a SWAT team.



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

MARIANO RAJOY and the Partido Popular are on the skids, but Spain's president is in denial and unblushingly proclaimed that Eduardo Zaplana's €10 millions' worth of kick-backs on government contracts was an 'isolated case.'

That was a few hours before the Gurtel sentences were announced: 51 years and 11 months for businessman Francisco Correa, the German version of whose name gave the case its name.

Thirty-three years and four months for Luis Barcenas, the former Partido Popular treasurer who oversaw the illegal funding of the party and hived off millions for himself.

And so on down the list of PP politicians who were on the make and on the take.

Then came the triple whammy when the National High Court said that the PP's Caja B - a black money cashbox - and its parallel bookkeeping had existed since 1989 at least.

The party, aware that it is holed not only beneath the waterline but above it too, maintains that this hap-

# They do things differently

pened in the past and has nothing to do with the present-day party.

"The past is a foreign country, they do things differently there," it's said, and that's what Rajoy and his government are trying to tell us now. But Spain is still the same country and nothing is done differently.

## Return of the boomerang

MARIANO RAJOY'S disastrous inaction over the Catalan problem and his insistence on dealing with it as a judicial, not a political, issue has ricocheted.

Carles Puigdemont, the self-exiled former president of Catalunya is safe and sound in Berlin because the German courts take a different view of what constitutes rebellion and sedition. Spain might eventually get him for misappropriation of public funds - money is a judicial common denominator everywhere - but even that's not certain.

And all along, once the PP's illegal funding and the dirty Gurtel

washing were displayed for all to see, Rajoy insisted that the courts would see that justice was done. And they have.

Unfortunately for the Partido Popular, the party was not exonerated but accused of institutional corruption and some big political names are in jail or on the point of going there.

Rajoy's go-to solution has done him no favours and his insistence on leaving the judiciary to do his dirty work means his boomerang keeps coming back with calamitous results.

## Diversions tactics

WHEN everyone in Spain was appalled after the Gurtel corruption case broke and the then-king's son-in-law was found siphoning off the taxpayer's money, they were less aware of what was simmering in Catalunya.

Once Catalunya grabbed everybody's attention they stopped looking at corruption.



**PROBLEMS AHOY: Mariano Rajoy's past might come back to haunt him.**

More recently the public lifted its hands in righteous horror on learning that Pablo Iglesias and Irene Montero have bought a €670,000 villa on a €540,000 mortgage.

Meanwhile they temporarily forgot about Catalunya, corruption and the Galapagar house and concentrated on Pedro Sanchez's censure motion against Mariano Rajoy, but only briefly.

In politics there's no hiding place for long and soon it's time to come under public scrutiny once more - like a merry-go-round but less fun than La Ronde. Instead it's a case of what goes around, comes around.

## Namesakes

IT'S hard to keep up with the names involved in the Catalan situation. There's a High Court judge called Lamela and a Supreme Court judge named Larena. The Speaker of the Catalan parliament answers to Torrent and the regional president's surname is Torra while secessionist MPs Turull and Rull are currently remanded. What's in a name? Potential confusion.

*columnists@euroweeklynews.com*

# Discover how to make the most of the month ahead with your June Astrology, Numerology and Tarot forecast...

**Sally Trotman**

www.sallytrotman.com

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

## ASTROLOGY: reach for the stars!

Sun in Gemini: The airy influence of this sign may bring a plethora of ideas this month. Gemini, symbolised as the twins, can indicate perhaps some indecision or a choice between two options this month.

When making decisions try to balance your inner wisdom with practical action to make the best choice for you. On June 21 the sun moves into the sign of Cancer. This nurturing and maternal sign brings the focus to your home life, and family.

Do something every day which is kind, for yourself and for someone close to you. Offering this act of kindness to yourself and others will help to improve your self-esteem and general feeling of well-being.

Get in tune with the moon: The

new moon in Gemini on June 13 brings the opportunity to make new connections and communicate in an authentic way with others. If you have a strong message to get across to the world, through the written or spoken word, now is the time to take action!

On June 28, the full moon in the sign of earthy Capricorn will help you to ground your ideas,

to let go of your wilder, more mercurial plans, replacing these with a longer lasting vision. Take time to connect with nature around the time of the summer solstice too, appreciating the bounty of the earth by spending time outdoors either gardening, walking or simply meditating in a beautiful spot in the sunshine.

**Numerology: practise loving kindness**



**GEMINI: Symbolised as the twins.**

are involved in a creative act, you are fully present. By allowing yourself to be fully immersed in this moment you are connected to the divine, grateful and at peace. Develop a creative practice to help you remain more present and open to your inner guidance.

## The Hierophant: the lovers

The sixth card in the Major Arcana Tarot deck is the Lovers. This card represents relationships and choices. You may be presented with conflicting options this month, particularly in relationships, whether romantically, or in a professional sense. This card deals with the themes of attachment, union, and partnership.

Number 6: This is the number of Gaia, the earth, the ultimate nurturer, the giver of unconditional love and deep compassion. The influence of this number helps you to create balance and harmony within yourself and your world at large.

This creative number is encouraging you to take time to write, sing, paint or spend time on whatever creative pursuit you chose. When you

A new partner in some form may present themselves to you this month. Use your intuition to guide you as to whether this is a union that will benefit you both or whether perhaps there is a hidden agenda. When in doubt wait until you have all the facts before you commit to a decision or course of action.

Repeat this affirmation throughout the month to help you: I am creating an abundant world through my positive thoughts and actions.

## Your personalised forecast

Astrology, Numerology and the Tarot are ancient tools of divination which aid self-awareness. By looking at the unique numbers, planets and corresponding Tarot Cards linked to your date of birth, I will intuitively guide you to become clearer, calmer and more confident about your direction. I offer consultations by Skype, Facetime, WhatsApp video and email. Thirty minute consultations cost £25 throughout June. Contact me at [sally.trotman@btinternet.com](mailto:sally.trotman@btinternet.com) to book in or visit my website for more information: [www.sallytrotman.com](http://www.sallytrotman.com).



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# Bumping into 'El Caudillo'

## 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 was a day identical to today. Evidence of spring and summer abounded everywhere and felt good. By chance I was in Madrid so decided to take a stroll.

It was my first venture to the capital city. I was excited and certainly didn't know what to expect. Flags were flying everywhere, soldiers, swords, and high stepping everywhere. Bleachers were set up along the Grand Via and everyone was dressed in their Sunday best to blend into the festivities.

Me, I had unwittingly dressed for my part too. Shorts, wildly coloured shirt, camera slung around my neck and baseball hat to guide the way. I had no travel book so just walked to the most noise and where I presumed the action would be.

Soon lines of soldiers came parading by, marching heavy footed to an unknown rhythm; behind them jeeps, trucks and tanks. Then more troops on horseback with their swords drawn and



**EL CAUDILLO:**  
Franco was Europe's last dictator.

Credit: Wikimedia

waving them about. Enough to frighten any well-meaning sparrow having habituated in the overhanging trees.

Then trumpets, drums and more heavy foot soldiers now high stepping it. That was ridiculous to me and found it remarkably similar to the German goose step. Even more so as they were wearing

German helmets from the Second World War.

Naturally I was captivated and stood motionless taking it all in. Then some old aircraft flew over just fast enough to not fall from the sky. That too caught my attention. The crowd loved it. Such a show of force. Me, I had seen all the ar-

maments years back when I was a small boy but truly didn't expect to find them in Spain. Nor would I waste my precious film on antiquated war vehicles. I strolled on.

Wham-oh, walked right into him, a personage coming down from the upper stands and walking briskly charged in to

me. The little time I had been living here didn't leave me proficient enough to utter 'pardon' but I could say 'Hola' and that's just what I did.

This interjection startled the great one even more. He took a step or two back and studied me, his new adversary that would speak to him dressed in forbidden shorts, a loud overly colourful shirt and insulting him with a curt 'Hola.' When he lifted his head up from under the brim of the cap I knew right away who he was but didn't command enough of the language to express it.

It was him, the fuhrer, the caudillo, Europe's last dictator, the head honcho whose personage was on every coin in the realm. On every bridge the words almost glowed: 'pan, agua y Franco.'

His mouth was agape from the shock he had suffered, bumping into someone as unsuspected as myself. In a glance I noted no body guards around him. Plenty about, all talking to each other and concerned about more important things; the price of grain in Extremadura or Barcelona's recent defeat in football.

We parted no better for the encounter. Until the day of his death, I doubt very much, if he ever uttered my name once or mentioned the incident, but I did his.

# A Bishop, a curry and a huge amount of talent



## TV COUCH CRITIC

by Adam Whalley-Lewis

*BRITAIN'S GOT TALENT* finally reached its conclusion for season 12 over the weekend (ITV) with Lee 'Lost Voice Guy' crowned the winner.

Now it probably says a lot about me, but be honest, like me, were you initially unsure how to react to someone so confident, whose act is so different and who is so brilliantly funny? And Bishop Curry doing the intro as though God Himself would be watching, that was a Marmite moment.

Lee is a star.

I'm a Geordie, so Lee gets an automatic tick in the votes box and my brother is called Lee, so another tick, but the guy is also terrific and that's surely what everyone saw and why he won. I love that Lee wants to develop a Geordie accent for his voice, although the pronunciation of 'Newcassel' he currently has is probably good enough for most stottie eaters I

know. Finally on BGT, I really wanted to like Robert White, but couldn't.

He had some funny one liners - 'I have Asperger's, what does that say about me, compared to you, I'm more intelligent' - brilliantly intelligent humour, but the digs at Amanda and to some degree David, just didn't do it for me.

*A Very English Scandal* (BBC1) concluded on Sunday evening. You know I'm a fan of the show and the final episode didn't disappoint. As this all too short series has moved along, I've become an even bigger fan of Monica Dolan who plays Thorpe's devoted wife, Marion.

She has had some cracking one liners and the boil in the bag, cod in parsley sauce scene, is the stuff of TV legend. If you missed the series, you can catch up on BBC iPlayer.

One of *Channel 5's* better Sunday offerings was *The Unstoppable Flying Scotsman*, which must have had



**ALL TOO SHORT:**  
A Very English Scandal.

**STAR:** Lee bagged the Britain's Got Talent crown.

stream and train addicts (I'm told they are not necessarily one and the same) on the edge of their seats. Of course there were lots of shots of the magnificent locomotive and Rob Bell (he's an engineer and obvious Scotsman fan) did a smashing job guiding us

through the sometimes turbulent story of perhaps the most famous train in the world. There are only two 60-minute episodes, so my advice is set a reminder and watch them both together, with a massive glass of your favourite tipple and an even bigger

dose of nostalgia.

We are still with Sunday TV, but this will be brief. Where is the story going on *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Channel 4*? We know that season two doesn't follow the book, because there is no season two storyline in the book, but I'm going off the dark rooms (someone just switch on a light, please) and the seemingly never-ending attempt to get to the Promised Land, in this case that would be Canada and I don't mean the lovely shopping centre just off the A-7 on the Costa del Sol.

I have previously said I find this hard to watch, but it's getting harder for all the wrong reasons.

Looking forward, *BBC1* has the annual coverage of *Trooping the Colour* on Saturday morning if you need a top up of pageantry following the Royal Wedding; *Channel 4* is in Spain looking for *A Place in the Sun* on Saturday afternoon and *Versailles* continues on *BBC2* on Monday night - I will let you know what I make of the new series next week.

