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

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Cremation allowed

Judge gives go ahead as probe goes on

by Joe Gerrard

THE judge investigating the death of Gabriel Cruz, the eight-year-old whose body was found after a 13-day search, has allowed the cremation of his remains to go ahead.

Rafael Soriano, who presides over Almeria's Court of Instruction Number Five, made the order after no objections were made to a request from Cruz's parents Angel Cruz and Patricia Ramirez.

The eight-year-old's funeral took place in March this year. Judge Soriano prevented the cremation from going ahead in case investigators needed to conduct further tests on the body.

The lifting of the restriction on Cruz's burial comes as Judge Soriano said the investigation into the boy's death would end 'shortly.' It also follows the judge's decision to make public some of the findings of the probe last month.

Ana Julia Quezada remains the prime suspect in the case after confessing to



CREDIT: Angel Cruz and Patricia Ramirez (inset), Juan Ignacio Zoido, via Twitter (main)

GO AHEAD: Gabriel Cruz's (inset) body can now be cremated.

police that she was behind the killing of the eight-year-old.

She later wrote open letters to the media from her prison cell in which she admitted to taking the boy's life but claimed it was an accident. Quezada said Cruz had insulted her and that

she had suffocated him in a fit of rage.

A post mortem examination found that the eight-year-old had died of suffocation.

Quezada is suspected of murdering, kidnapping and subjecting Cruz to inhumane treatment.

Guardia Civil officers found the eight-year-old's body by a well 13 days after he was first reported missing in the Las Hortichuelas area of Nijar in late February. Quezada was arrested in connection with the death shortly after and the investigation continues.

High rise blaze

A COUPLE in Almeria have been convicted for allegedly using several apartments in a block of flats to grow marijuana, which then led to a fire.

The apartments are in the area of Las Hortichuelas de Roquetas de Mar and was secretly connected up to the electrical system in order to cultivate the illegal plantation.

Both defendants have been sentenced to a year in prison and a fine of €10,000 for a crime against public health, theft, and electric energy fraud.

They took over three apartments, located on the third, second and ground floors, which were all hooked up to the electricity network illegally.

The fire broke out on the third floor, and the Guardia Civil are convinced that it was due to the lamps, fans and air conditioning equipment that were used to grow the marijuana.

Sources suggest that the quantity of marijuana would reach a value of €6,987 on the black market.

The defendants had installed a security door on the ground floor, and video surveillance equipment.

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NEWS EXTRA**Coal not the goal**

SPAIN consumed 28.5 per cent more coal in 2017 than the previous year, the highest in the world in relative terms, after a lack of rain left the country with a hydropower deficit, according to an energy journal.

Cat fight

TWO high-ranking members of Spain's opposition People's Party want the country to leave the EU's Schengen Area after Germany refused to extradite separatist Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont on treason charges.

Five dead

FIVE people drowned on Spanish beaches last weekend, including two in Cataluña, two in Castellon and one in A Coruña, Galicia, while a 10-year-old boy remains in critical condition in Tarragona.

By Matt Ford

AN investigator who recreated the death of tragic Scottish holidaymaker Kirsty Maxwell for a television documentary says she "climbed out on a balcony in Benidorm before losing her grip and falling."

Specialist Michael Brown performed a series of tests where he asked three women of a similar height and weight to the victim to climb a replica of the hotel railing she fell from.

And his probe found that the 27-year-old from Livingston did not jump from the 10th floor balcony, but climbed over it and tried to cling on before plummeting to her death.

Mr Brown said: "All we can say is I believe she was facing into the room at the point she lost her balance or lost her grip and fell, vertically initially, before she interacted with features on the building.

"How that loss of balance or loss of grip occurred is not something I can hypothesise on. But the biggest thing that would help is if people spoke up."

In the dramatic reconstruction, the woman wore similar clothes to those Kirsty had on when she died, and each took

Kirsty case goes on

12 seconds to climb over the railing.

Tears on her denim skirt were also analysed,

Private detective David Swindle, an ex-police officer who has been leading an enquiry on behalf of her family, said in the BBC show *Killed Abroad*: "Kirsty could not have jumped directly over that balcony.

"It seems far more likely that she clambered over.

"But what happened next? It makes me wonder - has Kirsty

been climbing?"

"Was she trying to get to the rooms below?"

"It wasn't very quick. What were they (the suspects) doing when this was going on? We saw how difficult it is to do what was said that Kirsty did.

"It's a small piece in the jigsaw of circumstances that you try to put together. It helps the investigation."

He added: "Nobody tested that theory. The police in Spain hadn't used any experts. We will hand the information over to the authorities."

Kirsty was on a hen-do with pals and died seven months af-

ter marrying husband Adam in Cyprus.

After a night out she entered and fell from an apartment next door to a friend's room, and a floor above her own, occupied by five British bodybuilders from Nottingham.

The men were quizzed by Spanish investigators and denied responsibility for her death, claiming she jumped before returning to the UK.

Mr Swindle has obtained police images from inside their room, alongside copies of their statements, in which major holes were found during the programme.

Spanish investigators believe Kirsty could have mistaken the apartment for a friend's after becoming disorientated, and controversially destroyed her clothes without proper DNA testing.

Her dad Brian Curry, 59, has urged any witnesses to come forward as the family fight to keep the case open.

He said: "We hope this will put pressure on the authorities to take this to trial. We are waiting for scientific results back from the lab and a prosecutor will look at the evidence.

"We want somebody to be held responsible. To me, one or more people are responsible for Kirsty's death."

Killed Abroad, which also investigates the death of Craig Mallon, 26, who was killed with one punch while on a stag party in Lloret de Mar, aired on BBC1 Scotland at 9pm yesterday (Wednesday).

If you have any information about the accident on April 29, 2017 email info@kirstymaxwell.com.

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FRESH HOPE: BBC Scotland has featured the probe headed by David Swindle.

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'Trafficking' gang probe

GUARDIA CIVIL officers have arrested five people in connection with a group who allegedly arranged for migrants to be brought from Morocco to Almeria. Police said they seized two vehicles, €2,000 in cash, several mobile phones and financial documents in raids in El Ejido as part of the operation.

Couple held

A COURT in Almeria has ordered a couple be remanded in custody following their arrest in connection with the kidnapping, threatening and assaulting of a 19-year-old girl. National Police officers who searched a house as part of the operation claimed they also found several quantities of drugs including marijuana and cocaine.

Jail request

PROSECUTORS have requested that a court trying 11 defendants on drugs trafficking charges be handed jail sentences of up to five years each if found guilty. Investigators claimed in their submissions to the courts the group hid marijuana among vegetable shipments in the Vicar area bound for other European countries including Germany.

Move stats

ANDALUCIA'S Statistics Institute has registered a positive balance between the number of people arriving in and leaving Almeria City at 2,799 last year. The data also found Almeria Province saw the third highest proportion of foreign newcomers in Andalucia at 18 per cent of the total number of arrivals.

Travel spot

ROQUETAS DE MAR has come fourth in a study of the most popular holiday destinations for Spanish travellers in the country during the first six months of this year. The findings, from *hotelscan.com*, showed the Almeria town came behind Punta Umbria in Huelva Province and Benidorm and Alicante on the Costa Blanca.

Drone use

ENVIRONMENT officials have deployed unmanned aircraft to help monitor three species of water-based birds in wetlands across Almeria and Andalucia. Raul Enriquez, the Junta de Andalucia's environment spokesperson in Almeria, said the drones would track population levels and threats to the animals with greater accuracy than was previously possible.



THE BIG PICTURE Nº 23

HACK TO NATURE: The process is sustainable since the trees are not cut down.

Popping the cork

SPAIN is the second-largest producer of cork in the world after Portugal, with 27 per cent of the world's 2.2 million hectares of cork forest, and the annual harvest is now in full swing.

Taking place from June 15 to August 15 each year, it is the ultimate example of an environmentally-friendly industry which still employs ancient methods.

The process is considered sustainable because the trees are not cut down to obtain the product, rather the bark is stripped from the trunk by highly-skilled workers known

as corcheros who wield specialised tools and must train for around eight years.

Normally working in teams of five, they each have a specific role, from using an axe to strip the cork to stacking the planks in piles or loading it onto mules once it is cut.

The trees cannot be harvested until they are 30 to 40-years-old, and after being cut they are left alone for nine to 12 years to allow the cork to grow back, the harvest taking place in a different area each year following a cyclical pattern.

Fire service dispute

ALMERIA City's council has agreed to stop providing firefighters to Nijar from January 1 next year if no agreement is reached on financing.

The measures were passed by the conservative Partido Popular (PP) and the centrist Ciudadanos councillors. They said the town should compensate Almeria City for the service.

Esperanza Perez, Nijar's left-leaning Partido Socialista (PSOE) mayor, said the town did not want tourists to think no firefighters would be on hand

due to payments not being made.

Almeria City Council's current position is that Nijar should agree to pay €900,000 to it every year for the service. If they did not sign an agreement by November the ceasing of the service would go ahead, the authority said.

Members of the PSOE and leftist Izquierda Unida (IU) parties on Almeria City Council said the proposals seemed more like a 'threat' to the town.

Migrant rescues

A TOTAL of 29 people, including one child, were taken to Almeria City's port after being rescued by coastguards from a small boat in the Alboran Sea.

The Salvamento Maritimo's Mastelero search and rescue boat reached the vessel after it was located by the Guardia Civil around 92.6 kilometres off the coast of Almeria last Tuesday morning.

Coastguards found 21 men, seven women and one child in the boat before taking them to port.

Some personnel remained behind to trace further migrants possibly at sea.

The rescue comes as 70 people, including two pregnant women, were picked up from two boats in the same sea last Saturday.

The migrants arrived in Almeria City at about 5.30pm that evening, with the rescue having taken place at about 7.30am. Salvamento Maritimo sources said all those on board were found in good health.

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Photo credit: Constanza Lambertucci/Twitter

'LONG LIVE SPAIN': Protesters give fascist salutes at the Valley of the Fallen and (inset) Pedro Sanchez addresses Congress.

Salutes for Franco

SPAIN'S new Prime Minister has vowed to exhume the remains of former military dictator Francisco Franco.

"I want to announce to you that the political decision of this government is taken," said Pedro Sanchez during an extraordinary session of Congress. "We are going to exhume the remains of the dictator Franco from the Valley of the Fallen, and this - barring last-minute changes to the means that will make this possible - will take place in a very brief period of time.

"The wounds have been open for many years, too many, and the time has come to close them. Our democracy will have symbols that unite citizens."

It comes days after hundreds of protesters gathered at the controversial Valley of the Fallen monument north of Madrid, giving fascist salutes and chanting: 'Long live Spain;' 'Don't touch the Valley;' and 'Franco, Franco, Franco!'

Many also sang 'Cara al Sol,' the anthem of the general's fascist Falange party, while some unfurled the pre-constitutional Spanish flag emblazoned with an eagle.

Opposition parties last year voted to move Franco's remains from the state-funded mausoleum and turn the site into a memorial for 'the victims of fascism' who died during Spain's Civil War from 1936-1939.

The end of the bloody struggle saw the dictator assume control of the country until his death in 1975 and he is the only person buried at the site who was not killed during the conflict.

In addition to Franco, Falange party founder Jose Antonio Primo de Rivera is also buried at the site alongside 27,000 fascist soldiers and 10,000 pro-Republicans fighters whose bodies were taken from mass graves and entombed there without their families' consent.

But the protestors fiercely oppose the move. Francisco Javier Feria, dressed in the blue uniform of the Falange, told Spanish media: "There is a lot of resentment, this is vengeance against a political ideology. This is not a Franco cult. The bodies here have to give an example so that [the Civil War] does not happen again."

Since taking office via a no-confidence motion in the former conservative administration of ousted leader Mariano Rajoy, Spain's socialist government has announced plans to establish a truth commission to investigate alleged crimes against humanity committed by the Franco regime.

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STRIKE IT UNLUCKY: Industrial action could spark chaos.

TOP stories 5

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- 5,814** views WILDFIRE: First major blaze on Costa del Sol this summer
- 3,834** views Outrage over 'looky looky' men in southern Spain
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Young footballer dies

Family to arrange repatriation

A YOUNG British man who died after falling from a Spanish hotel balcony has been named as a former Manchester United and Manchester City academy footballer.

Michael Jones, 21, from Little Lever, Bolton, is thought to have been on holiday with friends when the tragedy occurred at about 11pm on July 4 at the Apartamentos Vina Del Mar in the Costa Blanca resort of Benidorm. It is believed Michael toppled over railings on the balcony of a hotel room.

Now his parents have flown to Spain to arrange Michael's repatriation and talk to the investigating authorities.

Michael was signed to

Manchester City's academy at the age of six before moving across town to Manchester United.

From the age of 12 he played for local teams including Bury FC Academy, Walshaw Sports Club, Bolton Town and Ramsbottom United FC. He joined Little Lever Sports Club two years ago.

A memorial football match has been arranged between his Bolton-based club and Wal-



TRAGIC DEATH: Footballer Michael Jones died in hotel balcony fall.

shaw Sports Club, and a GoFund Me page has been set up to help his family with repatriation and funeral expenses.

Speaking on Facebook, Michael's father, Paul Jones, said: 'My main priority now is for Joseph, my younger son, he is staying strong, stronger than I ever thought possible, but he hurts beyond words.'

'I ask that his and Mike's friends help him through this awful time.'

Michael is survived by his parents, Paul and Kath, step-mum Janet, brothers Joseph and Robert and two sisters, Elisabeth and Sarah.

Donations can be made at: www.gofundme.com/michael-jones-161096-050718.

Officers bullet proofed

NIJAR'S council has presented Local Police officers in the town with new armoured vests to help protect them against gun fire.

The mayor of the town, Esperanza Perez, presented police Chief Jose Gazquez with the bullet-proof vests on Monday. The local force now has a total of 39 such vests.

Mayor Perez said the armour would allow officers to carry out their work in better conditions.

"We have managed to improve the security of the town's police officers with these vests," she said.

The purchase comes as Nijar Council recently bought new police vehicles to help modernise the local force's fleet.

OUR VIEW

Much ado about little

IT almost seemed that certain parts of the Spanish and International press wanted to see street riots following the England v Croatia match in Russia.

There had been some unsavoury scenes in Benidorm with a 'stand-off' between the police and so-called England fans following the previous match with both sides complaining that the other was at fault.

There was lots of huffing and puffing and a few insults, but generally speaking there was nothing too serious although any argument or disturbance by visitors to the city was certainly uncalled for and unnecessary.

The general feeling seemed to be that the Brits will be at it again (even though it has been pointed out by those who aren't English that the Northern Irish, Scots and Welsh were being unfairly brought into this general anti feeling) but in the event, the evening passed without any problem.

The media rolled into Benidorm looking for fights, the authorities had drafted in a number of specialist police who were used to handling riots and even the British (not English) Foreign Office advised people to be calm.

There is an old saying about giving a dog a bad name and in fairness, the combination of football, booze and heat could well have resulted in things getting fractious but thankfully, those England fans (and others who decided that England was part of the United Kingdom and they could offer their support) who were there, decided to just have a good time and either drown their sorrows or celebrate the best achievement of an England team since 1990.

Long may the peace last.

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Braak in the sun!

HER 16-year marriage to stockbroker Danny Goldberg ended in April. But Australian model Annalise Braakensiek showed she's letting things hang loose as she soaked up the rays on holiday in Barcelona.

The 45-year-old bombshell sent temperatures soaring after whipping off her bikini top before posting a saucy snap on Instagram captioned in Spanish: 'A very magical and fun day.'



Photo credit Instagram/Annalise Braakensiek

BEACH READY:
Annalise Braakensiek.

Ocean Serg

SPAIN suffered an embarrassing World Cup after tumbling out to hosts Russia in the last 16 when widely predicted to be among the favourites.

But captain and Real Madrid star Sergio Ramos appeared to be getting the disastrous exit out of his system as he holidayed on a luxury yacht with girlfriend Pilar Rubio. They have been together for six years and their third child Alejandro was born in March.



Photo credit Sergio Ramos/Instagram

REAL LOVE: Pilar and Serge.

Bey to go

SHE'S currently travelling the globe with hubby Jay Z as the pair wow fans with their On The Run II tour.

And pop megastar Beyonce, 36, caused a stir at Barcelona airport as the couple and their entourage jetted into Spain ahead of their



only performance in the country. The Crazy In Love songstress flaunted her famous curves in denim shorts and a sheer blouse, topping off the outfit with a pair of red designer sunglasses.

ON THE RUN AGAIN: Beyonce.

Photo credit Beyonce/Instagram

Strictly romance

THEY recently hinted they've discussed children after just four months together.

And Strictly Come Dancing's Gorka Marquez, 27, and Gemma Atkinson, 33, jetted to Ibiza for a sunshine break as their burgeoning romance continues to take off.

Speaking on ITV chat show Lorraine, Gemma gushed: She said: "I love the fact that Gorka's an amazing cook, and I love eating so it's a great combo. Outside the gym it's like being best mates."

"In 10 years time when hopefully we've got a couple of kids around I won't want to be out of breath!"



SUMMER LOVIN':
Gorka and Gemma.

FORMER Atomic Kitten singer Kerry Katona has been put through her paces at a holistic body camp on the Costa del Sol.

The TV personality and singer attended a water workout session atop a floating platform at the plush fitness centre overlooking the sea in Marbella.

It comes after a close friend told UK media that the mum-of-five was left devastated after her former bandmates Natasha Hamilton and Liz McClarnon

Atomic blonde

recorded a World Cup-themed version of their hit Whole Again while she was away in Spain.

The source said: "Kerry is heartbroken. She's absolutely gutted that the girls would sing the song without her."

"She always thought they'd get back together and this was an



Photo credit Kerry Katona/Instagram

KA-TONED: Kerry in Marbella.

amazing opportunity. She's a single mum and has been struggling looking after the kids and the family, so it hurts her a lot to be left out of it."

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NEWS EXTRA

Building figures

THE area between Nijar and Aguadulce is one of only two in Andalucia where no new house building projects are currently underway, with planning permission granted for 387 works in Almeria City.

Man held

GUARDIA CIVIL officers have arrested a 36-year-old man from Nijar in connection with an alleged false reporting of a car theft, with proceedings for the detainee having been sent to Almeria's Court of Instruction.

New trees

COUNCIL environment workers in Almeria City have finished the planting of more than 600 new trees as part of works which began in March, with 300 unused plots also covered-up following their placement.

Tot spots

THERE are set to be some 1,331 places available across 23 early learning centres in El Ejido during the upcoming academic year, with 11,696 in Almeria Province making for a rise of 107 according to education authorities.

Abuse video defendants confess



CREDIT: Google Maps

CONFESSION: A court in Asturias heard the case.

TWO defendants on trial over sending a video of a six-year-old child being mistreated have been handed one year jail sentences, after admitting to the offence.

The Moroccan women, from Roquetas de Mar, were handed the sentences after reaching a plea bargain agreement with prosecutors. Their trial took place at Oviedo's Criminal Court Number Three in Asturias.

The court heard one of the defendants had obtained the video, which featured a nude woman and the abuse of a

young child.

Prosecutors claimed the other defendant sent the video to all of her contacts via the WhatsApp messaging service.