Happy viewing.

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We are back from A Place in the Sun Live - Olympia London 2018 Thank you to all the staff and support at the show. It was excellent and a fantastic turnout.

Friday 2,001  
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We have booked a lot of appointments and lots of lovely people are coming to visit the area for their first time. What we have learnt is the average coastal apartment budget is 150,000 GBP, Townhouse 200,000 GBP and Villa 400,000 GBP, there is a large demand for Inland Villas around Arboleas for 185,000 GBP. If you are considering selling, please contact VIP Almeria.

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KEEP the children entertained with last minute child-friendly breaks.

Still looking for a last minute break away this summer with the family? Sometimes keeping the little ones entertained makes for a much more relaxing holiday for the adults, so why not try these hotels which are renowned for being family-friendly and child orientated. From children's clubs and themed rooms, they are sure to please the youngest members of the family and the best thing? All are in Spain so whether you want to drive just a few hours up or down the coast, or take a short flight to either the Canary Islands or Balears, here are some of the best to look out for:

■ **Fuerteventura**



Photo credit: Barcelo.com

**TOP PICK: The Occidental Jandia Mar, Fuerteventura.**

According to a report last year on Trivago, the Occidental Jandia Mar Hotel on the island of Fuerteventura came up tops in their picks for fami-

**Travel**

# Fun for all the family

ly-friendly resorts. They noted its wealth of children's entertainers and different children's clubs to keep young guests happy for hours. There is even a children's buffet. Trivago.es currently state room rates during the last week of August are available from €136 a night.

■ **Alicante**



Photo credit: Twitter

**CHILD'S DREAM: The Hotel del Juguete.**

The Hotel del Juguete in Ibi is aptly named as it is a child's dream with the hotel focusing on children. Rooms come in a range of themes including Playmobil, Lego, Pinypon and Invizimals and if these mean little to you, just ask the little ones! Naturally there are games rooms in the hotel and everything is centred around

children. It is also the perfect base to explore the neighbouring toy museums as the area is known for its history of producing toys. Trivago.es currently has room rates during the last week of August from €150 per night.

■ **Mallorca**



Photo credit: Twitter

**FAMILY FAVOURITE: The Pirates' Village.**

The Pirates Village in Santa Ponsa is a firm family favourite for pirate lovers young and old. The hotel even has a pirate-themed facade of shops and cafes and takes you into a world of fortresses, caverns and pirate ships with a weekly pirate show and pirate themed entertainment and events.

There are children's clubs for those aged from three to 12 and offers squash-buckling fun for all. Contact

the hotel for prices, minimum night stays are required.

■ **Costa del Sol**



Photo credit: Twitter

**WATER PARK: Hotel Los Patos Park, Benalmadena.**

With the opening of its very own water park offering 3,000 square metres of outdoor water fun complete with water games, slides, tubes and pirate ship, the Hotel Los Patos Park in Benalmadena has now upped its game in catering for families wanting a great location to entertain both younger and older children.

With all-inclusive options available, they can eat and drink as much as they like and the pirate-themed mini club will allow parents to be able to relax for a few hours. The Hotel Los Patos Park is currently advertising rates on the web

for the end of August for €259 a night for a family of two adults and two children. A minimum three night break is required.

■ **Navarra**



Photo credit: Mari Cruz Agroturismo

**TREE HOUSE: Mari Cruz Agroturismo, Navarra.**

For those looking for something different to just a hotel break by the coast, why not truly delight the children with a stay in a tree house. The Mari Cruz Agroturismo, in the municipality of Villanueva de Arce, is a true adventure for those who are looking for a trip away and to introduce the little ones to nature. There are rural houses and even a tree house to stay in and you can spend the days feeding the farm animals and attending workshops such as making pizzas and jams from the produce grown on the farm. There is also a playroom and library with books and games for children. Prices for a stay in the tree house start from €80 per couple and €15 per child.



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# Border disorder: The Irish border

**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)*

THE Bank of England's chief economist says it's possible to detect the mood of a country from the music it's listening to on Spotify. What should we be listening to at the moment, then? Billie Holiday singing Gloomy Sunday, aka the Hungarian Suicide song?

The ongoing Irish border problem, that I wrote about here recently, doesn't help. Long story short, the UK doesn't want a trade deal that aligns the UK and the EU both for customs and single market rules, but neither does it want any infrastructure along the Irish border. This is a contradictory position which the UK still hasn't been able to resolve. Basically, there are only three possible solutions. 1) The UK remains in the single market and enters into a customs union with the EU. 2) The transition period is extended indefinitely. 3) There's no withdrawal agreement, no transition period and no trade deal.

The City seems to be betting on BINO (Brexit In Name Only). Only problem is, there's no 'half-in, half-out' option. As long as the UK doesn't fully accept free movement we're no longer eligible for membership of the single market.

The same goes for the customs union: there's no half-way house. We're fully in or fully out. Since the government wants the freedom not to apply the common external tariff, we'd be fully out.



**WHAT BORDER?:** There is presently no infrastructure between the two jurisdictions on the island.

At the moment I'd put my money on a fudge around option 2. However, things still remain uncertain - many feel the EU's acting like a playground bully and it's time we stood up to it. And the trouble with fudge is that it's only sweet on first tasting. What lasts is the stickiness on the fingers and the cloying heaviness in the digestion. Incidentally, I have a recurrent childlike nightmare about missing my bus home from school. In psychobabble terms, I know what this relates to: fear of missing my imminent crime novel publishing deadline. I wonder if Theresa May also suffers from nightmares about missing a deadline (or two)?

Oh, and what are you listening to on Spotify?

*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)) available from Amazon in paperback/eBook (€0.99;£0.99) and iBookstore. All profits to Costa del Sol Cudeca cancer charity.*

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

## LEGALLY SPEAKING

### Do they pay wealth tax?

**Q.** My wife and I reside in the UK and have had a holiday home in Spain for 14 years. Our income is taxed in the UK. We pay the Suma Property Tax, the supposed Property Rental Tax, and the Waste Collection Tax. Our friends say we should also pay Wealth Tax on the property, as they all do. We have never received a request to pay the tax. Should we pay Wealth Tax or not?

*TJC (Costa Blanca)*

**A.** You are liable for Spanish Wealth Tax on any capital assets, such as a home, which you own in

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



Spain. If you pay your Spanish taxes through Suma, you live in the Valencian Autonomous Region. Suma is their tax collection agency. In Valencia, the first €600,000 of value is exempt from Wealth Tax.

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## I tell them what I think

**Mike Senker**  
*In my opinion*



*Views of a Grumpy Old Man*

I BELONG to a few loyalty programmes for hotels I stay at, airlines I use, car hire I also use - eBay and Pay Pal. You get the idea. Now I've told them all that although I live in Spain I do not read Spanish, so could they please send all information to me in English. Not one of them is able to do it.

You would think, in this day and age, it would be the simplest thing to do. Vodafone is one of the biggest communication companies in the world yet they are not capable of sending me anything in English. I wonder how many English customers they have in Spain?

It's ok if I call them as I always manage to get an English-speaking operator but once you need to maybe speak to someone past them you hit a brick wall. You then have to have an operator translating for you.

What's wrong with people? Old, young, all ages but I have to admit mostly 30-40ish. It's called 'door etiquette.' Here are the rules - when a door opens

you let the people out first before you go in.

It can be particularly difficult if you are in a crowded lift and you are not by the doors. The doors open - you utter a couple of excuse me's and off you go - but no, someone always tries to get in.

And another thing, when the lift is full, it's full. Wait for the next one. Don't try and squash yourself in. This also applies to trains. I had the misfortune to use one in the UK for the first time in probably 30 years. It's a joke. The doors open and it's bedlam and people just keep getting on and I was trying to get off.

I try not to take my wheelchair with me on these outings because technically I get to sit in one of the allotted seats for disabled but it is just all too difficult so next time I'll take it but, to be honest, that can be a nightmare on its own.

I take my wheelchair to the UK when I go and I have the same problem getting the courtesy bus to the car hire centre. Every time I'm struggling to get off with my wheelchair and case and people are pushing past me to get on and they do not bat an eyelid except of course until I tell them what I think of them!

So now you know!

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7 JUNE	4:45pm Garden Rescue 5:30pm Hardball 6:15pm Pointless 7:00pm BBC News at Six 7:30pm BBC London News 8:00pm The One Show 8:30pm EastEnders 9:00pm Britain's Best Home Cook 10:00pm DIY SOS the Big Build 11:00pm BBC News at Ten 11:30pm BBC London News	5:30pm Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is 6:15pm Antiques Road Trip 7:00pm Richard Osman's House of Games 7:30pm Curious Creatures 8:00pm RHS Chatsworth 9:00pm Springwatch 10:00pm Million Pound Menu 11:00pm Mock the Week 11:30pm Newsnight	7:00pm ITV News London 7:30pm ITV Evening News 8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm International Football: England v Costa Rica Live 11:15pm ITV News 11:45pm ITV News London 12:05am International Football Highlights: England v Costa Rica	4:00pm A Place in the Sun 5:00pm The £100k Drop 6:00pm Come Dine with Me 7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 9:00pm Supershoppers 10:00pm Humans 11:00pm First Dates 12:05am Bride and Prejudice: The Bollywood Musical	7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News Tonight 8:00pm The Nightmare 9:00pm Neighbour Next Door Get a Holiday Body: Lose a Stone in Four Weeks 10:00pm Secrets of the Chocolate Factory: Inside Cadbury 11:00pm Circus Kids: Our Secret World	12:30pm Sky Sports News 1:00pm Sky Sports News 2:00pm Sky Sports News 3:00pm Live RL One Day Cup 8:30pm Live Super League 11:00pm Live PGA Tour Golf 1:00am Sky Sports News 2:00am Sky Sports News 3:00am Sky Sports News 4:00am Sky Sports News
	8 JUNE	5:30pm Hardball 6:15pm Pointless 7:00pm BBC News at Six 7:30pm BBC London News 8:00pm The One Show 8:30pm A Question of Sport 9:00pm EastEnders 9:30pm The Button 10:00pm Would I Lie to You? 10:30pm Tracey Breaks the News 11:00pm BBC News at Ten	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip 7:00pm Richard Osman's House of Games 7:30pm Curious Creatures 8:00pm Great American 9:00pm Railroad Journeys 9:00pm Gardeners' World 10:00pm The Bridge 11:00pm Frankie Boyle's New World Order 11:30pm Newsnight	6:00pm The Chase for Soccer Aid 7:00pm ITV News London 7:30pm ITV Evening News 8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm Coronation Street 9:00pm Countrywise 9:30pm Coronation Street 10:00pm Lethal Weapon 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather 11:30pm ITV News London	5:00pm The £100k Drop 6:00pm Come Dine with Me 7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 8:30pm Dispatches 9:00pm George Clarke's Amazing Spaces 10:00pm The Crystal Maze 11:00pm Friday Night Dinner 11:30pm High and Dry	6:00pm 5 News at 5 6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News Tonight 8:00pm The Gadget Show 9:00pm Mid-Air Mayhem: Flights Out of Control 10:00pm Cruising with Jane McDonald 11:00pm The Barbara Windsor Story
9 JUNE		4:50pm Money for Nothing 5:50pm Escape to the Continent 6:50pm BBC News 7:00pm Regional News 7:03pm Weather 7:05pm Maleficent 8:35pm Pointless 9:25pm Casualty 10:15pm All Round to Mrs Brown's 11:15pm BBC News	5:50pm Escape to the Continent 6:50pm BBC News 7:00pm Regional News 7:03pm Weather 7:05pm Maleficent 8:35pm Pointless 9:25pm Casualty 10:15pm All Round to Mrs Brown's 11:15pm BBC News 11:30pm Weather	6:00pm The Chase 7:00pm ITV Evening News 7:15pm Regional News and Weather 7:30pm Ninja Warrior UK 8:30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule 9:00pm Take Me Out: Over 50s Special 10:00pm The Hangover 11:55pm ITV News	4:50pm A Place in the Sun 5:50pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it 6:50pm Channel 4 News 7:15pm Grand Designs 8:10pm The World's Wildest Weather 9:10pm Rugby Union 11:55pm Formula 1 Canadian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights	8:00pm Building the London Underground 8:55pm 5 News 9:00pm Secrets of the Valley of the Kings 10:00pm Secrets of Tutankhamun's Treasures 11:00pm Alexander the Great's Lost Tomb 12:05am Ancient Mysteries
	10 JUNE	5:00pm Who Do You Think You Are? 6:00pm Britain's Best Home Cook 7:00pm Wallace and Gromit: A Close Shave 7:30pm BBC News 7:45pm Regional News 7:55pm Weather 8:00pm Countryfile Royal Special 9:00pm Antiques Roadshow 10:00pm Poldark 11:00pm BBC News	1:20pm The World Cup: Hopes of a Nation 2:00pm Triathlon World Series 7:00pm Dragons' Den 8:00pm Million Pound Menu 9:00pm Journey in the Danger Zone: Iraq 10:00pm Frankie Goes to Russia 11:00pm Atlanta	2:30pm French Open: Roland-Garros Live 6:30pm Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule 7:00pm ITV Evening News 7:15pm Regional News and Weather 7:30pm Soccer Aid 11:00pm ITV News 11:20pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow	3:00pm The Simpsons 3:30pm Volcano 5:35pm Location, Location, Location 6:35pm Bang on Budget 7:30pm Channel 4 News 8:00pm Escape to the Chateau 9:00pm Bake Off: The Professionals 10:00pm The Handmaid's Tale 11:10pm 8 Out of 10 Cats 11:40pm Formula 1	8:00pm Cricket on 5 8:55pm 5 News 9:00pm The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard 10:00pm The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard 11:00pm Top of the Box 1978 with Matthew Kelly 1:05am The Best of Bad TV: The 70s 2:55am Super Casino
11 JUNE		4:45pm Garden Rescue 5:30pm Flog It! 6:15pm Pointless 7:00pm BBC News 7:30pm Regional News 8:00pm The One Show 8:30pm Fight Like a Girl 9:00pm EastEnders 9:30pm Grenfell 11:00pm BBC News 11:30pm Regional News	4:15pm Ray Mears: Bushcraft 5:15pm Edwardian Farm 5:15pm Antiques Road Trip 6:15pm Richard Osman's House of Games 7:00pm Curious Creatures 8:00pm Great American Railroad Journeys 9:00pm Springwatch 10:00pm Versailles 11:00pm QI	7:00pm Regional News and Weather 7:30pm ITV Evening News 8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm Coronation Street 9:00pm Give it a Year 9:30pm Coronation Street 10:00pm Long Lost Family: What Happened Next 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	6:30pm The Posh Frock Shop 7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 9:00pm Jamie's Quick and Easy Food 9:30pm Food Unwrapped 10:00pm 24 Hours in Police Custody 11:00pm Flowers 12:00am The Crystal Maze	4:15pm For Justice 6:00pm 5 News 6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News 8:00pm World Rally Championship Highlights 9:00pm Police Interceptors 10:00pm The Space Shuttle: Triumph and Tragedy 11:00pm Lost Tapes
	12 JUNE	4:45pm Garden Rescue 5:30pm Flog It! 6:15pm Pointless 7:00pm BBC News 7:30pm Regional News 8:00pm The One Show 8:30pm EastEnders 9:00pm Holby City 10:00pm Our Girl 11:00pm BBC News 11:30pm Regional News	6:15pm Antiques Road Trip 7:00pm Richard Osman's House of Games 7:30pm Curious Creatures 8:00pm Great American Railroad Journeys 9:00pm Springwatch 10:00pm Grammar Schools: Who Will Get In? 11:00pm Later Live... with Jools Holland	6:00pm The Chase 7:00pm Regional News and Weather 7:30pm ITV Evening News 8:00pm Emmerdale 9:00pm The Martin Lewis Money Show Live 10:00pm Flights From Hell: Caught on Camera 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	5:00pm The £100k Drop 6:00pm Come Dine with Me 6:30pm The Posh Frock Shop 7:00pm The Simpsons 7:30pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 9:00pm Ackley Bridge 10:00pm Bride and Prejudice: The Bollywood Musical 11:00pm Flowers 11:35pm 24 Hours in A and E	6:00pm 5 News 6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News 8:00pm The Secret Life of Owls 9:00pm The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies 10:00pm The Hotel Inspector 11:00pm When Television Goes Terribly Wrong 1:55am Super Casino
13 JUNE		4:45pm Garden Rescue 5:30pm Flog It! 6:15pm Pointless 7:00pm BBC News 7:30pm Regional News 8:00pm The One Show 9:00pm Britain's Best Home Cook 10:00pm Putin's Russia with David Dimbleby 11:00pm BBC News 11:30pm Regional News	5:15pm Edwardian Farm 6:15pm Antiques Road Trip 7:00pm Richard Osman's House of Games 7:30pm Curious Creatures 8:00pm Great American Railroad Journeys 9:00pm Springwatch 10:00pm Before Grenfell: A Hidden History 11:00pm Live at the Apollo 11:30pm Newsnight	6:00pm The Chase 7:00pm Regional News and Weather 7:30pm ITV Evening News 8:00pm Emmerdale 8:30pm Coronation Street 9:00pm Britain's Busiest Airport - Heathrow 9:30pm Coronation Street 10:00pm Diabetics 11:00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather	3:10pm Countdown 4:00pm A Place in the Sun 5:00pm The £100k Drop 6:00pm Come Dine with Me 6:30pm The Posh Frock Shop 7:30pm The Simpsons 8:00pm Hollyoaks 8:00pm Channel 4 News 9:00pm Great Rail Restorations with Peter Snow 10:00pm 24 Hours in a and e 11:00pm Flowers	6:00pm 5 News 6:30pm Neighbours 7:00pm Home and Away 7:30pm 5 News 8:00pm Police Interceptors 9:00pm Shop Smart: Save Money 10:00pm Rich House, Poor House 11:00pm Pushy Parents: Nothing But the Best 12:05am Violent Child, Desperate Parents 1:05am Cricket on 5



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# YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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

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## Impressed by the kindness of Mojacar

I WOULD like to say how impressed I was with the kindness of two Spanish people and the Local Police who helped an elderly Scottish couple.

They had left the lady's bag containing their documents, passports, money etc on a bus from Las Roquetas, which they got off in Mojacar

The bus had continued its journey stopping at Vera en route to its final destination in Murcia. The two Spanish people, a lady and gentleman who were not connected to each other helped to reassure and calm the elderly lady who was quite distraught. They tried to contact the bus company and when this was not successful they then contacted the Local Police, who came and spoke to the elderly couple taking details of the bus and where they were seated.

Officers then arranged with their colleagues in Vera to collect the bag off the bus when it stopped there.

The happy ending was the very relieved Scottish couple were united with their bag and its contents at the Local Police Station in Vera. They then returned to Mojacar to enjoy the rest of their day.

Very well done all concerned.

Barry Tynan, Mojacar

### Phone company neglect seems to be constant

**I THOUGHT that you might like to see a picture of a phone junction box that has been open to the elements for at least the last three years we have been going to the Jalon Valley.**

**It appears from older photographs that it was 2015 when it had a cover fitted.**

**It's a wonder that the phones work in Spain as this is typical of telecommunication company standards.**

**We have a junction box on a pole by us that has been open for the 18 years we have lived here.**

Tony, Jalon Valley



**JUNCTION BOX: Open to the elements for three years.**

### Pussy plea

IT has been both frustrating and heart-breaking dealing with nasty people.

We have cried so many tears and felt so much anger.

I would like to know what so many people in Salou have against defenceless cats. We have never witnessed such hostility and cruelty in one place.

My husband and I feed stray homeless cats every day. These cats are innocent and beautiful. They ask for so little. A bit of food, a little affection.

What does it cost to be kind?

There have been kittens that were poisoned and left to suffer and die and there have been teenagers who go and terrify cats just for fun.

What has become of a society that brings up children with no conscience?

Thank God there are people out there that care. SOS Gatos is one such organisation. We strongly encourage you to support them.

It takes so little to make such a big difference in these little angels' lives.

When we lose our ability for compassion we lose our humanity.

Paul & Lorna DeCouto, Salou

### Brexit Bible

I READ with interest Colin MacGregor's letter where he states that his reason for moving from the UK to Spain was because the former follows EU rules whereas the latter ignores them.

It reminded me of a conversation with an elderly English visitor to the Costa del Sol who was amazed to see orange trees full of fruit growing in the streets.

He wondered how the Spanish got away with it, because in England the EU had made a village cut down all its apple trees as they deemed falling fruit to be a danger to life.

He knew this was true because he had read it in his Brexit Bible... the *Daily Mail*. This one is so ridiculous it doesn't even make the Euro-myths Debunked list (mostly quotes by *the Sun*, *Mail* and Boris Johnson).

The aforementioned tabloids are virtually the only ones on sale here and so are the daily diet of 'expats,' a large proportion of whom soak up their propaganda agenda and would have voted 'Leave.'

However, in contrast to Colin, I would prefer to believe the *Euro Weekly News* statistics that the majority voted 'Remain,' as surely they would have been aware of the staggering irony/hypocrisy of voting for the UK to leave the EU when they themselves are reaping the benefit of freedom of movement.

Elaine, Torremolinos

### 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.euroweeklynnews.com](http://www.euroweeklynnews.com).

## Brit expats charged with hate crimes

Shame on the Mallorca officials for even giving these thieves the time of day. This is in no way a race crime, just concerned residents wanting to keep us all safe as the police seem unable to do this.

Mary Willoughby

Yup the race card again, but police should fingerprint them, are they legally in the country paying taxes etc? Spain needs to be like America or Australia only in to work via a visa if they have money to support themselves and medical insurance.

Marie Ross Main

So it's not OK to protest against those who rob and attack people? I wonder how many of the sex workers have been arrested or is prostitution legal in Spain?

Annie

### Ryanair refuses gift voucher

Love all the people that say will never use Ryanair. But all do as don't want to pay two or three times the price with another airline

Jamie Thomas Davidson

### Comments from EWN online

Most appalling service from this mob, I agree some will moan but continue to use, I just don't use them. They specialise in taking more off you when you can't do much about it.

Robert Jake Wilson

"The whole thing has been a ludicrous farce." Yep, that sums up Ryanair precisely. Also O'Leary in particular.

Malc F\_H

I had a similar problem, flown out with the name showing Bill on ticket, back from Spain said it showed William, they wanted €200 to change it had Mexican stand off before common sense prevailed.

Bill Newall

### Health board warns of cockroach plague

I use bay leaves in my cupboards and around my

home. They hate bay leaf!