Jose Ramon Gutierrez Alvarez, from Pola de Lena, was among those who received the video. He had changed his mobile number causing him to mistakenly get the video which he reported to the Guardia Civil after viewing it.

The defendants admitted to receiving the footage and sending it on. They claimed their lack of Spanish meant they had difficulty explaining

to police that their intention had been to report the crime and not to distribute illegal videos.

Prosecutors had requested the defendants each be handed sentences of two and a half years in prison if found guilty.

They also sought to have the women deported from Spain and a ban ordered on them entering the country for five years.

The sentenced was reduced to one year in prison for each of the defendants after they confessed.



FOOTBALL FRAUD: The case has been referred to the court of Almeria.

Fraudsters' own goal

THE Guardia Civil of Almeria have arrested two people for their alleged involvement in fraud and identity theft that led to a football club being robbed of €6,000.

The club is located in the Poniente Almeriense region and the suspect is believed to be a former member of staff there.

Officers began an investigation at the end of June after a complaint by the football club's president that €6,000 had been withdrawn from its bank ac-

count without consent.

Investigators discovered that the suspect was a woman who had worked for the organisation until last April, before being expelled from it.

From her position it is believed that she would have known the details of the club's bank account, and was therefore able to facilitate the bank transfer covertly.

Another member of staff had also been fired from the club at a similar time and also colluded in the crime.

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STREET TALK**Is it opening time for seven-day retail?**

Supermarkets in holiday hotspots now often throw open their doors on Sundays for peak tourist season, which would have been unheard of a few years ago. But should shops in Spain open on the Sabbath year-round?

JESS, 22, and Charlie, 26, from close to London but living on the Costa del Sol

“Yes! We live here and although it’s only been five months, it’s long enough to get annoyed about Sundays! But it’s not that common in countries to have them open, is it? It only seems to be England from what we have seen. The supermarkets are a big one too, you really

have to plan ahead because none of them are open. Actually Mercadona has recently opened on Sundays, but that’s only for the summer. We live in Los Boliches and there are a good variety of shops there, and the Miramar shopping centre is good too. It’s just nice to have escaped the rat race of London and to have a more relaxed lifestyle!”

Leonardo, 40, on holiday from Frankfurt, Germany

“No. You have to have some free time, not have work 24/7. It is important to have one day for yourself. It’s just not

healthy. God created Sunday as a holiday! The seventh day is the Sabbath after all. It doesn’t matter about business, people can get their things at other times in the week. It’s not a big problem for them.”

Fiona, 28, on holiday from Armagh, Northern Ireland

“Yes, because this is a thirsty place and what else is

there to do?! We’re staying in the centre of Fuengirola and it’s clear that a lot of shops would benefit from tourists on Sundays.

“It’s also surprising that supermarkets are not open here either. I do love the fresh fish, vegetable and fruits too. The produce seems to be much more local than back home. I love the swordfish, tuna, tomatoes and mangos, etc.”

Leticia, 36, from Brussels, Belgium but living on the Costa del Sol

“Yes. I don’t see the problem, the tourists should be able to get what they need. I work on Sundays too! I work in the fe-

male fashion industry.

“Spanish fashion is a little different from other countries in my experience. The colours are brighter and the design is lighter, for the warmer weather!”

“Of course everyone should have one day of rest but I get Wednesdays off. I



CONVENIENCE SHOPPERS: Darren and Chester.

don’t have children but I do understand about families wanting the day free.

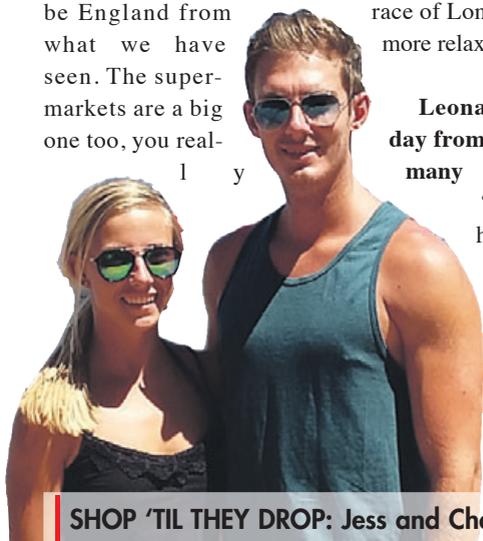
“But it would be very good for the local economy if they changed the law on this.”

Darren and Chester, both 18, on holiday from Bristol, UK

“Yes. It would be more convenient for all the tourists who come here. It also gets people out of hotels and out and about. The economy would definitely benefit if they opened for the whole weekend. It’s cheaper here though, so we get a lot more for our money here.”



UN-BEER-BELIEVABLE: Fiona.



SHOP 'TIL THEY DROP: Jess and Charlie.



SLACK SABBATH: Leonardo.

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Farm 'exploiting' claims

A FARMING company has said it plans to take legal action against a German television network over a documentary which claimed to expose workers' rights abuses in Almeria.

Bio-Sabor said it also planned to take the Andalusian Trade Union of Workers (SAT) to court over 'The Dirty Harvest of Europe' programme.

The firm denied claims made by filmmakers, which included the employing of unregistered migrants living in metal shacks, being paid half

the agreed wages and injuries caused from pesticides.

Francisco Belmonte, the President of Bio-Sabor, said in a statement to Spanish media that he was 'perplexed and outraged' by the claims.

"It is unfair and irresponsible to say that Bio-Sabor does not respect the rights of workers," he said.

Belmonte added the company was now seeking damages for the claims made by the documentary.

The documentary was made by the Interbrigadas group, a political activist association

which travels to Almeria twice a year to work with the SAT.

A spokesperson for the Berlin-based group said they made the visits to help the trade union.

"We want to improve the working conditions of seasonal workers who produce our vegetables," they said. Many crops harvested in Almeria are exported to Germany.

"The conditions are very precarious in many companies and in almost half of them agreements are not upheld," the spokesperson added.

The documentary claimed migrants with work documents were paid about €35 per day for their work, while those without received around €25. The agreed wage stood

at €47 a day, the filmmakers added.

The programme reportedly included worker-filmed footage inside one company's greenhouse which appeared to show pesticides being sprayed without protective clothing. It is not specified if the greenhouse belonged to Bio-Sabor.

The documentary also features an interview with Andres Garcia Lorca, the then-representative of the Spanish government in Almeria. He said firms that disregarded workers' rights were in a minority.

"In Spain there are exploiters, as is the case in the rest of Europe," Lorca told filmmakers.

Data from the SAT suggested around 4,000 people



CLAIMS: Footage from the documentary (inset) made in Almeria (archive).

lived and worked in conditions alleged in the documentary.

Spain exported fruit and

vegetables worth around €3.8 billion to Germany last year, according to the programme's researchers.



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AN emaciated Boxer dog has been rescued from a locked apartment which he had been abandoned in since March.

Local Police found the animal in a rental flat after being alerted by neighbours. The owner had left the apartment four months ago - leaving behind an open sack of pet food - and moved to Almeria City. The desperate animal, named Rocky, had survived by drinking water from the toilet, police believe.

It was only once his food had run out that neighbours in Castilleja de la Cuesta, Sevilla, became aware of his plight. He started whining and whim-

Utter cruelty

pering having not made a sound for months previously. Realising that they had not seen the owner since March, they alerted police.

On entry, officers were met with an appalling sight. Corridors, bedrooms and the kitchen were all covered in dog faeces and there was an unbearable stench, say police.

Miraculously, Rocky was still alive but in a very poor condition, described as 'skin and bones.'

The dog has been handed over to an animal protector who gave him first aid. Rocky is now expected to make a full recovery from his ordeal. Despite his horrific experience he has retained his good nature, being described as 'affectionate.'

Local Police immediately started a search for the woman owner of the dog. As Rocky is microchipped they managed to identify her and tracked her to a location in Almeria. She now faces charges of animal abandonment in a court in Sanlucar la Mayor.

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Six tips for protecting and growing your wealth

Today's climate presents many challenges to both preserving your wealth and seeing it grow over time. Alongside economic uncertainty surrounding Brexit, we have endured years of ultra-low interest rates and an ever-changing tax and regulatory landscape. All this makes it harder for investors to achieve returns that are not eroded by inflation and taxation.

At times like this, careful planning plays a particularly important role in securing your financial security over the long term. Here are six key tips that can help.

1. Establish a suitable strategy

When it comes to investing, one size definitely does not fit all. What will suit you depends on your specific objectives, time-frame and attitude to risk. Your portfolio should be created and managed to meet your particular set of circumstances and goals.

2. Understand your appetite for risk

Before investing, establish the right balance of risk and return for your



By Gerald Turner,
Partner,
Blevins Franks

peace of mind. Different investment assets represent varying levels of risk, from cash and fixed income assets (government and corporate bonds), to equities and 'real assets' like property.

It is extremely difficult to effectively assess your own tolerance for risk. Instead, speak to an experienced adviser who can ask the right questions and use appropriate tools to create a clear and objective risk profile for you. They can then recommend an appropriate blend of investments to match your profile.

Remember: without some element of risk, you may struggle to outpace inflation and could lose money, especially with longer term bank deposits and today's low interest rates. An adviser can present options to help control risk within your defined boundaries, for example, staggering the timing of investments in riskier assets to reduce exposure to market movements.

3. Identify your timeline for investing

The longer you have to invest, the more risk you can generally afford to take. With time, you can ride out market volatility and benefit from compound returns. Understanding your time horizon is also the key to ensuring your investments offer the right level of 'liquidity.'

4. Insist on diversification

The higher your concentration in one particular investment type or area - including the UK - the higher the risk. Spreading out investments

across asset classes, regions and market sectors limits exposure to any one area.

5. Incorporate effective tax planning

To help maximise real returns and protect your wealth for future generations, factor in tax planning when setting up your portfolio. Look for arrangements that can shelter capital from tax while providing a tax-efficient income, and that enable you to transfer wealth to your beneficiaries with minimal bureaucracy and inheritance taxes.

For expatriates, this is complicated by having to work with the rules of more than one country. An adviser with cross-border expertise can ensure you meet your tax liabilities, in Spain and in the UK, while taking advantage of available opportunities.

6. Regularly review your strategy

Good financial planning is not a 'set and forget' exercise. Your circumstances, aims and requirements usually change over

time. You should review your portfolio around once a year to keep it on track.

The key to bringing all these guidelines together is ensuring you take personalised, expert advice from a regulated adviser.

Whether you are looking at investments, tax planning, estate planning or your pension, it is crucial that your approach is appropriate for you. With the right strategy in place for your life in Spain, you can protect and grow your wealth - in real terms - not only during your lifetime but for the next generations to enjoy.

All advice received from Blevins Franks is personalised and provided in writing. This article, however, should not be construed as providing any personalised taxation or investment advice.

Keep up to date on the financial issues that may affect you on the Blevins Franks news page at www.blevinsfranks.com.

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Caught on the run



Photo credit Policia Nacional

EUROPEAN MANHUNT: Jack Stevens, left, was traced to Estepona after allegedly participating in the murder of Nashon Esbrand, top right, with Jhon Berhane and Dillon Zambon.

A BRITISH fugitive, 19, has been held on the Costa del Sol in connection with the fatal stabbing of a young actor in the London district of Islington.

Jack Stevens, from the Euston neighbourhood in the English capital, is one of five young men suspected of the murder, and was traced to an Estepona housing estate after a European Arrest Warrant was issued in his name.

It comes after Nashon Esbrand, 27, was last August stabbed after receiving death threats from Islington gang the Cally Boyz.

According to a police statement, the quartet chased the victim down on pushbikes before one produced a machete and stabbed him three times.

The father-of-one died of his injuries a few hours later.

Two of the suspects, Dillon Zambon, 19, Jhon Berhane, 18, and a 16-year-old who cannot be named for legal reasons were last month sentenced to a combined 54 years after being convicted of the murder.

And Stevens is one of two others investigators said were on the run at the time of the rulings.

Mr Esbrand was reportedly branded a 'grass' and asked police for help after he began to receive warnings that his life was in danger.

He told his doctor he was

afraid to walk in the street because men had been after him since he gave detectives a witness statement following a violent incident in March 2017.

And on August 24 Stevens and Zambon spotted him as he walked home after visiting his week-old daughter.

They chased him on their bicycles while calling in 'reinforcements,' including Berhane, before cornering him on a doorstep.

He suffered one stab wound to the side and two to the back of his legs as he tried to escape, one of which - delivered by the 16-year-old - punctured an artery in his thigh causing fatal blood loss.

A neighbour recorded the incident on his mobile phone, with the attackers heard to shout: "What are you saying now bruv."

During the trial, jurors heard how the victim was on the phone to his father Desmond, who launched a desperate bid to find him, as the attack took place.

In a distressing victim impact statement he said: "The duty of a parent is to protect their child.

"From the day that I received that call I have felt a sense of guilt because I was the last person he talked to."

Stevens now faces extradition to the UK after an international manhunt led to him being tracked down.

NEWS EXTRA

Inclusive tourism

COUNCILLORS in Almeria City have approved a motion calling for the area to become an 'inclusive' tourist destination, with members of the left-leaning Partido Socialista (PSOE) backing plans to undertake works making getting around the city easier for the disabled.

Book run

ADRA'S council has launched a weekly programme of reading activities aimed at both adults and children visiting the town's beaches, with the 'I Read' initiative set to run in the mornings and afternoons daily throughout the summer.

Elderly aid

HUERCAL-OVERA'S mayor and the town council's welfare spokesperson have unveiled grants to groups putting on activities for the elderly, with €1,700 set to be paid in two instalments marking a 41 per cent increase on last year's figure.

Peace trip

THE head of Almeria's Diputacion has welcomed 71 Sahrawi children from North Africa in the province for the Holidays in Peace 2018 programme, with Gabriel Amat handing out goodie bags and thanking locals for their 'hospitality' towards the visitors.

Smart move

ALMERIA City's mayor-Ramon Fernandez-Pacheco has unveiled eight new 'smart' pedestrian crossings on roads in the area which are designed to light up when walkers approach to warn cars to stop at night.

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NEWS EXTRA**Robotic triumph**

PUPILS and teachers from the Juan XXIII school in Los Gallardos have taken part in a robotics project with the Guadalinfo Centre which saw the students make a model of a road featuring traffic lights and street lamps.

Smart town

A TOTAL of 18 towns in Almeria have opted to be part of a 'Smart Environment' programme which aims to improve the management of their energy supply and security, with the project partly supported by European Union funds.

Chicks born

ENVIRONMENTALISTS working in Roquetas de Mar said they have spotted 14 baby Marbled ducks at the Ribera de la Algaida wetland, with the species classed as critically endangered.

Travel ban lifted

Footy star back in UK as sex probe goes on

By Matt Ford

A CHARLTON ATHLETIC footballer accused of sexually assaulting a British holidaymaker in Ibiza has been allowed to fly back to the UK.

Striker Reeco Hackett-Fairchild, 20, had been unable to leave the island for over a month after a Spanish judge ordered him to hand over his passport.

He missed the start of pre-season training as well as a friendly match against Queens Park Rangers, and was warned he could be forced to stay on the island for months in the wake of the alleged attack on a 19-year-old woman.

However his lawyer Jaime Campaner successfully managed to fight for his travel ban to be lifted and bail conditions changed.

It comes after investigating judge Carmen Martin Montero agreed to watch videos recorded on his and his 20-year-old team-mate Karlan Ahearne-Grant's mobile phones. The pair were arrested on June 12 alongside pal Olusola Odejayi, 26, after the alleged victim's parents told police she



PASSPORT RETURNED: Reeco Hackett-Fairchild was held last month.

had been attacked in a hotel near San Antonio while on a family break.

Detectives were told that one of the men - later identified as Odejayi - then forced himself on the young woman while Hackett-Fairchild held her down and Ahearne-Grant filmed the scene on a mobile phone. But it later emerged that the 'victim' engaged in a sex act with the player before the al-

leged assault, after she confessed to 'kisses and sexual things' when quizzed in court.

Asked to specify what had occurred by Campaner she replied: 'Oral sex.'

She then said she failed to confirm it in her initial police statement due to nerves, while the three men have always maintained their innocence. Hackett-Fairchild has now been al-

lowed to fly back to London after Campaner convinced the judge and state prosecutors to watch the videos, which he earlier claimed would prove the women had consensual sex with two of the accused.

Ibiza's Court of Investigation Number Three is reportedly still waiting for the results of forensic tests, after the medic who examined her last month said there were no signs of injury or bruising to suggest she had been raped.

The judge who initially quizzed the suspects described their version of events as 'credible and coherent,' and said there existed 'reasonable doubts' that a sexual assault had taken place.

Non-footballer Odejayi has also had his travel ban lifted, while Ahearne-Grant remains under investigation for a privacy offence believed to relate to a mobile phone recording he made.

All three must sign on at the Spanish Embassy in London twice-a-month, to date none have been charged.

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NEWS EXTRA**Health staff time claims**

THE Deputy Mayor of Nijar appealed to Junta de Andalucia health officials over claims it took an ambulance more than one hour to attend a 62-year-old man who had a heart attack on Las Negras beach.

Water plan

ALMERIA Province's Water Board has backed plans to ensure the supply of an underground water table is preserved, with officials calling on farmers to reducing the amount drawn from the Poniente aquifer.

New officials

THE new sub-delegates of the Spanish government and of defence in Almeria have been sworn in, with Manuel de la Fuente Arias and Francisco Javier Frias Pardo officially taking up their roles following a ceremony last Friday.

By Matt Ford

THE Irish teenager whose body was recovered from a lake in a Spanish natural park has been named as Joshua Osahon.

The 19-year-old was reportedly born in Nigeria but emigrated to Portlaoise, Leinster with his parents, who have flown to Spain to see his body.

Joshua died on a trip to Las Lagunas de Ruidera in Castilla-La Mancha, between Albacete and Ciudad Real.

He vanished during a post-dinner swim with classmates at La Salvadora lake - one of the 15 lakes that make up the park - with the group failing to notice he was missing because it was dark when they left the water.

But after several minutes they realised he had failed to collect his clothes, sparking a search, with emergency services alerted when he could not be found.

Investigators probing the incident said in a statement they believe he died from natural causes after suffering a cramp or cardiac arrest since the lake is a popular, safe bathing spot



LAKE TRAGEDY: The unnamed victim is thought to have drowned while swimming.

Irish teen named Victim drowned on summer camp

and the victim is believed to have been a strong swimmer.

His body was found by a team including Guardia Civil and Civil Protection officers, firefighters and country rangers watched by a crowd of onlookers.

The fire brigade tweeted the search had ended 'with an un-

desirable ending for everyone.'

A post mortem examination at an Albacete hospital is expected to reveal the cause of death.

Sources confirmed he was participating in the Spanish Ministry of Education's Inter-way language programme,

during which Spanish students are taught by Irish volunteers while participating in leisure activities.

The group had been staying at the Retiro de Don Quijote holiday camp in nearby Villanueva de los Infantes.

Francisco Garcia Cano, a councillor Ossa de Montiel,

the municipality where the tragedy occurred, confirmed Joshua's parents had arrived after flying into Madrid.

He said: "It appears the alarm was sounded as the foreign volunteers and Spaniards the Irish lad was with were picking up their belongings and heading back to their coach.

"There were a lot of people in the water and they hadn't noticed anything was amiss until they realised one of the party was missing."