Also last year in the corners of my garden I placed tall jars lined with olive oil quarter filled with red wine and brown sugar... They love it... They crawl in and because of the oil can't get out!!! Not usually so cruel but I can't deal with cockroaches.

Kim Foster

Yuk, my pet hate. I had them in a rental in Mojacar in winter!!! Had to buy all sorts of stuff to get rid of them, they came up the old drains and lived in the downstairs loo.

Sian Foster

### Jet2 passengers win payout

Quite right! I would have got off as well. Good on him to pursue them - they are idiots as paying up would have put them in a really positive light and now they have managed to damage their reputation. Not sure who does their PR but they want retraining!

Jeni Potter

The more this happens the better us normal travellers get treated.

Richard Taylor

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**REF ALB3V17**



A detached 3 bedroom 3 bathroom villa measuring 142m<sup>2</sup> set on a gated plot of 2,500m<sup>2</sup> near Albox with 10 x 5m pool, detached garage, roof terrace and excellent rural views.

**Albox**

**€239,995**

**REF TUR2A57**



This fantastic 2 bedroom apartment is located in Turre with a generous private terrace, air conditioning in the living room, mountain views, easy access to amenities and can be sold fully furnished.

**Turre**

**€78,500**

**REF ARB4VG01**



Stunning high quality 4 bedroom 2 bathroom villa with 10 x 5m pool near Arboleas, 170m<sup>2</sup> build, 962m<sup>2</sup> plot. Further potential 1 bed annex, immaculate gardens, many terrace areas, mountain views. A superb home.

**Arboleas**

**€239,995**

**REF VER2ALS09**



Here we offer a spacious top floor apartment with 2 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms on Vera Playa with plenty of outside space. Many extras and lovely views of Vera Playa, huge outdoor pool, indoor heated pool and children's play area. The community is well-maintained with lovely communal gardens.

**Vera Playa**

**€84,950**

**REF TUR3V13**



Immaculately presented 3 bedroom 2 bathroom detached villa just outside of Turre. The property boasts beautifully maintained terraces, a fantastic pool which benefits from the sun all day, a huge underbuild ideal for storage and lovely views of the Sierra Cabrera mountain ranges.

**Turre**

**€242,000**

**REF VAL2ALO08**



Bargain 2 bed 1 bath first floor apartment on Valle del Este golf course. Terrace, communal pool, private parking, ceiling fans, fitted wardrobes and a walk to amenities.

**Valle Del Este**

**€72,950**

**REF ARB3VCH18**



This delightful two storey villa is located a 5 minute drive from Arboleas village, on a walled & gated plot of 610m<sup>2</sup> comprising 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a large independent kitchen, spacious living/dining room, a wonderful covered porch and an 8 x 4m swimming pool.

**Arboleas**

**€ 174,950**

**REF TUR3T17**



Here we offer a fantastic 3 bedroom 2 bathroom townhouse in the centre of the market town of Turre. With lovely mountain views from the terraces, a private internal patio and a huge double garage, this property offers much more than the "average" townhouse.

**Turre**

**€82,500**

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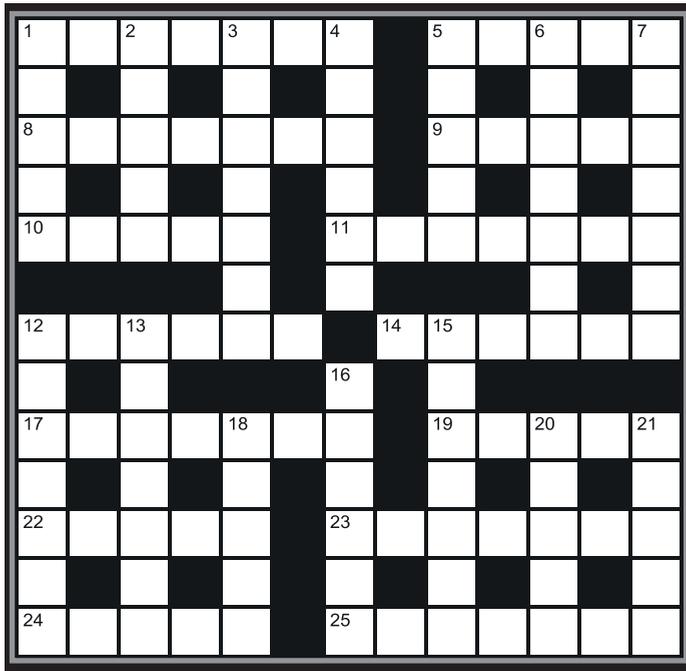


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**Cryptic**

**Across**

- 1 Interwove bits of wasp, lice, dragonflies (7)
- 5 Quiet! Then ear gets clip (5)
- 8 Still be apologetic going round for money (7)
- 9 Monsters appearing in Pilgrim's Progress (5)
- 10 Friend taking mother to a resort in Mallorca (5)
- 11 Joy of new Peru art (7)
- 12 Breaks out in purest mess (6)
- 14 Skill needed to make old money (6)
- 17 Command detectives returning to gallery (7)
- 19 South American birds fancy hares (5)
- 22 Cereal, what with energy in it? (5)
- 23 Studying in a Berkshire town (7)
- 24 In Colorado, rich men give the order (5)
- 25 Lead lost by ruthless crooked detectives (7)

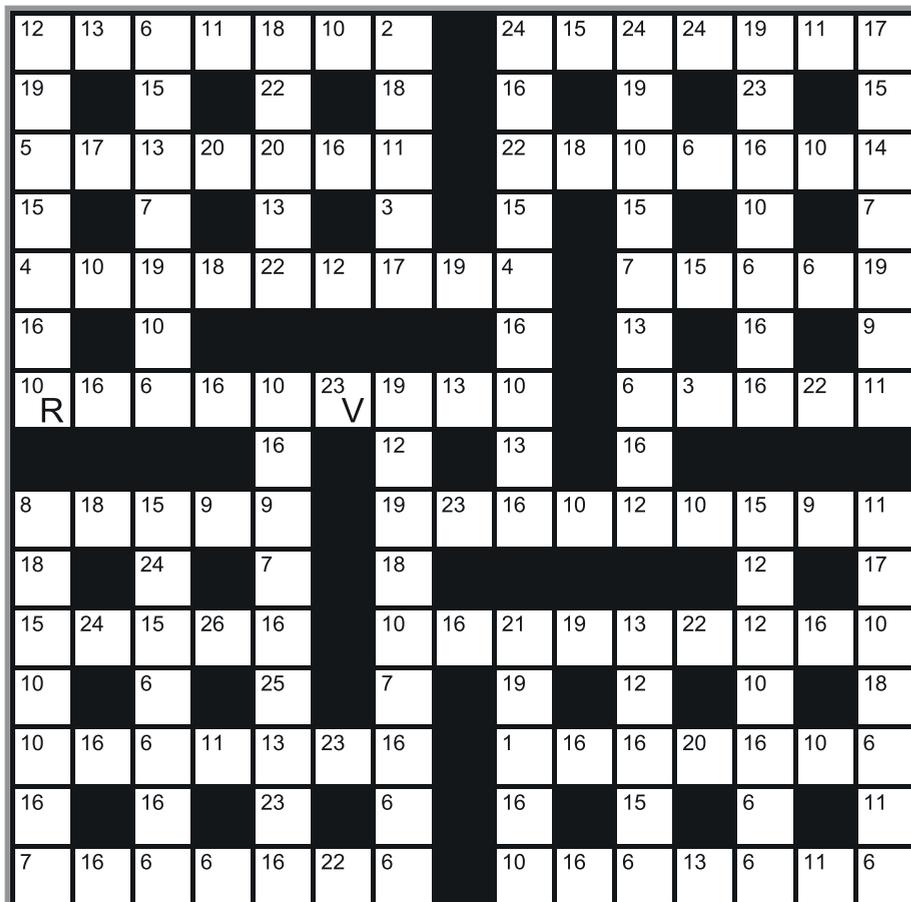


**Down**

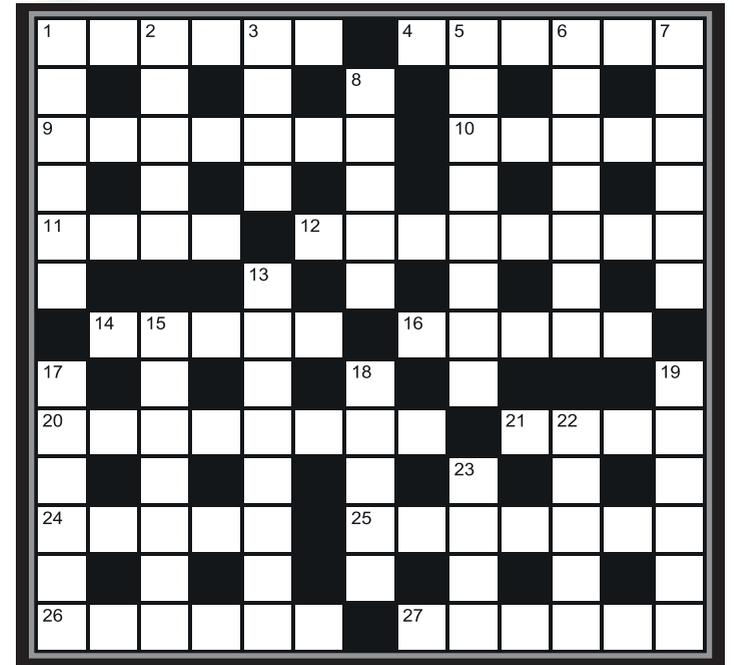
- 1 Refuse to fight (5)
- 2 To be honest, left first woman money (5)
- 3 Get in touch with jailbird diplomacy (7)
- 4 Finding a rabbit's head in squirrel's nest is sad (6)
- 5 Sailing vessel from Oslo, perhaps, and Peterhead (5)
- 6 One true turning on the way (2,5)
- 7 Most glowing stories may turn out to be false (7)
- 12 Gave gifts but in the end was in debt (7)
- 13 Concealed nuclear explosion (7)
- 15 A fairer form of travel expense (7)
- 16 Red cards for Scottish team (6)
- 18 Language of first and last detective (5)
- 20 To be set out around the team (5)
- 21 The same flipping old stories! (5)

**Code Breaker**

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 10 represents R and 23 represents V, so fill in R every time the figure 10 appears and V every time the figure 23 appears. Now, using your knowledge of the English language, work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you discover the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and the control grid.



**Quick**



**Across**

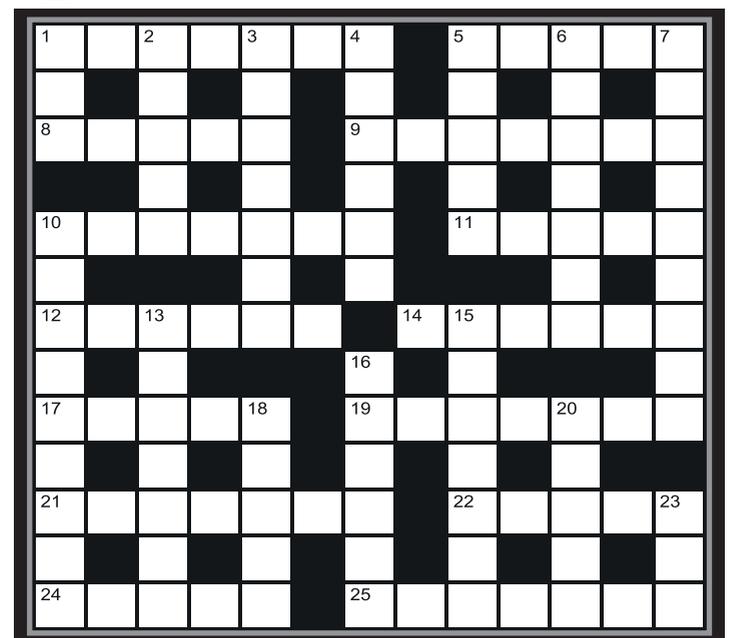
- 1 Minister of religion (6)
- 4 Disperse widely (6)
- 9 Refrain from voting (7)
- 10 Large body of water (5)
- 11 Playthings (4)
- 12 Exquisitely fine and subtle and pleasing (8)
- 14 Easy to reach (5)
- 16 Alcoholic drink made from apples (5)
- 20 Troubled emotionally and usually deeply (8)
- 21 Coop (4)
- 24 Avoid by deceit (5)
- 25 Check closely (7)
- 26 Afternoon nap (6)
- 27 Refuse to accept (6)

**Down**

- 1 Morally pure (6)
- 2 Dangerous, liable to accident or mishap (5)
- 3 Become or cause to become soft or liquid (4)
- 5 Forbid (8)
- 6 Raise to a higher position (7)
- 7 Main meal of the day (6)
- 8 Beneath (5)
- 13 Lying near or next to (8)
- 15 Try to stir up public opinion (7)
- 17 Bread makers (6)
- 18 Rise against (5)
- 19 Say, state or perform again (6)
- 22 Same in appearance or character (5)
- 23 Fraudulent (4)

**English - Spanish**

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



**Across**

- 1 Street lamps (7)
- 5 Calzetines (5)
- 8 Petirrojo (5)
- 9 Manager (person in charge) (7)
- 10 Enemy (7)
- 11 Cuál (5)
- 12 Thick (wall, line, slice, neck) (6)
- 14 Modo (6)
- 17 To freeze (5)
- 19 Cardenales (7)
- 21 Lettuce (7)
- 22 Cuchara (para comer) (5)
- 24 Estilo (manera) (5)
- 25 El más cercano (7)

**Down**

- 1 Piel (animal) (3)
- 2 Oak (tree) (5)
- 3 Lentejas (7)
- 4 Centuries (6)
- 5 Tornillo (5)
- 6 Song (7)
- 7 Pastores (9)
- 10 Cascarones (9)
- 13 Desafortunado (7)
- 15 Bet (wager) (7)
- 16 Obtener (6)
- 18 Ruta (de viaje) (5)
- 20 Piedra (material) (5)
- 23 Red (informática) (3)

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**MADDOCKS' VIEW ON LIFE**



**'HOLLYWOOD SAYS TARZAN HAS HAD MORE JANES THAN ITALY HAS HAD GOVERNMENTS - HE'S A WORRIED MAN!'**

**LOTTERY**

**UK NATIONAL LOTTERY**  
Saturday June 02

4 32 38 **BONUS BALL**  
43 51 58 10

**IRISH LOTTO**  
Saturday June 02

1 7 10 **BONUS BALL**  
17 35 37 43

**EURO MILLIONS**  
Tuesday May 29

6 11 20 **BONUS BALL**  
38 43 4 4

Friday June 01 **BONUS BALL**

17 18 24 **BONUS BALL**  
29 40 5

**EL MILLON: DHH86726**

**LA PRIMITIVA**

Thursday May 31 **BONUS BALL**

2 7 11 **BONUS BALL**  
16 17 44 7

**JOKER: 7 976 128**

Saturday June 02 **BONUS BALL**

7 10 12 **BONUS BALL**  
32 38 41 9

**JOKER: 652 299**

**EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA**

Sunday June 03 **BONUS BALL**

5 28 33 **BONUS BALL**  
38 44 4

**YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS**

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

A meeting involving business with a senior person brings great benefits. You are wrong to be afraid of asking for what you want because it is necessary. Do not bottle things up. Consider that you have little to lose. When dealing with legal matters, you are well advised to read the small print and look at the timescales

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

Being at odds with someone close has given you pause for thought. This would be a good time to change the situation for the better. Offering the olive branch is your best approach, but be sure that you are sincere. Sometimes, you are a book easily read.

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

A recent journey has revealed possibilities. It is in this week that you will realise their potential. Nowhere is this truer than your romantic life, which is on the up. Someone who would not normally attract you comes into your sphere or may have done so last week.

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

Such a time of expansion comes rarely, but now you are being handed opportunities. Be sure to make the most of them by being organised enough to take full advantage. With your energy high, you are in a position to steam ahead with plans. Should others feel left out you can find a place for them.

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

A strong romantic flow to your week could be interrupted. This is because there are some business matters that really do need your attention. Although it is not a particularly good time to make firm financial commitments, there are areas to work on. These are mainly associated with saving money and reorganising.

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

Having had such a busy time recently you may be craving a quiet period. I am afraid this will have to wait at the moment. Small snatches at tranquillity are possible but the pressure is still on.

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

This really is a week to get to grips with any healthy eating or exercise regimes. Owing to the influence of Mars, you are in a vigorous and determined mood. You find that your added confidence and healthy glow are attractive to the opposite sex.

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

Have you been too busy to spend time on yourself? Get your looks and health back on track by using this week to good effect. Revamp your diet and exercise as required. Spend time with people who are supportive and share the same interests.

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

This is a spiritual week and you will be likely to want comfort. Give yourself time alone to look at the world around you and enjoy what it has to offer. As the weekend approaches, you will be able to get more into the mainstream and enjoy the company of others.

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

Some difficulty in your love life will need to be handled carefully. Unforeseen developments could take you by surprise (especially if you haven't read this in time). Your need is to avoid telling white lies to get out of a situation. Given time, most situations in this category will ease.

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

All may not be what it seems this week and you need to be a little more realistic. This is particularly true when it comes to romance and close ties. Having the wool pulled over your eyes is not desirable and could even see you trip up. A different kind of trip, possibly over a long distance, may bring you face to face with an old friend or relative.

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

Meetings and travel dominate this week. Being with those who stimulate and inform will be even more worthwhile than usual. A trip that you are not looking forward to can bring added bonuses. Looking to further education at this time, could see you starting a course.

**Kakuro**

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



**Nonagram**

How many English words of four letters or more can you make from the nine letters in our Nonagram puzzle? Each letter may be used only once (unless the letter appears twice). Each word **MUST CONTAIN THE CENTRE LETTER** (in this case R) and there must be **AT LEAST ONE NINE LETTER WORD**. Plurals, vulgarities or proper nouns are not allowed.



**TARGET:**

- Average: 11
- Very good: 22
- Good: 15
- Excellent: 28

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**

agar gaur gnat goat gout gran grot guar gurn raga rang rung tang toga tong trug tung agora argon argot gator gaunt grant groan grout grunt guano orang organ tango angora nougat organa ragout turgor grantor argonaut arrogant tarragon **GUARANTOR**

**Sudoku**

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION**

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

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

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**

**ENGLISH-SPANISH**

- Across:**  
1 Ropes, 4 Gorra, 8 Ventaja, 9 Sharp, 10 Susto, 11 Anybody, 12 Arrest, 14 Navaja, 18 Quiosco, 20 Climb, 22 Elige, 23 Saucers, 24 Selva, 25 Apoyo.

- Down:**  
1 Revista, 2 Piñas, 3 Seasons, 4 Grabar, 5 Rusty, 6 Amapola, 7 Nappy, 13 Raisins, 15 Anchura, 16 Arbusto, 17 Poesía, 18 Queen, 19 Steal, 21 Ileso.

**CRYPTIC**

- Across:**  
1 Varlets, 5 Cuppa, 8 Okapi, 9 Cheroot, 10 Elms, 11 Peerless, 13 Tarzan, 15 Superb, 18 Castaway, 19 Stud, 22 Oregano, 23 Arise, 24 Nitre, 25 Sonnets.

- Down:**  
1 Violent, 2 Realm, 3 Edit, 4 Soccer, 5 Clear out, 6 Protege, 7 Altos, 12 Carapace, 14 Respect, 16 Badgers, 17 Famous, 18 Crown, 20 Trité, 21 Warn.

**QUICK**

- Across:**  
1 Sober, 4 Spurn, 7 Dignified, 8 Etch, 10 Bored, 13 Eager, 14 Oslo, 17 Identical, 19 Sweet, 20 Petty.
- Down:**  
1 Sodden, 2/18 Big cat, 3 Ruin, 4 Sailor, 5 Undress, 6 Near, 9 Chalice, 11 Defeat, 12 Volley, 15 Cuss, 16 Stop.

**CODE BREAKER**

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

**KAKURO**

	1	5	4	7	2
	5	4	3	2	1
		7	6	1	
		1	2	4	
	5	2	1	3	4
	1	3	5	6	2

**QUIZ: GRAND NATIONAL WINNERS**

- All the answers are the names of horses that have won the Grand National (year won)
1. Betula pendula is the botanical name of which hardy forest-tree? (2007)
  2. In which 1973 historical period drama prison film did Steve McQueen play the part of convicted murderer Henri Charrière? (2000)
  3. Rising to 1,345 metres (4,411 feet), which mountain in western Scotland is the highest mountain in the British Isles? (1980)
  4. What was the title of the British television sitcom, originally broadcast between 1961 to 1963, which featured the characters Harold Fenner (Peter Jones), Reg Turner (Reg Varney) and the militant shop steward Paddy Fleming (Miriam Karlin)? (1976)
  5. Which brand of stock cubes was advertised in the 1980s by a family consisting of father (Michael Redfern), mother (Lynda Bellingham) and children (Blair MacKichan, Colin McCoy and Alison Reynolds)? (1959)
  6. According to the children's nursery rhyme, which character 'sat in the corner, eating his Christmas pie'? (1926)

7. What name is usually given to a warship smaller than a destroyer, typically equipped with some form of missile or used for anti-submarine activities? (1889)
  8. What is the surname of the former Arsenal goalkeeper who is England's second-most capped goalkeeper, after Peter Shilton? (1882)
  9. What was the (English) nickname of the Venezuelan patriot and statesman Simon Bolívar? He succeeded in driving the Spanish from Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, and Ecuador. Upper Peru was named Bolivia in his honour. (1879)
  10. In the NBC sitcom Friends, what was the first name of the fictional character played by actor Matthew Perry? (1848)
- Not a lot of people know that... the most famous (triple) Grand National winner, Red Rum, got his name from his parents: Mared (dam) and Quorum (sire). It is also the word 'murder' spelled backwards

**Answers:**

1. SILVERBIRCH, 2. PAPILLION, 3. BEN NEVIS, 4. (THE) RAG TRADE, 5. OXO, 6. JACK HORNER, 7. FRIGATE, 8. (DAVID) SEAMAN, 9. THE LIBERATOR (Ei Liberator in Spanish), 10. CHANDLER (Brig).

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## Staying safe in the sun

WITH temperatures really beginning to rise now is the time to take some advice about how to protect yourself from unwanted sunburn and decrease your chances of developing skin cancer in the future.

When you're out and about wear protective clothing. It may be hot, but there's no reason not to don a pair of linen pants, a long sleeved silk shirt or a straw hat. The great thing about hats, apart from being a fabulous fashion accessory, is that their wide brims will cover your face as well as your ears and scalp.