The Guardia Civil said in a statement the victim was travelling on an Irish passport.

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A MUM who downed three quarters of a bottle of sangria, then was given a tranquilliser by doctors, has been spared jail after attacking her husband on an easyJet flight.

Sharon Simmonite, 46, was arrested at John Lennon Airport, Liverpool, after she lost control of her

Mile high drama

emotions while jetting home from a holiday in Mallorca.

A court heard that events began to get out of control soon after the couple arrived

at Palma airport around 9pm on April 13. Simmonite made a trip to the loos and when she came back five to 10 minutes later her husband, Martin, noticed a change in her behaviour.

He believed that she had finished off the contents of the bottle of sangria, which he had earlier seen in her bag - al-

though she denied this.

Soon after she fell, and doctors called to the scene to treat her bruising decided to give Simmonite, who was said to be upset and angry, a tranquilliser to calm her.

The couple later boarded the flight with one of their young children, where, according to the prosecution, she seemed relaxed.

But it turns out it was the calm before the storm,

Liverpool magistrates heard.

When cabin crew came round offering refreshments Simmonite asked for four glasses of wine. When she was refused service, with crew explaining easyJet does not serve alcohol on the Mallorca route, she became angry, according to the prosecution.

She then accused her husband of telling staff not to

serve her booze before rummaging through galley lockers in a search for alcohol.

Crew intervened and asked her to go back to her seat. On her return she struck her husband on the arm with a clenched fist five or six times, the court heard.

Cabin crew once more intervened and moved Mr Simmonite and the couple's son to seats at the front of the plane.

Simmonite, of Middlewich, Cheshire, admitted being drunk on an aircraft and assaulting her husband.

For the defence, it was said she had been a heavy drinker for years and suffered from an eating disorder. The court was told she had not eaten for 10 days and was drunk on arrival at Palma airport.

The defence said she had shown remorse and that she was a vulnerable woman.

Magistrates sentenced her to eight weeks jail, suspended for two years. She was also handed a rehabilitation order.



FLIGHTMARE: The incident took place on an easyJet flight.

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Holiday hell

Tourist hurt 'taking selfie'



RESCUE: Santa Barbara Castle.

A TOURIST who toppled off the walls of Alicante's Santa Barbara castle probably lost balance while he was taking a selfie, say police.

Firefighters had to call in a helicopter to rescue the 23-year-old Italian man after he had plunged 25 metres at the city landmark perched on top of Monte Benacantil.

The man had suffered a traumatic brain injury and

multiple injuries to his body. Hospital authorities have not given an update on his condition.

Personnel from the Provincial Consortium rescue group joined firefighters in the rescue operation in an area 'of difficult access' on the steep slopes beneath the walls of the castle.

A castle worker alerted Local Police to the incident, saying there was an injured person

in the Baluarte de la Mina area. Medics stabilised the man's condition before he was flown to San Vicente Park, where an ambulance was waiting.

Rescue workers launched an investigation, where they discounted that he may have jumped or fallen while climbing. They have concluded he most likely slipped and fell while taking a selfie with his mobile phone.



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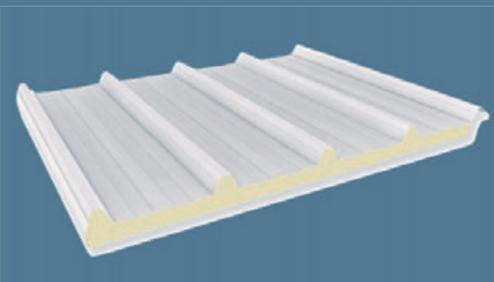
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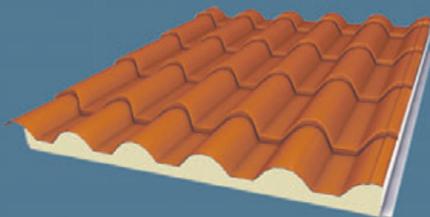
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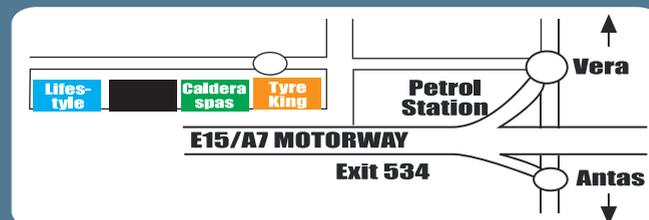


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Sex shaman held

Suspect 'drugged and sexually abused' victims

By Dilip Kuner

A SO-CALLED shaman has been arrested accused of drugging a string of women with methamphetamine (crystal meth) before sexually abusing them.

The 52-year-old man is alleged by police to have gained the confidence of his victims by passing himself off as a South American mystic who could help them through courses related to meditation and spirituality.

In fact, police allege, he was searching for women of a certain profile - usually around 45-years-old - to drug, sexually abuse and extort money from.

The Spanish Ministry of the Interior says the man and two accomplices - a woman of 43 and man of 40 - set up a network of 'spiritual' meetings across Spain using local WhatsApp groups to lure their victims.

At the meetings the women



Photo credit Policia Nacional

ARREST: The man was held in Mallorca.

were initially offered meditation and spirituality courses, but were soon being given a drink the accused dubbed 'Water of Love.' It was in fact a highly potent cocktail of methamphetamine diluted in water.

The victims were given free access to the meetings to start with, but were soon being charged between €100 and €175 for attending.

Meetings took place against a backdrop of relaxing music or drums, while during the celebrations the shaman offered his vic-

tims the Water of Love. He assured them it would 'liberate love,' although his real intention was to assault them.

What began as liturgical celebrations ended up becoming events where both the leader of the organisation and his accomplices distributed drugs to their victims.

Marihuana, the powerful hallucinogenic DMT, the San Pedro cactus - also known as peyote - and psychedelic mushrooms were amongst the narcotics handed out.

Police consider that the shaman endangered the lives of his victims as some of them suffered psychological problems, schizophrenic outbreaks and emotional dependence after the ceremonies.

In some case women suffered breathing problems during the rituals.

So far seven victims have been identified, although police believe the trio operated across all of Spain.

The police operation was carried out by the Judicial Police Brigades of the Provincial Police Station of Alicante and that of the Superior Headquarters of the Balearic Islands, who tracked the trio for months.

The leader of the gang and one accomplice were arrested in Mallorca, while the third arrest was made in Santander.

They have been charged with drug trafficking, fraud and belonging to a criminal group.

Balcony plunge horror

Victim third killed at complex this year

By Karl Smallman

AN 18-year-old student from South Wales has fallen to his death from a walkway at an apartment complex in Mallorca while celebrating completing his A-levels.

Thomas Channon plunged 70-feet to his death at the Eden Roc apartment complex in Magaluf where Natalie Cormack and Tom Hughes also died earlier this year

Thomas is believed to have become separated from his friends during a night out and got lost as he made his way home at about 4am to the Hotel Florida, which is next door to the Eden Roc apartments.

In April Natalie Cormack from Scotland died after falling the equivalent of seven floors from the same



Photo credit Google/Facebook

BRITISH STUDENT DIES: Thomas Channon fell at the Eden Roc apartments.

apartment block.

And last month Tom Hughes, aged 20, from North Wales also died at the Eden Roc complex.

British diplomats have

recently had an emergency meeting with Spanish officials to try and cut the number of balcony falls in the resort popular with young holidaymakers.



Photo credit Twitter

DON'T FLUSSSSH: The python emerges from the loo.

Snakes alive!

A WOMAN has found a python in the S-bend of her toilet in Spain when she went to the bathroom.

But she calmly rolled up her sleeves and released the snake that had recently eaten a rat and was wedged tight in the pipe.

The incident, that would normally send people running in horror, happened in Lorca in the province of Murcia in southern Spain.

But the woman who found the python used to keep snakes and remained calm.

It is believed the snake had escaped from the flat of an upstairs neighbour.



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**DRAMATIC SCENE:** Calle San Juan.

Hero catches toddler

TRAGEDY was averted when a passer-by managed to catch a three-year-old boy who had plunged off the balcony of a second floor apartment.

A man walking along Calle San Juan in Puerto Mazarrón, Murcia, was alerted to the youngster's plight by the screams of witnesses. The quick thinking hero managed to position himself and catch the boy in mid air. It is thought the youngster hit a first-floor balcony railing, helping to break his fall.

The boy's parents were blissfully unaware of the drama as they sat inside their apartment, not

realising their son had made his way onto the balcony and was in mortal danger.

The heroic passer-by, who has not been named, immediately phoned the emergency services. When Guardia Civil arrived they found 'the child was fine,' according to a police spokesman. The boy was still taken to hospital as a precaution.

Now Guardia Civil have opened an investigation, although they do not anticipate making any charges, said the spokesman. He explained: "There is no responsibility on the part of the parents, as it is an oversight. It would be different if they were not at home at the time it happened."

Marina is on cruise control

THIS Friday the port of Almería will receive some 1,900 passengers from two cruise ships.

The ships Sirena and Marella Spirit will be carrying 900 crew between them, and will visit the city before moving on to Ibiza and Ceuta respectively.

The first to arrive will be the Sirena, from the Oceania Cruises company, heading over from Gibraltar and is scheduled to arrive at 8am, departing to Ibiza at 4pm.

It has capacity for 684 passengers and 400 crew members, and is the most recent addition to the Oceania Cruises fleet.

The ship boasts elegant sleeping quarters, defined by the use of polished wood and a navy blue colour theme.

**SIRENA:** The cruise ship will be the first to arrive in the port of Almería.

It has a range of popular restaurants and entertainment comes in the form of live music shows, a casino, and a nightclub.

An hour later, at 9am, the Marella Spirit cruise ship of the Marella Cruises shipping company, will dock at Almería port.

It will be carrying more than 1,200 British passengers and about 500 crew members, and coming from Ibiza.

The ship has six bars, two swimming pools, musical entertainment and a cinema, and will sail on to Ceuta at 6pm.

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Leader of Peruvian sect remanded

By Dilip Kuner

THE leader of a sect who allegedly held an Elche woman captive for a year-and-a-half has been remanded in custody for nine months by a court in Peru.

The judge decreed that Félix Steven Manrique should remain in custody and at the same time gave prosecutors four months to conclude the investigation as well as to prepare and present evidence.

Patricia Aguilar has become a cause célèbre in Spain and abroad after her family undertook a long campaign to secure her freedom from the clutches of the sect called Gnosis.

The 18-year-old had left her Elche home in 2017

and is thought to have been persuaded to travel to Peru to join Gnosis. Once there, it is alleged she was not permitted to leave.

Her father, however, started a search for her, and his efforts eventually paid off after a year of relentless effort including two visits to the Andean country. Police found her in a house hidden away in the San Martín de Pangoa jungle, 500 kilometres away from where she had last been sighted.

There they found her looking after the children of other women, several of whom had also been reported as 'disappeared.' She is also a mother herself now, with a child born just two months ago.

The investigation is looking at the alleged illegal detention of Aguilar and two other women by the



JUNGLE HIDEOUT: The property where Felix Manrique (inset left) was allegedly holding Patricia Aguilar (inset right).

sect led by Manrique.

The women are in the care of Peru's Ministry of Women, where they will get psychological help in order to break this link with the leader of the sect.

At the moment, both she and her daughter are recovering from chronic malnutrition they suffered due to the extreme conditions in which they lived in the middle of the jungle.

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MEMBERS of the Mojacar Royal British Legion branch are to join thousands on a pilgrimage of Remembrance to a First World War battlefield that culminates in a parade and ceremony in Ypres as part of the end of the First World War centenary commemorations this August.

The Royal British Legion event, known as Great Pilgrim-

100 years on

age 90 (GP90), takes place from August 5-9 and will be one of the largest in the charity's history.

GP90 will mark 90 years since the original Royal British Legion Pilgrimage in 1928, which saw 11,000 First World War veterans and war widows visit the battlefields of the Somme in France and Ypres in Belgium, a decade after the conflict ended.

Local Legion members Michael and Christine Coote will represent the Mojacar Branch and the local community at the event, as Standard Bearer and wreath layer, respectively.

The pair will tour some of the same battlefields and cemeteries visited by those in 1928, before marching along the original route through Ypres, to the

Menin Gate on August 8 bearing their branch standard and a wreath.

They will join more than 2,200 other Legion representatives and dignitaries, including civic and military guests from the UK, Commonwealth and Northern Europe taking part.

Andrew Richardson, Chairman of the Mojacar Branch of The Royal British Legion, said: "Great Pilgrimage 90 is a unique opportunity for the Legion community to come together and bear our Standards along the same route in Ypres taken 90 years earlier by the veterans and widows of the First World War.

"The Mojacar Branch looks forward to proudly representing Mojacar at the event."

As local champions of Remembrance, Mojacar RBL is

looking to work in partnership with their community to bring their unique Remembrance message to the Menin Gate on their wreath, where it will be displayed in an installation for viewing by the general public until the end of August.

The parade will start at mid-day and we encourage the public to make the trip across to Ypres for August 8 and fill the Market Square to watch the parade, One Hundred Days ceremony and then enjoy an afternoon of musical entertainment including The Central Band of the Royal British Legion.

If you want to find out more about GP90 or your local Royal British Legion branch, then please visit: www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/mojacar.



STEEPED IN HISTORY: The event will mark the First World War centenary.

PROCEEDS from a new art exhibition

dubbed 'Origen' [Origin] at the Convento de la Victoria in Vera will be donated to the PAWS-PATA animal charity. Photographer Manuel Villamil and painter and filmmaker

Artists help animals

Cristina Gomez will display their work

until July 28. Further information is available from the website: <http://www.vera.es/turismo/index.php?page=monumentos&subpage=&id=5> or by calling 950 392 457.



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FRANCE**Cup winners**

THOUSANDS of people took to the streets of cities across France after its team bested Croatia to take home the World Cup trophy last Sunday, with the victory the second for the country following their first win in 1998.

Cars burn

AUTHORITIES have claimed vandals torched a total of 845 vehicles during Bastille Day celebrations which took place last Friday and Saturday, with 237 people including 92 youths arrested in connection with the violence.

Vive le tech

JOHN CHAMBERS, the head of the Cisco technology company, has claimed 'everything has changed' in France for the industry as a result of reforms introduced by President Emmanuel Macron aimed to draw firms to the country.

Migrant deal

FRANCE, Germany and Malta have each agreed to take 50 migrants out of 450 picked up off the Italian coast, with Italy's Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte requesting that European Union member states share the responsibility.



VICTORIOUS: Paris was filled with revellers last Sunday.

GERMANY**Trump poll**

ALMOST two thirds of Germans surveyed in a recent YouGov poll said they thought United States President Donald Trump was a greater threat to world security than his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

Sea rescue

COASTGUARDS have pulled a father and his two sons out of the

North Sea off the coast of Germany after they were caught in a freak tide, with the 39, nine and five-year-olds in danger of drowning.

'Risk' claims

THE head of Germany's central bank has warned lawmakers of a rising risk that global economic growth will slow down, with Jens Weidmann's comments coming as the

Bundesbank cut its growth forecast due to political and trade concerns.

Game changer

BERLIN authorities have signed off a €1.58 million grant to the video games firm Ubisoft's German division based in the city, with the firm having announced plans to create 150 new jobs in their studio there.

NETHERLANDS**Company move**

BRITISH shareholders of the Unilever cosmetics company have questioned whether a proposal to move the firm's headquarters from their country to the Netherlands is in their interests, with the support of 75 per cent of stock owners needed.

Series shoot

MEDIA firm Netflix has announced it is going to make an English language adaptation of the popular Dutch novel *The Letter for the King*, with shooting due to begin in New Zealand before the end of this year.

Field fire

FIREFIGHTERS were called out to the Echt area after a blaze broke out in a barley field in the town of Limburg, with residents of Maasmechelen and Maaseik reportedly able to see the plume of smoke from those areas.

Sex campaign

AUTHORITIES in the Netherlands have launched an awareness drive calling on holidaymakers to alert them to 'sex tourists' seeking to exploit children, with the Do Not Look Away campaign now running for the third consecutive year.

DENMARK**Eco boats**

A SHIPBUILDING firm is set to build five zero-emissions electric ferries for the Arriva Danmark public transport firm, with the Damen Ferry 2306 E3 vessels due to carry passengers in and out of the capital of Copenhagen.

Health study

RESEARCHERS at a Danish health body have published the findings of a study into conditions such as autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), with scientists from the Roskilde-based Institute of Biological Psychiatry claiming chromosome mutations were linked to their development.

Flu fence

NATURE authorities are set to put up a fence on Denmark's border with Germany in a bid to stop wild boar infected with swine flu coming into the country after lawmakers passed measures designed to contain the illness last month.

Bad landing

POLICE were called out to a farm near Middelfart after a paraglider crash landed into a slurry pit, with officers having to help him out of the tank but the man left unscathed.

NORWAY**Suspect held**

PROSECUTORS have told the press a 17-year-old has been held in connection with the death of an 18-year-old in an alleged stabbing in Vadso, with authorities still probing the details of the incident.

Trade warning

AN economics expert has claimed Norway will 'certainly' be affected by the 'trade war' between the United States and China, with Olav Chen's warning coming as the US government slapped tariffs worth more than €29 billion on Chinese goods last week.

Strike talks

TRADE UNION bosses representing oil drilling workers in Norway have said they are considering extending strikes to cover all of its 2,250 members, with Safe's Reidun Ravndal's comments coming as 1,600 are already set to walk out.

'Bond' praise

JAMES MATTIS, the Defence Secretary of the United States, has lauded the relationship between his country and Norway after meeting with counterpart Frank Bakke-Jensen in Oslo and praising the country's commitment to global peace.

SWEDEN**War 'plans'**

DEFENCE officials at the Swedish government have claimed Baltic countries are 'preparing for war' according to quotes from a confidential report recently made public, with fears reportedly growing of Russian aggression in the region.

Bear death

A BEAR run over in a road accident has been shot after police and hunters found it lying on the E4 road between Lulea and Pitea, with a child from the vehicle taken to hospital with neck injuries.

Man charged

AUTHORITIES have charged a 24-year-old man in connection with the death of a 36-year-old in a hotel in the capital of Stockholm, with the suspect's trial for murder due to take place at a Solna District Court.

Drought aid

GOVERNMENT officials have drawn up plans to provide financial help to farmers in the wake of recent droughts in Sweden, with Agriculture Minister Sven-Erik Bucht having discussed the plans with his European Union counterpart last Monday.

BELGIUM**Waste statue**

A SCULPTURE of a whale made out of around 4.5 tonnes of plastic waste pulled from the ocean has appeared in the harbour of Bruges, with the artwork created for the city's 2018 Triennial.

Germs found

EUROPEAN health officials claimed they have found a bacterial infection in crops from a Belgian food company, with the Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) discovery of listeria coming as at least nine Europeans died in connection with the germs.

Prison plea

A MAN jailed for 25 years after being found guilty of kidnapping and holding children and drugs offences could be released early if prison authorities accept his lawyer's request, with Michel Lelievre due to finish his sentence in 2021.

Fake cash

ORGANISERS of the Ghent festival have been asked to remain vigilant after witnesses reported that a forged €20 note was used there, with no other incidents reported on the second day of the event which an estimated 150,000 attended.

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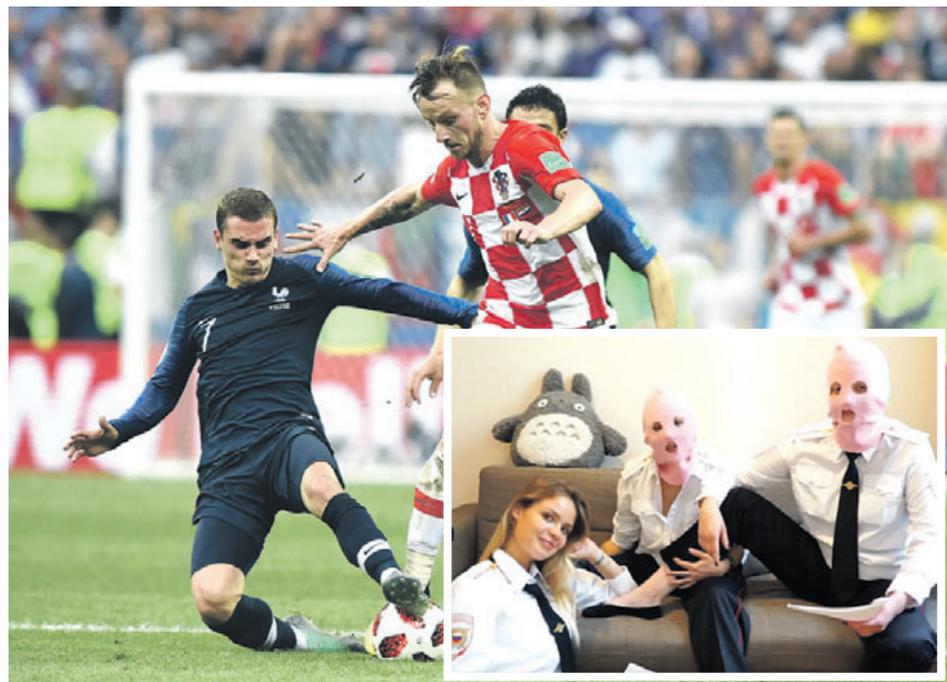
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PITCH INVASION: Pussy Riot (inset) said the protest was against police tactics.

Band storms pitch in police protest

MEMBERS of a punk rock band were taken in to custody after invading the pitch at the World Cup final between France and Croatia in Moscow. The four activists, from the Pussy Riot group, stormed the field dressed as police officers in protest against what they claimed were heavy-handed tactics from authorities including imprisoning opposition figures.

Business figure dies

A BUSINESSMAN tried alongside a political opposition leader in a 2013 embezzlement case has died after being concussed. Pyotr Ofitserov, who was injured in the head, stood trial alongside Alexei Navalny when the two were handed suspended prison sentences. Navalny said Ofitserov was a 'real honest man.'

Downed plane claim

FOREIGN MINISTERS from G7 countries have issued a joint statement calling on Russia to 'account for its role' in the downing of a plane

over Ukraine in 2014. The officials claimed there was 'compelling' evidence Russia had a hand in the Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 crash. Moscow called the claims 'unfounded.'

Spy death vote 'link'

BRITISH investigators probing the alleged poisoning of a former spy and his daughter claimed a Russian military agency was behind that and disrupting the 2016 United States presidential election. Anonymous officials claimed agents from the GRU were involved in both the March 4 attack on Sergei and Yulia Skripal and vote meddling.

EU conflict call

A SENIOR European Union official has called on Russia, Europe, the United States and China to work together to prevent 'conflict and chaos.' Donald Tusk, the European Council President, said the countries had a shared responsibility to make the world better and to stop trade wars turning into 'hot conflicts.'

Bad beehive-our

POLICE in southern Russia were unable to reach the scene of a road accident after swarms of bees attacked them from knocked over hives. Officers were called out to the crash in the Krasnodar region after a lorry carrying the hives hit an off-road vehicle, with no human casualties said to have occurred as a result. Social media buzzed with jokes about the incident including Winnie the Pooh references.

BUZZING: The bees stopped police from getting to the scene.





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STAT OF WEEK

€93 billion

The amount of social security money the new socialist Spanish government claims was 'squandered' by the previous conservative administration headed by ex-Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy.

PM vows to up defence spend

SPANISH Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez has pledged to raise defence spending to 2 per cent of gross domestic product by the year 2024.

The move will see the country's outlay brought into line with its NATO-agreed goal, the leader said during a press conference at a Brussels summit.

It comes after US President Donald Trump's latest call for NATO member states to meet their targets, with only the United States, Britain, Poland, Greece and Estonia currently hitting the mark.

Ryanair staff confirm strikes

BUDGET airline Ryanair is facing more disruption after staff announced a new round of industrial action.

It comes after a trade union announced that Ireland-based pilots will strike for 24 hours tomorrow (Friday) and next Tuesday.

Cabin crew are also set to strike for 48 hours in Spain, Portugal and Belgium and 24 hours in Italy next Wednesday.

The news follows a one-day strike by pilots in protest at their pay and conditions last week after the carrier bowed to pressure from staff to

by *Matt Ford*
recognise unions.

It was forced to cancel 30 flights between Ireland and the UK as a result.

Complaints include a seniority row, plus allocation of base transfers, the structure of promotions and annual leave.

Ryanair apologised in a statement for the 'regrettable disruptions' and pledged to minimise impact on holidaymakers flying to Spain, Portugal, France, Italy and Greece.

But the Irish Pilot's Association announced the two additional days of ac-

tion in the midst of the strike.

It added that while some agreement had been reached in talks a day earlier, there remained a difference of opinion over the terms of reference for a working group to study the pilots' concerns.

Ryanair's chief people officer Eddie Wilson described the meeting as constructive but very frustrating, according to Irish media, adding that the company was available for further discussion.

Last autumn the carrier cancelled hundreds of flights after a rostering blunder saw it left with a lack of crew.

Storms boost green energy

ALMOST half of Spain's electricity was generated from renewable energy sources over the first six months of 2018.

Wind, hydro and solar power together accounted for 45.8 per cent of the country's demand, according to a report by national grid operator Red Electric de España.

It comes after hydropower soared by 74 per cent compared to 2017 in the wake of a wet spring, with the storms also driving a 10.4 per cent surge in wind power, the summary said.

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UK imports salad as heatwave hits crops



TIP OF THE ICEBERG: A lettuce field in Almeria.

THE UK is flying in lettuce from Spain and Poland after warm weather hit crops and increased the demand for salad.

Tony Clemence, general manager of wholesaler Total Produce in Bristol, said the company is importing around 40 per cent of its iceberg lettuce and 40 per cent of celery from the two countries, when all supplies are normally sourced from British growers

during the summer.

"Spain is mainly growing for its local markets at this time of year, so there is not enough to go around and some will have to look further afield," he said.

Wholesale prices have reportedly soared by more than 30 per cent after the recent blast of heat added to problems in March when the 'beast from the east' wave of cold weather delayed planting.

» BUSINESS EXTRA

Market leaders

BANKING group Santander and textile firm Inditex are the only two Spanish brands in the 2018 PricewaterhouseCoopers global top 100 of companies with the highest market capitalisation, which is headed by Apple, Google parent Alphabet and Microsoft.

Cashed in

THE Spanish government has revised its 2018 budget deficit forecast from 2.2 to 2.7 per cent of gross domestic product in order to boost pensions, improve health care and take over toll-motorway concessions, Budget Minister Maria Jesus Montero has announced.

High spies

SPANISH utility Iberdrola is using manhole cover-sized drones to spot faulty solar panels and wind turbines more quickly than telescope-wielding engineers on the ground and bringing down the cost of green electricity, according to innovation and sustainability officer Agustin Delgado.

Bank bags top Euro award

BUSINESS and finance magazine *Euromoney* has named Spain's Santander as the best bank in Western Europe in its prestigious annual awards.

Editor Clive Horwood said: "[Santander] is already one of the few big banks to prove that internationally diversified retail banks can be more profitable, and more stable, than domestic-

focused peers. Now it is in its rightful place, not just Spain's biggest bank, but also the one with the biggest domestic share, too."

Santander Group CEO Jose Antonio Alvarez said, "Our goal is to help the people and businesses we serve to prosper, and I am proud of the work our people do every day to support that goal and earn the loyalty of our customers."



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LONDON - FTSE 100

CLOSING PRICES JULY 16

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Anglo American	1,649.10	-8.10	-0.49	23,313.57
Associated British Foods	2,455.00	-9.00	-0.37	19,649.35
Admiral Group	1,918.50	-29.50	-1.51	5,564.91
Ashtead Group	2,366.00	11.00	0.47	11,441.35
Antofagasta	946.20	1.60	0.17	9,340.01
Aviva	490.50	0.90	0.18	19,374.16
AstraZeneca	5,518.00	16.00	0.29	68,830.51
BAE Systems	674.30	2.90	0.43	21,331.20
Barclays	189.83	0.15	0.08	32,423.54
British American Tobacco	3,911.00	-14.50	-0.37	90,074.35
Barratt Developments	520.40	3.20	0.62	5,164.89
Berkeley Group Holdings	3,624.00	4.00	0.11	4,854.73
British Land Co	656.80	0.40	0.06	6,438.90
BHP Billiton	1,644.30	-5.90	-0.36	34,997.03
Bunzl	2,308.00	6.00	0.26	7,734.80
BP	569.65	-1.15	-0.20	114,209.28
Burberry Group	2,113.00	5.00	0.24	8,565.87
BT Group	222.70	0.30	0.13	22,190.34
Coca-Cola HBC	2,753.00	5.00	0.18	10,083.35
Carnival	4,318.00	2.00	0.05	7,755.89
Centrica	161.10	0.95	0.59	9,053.01
Compass Group	1,667.50	1.50	0.09	26,115.46
Croda International	4,940.50	7.50	0.15	6,472.89
CRH	2,686.00	-5.00	-0.19	22,482.58
DCC	7,270.00	115.00	1.61	6,163.21
Diageo	2,815.75	11.75	0.42	68,530.84
Direct Line Insurance Grp	338.55	0.85	0.25	4,617.25
Evrax	520.90	-1.10	-0.21	7,326.39
Experian	1,916.50	9.50	0.50	17,620.50
easyJet	1,632.75	2.75	0.17	6,432.79
Ferguson	6,241.50	3.50	0.06	14,251.76
Fresnillo	1,094.00	-3.00	-0.27	8,161.10
Glencore	310.68	-2.32	-0.74	45,800.67
GlaxoSmithKline	1,575.20	-0.80	-0.05	78,197.27
GVC Holdings	1,098.00	-2.00	-0.18	6,394.22
Hargreaves Lansdown	2,003.00	-54.00	-2.63	9,789.94
Halma	1,375.50	8.50	0.62	5,178.31
HSBC Holdings	708.50	0.20	0.03	141,823.56
International Consoltd Airl Grp	672.40	4.20	0.63	13,487.78
InterContinental Hotels Grp	4,888.50	8.50	0.17	9,186.48
3i Group	907.30	-0.10	-0.01	8,810.70
Imperial Brands	2,876.00	7.00	0.24	27,682.22
Informa	860.30	1.30	0.15	10,750.74
Intertek Group	5,811.00	49.00	0.85	9,205.86
ITV	175.55	0.45	0.26	7,068.62
Just Eat	849.60	9.20	1.09	5,762.80
Johnson Matthey	3,689.00	24.00	0.65	6,928.50
Kingfisher	308.75	0.25	0.08	6,581.35
Land Securities Group	948.50	2.20	0.23	7,020.14
Legal & General Group	265.55	-0.45	-0.17	15,829.42

COMPANY	PRICE(P)	CHANGE(P)	% CHG.	NET VOL
Lloyds Banking Group ORD	62.69	0.28	0.45	44,850.06
London Stock Exchange Grp	4,519.50	-0.50	-0.01	15,711.60
Micro Focus International	1,227.00	-51.50	-4.03	5,330.01
Marks & Spencer Group	315.45	0.95	0.30	5,088.83
Mondi	2,029.00	0.00	0.00	7,477.02
Melrose	220.75	1.15	0.52	10,366.32
Morrison (Wm) Supermarkets	256.90	0.60	0.23	6,031.37
National Grid	856.20	-0.40	-0.05	28,915.63
NMC Health	3,698.00	8.00	0.22	7,603.85
Next	6,105.00	-1.00	-0.02	8,461.16
Ocado Group	1,038.50	9.00	0.87	7,104.88
Paddy Power Betfair	8,455.00	20.00	0.24	7,096.41
Prudential	1,722.50	-3.50	-0.20	44,696.85
Persimmon	2,488.00	6.00	0.24	7,773.87
Pearson	914.70	5.90	0.65	7,102.57
Reckitt Benckiser Group	6,488.00	23.00	0.36	45,899.41
Royal Bank of Scotland Grp	246.50	0.80	0.33	29,576.46
Royal Dutch Shell	2,649.25	3.75	0.14	120,927.66
Royal Dutch Shell	2,733.50	2.50	0.09	102,214.33
RELX	1,709.75	7.25	0.43	17,662.07
Rio Tinto	4,023.75	-15.75	-0.39	53,130.97
Royal Mail	488.00	0.90	0.18	4,855.00
Rightmove	5,148.00	42.00	0.82	4,629.63
Rolls-Royce Group	995.50	4.70	0.47	18,527.57
Randgold Resources	5,468.00	-12.00	-0.22	5,258.26
RSA Insurance Group	646.30	-0.30	-0.05	6,663.66
Rentokil Initial	352.35	2.55	0.73	6,436.92
Sainsbury (J)	329.85	0.45	0.14	7,214.59
Schroders	3,154.50	-6.50	-0.21	7,112.93
Sage Group (The)	622.10	2.70	0.44	6,776.51
Segro	676.70	2.70	0.40	6,796.24
Shire	4,363.50	23.50	0.54	39,631.66
Smurfit Kappa Group	3,137.00	-9.00	-0.29	7,424.72
Sky	1,541.50	6.50	0.42	26,558.82
Standard Life Aberdeen	310.20	-2.40	-0.77	9,307.92
Smith (DS)	483.30	-6.60	-1.35	5,204.21
Smiths Group	1,748.00	13.00	0.75	6,811.05
Scottish Mortgage Invstmnt Trst	550.00	-0.27	-0.05	7,781.95
Smith & Nephew	1,349.00	4.00	0.30	11,758.31
SSE	1,388.25	1.25	0.09	14,121.27
Standard Chartered	671.40	0.40	0.06	22,303.79
St James's Place	1,176.75	-1.75	-0.15	6,227.34
Severn Trent	1,940.50	-0.50	-0.03	4,560.93
Tesco	256.30	0.90	0.35	24,995.97
TUI AG	1,643.25	1.75	0.11	9,709.51
Taylor Wimpey	176.03	0.03	0.02	5,742.37
Unilever	4,200.00	2.00	0.05	50,475.85
United Utilities Group	734.80	0.80	0.11	5,011.88
Vodafone Group	181.63	0.13	0.07	48,769.96
WPP Group	1,242.00	-3.00	-0.24	15,469.29
Whitbread	4,013.50	13.50	0.34	7,417.93

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CLOSING PRICES JULY 16

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE%	CHANGE	VOLUME(M)
3M	201,180	+0.93%	1,860	119,439,01
AMERICAN EXPRESS	100,5000	-0.64%	-0,6500	86,449,19
APPLE	191,330	+0.16%	0,300	940,413,35
BOEING CO	350,790	+1.38%	4,760	204,363,58
CATERPILLAR	140,750	+0.95%	1,330	84,161,43
CISCO SYSTEMS	41,780	-4.13%	-1,800	196,486,41
COCA-COLA	44,74	+0.16%	0,07	190,380,45
DOWDUPONT	66,36	+0.17%	0,11	153,984,20
EXXON MOBIL	83,31	+0.75%	0,62	352,720,75
GOLDMAN SACHS	226,41	-0.36%	-0,81	85,519,15
HOME DEPOT	198,6900	+0.37%	0,7400	229,197,58
IBM	145,90	-0.38%	-0,55	133,931,58
INTEL CORP	52,2200	-0.25%	-0,1300	243,345,20
J.P.MORGAN CHASE	106,3600	-0.46%	-0,4900	362,132,07
JOHNSON & JOHNSON	125,9300	-1.43%	-1,8300	337,763,14
MC DONALD'S CORP	158,5100	-0.38%	-0,6100	124,458,47
MERCK AND CO. NEW	62,89	+0.37%	0,23	169,220,12
MICROSOFT	105,430	+1.19%	1,240	810,039,57
NIKE	77,38	+0.01%	0,01	99,254,83
PFIZER	37,5300	+0.03%	0,0100	219,534,40
PROCTER AND GAMBLE	79,310	+0.53%	0,420	199,432,88
VERIZON COMMS	51,41	+0.33%	0,17	212,379,48
VISA	139,42	-0.34%	-0,48	248,937,65
WAL-MART STORES	87,7000	+1.36%	1,1800	258,789,05
WALGREENS BOOTS	65,17	+2.02%	1,29	64,675,48
WALT DISNEY CO	110,0000	+1.62%	1,7500	163,527,69

M - MILLION DOLLARS

NASDAQ

CLOSING PRICES JULY 16

COMPANY	PRICE	CHANGE NET / %
Most Advanced		
SIGA Technologies Inc.	\$ 7.35	1.11 ▲ 17.79%
Inflix N.V.	\$ 33.84	3.53 ▲ 11.65%
Magenta Therapeutics, Inc.	\$ 13.36	1.28 ▲ 10.60%
Ovid Therapeutics Inc.	\$ 11	1.05 ▲ 10.55%
Yangtze River Port and Logistics Limited	\$ 11.81	1.11 ▲ 10.37%
Zogenix, Inc.	\$ 61.35	5.45 ▲ 9.75%
Xenon Pharmaceuticals Inc.	\$ 10.55	0.90 ▲ 9.33%
ObsEva SA	\$ 16.33	1.37 ▲ 9.16%
AcelRx Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$ 3.20	0.25 ▲ 8.47%
Educational Development Corporation	\$ 18.90	1.45 ▲ 8.31%
TransGlobe Energy Corporation	\$ 4.05	0.29 ▲ 7.71%
Most Declined		
China TechFaith Wireless Com Tech Limited	\$ 2.51	0.49 ▼ 16.33%
Gogo Inc.	\$ 4.04	0.78 ▼ 16.18%
Emmis Communications Corporation	\$ 4.41	0.61 ▼ 12.15%
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Fine mess for mobile users

DRIVERS CAUGHT ON PHONE TO PAY MORE

DRIVERS caught using their mobile phones in Spain are set to face heavier fines.

It comes after Pere Navarro, the new head of the national traffic authority (DGT), announced plans to reduce the number of fatal accidents on the country's roads.

The DGT is hoping to change existing laws so that offending motorists also receive more than the current three penalty points on their licence if caught chatting or texting.

Financial penalties for recurring or infractions considered dangerous will also be stiffened, but are set to be reduced for less dangerous offences.

Drivers told to take refresher courses will also be handed eight penalty points rather than the current four.

Distractions at the wheel are the leading cause of fatalities on Spanish roads ahead of drink driving and speeding, the official said.

"We're going to update the point-based licence. After 12 years, my own roadmap says we need to stop, take stock and use our accumulated experience to update and review the system,"



GOOD CALL: New DGT chief Pere Navarro has big plans.

he added at a press conference discussing fatal traffic accidents in 2017.