And don't leave home without your sunglasses. These will protect your eyes from the UV rays which can cause eye problems. Always buy sunglasses that blocks as close to 100 per cent as possible of UVB and UVA rays. If you can, restrict your time outside in the sun, particular around the hours of midday.

If you are out during these hours make use of any shade offered. Don't forget to put sunscreen on before you leave the house and reapply it as necessary during the day. Cover every part of your body which will be exposed to the sun. Taking these few steps can help to reduce your chances of developing skin cancer and lessen premature signs of ageing.

**HOT IN THE SUN: Wearing a hat and shades will offer you extra protection.**



# London Fashion Week

IF you have your finger on the pulse of men's fashion then you won't need to be reminded that London Fashion Week Men's will step out onto the catwalk this weekend (Friday to Monday).

This is the mid-year fashion show which has become one of the highest profile fashion events in the world and one of the big four international catwalk influencers.

The event will showcase the best of British mens-wear design and visitors will be able to enjoy catwalk shows, presentations, multi-brand and individual showrooms and other supporting activities.

In addition to the official and off-schedule events, LFW has become a focus for a broader base of fashion linked activities with international designers, media and other high profile brands choosing to host their own events.

One of the up and coming names

to look out for this year is Astrid Andersen. This London-based brand creates premium casualwear with a sports inspired aesthetic that intends to create a new generation in menswear.

If you don't want to miss it, the event takes place in the BFC Showspace, 180 The Strand, London and tickets can be purchased at [www.londonfashionweekfestival.com](http://www.londonfashionweekfestival.com)

If you can't make it, book your tickets now for the London fashion festival to be held from September 20 to 23.

**CATWALK COOL: The Astrid Andersen collection will certainly draw your attention.**



Credit: Astrid Andersen



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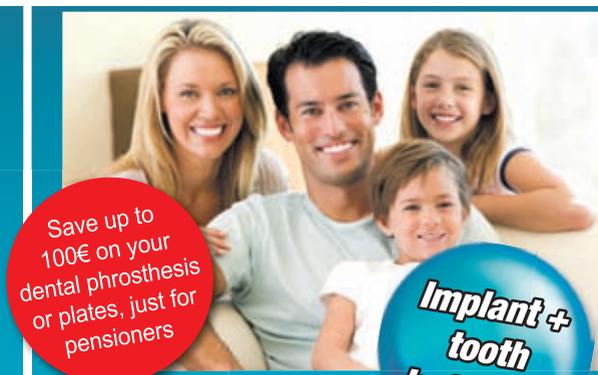
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# Summer heats up at MACS

AS summer approaches things are getting busy at MACS, Mojacar area cancer support.

Last month saw a number of charitable donations come in and excellent fundraising events take place, all of which brought in vital monies to go towards the continuing great work done by this much-loved local charity.

Another important event was the opening of the new Albox shop, located next to the original shop, which remains open as usual. The new shop is a large premises with excellent space available for displaying larger items.

With this in mind, MACS



**MACS: Always looking for volunteers.**

can now offer a house-clearance service, if you bought a furnished property and there are items you do not need, or are replacing your current

furniture, give MACS a call on 634 328 334/5, a chance to clear out your clutter and help a good cause at the same time!

The new shop also has a dedicated space for patient and team meetings, a much-needed facility for the Albox area.

The MACS team is grateful to FACE (Fundraising in Arboleas, caring for everyone) for sponsoring the shop signage.

Every good charity shop needs great volunteers and

MACS is on the hunt for new people to join the friendly teams in all the shops, if you have any spare time and enjoy meeting new people, contact MACS for more information.

As we enter June, the MACS team and its supporters are looking forward to one of the most anticipated evenings in the social calendar, the MACS moonwalk.

Taking place under the stars on Friday June 29, everyone is welcome to participate in either a 5k or 10k walk along Mojacar playa to help raise money for MACS.

Starting points are Tito's (10k) or Fany's bar (10k) with a celebration, including music from the Day Trippers and nibbles at Tito's at the finish.

As in previous years, participants are encouraged to dress in wacky costumes (optional) and get in the party spirit. Registration is at €20.00 and sponsor forms are available to download from the MACS Facebook page.

Each year the moonwalk gets better and better and the MACS team are hoping for a great turnout for this edition, it's a fun way to get in shape for the summer and support a fabulous cause.

MACS has been supporting cancer patients and their families for more than a decade and continues to expand its reach to help more people who are battling this terrible disease.

The charity can't function without its supporters and MACS welcomes assistance in any way, be it donations, fundraising, volunteering or simply just spreading the word.

For more information on MACS and its work, email [macscancersupport@live.co.uk](mailto:macscancersupport@live.co.uk), call 634 328 334, or visit MACS on Facebook.

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

IF you haven't had the opportunity to enjoy the delights of the El Ejido Theatre Festival then time is running out. The festival will come to an end on June 16.

This festival, which has been declared a Festival of Tourist Interest in Andalucía, is considered one of the best annual events in the sector,

## Theatre Festival

providing a showcase for the best and most varied of performing arts currently offered on the national and international scene.

The festival presents a mosaic of artistic disciplines to delight the senses, with a great selection of

shows representing all the trends in art and performance, with a focus on the contemporary and avant-garde.

The festival is taking place in Auditorium Theatre in El Ejido on Calle Hermanos Lirola, 7. For more information, please call 950 541 006 or visit [www.cultura.elejido.es](http://www.cultura.elejido.es).



Credit: YouTube/lososabuelos

**REENACTMENT:** The festival re-enacts the Christian reconquest of the town.

## Moors and Christians

THE most emblematic festival in the town of Mojácar is due to start tomorrow (Friday). The Moors and Christians Festival commemorates the events that took place during the reconquest of the town by the Catholic Monarchs. The motto of these festivals is 'no winners or losers.'

Activities will include entertainment for both adults and children alike, street parades, dancing, dramas, concerts, storytelling for children, fireworks, people on stilts, and much more.

One of the most important moments of the festival is the inaugural speech, which recalls the pacts that allowed the original Muslim inhabitants of Mojácar to remain in the town following the Christian reconquest.

The great parade, with formal costumes and armaments, together with bands, will bring this historical festival to a close on Sunday.

*What's on!*

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## Ideal for a dinner party



### FIDDLY BUT WORTH IT: Chicken Milanese.

- 6 whole garlic cloves, skinned & chopped
- 1 large red pepper seeded and chopped
- 1 bunch of fresh basil
- 1 teaspoon of celery salt
- 2 chicken stock cubes crumbled

#### To finish

- Juice from two whole lemons
- 200g buffalo mozzarella cheese
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 1) Cut the gristly bits off the chicken and flatten. Pre-heat fan oven to 200°C, or in a conventional oven at 220°C.
- 2) Take three shallow bowls, put the flour

in the first, the beaten egg in the second add the garlic puree and stir until completely mixed, add the breadcrumbs to the third bowl.

- 3) Dredge the chicken breasts in the flour until they are fully coated, then likewise in the egg and finally in the breadcrumbs.
- 4) Put the olive oil into a baking tin or dish and make sure the chicken breasts are completely coated in the olive oil.
- 5) Bake for 20-30 minutes until they are completely cooked.
- 6) Make the sauce, by frying the garlic in olive oil until it is transparent on a medium heat.
- 7) Add the chopped tomatoes, red pepper, basil, celery salt, and chicken stock.
- 8) Blend and heat through in a saucepan, add the lemon juice and put to one side.
- 9) Slice the buffalo mozzarella and place on top of the cooked chicken breasts, put back in the oven and allow the cheese to melt.
- 10) Place the chicken breasts on plates with the sauce to one side and serve.

**Tip:** Use kitchen scissors for trimming chicken, it is a lot easier than using a knife and less hazardous.

**Tip:** Flatten the chicken breasts with an empty or unopened bottle of wine to avoid the risk of contaminating a wooden rolling pin with salmonella bacteria. Likewise use polythene chopping boards.

**Tip:** To make sure chicken (or pork) is properly cooked, tap it with the back of a metal spoon, if the resulting sound is soft, the meat will be, if it sounds like tapping wood it is cooked through.

**Hint:** Place as many of the breasts as possible in each bowl to coat them rather than multi-coating each breast one at a time.

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# Expatriate councillor resigns

THE president of a group which campaigns on behalf of expatriate homeowners has resigned from her post on Albox Council.

Maura Hillen, head of the Abusos Urbanísticos Almanzora NO (AUAN) group, officially left her post last Monday.

The group said, in a statement, disagreements with the left-leaning Partido Socialista (PSOE) over proposals to offer irregular homes legal status. Hillen stood as an independent councillor but was affiliated with the PSOE.

The President of AUAN said she thanked the people of Albox for electing her and the PSOE for accepting her onto their group list.

"In spite of the current difference in opinion I thank the PSOE," she said.

The group's statement was referring to the PSOE's decision to abstain in a vote on changes to the planning laws of Andalucía in the Diputación of Almería last Friday.



CREDIT: Maura Hillen

**RESIGNED: Maura Hillen announcing her resignation.**

The party said it did not want to 'reward' those living in homes without legal status by granting them status under Assimilated Out of Ordination (AFO) certificates. The AUAN have proposed extending AFO status to homes built on 'rustic' land, many of which are owned

by British expatriates and some of which have since been deemed illegal.

The President of AUAN said she believed the PSOE did not have the political will to back changes the group had proposed to planning laws.

"Hopefully I am mistaken in

the end and I will continue speaking to all political parties to achieve the approval of this initiative. In the meanwhile I must leave the list of the PSOE," she said.

"I believe that the planning laws are not written in stone and it is easy to resolve these problems once and for all. It is only a question of political will as shown by the Partido Popular (PP) and Ciudadanos," she added.

Hillen's resignation comes as senior PP officials on Almería's Diputación, including its president Gabriel Amat, said they would back changes to planning laws following a meeting on Monday May 28.

Hillen said previous changes to the law had stopped several houses being demolished but that there was still work to be done to secure the legal status of expatriate homes.

"This is a problem that could affect up to one million people and that urgently needs a solution," she said.

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## Almanzora 'strikes gold'

RESIDENTS in the Almanzora Valley region have bagged a total of €350,000 in lottery prizes from a National Organisation for the Spanish Blind (ONCE) draw.

Lottery ticket seller Manuel Gea sold 10 €35,000 winning tickets in the area in October last year.

Gea works a route passing by the Cantoria, Albanchez municipalities and the El Marchal and Almanzora localities, according to a ONCE statement.

He said he 'left luck in the hands' of daily ticket-buyers in the latter area.

"On Saturday I was one number off winning the jackpot as well. I'm on a lucky streak," Gea said.

"Some residents were angry because they did not win the prize themselves," he added.

# Taps turned on

THE transfer of some 45.7 billion litres of water from the Negratin reservoir in Granada to Cuevas de Almanzora this year has been approved by authorities.

The decision was made following a meeting of the Technical Management Commission for water supplies in Madrid last Friday.

The move follows an ear-

ly decision taken by water authorities covering the Guadalquivir river basin in March.

The Negratin Reservoir is in the Freila area of Granada province. Water was previously transferred from it to Almanzora before being ceased in August last year.

The total amount of water

agreed to be sent from Negratin to Almanzora includes transfers already made since March 10.

Commissioners in Madrid said they had agreed to set aside some seven billion litres of water to supply towns in the Almanzora Valley. Water will also be used to irrigate crops in local farmland.