Navarro was previously in charge of the DGT under former socialist leader Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, between 2004 and 2012, when the points-based penalty system was

first introduced in Spain.

He last week accepted an offer from Pedro Sanchez' new government to re-assume the post in the wake of Mariano Rajoy's conservative People's Party being ousted from office.

"When it comes to road safety, our

indicator is very visible: the death toll. The figures set our path for us," he said. "We need to do something about secondary roads, we need to do something about motorcycles, we need to do something about cities, about distractions, about pedestrians."

The official pointed out that 46 per cent of those who died on Spanish roads last year were pedestrians, cyclists or motorcycle riders.

He added: "This trend is on the rise, which means that in two to three years there are going to be more deaths among these vulnerable groups than among drivers of four-wheel vehicles."

The points-based system came into effect on July 1, 2006, with 75 per cent of Spanish drivers failing to pick up a single point over its first decade.

Spain currently ranks eighth in the European Union for road safety, three places lower than last year, although the death rate of 39 per million inhabitants is beneath the bloc's average of 50.

"It's true that we're on the good side of the European average," said Navarro. "We're very good at road safety."

Airlines' merger unveiled

IRISH carrier Cityjet and Spain's Air Nostrum have announced a deal to create the largest pan-European regional airline group.

The two airlines will cooperate closely under a new umbrella holding company, according to a Cityjet statement.

Between them, the pair will have a combined fleet of almost 100 aircraft and annual revenues of around €700 million.

Cityjet employs 1,250 people across nine European countries and its regional network includes provision of services via wet lease contracts with Air France, Brussels Airlines and SAS.

Its fleet includes more than 40 aircraft including 22 new Bombardier CRJ900 regional jets.

Air Nostrum has more than 1,250 employees, is the regional operator for Iberia and flies to more than 60 destinations in Europe and Africa.



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If only snowflakes would melt away ...

LEAPY LEE SAYS IT

OTHERS THINK IT



ONE of the real problems with the social media is that it allows the snowflakes and bordering nutters to seek each other out.

Whereas, at one time someone with totally off-the-wall ideas would hardly come across any like-minded individuals, they can now contact them at the touch of a button.

It stands to reason, if you can air your views to everyone in and around your vicinity, or indeed the whole country, you are going to find more supporters than standing on a street corner banging a drum and handing out leaflets.

Although there seems to be a positive glut of gaggle heads these days, there are in fact no more than there ever were, they are just a bit more linked up that's all. Solo individuals have now turned into 'minority groups' and we all know they are a part of the 'flavour' who seem to get all the preferential treatment these days!

This latest bunch are a glaring example. Drunk with the power of getting national media coverage to get wolf whistles classed as a criminal offence, they are now advocating that ANY praise by male of the species, including reference to articles of dress or attire, be classed as a misogynistic 'hate crime.' I say Miss, 'What a lovely pair of



GIVE ME A BREAK: Is a man complimenting a woman really committing a hate crime?

shoes your wearing. Where did you get them?' 'Help. Police. Hate Crime. Hate crime in progress.' Doo da, doo da give us a break.

I suppose praise from a female is ok? Well be a bit careful lady, the woman admiring your hat at Ascot could be a gender bender; another load of codswallop dreamed up by these people.

To be honest I'm surprised most of 'em even have the courage to walk out of their own front doors. Some of their projects can be very dangerous indeed.

They all seem to have completely one-track minds and, because they all appear to suffer complexes of inferiority and inadequacy, are com-

pletely unable to accept, or even listen to any other points of view.

One example is their ongoing insistence that babies, and young children, who show a tendency to play with toys or enjoy dressing up and indulging in the games of their opposite sex, should be immediately and relentlessly encouraged to grow up in that sexual gender.

This was recently shot down by one eminent psychiatrist who, on examining a young boy who showed a great deal of interest in feminine toys, etc, had in fact a younger sister who suffered from a debilitating illness. This led to the parents showing her more attention than they had the older lad.

In the little boy's mind he interpreted this as a favouritism towards girls. He thought that if he acted more like a girl, he would attract the same attention as his sister. It had nothing to do with his gender whatsoever!

Oh yes, these sorry snowflakes are dangerous alright. And terrible wasters of our most precious possession: Time. Why don't they all stick on a burka and move into areas where they will not be noticed by anyone? And certainly not listened to!

Dream on Leapy.

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TECH FOR THE TIMID



Gorilla in our pockets

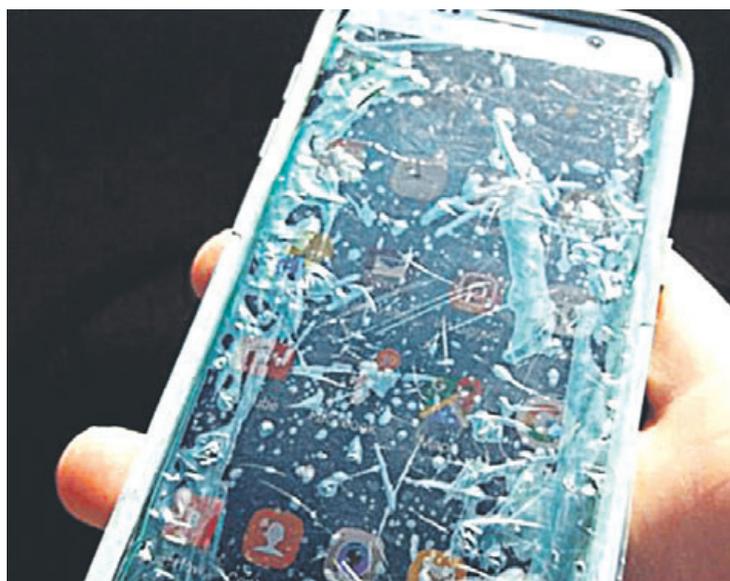
A touch of glass or plastic fantastic, asks Terence Kennedy

I'M showing my age, but a catchphrase in the classic Goon Show was often: 'Have a gorilla,' and its stock response, 'No thanks, I've just put one out.'

These days we carry a gorilla in our pockets - at least if we have a reasonably new smartphone. Gorilla Glass is what's often on the front, supposedly tougher than the bourgeois stuff and designed to resist anything from the average drop (yeah, dream on) to the steady build-up of fingerprint residue or coin and key scratches. Sadly, as we spot that first heart-wrenching gouge, it doesn't.

A gung-ho friend insists he buys gadgets to use them. Given that he makes a more honest living than I do, producing physical stuff where I just describe it, after a month of unforgiving use his new phones look like they came straight off a Bangalore e-waste dump.

Like choosing to coddle or not coddle your phone with a fancy genuine imitation leather case, cossetting your Gorilla Glass with a screen protector is a personal preference. That gives rise to one of the great existen-



OOPS: 'Scream' protector needed!

tial questions of our time: glass or plastic?

Plastic screen-protector films are refreshingly cheap, last longer than their glass equivalents, and will actually give the device a tiny bit extra impact resistance. And they're reusable.

On the downside they may give your finger a slightly rougher 'slide' on the screen because they're not as smooth. You need to clean them more often and longer than their glass counterparts.

The deal-breaker for me: if anyone insists they have a foolproof way of

putting one on which won't leave bubbles, they're probably lying.

Tempered-glass protectors are (much) more expensive than those cheap-as-chips plastic films, they look great, they're slightly thicker, they're unlikely to affect the screen's clarity and your finger gets a smoother ride. They are also slower to accumulate fingerprints.

Most boast so-called 9H hardness, with their adspreak claiming only a diamond will scratch them. Believe that and I have a bridge to sell you.

They will indeed resist minor scratching, but on the downside if you drop the phone they are prone to cracking. As on a car's windscreen, a crack will often spread inexorably. And once a glass protector is on your phone you're unlikely to get it off without snapping it.

The bottom line: plastic lasts longer, glass looks better.

Or you could just adopt my manual-labouring friend's cavalier attitude summed up in that Cat Stevens song from the 60's: *The First Cut is the Deepest*. After that, who cares?

Screen test

SADLY, if you have one of the growing number of curved-edge smartphone screens, few screen protectors can cope with the curvature. You're generally left with bare edges which may lift slightly or collect fluff over time.

Like the screens themselves, glass protectors come as either tempered, or Gorilla which is also tempered but has been chemically treated to make it stronger.

Every decent screen protector has an 'oleophobic coating' for fingerprint resistance, sprayed on (for the cheapies), or applied statically. But here's the kicker: neither coating lasts more than a few months at best.

Then again, if you believe some pundits, neither will the coating on your actual smartphone screen. If that bothers you, buy a touch-screen stylus and never put digit to screen again.



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effectively promote your home via the best channels and platforms using a variety of means, including Spanish, Scandinavian and international media and websites.

Although the company has been offering properties in Almeria and parts of Costa Blanca for four years, many of their staff have been here in Spain since the 1970's.

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To find out more, contact Birger Sandberg, +34 647 868 119, info@realalmeriaproperty.com visit their Facebook page or call into the office at Parque Comercial local 91, 04368 Mojacar which is open from 10am to 2.30pm and 5pm to 7pm Monday to Friday or by special appointment at weekends.



TV COUCH CRITIC

by Adam Whalley-Lewis

WELL, we did it. Whether you watched the World Cup and/or Wimbledon, or if you did your best to avoid them, Sunday saw them both conclude - unfortunately at about the same time. I think a lot of us were flicking between Moscow and SW19 last Sunday trying to keep up.

Now, you know I can't explain the off-side rule and I can't play tennis for toffee, but I did get caught up in the football and in the latter stages, the tennis too. I might have missed the Men's final if lovely friends from London, Ray and Louise, hadn't sent me a copy of a well-known newspaper and jogged my memory via its sports section!

I enjoyed the tennis. I liked the genuine affection the Ladies' finalists showed for each other and for once, Djokovic dropped the arrogant act and was nice about his opponent too. It is a shame that British competitors who made it through to the finals in the wheelchair doubles, mixed doubles and in the Boys competition were difficult to follow, just because there was no BBC visibility of when these matches were being played or if, or when, the BBC were showing them. The British pair won the wheelchair match and got hardly a mention anywhere.

Oh and France won the World Cup. Felicitations La France.

If you are a fan of *The Voice* (if you are, worry

France, Kerber, Djokovic and singing kids



THE VOICE KIDS: Judges Danny Jones, Pixie Lott, Will.i.am and presenter Emma Willis.

not, there is help out there, no really there is) you probably found yourself watching ITV's *The Voice Kids*. The show kicked off last Saturday and is running across eight consecutive days. It broadly follows the format of the adult show, with three music industry heavyweights and of course, Emma Wills hosting.

Will.i.am is the only judge to make it over from the adult show. He is supported by Pixie Lott, you

might remember her from *Strictly* and Danny Jones. I had to Google Danny. He was in a Boy Band, McFly, apparently.

You have to admire the courage the kids have to be able to sing on national TV. *The Voice Kids*, ITV, continues Thursday-Saturday this week.

ITV treated us to the opening episode of series three of *Unforgotten* on Sunday night. Now, I've friends who are ex-police officers, hola Jimmy and Keith, but brilliant as they are, I'm not sure even they could pull together a six-part mystery, of a Sunday night, with only a piece of hip bone to start their investigations.

Sanjeev Bhaskar and Nicola Walker star as detectives Sunny and Cassie who test the friendship of, to be honest, a random group of people who seem to be in the frame for the crime. This is solid Sunday night viewing though and you can keep up with what is happening on ITV, Sunday at 10pm.

Happy Viewing.

GENUINE AFFECTION: Angelique Kerber and Serena Williams.



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Nora Johnson
Breaking Views



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

A TREND unforeseen, even by hard-bitten crime fiction detectives, crime novels have beaten general fiction for the first time since book charts were compiled. Anxious about volatility in the real world, readers now seek reassurance in stories where baddies get their just desserts.

Thriller writer David Baldacci said readers turned to his crime novels to see the good guys win: "When times are stressful and it looks like the bad is winning out over the good, along comes the genre of crime novels to put the balance back in life. People inherently don't like folks who do bad to get away with it. In real life they do all the time, because of a variety of factors. But in novels, evil's punished, and the good guys mostly win, after solving the puzzle."

The Girl in the Woods, the latest in my own psychological crime thriller series featuring investigative journalist Alice Myers, traces the increasing trauma of the Walker family who fall apart when their 17-year-old daughter, Kezia, fails to return home from a night out. As the hours pass and the police investigation builds, this just-published novel puts every parent's worst nightmare scenario under the microscope.

Readers turning to crime (ERR, crime novels!)

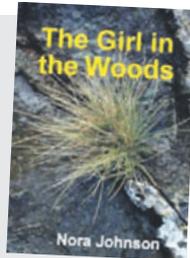
Deadly secrets

THE latest in the psychological crime thriller series featuring investigative journalist Alice Myers, *The Girl in the Woods*

depicts the unimaginable pressures faced by the Walker family when their 17-year-old daughter goes missing after a night out. As the hours pass and the police inquiry builds, it explores every parent's worst nightmare.

A teenager vanishes in woodland. Parents torn apart by secrets, guilt and jealousy. Barbara Forster, the complex DI heading the enquiry, faces a race against time, following a treacherous path that leads all the way to a dark and explosive climax.

An action-packed thriller on several levels, the stories unfold, adding an unexpected triple twist at the end. Tense and gripping throughout, *The Girl in the Woods* is highly recommended.



Focusing on the disappearance of an apparently captivating teenager, what follows is part whodunit, part police-procedural and part examination of the effects of the pressures on her parents, friends and acquaintances. When the police are called in, it soon becomes apparent she had secrets of her own and, as the investigation continues, suspicion shifts from one parent, friend and acquaintance to another.

Inevitably tension rises and tempers fray as Kezia's parents have different ideas how to proceed. Her father becomes obsessed with pursuing his own investigation while her mother bottles up her emotions, trying to keep her family together and marriage intact.

The very real anguish of a family torn apart by secrets, guilt and jealousy, as the gradually building nightmare gathers steam, keeps you guessing right up to the explosive triple-twist climax.

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

columnists@euroweeklynews.com

LEGALLY SPEAKING

Yet still more on wealth tax

Q. I read your comments on wealth tax with interest as I have an apartment in Los Boliches and have been paying wealth tax on this for the last 35 years. I am non-resident as I live in England. I would appreciate your thoughts.

CG (Costa del Sol)

A. Spain's tax on capital assets, the so-called 'wealth tax' (Impuesto sobre el Patrimonio) was passed into law in 1977 by the new government of Spain after Franco died. Spaniards and residents had exemptions on the value of their principal residence and on the first portion of any other assets. Non-residents however had no exemptions and had to pay from the first peseta of valuation.

The tax is quite low, starting at .002, or two-10ths of 1 per cent. If your flat was worth €100,000, your annual wealth tax would be €200. From 2008 to 2010, the government passed tax relief of 100 per cent, so no one had to pay.

In 2011 the tax relief was cancelled. Since 2016, non-resident property owners share in the resident exemption on the first €700,000 of value, so you should not be paying it any more.

David Searl

You and the Law in Spain



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

Advertising Feature

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AS the weather is starting to heat up, it's time to think about the exterior of your property and Woodworks Direct SLU are ready to supply all of your garden and carport needs.

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They now offer a new range of fencing and all weather composite decking but that's not all, if you need a garden-based office or summer house then Woodworks Direct is ideally situated to look after all of your requirements.

Although their showroom is situated in Abanilla, on the border between Murcia and Alicante provinces, they actually supply



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to the whole of Alicante, Almeria, Costa Blanca and Murcia and can also install or supply ready for the customer to construct.

This longstanding company which understands everything about shade are more than happy to work to a budget and are able to offer the best value in order to meet their customer's needs.

Whilst they do hold stock of ready to erect items, the compa-

ny also offers a design to order service. If you can't get to their showroom, the best way to get in touch is to send an email with all your requirements, stating the area you live in and the size you need.

They can then send you their recommendations on how best to meet your needs together with a quote, although a lot of information including some pricing is included on their very detailed



website www.woodworksdirect.com.

Normal trading hours are 8am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday at Woodworks Direct SLU, Casas de los Frailes, 11, Cañada Del Leña (los Gabrieles), Abanilla 30640, Murcia.

However, if an email is received after hours or at the weekend, as often as not a re-

sponse will be sent within a matter of hours.

To contact Woodworks Direct SLU, email: info@woodworksdirect.com or call 966 195 522 or 649 540 016 and don't forget that as well as their great website, they also have a busy Facebook page WoodWorksDirect.

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Sunday 2,900
Total - 8,500 people**

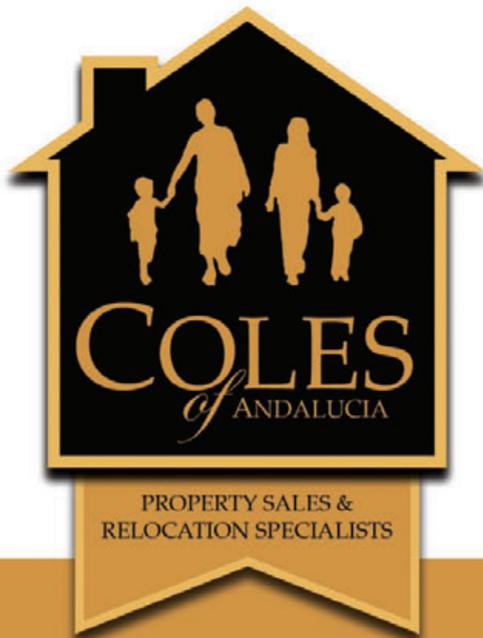
We have booked a lot of appointments and lots of lovely people are coming to visit the area for their first time. What we have learnt is the average coastal apartment budget is 150,000 GBP, Townhouse 200,000 GBP and Villa 400,000 GBP, there is a large demand for Inland Villas around Arboleas for 185,000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

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

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Avenida Almeria, 78, Turre, 04639, Almeria, Spain

We are experiencing a very strong demand for villas that are within walking distance of village/town amenities. Please contact us if you have this type of property for sale.

REF ARB3VHU16



A well-constructed, modern 3 bedroom 2 bathroom detached villa on a larger than average plot of 800m² which boasts a separate storeroom, 8 x 4m pool and spectacular rural & mountain views.

Arboleas

€175,000€

REF BED6C01



Fantastic 6 bedroom 1 bathroom country village cortijo for reform in the hamlet of Los Matreros, 15 minutes from Bedar. Many rustic features including exposed wooden beams, and fantastic views.

Bedar

€109,950

REF GAL2A06



A well-presented ground floor partment in Los Gallardos village. This apartment with 2 bedrooms & 1 bathroom comes 'sold as seen', ready to walk in and enjoy, plus a communal pool. Great value for this warm & friendly village.

Los Gallardos

€64,950

REF TUR2A58



A modern & well-presented 2 bedroom 1 bathroom ground floor apartment measuring 67m² located on the outskirts of Turre with communal roof solarium & pool.

Turre

€60,000

REF ARB4VG03



A spacious detached 3 bedroom 3 bathroom villa with a detached 1 bedroom & 1 bathroom annex set within a plot of approximately 850m² which boasts a storeroom/games room, 8 x 4m pool, car port and mature gardens.