**DAM GOOD:** Water will be transferred from the Negratin reservoir to Almanzora.

## €40,000 new roundabout is road ready

ALBOX Council has completed the construction of the new roundabout in La Venta, one of the main access points to the town.

It is located at the intersection between Lepanto Avenue and the A-334, in the urban centre.

The area has historically had a notable number of accidents due to the circulation of a large volume of traffic.

As a result, residents called for a solution to the problem and the council has taken action.

The mayor of Albox, Francisco Torrecillas, said:

"Once again we have listened to residents and we have quickly responded to their demands.

"This matter involves the very important issue of road safety and the prevention of traffic accidents, which unfortunately have been frequent in this area."

The works have been financed entirely by the council, at a cost of €40,000, and this follows the addition of two other large roundabouts on the same road.

The council has also worked closely with local businesses in the area to improve security.

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# Marvelling at marble

## Staff from 'Big Apple' museum visit Almeria

By Gregory Kirby

A NORTH AMERICAN cohort have enjoyed a guided tour of Macael mining sites as part of a the 'Marca Macael' firm's international marketing campaign launched in the United States last year.

Thirty staff from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art (MET) enjoyed a guided tour of quarries and merchants of the crystal-like rock.

The expert guide was Ines Powell who has been a Spanish art specialist at the museum for 30 years.

'Macael Marble's' launch presentation was held at the MET last year, which houses a patio from the castle of Velez Blanco in Almeria, made from Macael marble.

The tour intended to show participants how Almeria's marble mining industry works, as well as the rock's

link to history, culture and art.

The visit was backed by Antonio Sanchez, the president of AEMA (Association of Andalucia Marble business owners).

"It is an honour to welcome staff from MET New York, with whom we had the opportunity to carry out one of 'Marca Macael's' most important US promotion events," Sanchez said.

He was also delighted to be able to show visitors the origin of the marble Marques Pedro Fajardo used to build the Velez-Blanco castle's patio in 1505, now housed in the Big Apple.

After visiting Macael's mining sites, the group were guided around the Velez castle itself by Powell.

The MET expert was given a white Macael marble gift as a gesture prior to the gathering.



'MARBELLEOUS': The US ambassador of Marca Macael on a 2017 tour.

The Marca Macael company is supported by the Marca Macael foundation which heads up a platform to promote the brand internationally.

The marble industry continues to recover from the crisis.

It was worth €671 million in 2016, 5 per cent more than the previous year.

And Almeria's luxury rock produced 3,900 jobs in 2017 compared to 3,700 in 2015, the first year the figure was higher than in 2010, according to AEMA.

# 'Paralysed' works begin



Photo: Facebook PSOE Albox/Google

**WORKS: Start 10 years after originally planned.**

THE Socialist Party (PSOE) is celebrating the start of delayed works and used the opportunity to take credit for a swathe of other PSOE plans the Popular Party since acted on.

The water collection point aims to channel polluted waters from the Llano de Los Olleres.

It was stalled for months with no explanation given, according to Albox's PSOE secretary general, Francisco Carrillo.

The preceding PSOE government left all the documentation ready and the permits approved, Carrillo said.

"If the works did not get underway until now, it is be-

cause Mr Torrecillas (Albox mayor) had no interest in solving the matter," the local PSOE chief added.

The development - originally thought up in 2007 - will collect the Llano de los Olleres sanitation network with Albox's purification station.

Carillo also spoke of multiple projects planned by the previous PSOE Town Hall, which the Popular Party government has since carried out, including the Plaza Mayor reforms.

"All of these projects were ours, so we are pleased they are being made reality," the socialist party secretary said.

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Any area of good soil that has sunlight and some moisture will have plants growing with a complete ground cover. It is natural that the soil is completely covered with plants, plant debris or stones.

In ornamental and vegetable gardens we often design the garden to have big gaps between the plants we are trying to grow that has just bare soil in between. This is quite contrary to nature's way.

Bare spaces give a satisfaction of us being in control of the garden to do just what we want but it also means that we have a lot of weeding or cultivating to do to keep the soil bare as nature struggles to protect the soil with new plant cover or weeds, which is what we usually call unwanted plants.

With the long, hot Mediterranean summer, the consequence of the unnaturally



Credit: Tomandy Shutterstock

**NATURE'S WAY:** Ground cover plants and mulch will protect your soil.

bare soil exposed directly to the sun is overheating of the soil that destroys, at the surface, the living organisms that maintain a living soil.

This overheating in summer and extreme cold exposure in winter on bare soil results in depletion of nutrients. Nitrogen evaporates in high temperatures and the lack of microbial activity to decompose any organic material in the soil will mean little nutrient renewal through natural processes. The short term result can be improved nutrient release as the organic microorganisms die, but long term the soil will become just a mineral soil with little organic content. The soil will become less fertile and unable to grow most plants that need high organic content. Mediterranean soils are normally low in organic content

because of the hot summers.

This can be overcome with the addition of organic fertiliser, but if you want to reduce your workload in the garden you can adopt ground covers to make gardening easier. Ground cover can be a mulch of organic materials such as compost, straw, leaves, chipped wood or even inorganic stones laid on the surface of the soil to protect it. An even better way however is to design the garden to incorporate ground cover plants that will grow and spread out over the soil to protect it and naturally supply additional plant debris to the soil.

A well chosen ground cover will spread out over the soil to insulate, suppress many weeds, preserve moisture and add more life and colour to a garden. In small

gardens that will fill up every inch or centimetre of the garden around their taller companions.

A tree can be highlighted by being surrounded by a flowering or lush green ground cover. Shrub bed bushes can be tied in wonderfully with a well selected ground cover planting.

There are so many different plants that can be used as ground cover. Any trailing or spreading plant that does not grow upright but tends to grow horizontally can be used. Creeping or spreading succulents make excellent ground covers where watering is kept to a minimum.

It is best to use ground covers with similar watering and soil needs to their companions in the garden. This is how nature makes her gardens.



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YOUR relationship with your dog is special. You are responsible for its care and welfare. Eventually there comes a most difficult life or death decision for the welfare of the animal and for you and your family.

The decision is a personal one but it need not be a solitary one. Your vet and your family and friends can assist and support you. Consider not only what is best for your dog, but also what is best for you and your family. Quality of life is important for pets and people alike.

If your dog can no longer enjoy the things which once gave it pleasure, or if there is more pain than quality in its life, if your dog is terminally ill or

David  
**THE Dogman**

columnists@ewnmediagroup.com

critically injured, or if the financial or emotional cost of treatment is beyond your means, euthanasia may be the only option.

It also might be necessary if a dog has become vicious, dangerous, or unmanageable, but remember some undesirable and abnormal behaviour can be changed with a qualified behaviourist.

Economic and emotional problems together with changes in lifestyle may also force an owner to consider euthanasia of a dog. Obviously it is better to

find another solution or an alternative home for these pets.

Your vet understands attachment to pets and can examine and evaluate your dog's condition, estimate your dog's chances for recovery, discuss potential disabilities and long-term problems, explain the medical options and possible outcomes. But he cannot make the euthanasia decision for you.

It is very important that you fully understand your dog's condition. If there is any part of the diagnosis or the implications for your dog's future that

you don't understand, ask to have it explained again. Rarely will the situation require an immediate decision. Usually, there will be time to review the facts.

Eventually you may wish to discuss the disposal of your dog's body with your family and vet. You have several options and your vet can provide information about burial, cremation or other alternatives.

Discuss with the family what the vet has said. Long-term medical care could be a burden, either emotionally or financially. Encourage family members

to express their thoughts and feelings. Even if you have reached a decision, family members, especially children, should have their feelings considered.

Children have special relationships with their pets. Excluding or protecting children from this decision-making process, because they are thought to be too young to understand, may only complicate their grieving. Children respect straightforward, truthful, and simple answers. If they are prepared adequately, they are usually able to accept a dog's death.

Euthanasia is almost always accomplished by injection of a death-inducing drug. Your vet may administer a tranquilliser first to relax your dog. Following the death-inducing injection, your dog will immediately go into a quiet and irreversible deep unconsciousness. Death will

come quickly and painlessly.

The act of saying goodbye is an important step in managing the natural and healthy feelings of grief, sorrow, and sense of loss. Your dog is an important part of your life and it is natural to feel you are losing a friend.

Once the decision for euthanasia has been made, you and other family members may want to say goodbye to your dog. A last evening with your dog at home or a visit to the dog at the hospital may be appropriate. Family members who want to be alone with the animal should be allowed to do so. Farewells are always difficult.

After your dog has died, it is natural and normal to feel grief and sorrow. The grieving process includes accepting the reality of your loss, accepting that the loss and accompanying feelings are painful, and adjusting to your new life that no longer includes your dog.

# Saying goodbye

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## MOTORING FACT



Most new cars that are produced would not usually make any real noise, so the sound they make is artificially generated through speakers.

A 1965 JAGUAR E-type raced by Sir Stirling Moss is shortly to be auctioned, and is expected to sell for between €125,000 and €150,000.

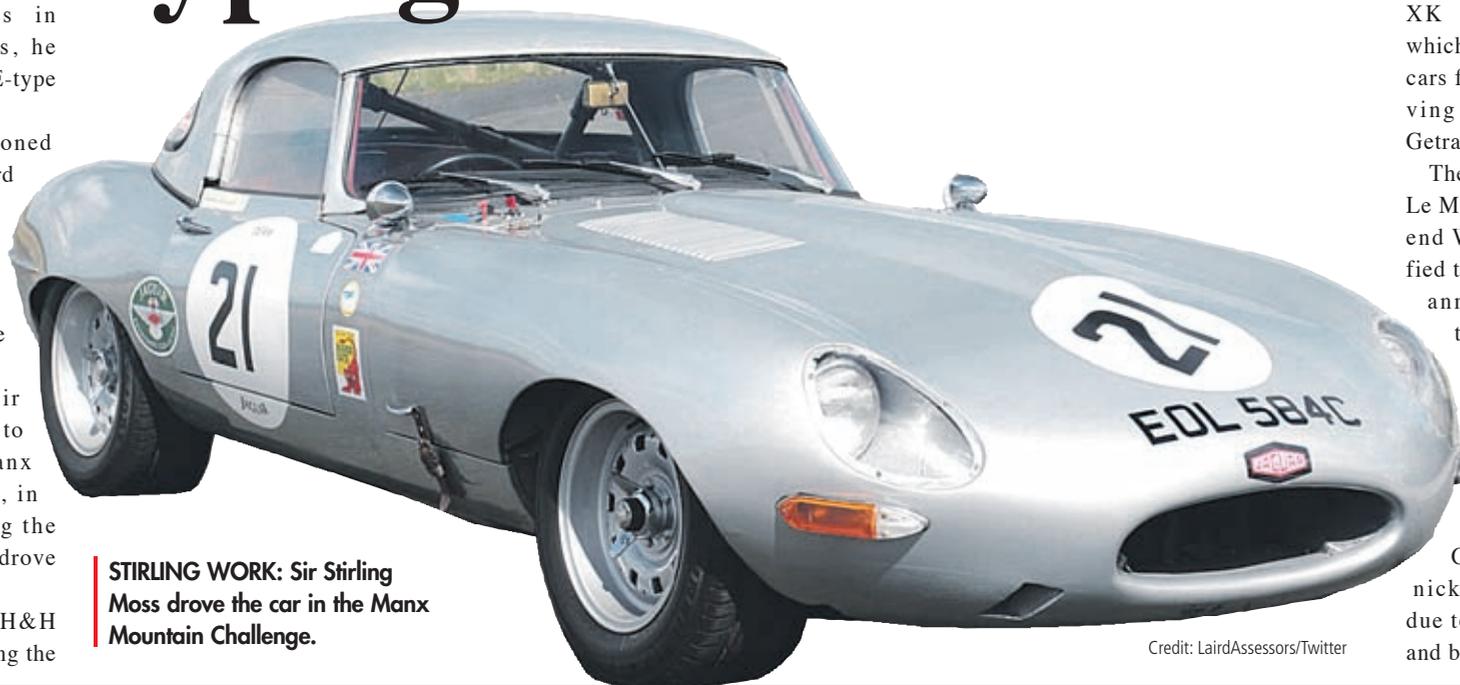
Although Moss started his career as a Jaguar works driver, with successes in XK120s and C-types, he never competed in an E-type during its heyday.