Arboleas

€239,000

REF CAN3T05



A fantastically reformed village cortijo on the edge of Cantoria in a quiet residential area. Retaining many traditional features, the property is a comfortable 3 bedroom home with good outside space, modern kitchens & bathrooms and an easy walk to amenities.

Cantoria

€119,950

REF VER3V09



Spacious detached 3 bedroom 2 bathroom villa measuring 220m² on a plot of 1,000m² with 11 x 5m pool, sun room/conservatory, landscaped gardens, terraces, air conditioning and log burner & pellet burner in lounge.

Vera

€239,950

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 short walk to amenities.

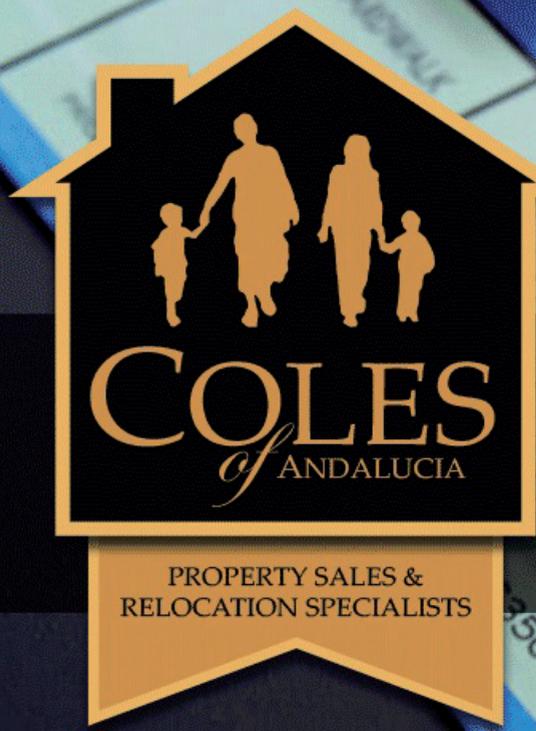
Valle Del Este

€67,500

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<p>Turre</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Velez Rubio</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Arboleas</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Los Gallardos</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Palomares</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Turre</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>
<p>Cobdar</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Vera Playa</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Valle del Este</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Turre</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Los Lobos</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Arboleas</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>
<p>Los Gallardos</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Valle del Este</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Turre</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Arboleas</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	<p>Turre</p> <p>UNDER OFFER</p>	

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GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR CAR 902 123 309



THURSDAY	BBC one	BBC TWO	itv	CHANNEL 4	CHANNEL 5	sky sports main event						
19 JULY	4:30pm	Celebrity Money for Nothing	5:15pm	Hidden Kingdoms	3:00pm	Judge Rinder	5:00pm	The £100k Drop	6:00pm	5 News at 5	6:00am	Sky Sports News
	5:15pm	Flog It!	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	4:00pm	Tenable	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	7:00am	Good Morning
	6:15pm	Impossible	7:00pm	Eggheads	5:00pm	Tipping Point	6:30pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	7:30am	Sports Fans Bitesize
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys	6:00pm	The Chase	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	8:00pm	The Open
	7:30pm	BBC London News	8:00pm	Rhs: Tatton Flower Show 2018	7:00pm	ITV News London	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	8:00pm	Police Interceptors	9:30pm	Championship Live
	8:00pm	The One Show	9:00pm	Golf	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:00pm	Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords	10:00pm	The Open Verdict - Live
	8:30pm	EastEnders	11:00pm	Quacks	8:00pm	Emmerdale	9:00pm	George Clarke's Old House, New Home	10:00pm	Eamonn and Ruth: How the Other Half Lives	10:00pm	The Open - Highlights
	9:00pm	Eat Well for Less	11:30pm	Newsnight	10:30pm	Our Shirley Valentine	10:00pm	Prisión	11:00pm	Inside the Murder Prison	12:00am	Sky Sports News
	10:00pm	Keeping Faith	12:15am	Hospital	11:30pm	Summer	11:00pm	Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back			1:00am	Sky Sports News
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten				ITV News					2:00am	Sky Sports News
FRIDAY 20 JULY	5:15pm	Flog It!	4:15pm	Secrets of the Castle with Ruth, Peter and Tom	4:00pm	Tenable	4:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	6:00am	Sky Sports News
	6:15pm	Impossible	5:15pm	Hidden Kingdoms	5:00pm	Tipping Point	5:00pm	The £100k Drop	8:00pm	Tony Robinson: Coast to Coast	7:00am	Good Morning
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	6:00pm	The Chase	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	9:00pm	Celebrity Five Go Caravanning	7:30am	Sports Fans Bitesize
	7:30pm	BBC London News	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:00pm	ITV News London	6:30pm	The Simpsons	10:00pm	Jane McDonald and Friends	8:00am	The Open
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:00pm	The Simpsons	11:00pm	Mamma Mia! Mania: The World's Favourite Musical	9:30pm	Championship Live
	8:30pm	A Question of Sport	8:00pm	RHS: Tatton Flower Show 2018	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	12:30am	Julie Walters: By Her Friends	10:00pm	The Open Verdict - Live
	8:30pm	EastEnders	9:00pm	Golf	8:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather			10:00pm	The Open - Highlights
	9:30pm	Still Open All Hours	11:00pm	Mock the Week	9:00pm	The Voice Kids	8:00pm	Channel 4 News			12:00am	The Open - Highlights
	10:00pm	Would I Lie to You?			10:30pm	Coronation Street	9:00pm	The Crystal Maze			12:00am	Nick Dougherty's Tee Time Tips
	10:30pm	Our Friend Victoria			11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	10:00pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown			12:15am	Info not available
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten									2:00am	Sky Sports News	
SATURDAY 21 JULY	6:05pm	Wedding Day Winners	4:00pm	Money for Nothing	2:00pm	To be Announced	6:00pm	Channel 4 News	6:10pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	2:55pm	Live German F1 GP: Qualifying
	7:05pm	BBC News	5:00pm	Ben and James Versus the Arabian Desert	3:00pm	Catchphrase	6:30pm	Formula 1	7:05pm	Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!	4:45pm	The Open
	7:15pm	Regional News	6:00pm	Flog It!	3:45pm	Tenable	8:00pm	Inside Bentley: A Great British Motor Car	8:00pm	Blind Date	9:00pm	Championship Live
	7:18pm	Weather	6:50pm	Natural World	4:45pm	Tipping Point	9:00pm	Great Canal Journeys	9:00pm	Before They Were Stars	9:30pm	The Open Verdict - Live
	7:20pm	Wreck-it Ralph	7:50pm	BBC Proms Extra	5:45pm	The Chase	10:00pm	Kingsman: The Secret Service	9:55pm	5 News	12:00am	The Open - Highlights
	8:55pm	Pointless	8:30pm	Dad's Army	6:45pm	ITV Evening News	12:35am	The Visit	10:00pm	Victoria Wood: Her Life as Seen on TV	2:00am	Sky Sports News
	9:40pm	Casualty	9:00pm	Golf	7:00pm	Regional News and Weather	2:10am	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA	11:00pm	Victoria Wood: Live	3:00am	Sky Sports News
	10:30pm	Mrs. Brown's Boys	11:00pm	Qi XL	7:15pm	Info not available	3:05am	The Big Narstie Show			4:00am	Sky Sports News
	11:00pm	BBC News	11:45pm	Touretteshero: Me, My Mouth and I	9:00pm	The Voice Kids						
	11:15pm	Weather			10:30pm	ITV News						
11:20pm	Pretty Woman											
SUNDAY 22 JULY	4:45pm	Lifeline	5:30pm	Flog It!	2:50pm	Mamma Mia!	2:30pm	The Boxrolls	5:15pm	Nanny McPhee	6:00am	Sky Sports News
	4:55pm	Songs of Praise	6:30pm	Secrets of Silicon Valley	5:00pm	Tipping Point	4:20pm	Bang on Budget	6:15pm	Access	7:00am	Sky Sports News
	5:30pm	Animals Behaving Badly	7:30pm	Mortimer and Whitehouse: Gone Fishing	6:00pm	The Chase	5:20pm	Homes by the Med	6:20pm	Nanny McPhee	8:00am	Good Morning
	6:30pm	Eat Well for Less	8:00pm	Inside the Factory	7:00pm	Paul O'grady: For the Love of Dogs	6:20pm	Location, Location, Location	7:05pm	Wonderful World of Puppies	8:05pm	Sports Fans
	7:30pm	BBC News	9:00pm	Golf	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:20pm	Channel 4 News	8:05pm	Chuckle Time with the Chuckle Brothers	9:00am	The Open
	7:50pm	Regional News	11:00pm	Shankly: The Man Who Changed Football	7:45pm	Regional News and Weather	7:45pm	Formula 1	8:55pm	Funniest Celeb Talent Show Moments Ever	8:00pm	Championship Live
	7:55pm	Weather	12:30am	Idris Elba King of Speed	8:00pm	Vera	10:00pm	The Handmaid's Tale	9:00pm	21 Jump Street	8:30pm	The Open Verdict - Live
	8:00pm	Countryfile	1:30am	Countryfile	10:00pm	Unforgotten	11:10pm	Artist in Residence: The Sex Clinic	10:00pm	News Update	8:30pm	Live Darts: World Matchplay
	9:00pm	Antiques Roadshow			11:00pm	ITV News	12:05am	Stonehearst Asylum	11:00pm		12:30am	Boxing
	10:00pm	Poldark								1:00am	Sky Sports News	
11:00pm	BBC News											
MONDAY 23 JULY	7:00pm	BBC News	5:15pm	Madagascar	6:00pm	The Chase	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	6:30pm	Neighbours	11:15am	Coaching Clinic with Rob Key
	7:30pm	Regional News	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	7:00pm	Regional News and Weather	6:30pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	11:35am	Coaching Clinic with Rob Key
	8:00pm	The One Show	7:00pm	Eggheads	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	11:55am	Crickets
	8:30pm	Elephants on the Move	7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys	8:00pm	Emmerdale	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	8:00pm	Police Interceptors	8:00pm	Live Darts: World Matchplay
	8:30pm	EastEnders	8:00pm	Back in Time for Tea	8:30pm	Coronation Street	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	9:00pm	Dispatches	10:00pm	Lawless Britain
	9:30pm	The Fake Murder that Fooled the World - Panorama	9:00pm	Nadiya's Family Favourites	9:00pm	Give it a Year	9:30pm	How to Get Rich Quick	11:00pm	Our Guy in Russia	11:00pm	Law and Disorder: The Live Debate
	10:00pm	Who Do You Think You Are?	10:00pm	Versailles	10:00pm	Lewis	11:00pm	Who is America?	11:40pm	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown	12:05am	Fights, Camera, Action: Citizens Arrest
	11:00pm	BBC News	11:30pm	Newsnight	11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather					12:30am	Boxing
											1:00am	Sky Sports News
TUESDAY 24 JULY	4:30pm	Celebrity Money for Nothing	5:15pm	Madagascar	3:00pm	Judge Rinder	5:00pm	The £100k Drop	4:15pm	A Wife's Nightmare	11:00am	Live ATP 500: Hamburg
	5:15pm	Flog It!	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	4:00pm	Tenable	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	6:00pm	5 News at 5	7:30pm	Sky Sports News at 6
	6:15pm	Impossible	7:00pm	Eggheads	5:00pm	Tipping Point	6:30pm	The Simpsons	6:30pm	Neighbours	8:00pm	Live Darts: World Matchplay
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys	6:00pm	The Chase	7:00pm	The Simpsons	7:00pm	Home and Away	8:00pm	Live Darts: World Matchplay
	7:30pm	BBC London News	8:00pm	Back in Time for Tea	7:00pm	ITV News London	7:30pm	Hollyoaks	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	1:00am	Dillian Whyte: Heavy Duty
	8:00pm	The One Show	9:00pm	Inside the Factory	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	8:00pm	The Wonderful World of Puppies	1:30am	Dillian Whyte: Whyte Hot
	8:30pm	EastEnders	10:00pm	The Five Billion Pound Super Sewer	8:00pm	Emmerdale	9:00pm	Ackley Bridge	9:00pm	The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies	2:00am	Live WWE Late Night Smackdown
	8:30pm	Holby City	11:00pm	Live at the Apollo	9:00pm	Love Your Garden	10:00pm	999: What's Your Emergency?	10:00pm	Traffic Cops		
	10:00pm	Our Girl	11:30pm	Newsnight	10:00pm	Long Lost Family - Australia	11:00pm	Gogglebox	11:00pm	Gangland		
	11:00pm	BBC News at Ten			11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather		12:05am	24 Hours in A and E			
WEDNESDAY 25 JULY	3:30pm	Escape to the Country	6:15pm	Antiques Road Trip	5:00pm	Tipping Point	3:10pm	Countdown	4:15pm	Heart of Murder	9:00am	Good Morning
	4:30pm	Celebrity Money for Nothing	7:00pm	Eggheads	6:00pm	The Chase	4:00pm	A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun	6:00pm	5 News at 5	9:30am	Sports Fans
	5:15pm	Flog It!	7:30pm	Great British Railway Journeys	7:00pm	ITV News London	5:00pm	The £100k Drop	6:30pm	Neighbours	9:40am	My Icon
	6:15pm	Impossible	8:00pm	Back in Time for Tea	7:30pm	ITV Evening News	6:00pm	Come Dine with Me	7:00pm	Home and Away	9:40am	Live Anz
	7:00pm	BBC News at Six	9:00pm	Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure	8:00pm	Emmerdale	6:30pm	The Simpsons	7:30pm	5 News Tonight	11:15am	Premiership Netball
	7:30pm	BBC London News	10:00pm	Picnic at Hanging Rock	8:30pm	Coronation Street	7:00pm	Hollyoaks	8:00pm	Funniest Ever	7:30pm	Live ATP 500: Hamburg
	8:00pm	The One Show	11:00pm	Mortimer and Whitehouse: Gone Fishing	9:30pm	Coronation Street	7:30pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm	Celebrity Moments	8:00pm	Sky Sports News at 6
	8:30pm	Fake Britain			10:00pm	The Bletchley Circle	8:00pm	Channel 4 News	10:00pm	The Highland Midwife	1:00am	Live Darts: World Matchplay
	9:00pm	Animals Behaving Badly			11:00pm	ITV News at Ten and Weather	9:00pm	Live Well for Longer	11:00pm	Undercover Coppers		
	10:00pm	DIY SOS the Big Build					10:00pm	24 Hours in A and E		Criminals Caught on Camera		
11:00pm	BBC News at Ten					11:00pm	Stath Lets Flats					

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



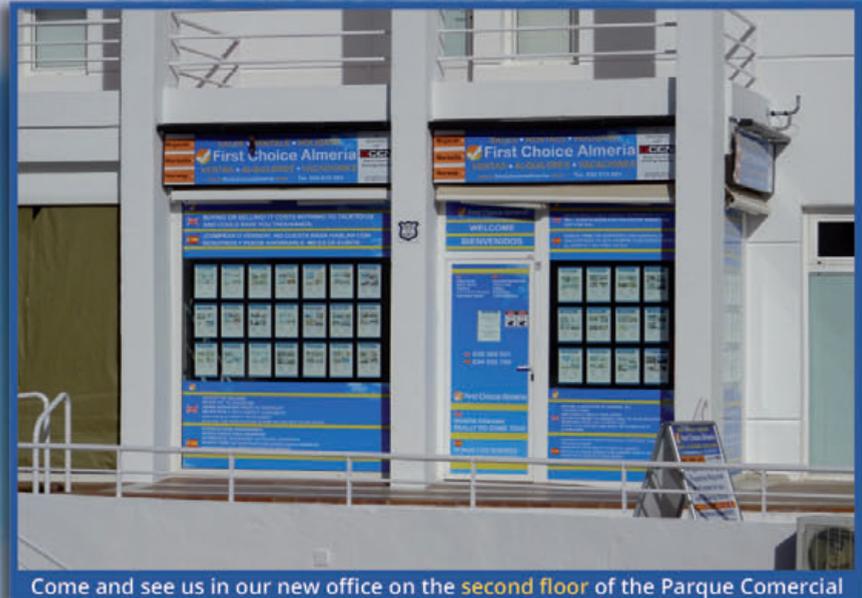
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Know your budget and don't be pushed into a purchase

YOUR PAPER - YOUR VOICE - YOUR OPINION

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Tourist tax will alienate many visitors

MY wife and I have just returned from a holiday in Mallorca (first went to Mallorca in 1999 and every year since apart from a three-year gap).

Before anything else at the hotel we were asked to pay the tourist tax which had doubled from last year, so having paid nearly €80 without any benefit to us at all and without any previous information as to what the Tourist Tax was likely to be, it set us thinking.

Where are the monies?

How much has accumulated since the tourist tax was instigated?

What are the monies being used for?

The pavements in Palma Nova are in a terrible state, you cannot walk for more than 25 metres and I am being generous here, before you meet cracked paving, misaligned paving, crumbling concrete, raised iron rings around the trees, depressed areas of pavement.

We do not own any property in Mallorca, but I am quite sure that the rental ban on apartments will be a devastating blow to the economy, several friends of ours have sold up and come back to England.

Why can't councils control noise?

WHEN is Calpe Council going to protect the residents of the town from the noise of private building work at all hours of the day?

We have endured three months of non-stop extremely high pitched continual noise from angle grinders and electric drills. This is on top of constant banging from hammers and bolsters and the grinding of a cement mixer all day.

This starts from the bawling of work men at each other when they first arrive at eight o'clock in the morning and commence work with the tools and continue until they depart at 6.30pm in the evening.

This goes on five days a week, week after week. There is totally no consideration from this non-resident in what is a normally peaceful residential area. Appeals to moderate the inconvenience are met with a refusal to comply. The noise is such during this time



Credit: MyImages Micha Shutterstock

IRRITATING: The constant building noise.

that you cannot hear the radio, TV, or concentrate to use a computer.

Surely Calpe Council can provide regulation of the hours in which this type of activity can be conducted and offer its residents some relief from this unacceptable behaviour.

Peter Gallagher, Calpe

People of Mallorca unite and vote for a mayor and president who are not blind to the devastating effect that this tourist tax and rental ban will do to the Mallorcan economy.

My wife and I will not be returning to Mallorca in this present situation.

Peter Higgins, Pontefract, West Yorkshire

Building consents

SEVERAL months ago a friend in the UK wrote to ask me if it was true that the chiringuitos at Punta Prima beach had been closed down, apparently over licensing problems.

I replied that it did appear to be the case, according to press reports. However, at the time I thought it was rather strange and was possibly just an excuse for something else.

I recalled that a builder had fairly recently tried for planning permission along that stretch of coastline and the request had been turned down partly due to the fact that there are Civil War bunkers there and also that the land was not considered suitable for building on.

The next thing that we hear is that the chiringuitos are illegal, etc, etc and have got to close whilst the matter is resolved.

Many people thought I was being cynical and that the chiringuitos would soon reopen. Well we all know how that situation has been handled!

Now I have seen an article in the press saying that a builder has offered to refurbish the bunkers and maintain them which is all very nice of them. Oh, and he is also seemingly going to be allowed to now build two skyscrapers along that bit of coast. No mention of course about the reopening of the chiringuitos.