The car being auctioned started life as a standard E-type Roadster and was converted to a road-legal racer by marque specialist Jeremy Broad in the 1980's.

It was loaned to Sir Stirling Moss in 1991 to compete in the Manx Mountain Challenge, in the process becoming the first E-type that Moss drove competitively.

Auction House H&H Classics, which is selling the

# A rolling Jaguar E-type gathers no Moss



STIRLING WORK: Sir Stirling Moss drove the car in the Manx Mountain Challenge.

Credit: LairdAssessors/Twitter

car at RAC Woodcote Park near Epsom, Surrey, says the car features many original components, including an aluminium bonnet fabricated by Abbey Panels.

It also has a 4.2 litre version of the classic Jaguar XK straight-six engine, which powered the Coventry cars from 1949 to 1992, driving through a five-speed Getrag gearbox.

The car was later raced by Le Mans and touring car legend Win Percy, who qualified third in the special 40th anniversary race for E-types at Donington Park in 2001.

Among the 54 other lots in the H&H sale is a modern recreation of the famed 1973 BMW CSL touring car racer, nicknamed the Batmobile due to its outrageous wings and bulbous bodywork.

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**HEAD-TURNING:** The new Mazda offers a powered hardtop to provide security and refinement.

# Mazda MX-5 RF

## ROAD TEST

by Nick Fletcher

THE Mazda MX-5 RF is a head-turning version of its soft-top stable-mate, offering a powered hardtop instead of the usual fabric roof and providing better security and more refinement.

The RF certainly attracts attention with its supercar-style buttress rear fins and most people who asked me about it thought it cost far more than it actually does!

Mazda designers deserve much praise for such arresting styling - and unusually, the folding roof doesn't reduce the available boot space which at 130 litres was small anyway.

Other than the hardtop feature,

## STATS PANEL

- **Model:** Mazda MX-5 RF
- **Engine:** 2.0 litre petrol
- **Transmission:** 6-speed manual
- **Performance:** 0-100 kph 7.4 seconds, top speed 215 kph (134 mph)
- **Economy:** 14.4 kpl (40.9 mpg)
- **Emissions:** 161 g/km

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

the RF is essentially the same as the standard MX-5, which in almost 30 years of production has become the two-seater sports car icon.

The RF is priced from €25,643 (£22,496) in 131 hp 1.5 litre form though the version I tested had the 2.0 litre 158 hp engine and in entry-level SEL Nav trim is priced at €27,126 (£23,795). Top speed is

215 kph (134 mph), the 0-100 kph time a crisp 7.4 seconds. Fuel consumption is 14.4 kpl (40.9 mpg) and emissions 161 g/km.

SEL Nav models come with climate and cruise control, power windows, remote central locking, alloys wheels, LED headlamps, an 18cm (seven-inch) screen and connected infotainment system and sat-nav.

The wrap-around cabin is a cosy fit, with minimal stowage space - no door pockets, no glove-box, just a small lockable compartment behind the seats. But none of this matters much as the car attracts carefree buyers who will fling a small hold-all into the boot and zoom off for a fun weekend in the countryside or on the coast.

Mazda has upgraded the cabin materials and together with the new styling, the RF has more kudos and a more up-market appearance.

Underway, it is quick and nimble and with the roof closed, more quiet and refined. Handling is assured, ride quality decent by sports car standards. Overall the RF provides fun driving with an engaging panache which some of its more expensive rivals may find hard to match.

## Driverless cars will kill says official

A FORMER highways agency chief who served under Barack Obama has said it is inevitable that driverless cars will kill people as they appear on the road.

Dr Mark Rosekind, the former US highway traffic safety administrator warned 'there will be lives lost' as tech companies and car manufacturers experiment with autonomous vehicles.

However, he insisted that their introduction will eventually lead to much safer streets in the future.

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# Hyundai says buy buy buy

DRIVERS could soon be able to buy a coffee or order their dinner while on the road.

Korean manufacturer Hyundai, is working on new connected car technology that will allow motorists to pay for a range of services straight from their vehicle.

Developed in partnership with software company Xevo, the technology is being designed to simplify daily purchases for drivers to make.

Current connected software in some luxury motors already allows the driver to track down contact details of restaurants or hotels, but Hyundai's new developments promise to add some-

thing extra.

The technology will allegedly store the driver's card details within the on-board computer, allowing purchases to be made on-line.

However, it is still in its early stages and the software will need to take into account security risks and driving laws.

The system would need to be voice activated to avoid potential distracted driving charges if users were to operate it on the road.

It will also need to develop data protection methods to keep the owner's payment details secure.

Hyundai's north American arm is currently in

charge of the project, but it could well be replicated in the UK, if successful.

Manish Mehrotra, Director of Connected Operations at Hyundai Motor America, said:

"Once our owners experience placing a to-go order using their vehicle's touchscreen and seamlessly routing to the location, we know they're going to love it."

"Offering easy-to-use payment options as part of navigation will simplify the driving experience and maximise time spent with eyes on the road."

**KOREAN CLASS:**  
Hyundai combines  
substance with style.



Credit: Hyundai/Twitter

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ENGLAND'S cricket team stormed to victory over Pakistan by an innings and 55 runs to win the second test and draw the series 1-1. The result ends a dismal run of eight Tests without a win for Joe Root's side.

TO READ MORE

# Hamilton could quit F1 in 2020

LEWIS HAMILTON could sensationally quit Formula 1 in 2020, according to commentator and former F1 driver, David Coulthard.

Hamilton's current contract expires at the end of the year but soon he is expected to pen a lucrative two-year extension.

That would take him to the end of the 2020 season, which will align with when Liberty Media are planning to make vast changes to the sport in a bid to make it more competitive.

Coulthard thinks Hamilton, who would be 35 years old then, could call time on his racing career to focus on releasing his first music album.

"I think it's got to be on his mind," Coulthard said on BBC Radio 2's Graham Norton Show on Saturday.

"I think he'll go to 2020 which is the end

of the current Concorde agreement, but beyond that there is every likelihood he will be releasing his first album."

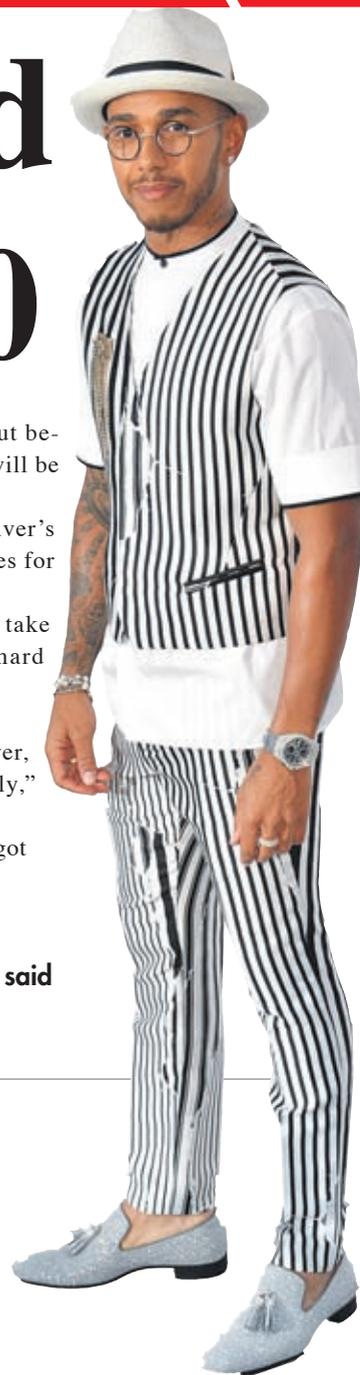
Hamilton is currently leading the Driver's Championship this season as he searches for his fifth world title.

Asked who he felt may be in line to take Hamilton's place at Mercedes, Coulthard suggested reigning GP3 champion George Russell.

"He's with Mercedes as a reserve driver, so he wouldn't be known internationally," Coulthard said.

"But he's certainly someone that has got skills, talent and potential."

**MUSICAL MOTORIST:** Hamilton is said to be working on an album.



# Lorenzo rides high in Italy

SPAIN'S Jorge Lorenzo claimed his first win for Ducati at the Italian Grand Prix as championship leader Marc Marquez crashed out at the Mugello circuit.

Three-time champion Lorenzo has struggled since leaving Yamaha in 2016 but beat teammate Andrea Dovizioso into second.

Seven-time world champion Valentino Rossi became the first rider to reach 5,000 points in MotoGP with third.

"I said that winning at



**EASY RIDER:** Jorge Lorenzo secured his first win with Ducati at Mugello.

Mugello with Ducati was a dream for me," said Lorenzo, who has retired from two races this season.

"It's one of the most special wins of my entire career."

Moments later though, he signalled what many had suspected: that he would be leaving the Ducati team at the end of the season.

Marc Marquez crashed before finishing 16th in Tuscany, though he remains comfortably clear of the standings after five races.

The Spaniard had been bidding for his fourth straight win this season but fell off his Honda on the fifth lap.

Rossi moves up into second in the standings, 23 points behind Marquez, with Yamaha team-mate Maverick Vinales in third.

## Transfer rumours

*Who is in, who is out, and who is most wanted in England and Spain?*

Liverpool continue to pursue Lyon midfielder Nabil Fekir, although reports of talk's with the 24-year-old's agent were premature. (*Liverpool Echo*)



Credit: Everton Football Club/Flickr

**TOP PICK:** Jordan Pickford is being monitored by Bayern Munich.

Bayern Munich will keep tabs on Everton and England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford, 24, at this month's World Cup. (*Daily Mail*)

Roma and Brazil goalkeeper, Alisson, 25, will reject Liverpool in order to wait for a move to Real Madrid. (*BBC*)

Huddersfield are interested in signing AC Milan's Portuguese forward Andre Silva, 22. (*Sky Sports*)

Real Madrid want to make a quick appointment to replace boss Zinedine Zidane after accepting defeat for Mauricio Pochettino's signature. (*Daily Mail*)

New Rangers manager Steven Gerrard is keen to sign young Liverpool midfielder Ovie Ejaria, 20. (*Sun*)

Former Barcelona boss Luis Enrique could become the new Chelsea boss after reopening negotiations with the Blues. (*Buzz*)

Manchester United are making PSG and Italy forward, Marco Verratti, 25, their number one target. (*Mirror*)

Barca star Ousmane Dembele has been weighing up his future in talks with Lionel Messi, amid interest from Liverpool and Arsenal. (*Express*)

Arsenal manager Unai Emery wants to make Sevilla midfielder Steven N'Zonzi, 29, one of his first signings. (*Talksport*)

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