Barry Weston Playa Flamenca

Paloma Park

IN response to Joe and Janet Calton, I live near Paloma Park and during and after the San Juan Feria held close by, plus the recent strong westerly winds has created this unfortunate situation with plastic bags being blown into the lake.

I can assure them that Benalmadena Council gardeners keep the park well-tended and a pleasure to visit.

Brian Johnston, Benalmadena Costa

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.

Brit survives 7-floor fall from Mallorca hotel after row

It's past time that these hotel balcony rails were properly inspected for correct height! We know the last two we stayed in were not totally safe!

Ian

Outrage over 'looky looky' men in southern Spain

If the police were empowered to confiscate the items they were selling that would soon stop them. Authorities are so often scared to act though for fear of being accused of being racist.

John

Confiscate all illegal pirate versions, and the problems will fade away very quickly.

Joona

If people didn't buy off the looky looky men then they would have to pack up and leave.

Julie

Claims that Amazon may serve as a platform for racist products

Censorship, plain and simple. Those who accuse the 'Nazis' of book burning do so in far greater numbers. Thousands of book titles openly sold in the latter decades of the 20th century have been quietly moved.

Comments from EWN online

When they say 'racism' what they really mean is the ethnic-European's right to promote his ethnicity and to secure it. Every race prefers its own kind but only the whites are condemned for doing so.

Michael Walsh

Borrell hints that Spain could try to block Gibraltar from Brexit transition

This won't happen. Spain needs the UK more than the UK needs Spain.

Ken Clarke

Ryanair pilots announce another 24-hour strike this week

What are Ryanair playing at?? Don't they know that happy staff make good staff? Not only losing staff but customers too!

We are looking for alternative flights in the future,

those with one cost, no hidden extras.

Karen Goode

Why oh why are people still booking Ryanair??? I will never use them again. They cause so much heartache to oh so many people!!!!

Maggie Hayes

Drivers using mobile phones to receive heavier punishment in Spain

Needs to be at least a €1,000 fine and banned for at least three/four years.

Lynne Utting

With all the technology we have and hands free there's no excuse.

Paul Gilding

Everyday I must see 10-15 people with a phone to their ear, I drive a Ford Transit with Bluetooth and it's 2011. Most of these people would have Bluetooth in their cars, they just need to understand how to use it.

Nick Earl Hobbs Ainley

They need to start stopping them first, no good increasing the fine when they seem to do nothing to stop it in the Estepona area.

Kevin Airey

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Trivia from around the world

***Cuba is the only Caribbean island with a railway, although old trains and fuel shortages can set travellers up for long delays.

***Alaska is the largest state in the United States as well as being the most northern, eastern, and western state.

***The Marshall Islands which are in the Pacific Ocean are the most endangered island nation and have the highest risk of flooding due to climate change.

***The most overweight population in the world is in Nauru with over 95 per cent of its population overweight, even though it doesn't have a McDonald's...

***Prince Phillip, husband to Queen Elizabeth, is worshipped by the villagers of Yaohnanen on Tanna Island in Vanuatu. Followers believe the Duke descended from one of their spirit ancestors and that he will visit them and even take up residence amongst them.

***Many of the roads in Guam are made of a coral/oil mixture, as the island doesn't have a supply of natural sand. During wet weather the oil tends to float to the surface of the roads making them dangerous. Therefore the speed limit throughout the island is just 35mph.



TINKERBELL EFFECT: Named after the fairy in Peter Pan.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Tinkerbell effect is an expression which describes things that are thought to exist only because people believe in them, like taking a placebo pill and feeling better because you think you have taken real medicine. It is named after Tinker Bell, the fairy in Peter Pan, who is revived from near death by the belief of the audience. Another form is the Reverse Tinkerbell effect, where the more you believe in something the more likely it is to vanish. For example, as more people believe that driving is safe, more people will drive carelessly, in turn making driving less safe.

Women's wit

“If fame belonged to me, I could not escape here. If she did not, the longest day would pass me on the chase, and the approbation of my dog would forsake me then. My barefoot rank is better.”

Emily Dickinson, poet



Famous quote

“People are condemned to be free; because once thrown into the world, they are responsible for everything they do.”

Jean-Paul Sartre

World of English

“Cacoethes - the urge to do something inadvisable, unwise or uncalled for.”

YOUR STARS FOR NEXT 7 DAYS

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)

You are in a romantic mood but something is missing from the picture. It's not that you're feeling the need to have more than one string to your bow, it is more that you are tired of using the same old arrows. So, what is out there to fire your imagination? Something really new will not miss the mark with you.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20)

This is a brilliant week for money and business. Mars is influencing you to be more up-front and practical in your approach. You may feel changes coming on that you would rather deny. Burying your head in the sand is not an option. Take the bull by the horns and you could be surprised at your success.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

You will see the lighter side of life this week when you discover that someone is holding a torch for you. You are flattered and vaguely interested. Your combination of intelligence and humour make you a delightful companion. Venus smiles on all your close relationships and you seem to be able to do no wrong.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

There is much to be tackled this week, but you are wary of making full-on decisions. Taking things one step at a time is the best policy because it gives you space to consider the options. There is a restlessness about you that is hard to pinpoint. Perhaps you are feeling positive but have to hold fire because of others. This is frustrating, but try to relax.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Energy levels go up and down and you seek to ration yours by not going all-out physically. It is still possible to be quite dynamic while planning. Indeed, your clear vision impresses a colleague. If you are due for promotion then some good news is likely. Blow your own trumpet rather than wait for others to do it for you.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The changes affecting you for the past few weeks continue but you are now getting better at managing their direction.

Someone wanting you to take a logical action should not be allowed to push you forward. When to act will be clear to you.

LEO (July 24 - August 23)

Someone who has been unhelpful in the past suddenly steps forward. Could you have been wrong about them? Probably not. Keep a clear mind when with them. Saturn influences you to be more organised before a bout of indecision strikes.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)

The influence of Venus and Jupiter brings you the influence and status that you deserve. It's not that you haven't worked towards it but now you start to see the benefits. There is an urge to improve your appearance and surroundings to fit in with the 'new you'.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23)

During the past few weeks you may have gained a different perspective on life. Your need for a close attachment and harmony in your life should not be underestimated or denied in the name of practicality.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22)

To be truly happy you need to build on your partnerships. Keep these in balance and everything else will fall into place. Life has taught you some rather harsh lessons recently. The upshot of that is you now feel more in control and more secure.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21)

There is an all-consuming need to see some reward for all your efforts. There will be those who will tell you that you need to push harder for success. Perhaps you need to be with more like-minded people. Certainly being with the wrong colleagues can bring your spirits down.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20)

When needed you are sure to be positive this week. On a project, 'striking while the iron is hot' springs to mind. There is much fun to hand but it must be 'work first' at the moment. Some opportunities do not come twice and you need to be aware of them when they present themselves.

LOTTERY

UK NATIONAL LOTTERY	IRISH LOTTO	EURO MILLIONS		LA PRIMITIVA		EL GORDO DE LA PRIMITIVA
Saturday July 14	Saturday July 14	Tuesday July 10	Friday July 13	Thursday July 12	Saturday July 14	Sunday July 15
4 8 13 26 41 55	5 16 37 43 44 46	3 8 26 33 45	1 4 14 21 49	10 20 25 26 32 47	2 12 16 18 27 40	3 21 40 42 49
BONUS BALL 58	BONUS BALL 7	LUCKY STARS 7 10	LUCKY STARS 2 12	REINTEGRO 2 4	REINTEGRO 33 5	REINTEGRO 5
		EL MILLON: FKW87491		JOKER: 6 295 691	JOKER: 7 216 831	

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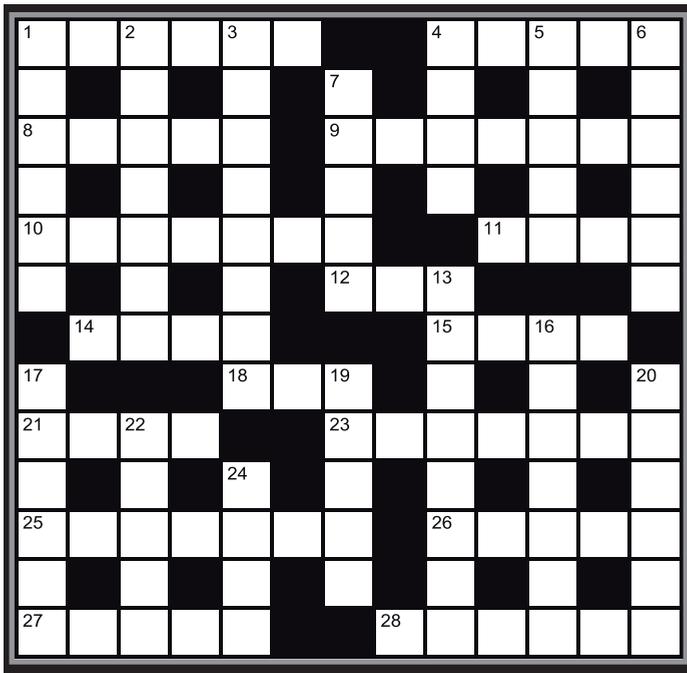
Cryptic

Across

- 1 One who writes about British school rice (6)
- 4 South Staffordshire town is finely contoured (5)
- 8 Nothing going right sweetheart (5)
- 9 A game of bridge (7)
- 10 Wrong gear can mean bloodshed (7)
- 11 'Give up Pip', we hear (4)
- 12 Mark comes back in custody (3)
- 14 Candid leaflet includes the unemployed (4)
- 15 Makes fun of cheap newspapers (4)
- 18 Health resort in Las Palmas (3)
- 21 Six balls and it's finished (4)
- 23 Old jail's new entrance (7)
- 25 Illegal trader rides in disguise (7)
- 26 Former international the French deport (5)
- 27 Perhaps the genre is immature (5)
- 28 A trail for a dog going up (6)

Down

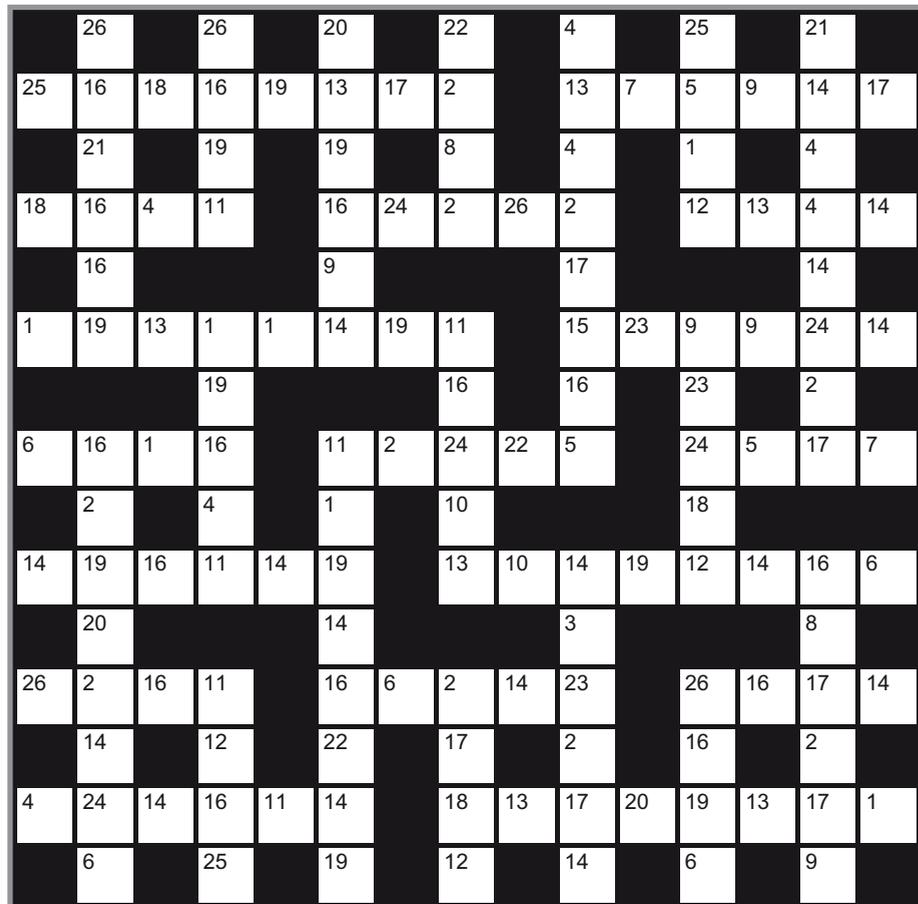
- 1 Close a helter-skelter, that's a relief (6)
- 2 Churchman, the Queen and the journalist admired (7)
- 3 Ruined rare bags for banks (8)
- 4 Offspring noted for a piece of music (4)
- 5 Call up the first girl outside, all right! (5)



- 6 More benevolent juveniles in Germany (6)
- 7 The going rate of the drug (5)
- 13 Trailers without one with direction can be fishing boats (8)
- 16 Hard rock from Tangier (7)
- 17 Could well be this when working, how tedious (6)
- 19 King George in any cross (5)
- 20 Pick out first class (6)
- 22 The Spanish head of state, that is to say, is Doris's sister (5)
- 24 Former prime minister's garden (4)

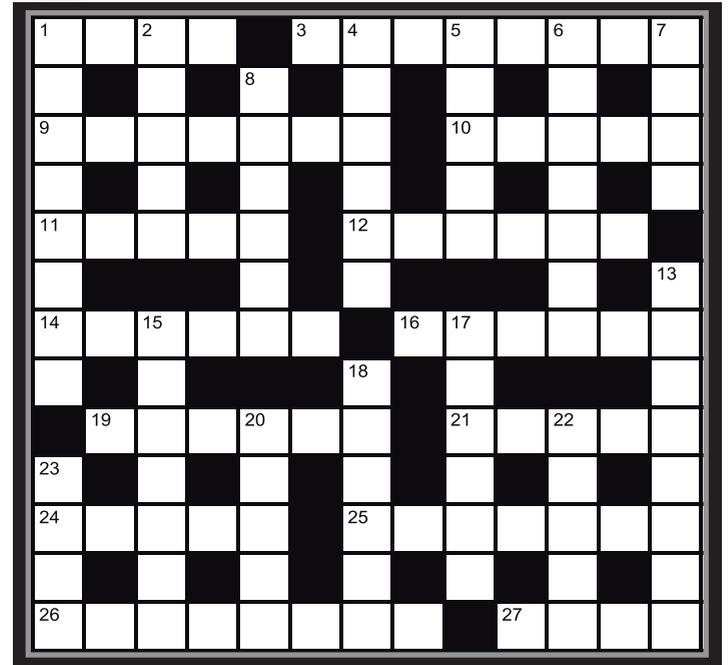
Code Breaker

Each number in the Code Breaker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. In this week's puzzle, 4 represents P and 15 represents J, so fill in P every time the figure 4 appears and J every time the figure 15 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.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Quick



Across

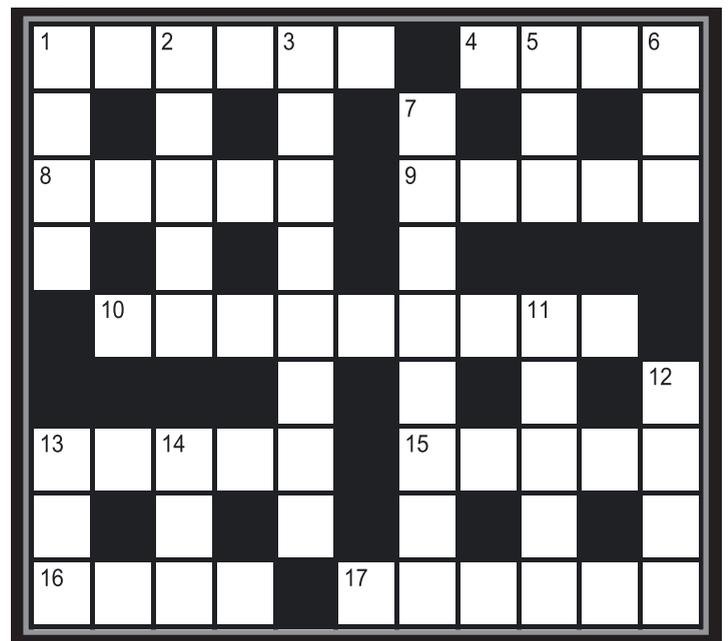
- 1 Cook (4)
- 3 Internet scam (8)
- 9 Alphabetic characters (7)
- 10 Hebrew prophet (5)
- 11 Trap (5)
- 12 Exhilarated (6)
- 14 Nearly (6)
- 16 Chanted phrase (6)
- 19 Dire situation (6)
- 21 Frighten (5)
- 24 Young rabbit (5)
- 25 Organise (7)
- 26 Magician (8)
- 27 Organs of sight (4)

Down

- 1 Salad dish (8)
- 2 Surplus (5)
- 4 Inexpensive lodging (6)
- 5 Polynesian island group (5)
- 6 Check (7)
- 7 Blast of air (4)
- 8 Alcove (6)
- 13 Unthinking (8)
- 15 Seaman (7)
- 17 Take in (6)
- 18 Get away (6)
- 20 Fashion (5)
- 22 Irritate (5)
- 23 Wading bird (4)

English - Spanish

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



Across

- 1 Sound (6)
- 4 Salvaje (planta, animal, tierra) (4)
- 8 Works (musical, teatro, literatura) (5)
- 9 Sand (5)
- 10 Forward (in position) (9)
- 13 Forma (figura) (5)
- 15 Lino (ropa) (5)
- 16 Nothing (4)
- 17 Passage (between buildings) (6)

Down

- 1 Lento (ritmo, movimiento, caída) (4)
- 2 North (side, part) (5)
- 3 Enfermedades (agentes concretos) (8)
- 5 Hielo (3)
- 6 Day (3)
- 7 Tablet (medicine) (8)
- 11 Round (of negotiations, drinks) (5)
- 12 Rodilla (4)
- 13 Without (3)
- 14 Añadir (3)

CROSSWORD PAGE

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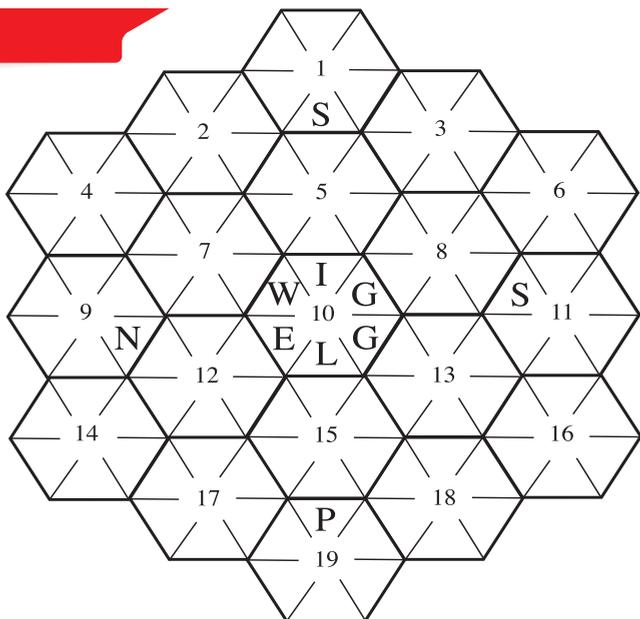
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Hexagram

ANGLES
APPEAL
ASSERT
CARVES
DEMONS
HEAVEN
KITTEN
POWDER
PRINCE
RAGING
RIDDLE
SEEING
SHINES
SIGHED
SPEEDS
TINDER
VIGOUR
WHITEN
WIGGLE (10)



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

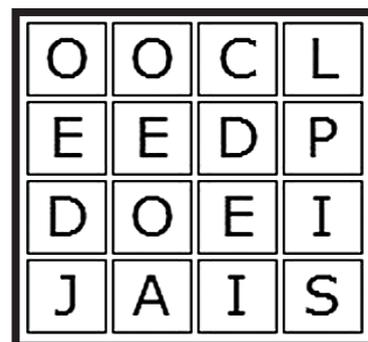
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

1 Pebble 2 Beyond 3 Expert 4 Opaque
5 Excise 6 Pronto 7 Swampy 8 Ascent
9 Famine 10 Wisdom 11 Tiptoe
12 Iambic 13 Pagoda 14 Crayon
15 Baboon 16 Domain 17 Myriad
18 Moving 19 Tidbit.

Boggled

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

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



TARGET:

- Average: 8
- Good: 11
- Very good: 16
- Excellent: 19

SCORING:

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

often tone toned enema enemy emcee
emceed icemen iced font note neem need
needy neve mien mice meed cement
cede cedi emir even event edema feed
info meme memento minx mixed main
maven vent vain varment denote dent
dement deem deva idem rime rimed rimy
rain raiment rave raven raved aimed
airmen amen ament amir armed army
yamen rife ride wife wide widen wiry

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



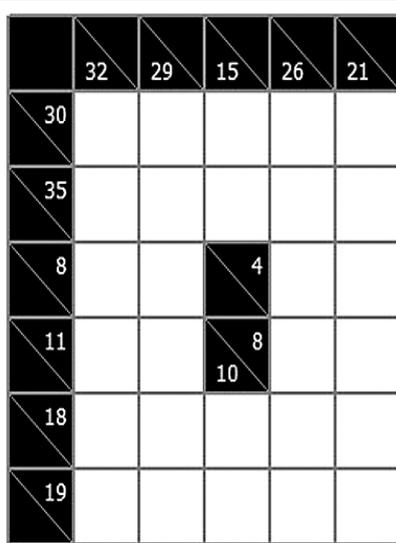
TARGET:
Average: 5
Good: 7
Very good: 10
Excellent: 12

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

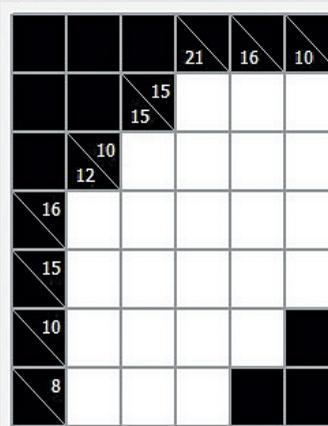
cedi cent cert cite code coin coir cone cord core corn cote cred deco dice
iced icon nice once otic rice torc cento cider cited citer coder coned
conte cored credo cried crone decor dicer dicot doric edict icier ionic
nicer recon recti recto riced ricin tonic trice cinder citron coined coiner
corned cornet credit cretin dicier direct docent erotic incite indict irenic
ironic nitric noetic notice triced citrine cordite crinoid diction incited
inciter noticed oneiric centroid doctrine indirect DIRECTION

Kakuro

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



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

QUICK

Across:
1 Dachshund, 5 Musty, 7 Bison, 9 Seek, 10 Sailor, 12 Attain, 13 Wash, 15 Large, 16 Obeys, 18 Potassium.
Down:
1/17 Dim sum, 2 Sty, 3 Upbeat, 4 Monarch, 6 Shelter, 8 Salvage, 9 Swallow, 11 Silent, 14 Lots.

CODE BREAKER



CRYPTIC

Across:
1 Resist, 4 Chased, 9 Clear, 10 Animals, 11 Termites, 12 Tops, 14 Seabed, 16 Hawser, 19 Cash, 20 Contempt, 23 Precise, 24 Ringo, 25 Needed, 26 Adorns.
Down:
1 Recites, 2 Swear, 3 Sardines, 5 Heir, 6 Shadows, 7 Doses, 8 Later, 13 Mastered, 15 Austere, 17 Rations, 18 Cower, 19 Capon, 21 Manor, 22 Mite.

ENGLISH-SPANISH

Across:
1 Cycling, 5 Cesta, 8 Polilla, 9 Salud, 10 Noses, 11 Justice, 12/14 Buenas noches, 17 Parecer, 19 Guapa, 22 Amiga, 23 Coldest, 24 Eagle, 25 Scooter.
Down:
1 Cupón, 2 Colas, 3 Iglesia, 4 Granja, 5 Cosas, 6 Selfish, 7 Address, 12 By plane, 13 Earring, 15 Orgullo, 16 Bricks, 18 Clave, 20 Agent, 21 After.

App of the week



PIXEL WEATHER

Now that summer is here, why not try out a new weather app. This one isn't brand new, but it's worth a try. It offers a unique combination of quirky, nostalgic graphics and powerful features. It displays up to a 10-day forecast, Air Quality Index, and it supports Apple Watch and Notification Center widgets.

QUIZ: FILM FUN

1. Which rock star played the title role in the 1970 film Ned Kelly?
2. Which famous American actor sang I Talk to the Trees in the 1969 film Paint Your Wagon?
3. Coalminer's Daughter was the title of a film concerning the life of which country singer?
4. From which classic 1941 film does the following line come, 'I guess Rosebud is just the piece in a jigsaw'?
5. According to the 1968 film, who was the father of Rosemary's Baby?
6. In the 1963 film The Great Escape, what were the names given to the three tunnels?

7. What was title of the 1980 sequel to Every Which Way but Loose?
8. In 1989 film version of The Wizard of Oz, which character was searching for courage?
9. Which 1940 full-length Walt Disney cartoon featured the songs Give a Little Whistle and When You Wish upon a Star?
10. From which 1969 film does the Bacharach and David song Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head come?

Answers:

1. MICK JAGGER, 2. CLINT EASTWOOD, 3. LORETTA LYNN, 4. CITIZEN KANE, 5. THE DEVIL, 6. TOM, DICK AND HARRY, 7. ANY WHICH WAY YOU CAN, 8. THE LION, 9. PINOCCHIO, 10. BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDAKE KID.

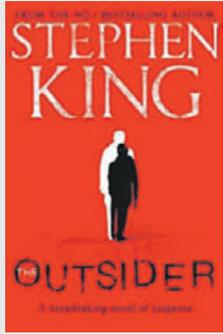
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BOOKS



Not such a nice guy?

WHEN an 11-year-old boy is found murdered in a town park, eyewitnesses point to the town's popular Little League coach, Terry Maitland, a well-loved family man, as the culprit.

DNA evidence and fingerprints confirm this. Horrified by the brutal killing, Detective Ralph Anderson, whose own son was once coached by Maitland, orders the suspect to be arrested in a public spectacle.

But Maitland has an alibi, as it is proved he was out of town that day. As Anderson and the District Attorney trace the clues, the investigation goes from Ohio to Texas. And as horrifying answers begin to emerge, so King's propulsive story of almost unbearable suspense kicks into high gear. Terry Maitland seems a nice guy but there is one hard fact: a man cannot be in two places at the same time. Can he?

books@euroweeklynews.com

ALMERIA



SATURDAY



Malaga Today: Max 34, Min 22-S Fri - 35 22-S Sat - 31 21-S Sun - 30 20-S Mon - 31 21-S Tues - 34 21-S Wed - 33 21-S	Almeria Today: Max 28, Min 22-S Fri - 29 22-S Sat - 28 22-S Sun - 28 21-S Mon - 27 20-S Tues - 29 21-S Wed - 28 21-S	Bilbao Today: Max 23, Min 17-SH Fri - 22 17-C Sat - 23 16-SH Sun - 25 17-C Mon - 28 18-C Tues - 27 18-S Wed - 26 18-C	Madrid Today: Max 33, Min 16-S Fri - 32 17-S Sat - 33 18-S Sun - 35 18-S Mon - 35 18-S Tues - 34 18-S Wed - 34 18-S
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Alicante Today: Max 31, Min 22-S Fri - 31 23-S Sat - 31 22-S Sun - 30 20-S Mon - 31 22-S Tues - 32 22-S Wed - 32 22-S	Benidorm Today: Max 31, Min 23-S Fri - 30 23-S Sat - 30 23-S Sun - 29 23-S Mon - 29 23-S Tues - 30 23-S Wed - 30 23-S	Mallorca Today: Max 31, Min 21-S Fri - 31 22-S Sat - 31 21-S Sun - 30 21-S Mon - 31 21-S Tues - 31 22-S Wed - 31 22-S	Barcelona Today: Max 30, Min 21-S Fri - 29 22-S Sat - 28 21-S Sun - 28 21-S Mon - 29 22-S Tues - 30 22-S Wed - 30 22-S
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S: Sun Cl: Clear C: Cloudy Sh: Showers Th: Thunder Sn: Snow

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

BIRTHDAYS

- **Benedict Cumberbatch, Actor; July 19, 42**
The London-born actor plays fictional detective Sherlock Holmes in the TV series Sherlock and has landed roles in 12 Years a Slave and The Imitation Game. He spent a year teaching English in an Indian monastery before studying drama at the University of Manchester.
- **Anton du Beke, Dancer; July 20, 52**
Beke is known for appearing on the TV show Strictly Come Dancing and he has also presented a show Hole in the Wall. Born in Sevenoaks in England, he won the International Dancer Teachers Association Classic in 2003.
- **Paloma Faith, Singer; July 21, 37**
Faith's singing career has resulted in five hit singles



Selena Gomez.

- including New York and Stone Cold Sober. She began a judge on the British edition of The Voice in 2016 and has also featured in the film The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus.
- **Selena Gomez, Actor; July 22, 26**
The actor was born in Grand Prairie, Texas in the United States and rose to fame with the Disney series Wizards of Waverly Place. She went on to land roles in Spy Kids 3, Walker Texas Ranger and has also had a successful solo music career and with band Selena Gomez & the Scene.
- **Slash, Musician; July 23, 53**
Slash was born Saul Hudson in Hampstead in England and later moved to the United States. The guitarist found

- fame with the band Guns N' Roses, performing lead guitar on hits such as Sweet Child O' Mine, Paradise City and November Rain.
- **Jennifer Lopez, Singer; July 24, 49**
The singer is known for Waiting for Tonight and If You Had My Love and has sold more than 20 million albums worldwide. Born in New York City in the United States, she made her debut in films in My Little Girl in 1986 and later became a judge on American Idol.
- **Matt LeBlanc, Actor; July 25, 51**
LeBlanc played Joey Tribbiani in the TV series Friends and won a Golden Globe for Best TV Comedy Actor for his role in Episodes. Born in Newton, Massachusetts in the United States, he also previously had a stint on the British TV series Top Gear.

- 1545 - King Henry VIII of England watches his flagship, Mary Rose, capsize in the Solent as it leaves to battle the French. It is now in drydock in Portsmouth.
- 1799 - The Rosetta Stone, a tablet with hieroglyphic translations into Greek, is found in Egypt.
- 1588 - The Spanish Armada sets sail from Corunna to escort an army from Flanders to invade England.
- 1715 - The Riot Act goes into effect in England, declaring any group of 12 or more people to be unlawfully assembled.
- 1944 - Adolf Hitler is wounded in an assassination attempt by German Army officers at his field headquarters near Rastenburg.
- 1919 - The British House of Lords ratifies the Versailles Treaty ending the war between Germany and the Allied Powers.
- 1298 - King Edward I defeats the Scots under William Wallace at Falkirk.
- 1812 - A British army under the Duke of Wellington defeats the French at Salamanca, Spain.
- 1789 - Thomas Jefferson becomes the first head of the US Department of Foreign Affairs.
- 1894 - The first competitive automobile race takes place between Paris and Rouen, France.
- 1865 - William Booth founds the Salvation Army, an international charitable organisation.
- 1974 - The Supreme Court rules that President Richard Nixon must surrender the Watergate tapes.
- 1978 - The first test-tube baby, Louise Brown, is born in Oldham, England.

This week in history

Sudoku

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

Word Ladder

FULL

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

BEAM

- BEAM
- TEAM
- TEAL
- TELL
- FELL
- FULL

Solution

DVD

Special bond



TULLY is a new American comedy drama. Marlo (Charlize Theron) lives in New York and is about to give birth to an unplanned third child.

Her husband, Ron, is loving and works hard, but he doesn't realise the demands that motherhood puts on his wife. When the baby girl, Mia, is born, Marlo's wealthy brother Craig hires a nighttime nanny called Tully to help his sister out. Hesitant at first, Marlo soon learns to appreciate all that Tully does - forming a special bond with her new, lifesaving friend.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

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

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



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SCIENTISTS confirm the benefits of eating raspberries to help avoid the risk of heart disease.

Research carried out by Kings College London and funded by the National Processed Raspberry Council have confirmed that eating raspberries can lessen the risk of heart disease and aid circulation by keeping blood vessels healthy.

Experiments were carried out where identical looking drinks were given to a group of participants, only some containing fresh raspberry juice. Beforehand the group underwent both blood and urine tests. Within two hours of taking the drinks they were tested again.

The people who had the drink containing raspberry juice showed a significant increase in FMD (flow mediated dilation) aiding the flow of blood through the widening of the arteries. Author of the report Dr Ana Rodriguez Mateos said this effect was still present 24 hours later.

Tom Krugman Executive Director of the Council that funded the research said, "we are excited about these findings."

Red raspberries are known to contain strong anti-oxidants such as vitamin C, quercetin and Gallic acid that fight against cancer, heart and circulatory disease and age-related decline. They have also been shown to have anti-inflammatory properties.

The oil from raspberries is creating interest in the cosmeceutical market due to the richness of vitamin E and Omega-3 fatty acids. These are a sun protection factor.

Worth a punnet!



BERRY GOOD: Raspberries could help reduce the risk of heart disease.

A previous study by the US Department of Energy Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory found that men over the age of 44 with the

largest intake of Vitamin C had 20 per cent less damage to their sperm DNA than men who did not eat foods containing the vitamin.

Mum slams suncream

A MOTHER is said to be furious that her son got so badly burned after using Asda's factor 50 sun cream.

Nicola Hadley, 47, from West Bromwich bought Asda's factor 50 sunscreen to use during the heatwave in England. However, even after applying the cream regularly, her 10-year-old son Aaron Boyes was left 'in tears.'

Nicola said: "My son is not the first child this has happened to, but he should be the last. I put the sun cream on him before school and topped it up when he came home." She continued, "I do not expect my son to be crying in pain because of a product I should be able to trust."

The company has received numerous complaints about the sun lotion, with Karen Trett from Milton Keynes, claiming her daughters were burnt on holiday in Mallorca having used the same factor 50 sunscreen.

A spokesman from Asda has said its product complies with all the industry standards.



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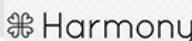



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Just the veganning?



SUPERFOODS and the vegan trend are dominating the latest food fads in magazines and trendy new restaurants, but are we willing to sustain such a limited diet in the future without the need for bacon butties or cheeseburgers?

The fashionable plant-based diet, proven to result in younger looking skin, boost energy levels and reduce the risks of certain life-threatening diseases like diabetes and cancer is slowly pushing aside meat-based foods in the hope of a healthier lifestyle and less obesity - but is it sustainable in this modern age?

Experts agree that a truly vegan lifestyle, although difficult to plan out and maintain can reduce weight but they also look at the potential downfall of going totally plant-based.

Calcium, omega-3, fatty acids and Vitamin B12 are all key nutrients that a vegan diet can lack. Over a length of time, these key elements to keep the body strong can result in loss of bone and muscle mass and inefficient running of the nervous system.

Vitamins and supplements can only be taken in small doses otherwise they can cause

UNSTOPPABLE RISE: Veganism is on the up.

toxicity in the body.

The bottom line, say experts is to avoid fad diets that are promoted on the internet, try to balance out the pros and cons of becoming a vegan, but most importantly stick to a healthy regime that gives your body good healthy food.

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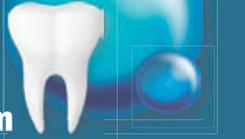
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Advertising Feature

THOSE who enjoy wine know that some of the finest Spanish wines come from the Rioja region.

History tells us that in the Middle Ages, Mediterranean wine culture was closely linked to the monastic life and their major promoters were the monks.

The Rioja area is no exception and there is a great deal of local pride in the fact that Gonzalo de Berceo, the first poet who wrote in the Romance language, mentioned wine in the verses he wrote from his retreat in the Suso Monastery in San Millán de la Cogolla.

The first document to make reference to protecting and ensuring the quality of Rioja wines dates from 1650, but even earlier, in 1102, King Sancho of Navarra legally recognised the quality and importance of these prestigious wines.

The Royal Economic Society Rioja Grower was created in 1787 with the aim of promoting the cultivation of vines, wine production and trade development.

By the early 20th century, in 1902, a Royal Decree was issued which defined the 'origin' for application to the wines of

Learn about Rioja

**The exquisite aroma and taste of Rioja wine.**

Rioja. Then 1926 saw the creation of the Control Board whose mission was to identify the area of Rioja, control the issuance of the 'seal of guarantee' and recommend when appropriate, legal action be taken against infringers and counterfeiters of the name 'Rioja.'

It wasn't however until 1945 that the agency was given a legal status.

Finally, the Control Board was constituted in 1953, and thus began to lay the foundations for a modern and efficient performance by the growers.

Highly important in the evo-

lution which led to the present Rioja wine is the approval in 1970 of the Rules of the Appellation of Origin and its Regulatory Board. In the same year the agency acquired a well-defined

structure and clear functions described as 'The defence of the Denomination of Origin, implementation, monitoring and promoting the quality of the wines covered were mandated, first, the Control Board.'

After several amendments to the Regulation Governing the Control Board, which have been adapted to the needs raised in recent years, quality control systems have been perfected and there has been an enhancement of the promotion of the brand.

Following a long process in which the Denomination of Origin 'Rioja' always concentrated on the quality and control at source, this effort received recognition as on April 3, 1991 a Ministerial Order granted the status of Qualified Denomination of Origin to 'Rioja' which was the first and only in Spain to receive this recognition.

To find out more about the range of Rioja wines, visit <https://saberquieneres.riojawi.com>.

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Eat Well
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by Andrew Harding



Flavoursome lamb



SUNDAY BEST: Rack of lamb with garlic and herb crust.

and pregnant women should avoid pate due to possible harm to the unborn baby. Here is a recipe that will provide plenty of vitamin A and flavour:

• Roasted Vegetables

Serves 4

- 4 whole carrots, sliced
- 6 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large red onion, quartered
- 6 whole garlic cloves, peeled
- 2 whole green peppers
- 2 small cauliflower florets
- 2 whole leeks sliced
- 7 large mushroom caps, sliced
- 2 small broccoli florets

Put carrots and olive oil into an oven proof dish, coat carrots with oil and cover with foil or lid.

Place in oven pre-heated to 180 Celsius (fan) 200 Celsius (conventional) for 10

minutes.

Add cauliflower, onions and stir to coat with oil. Cover again and put back in oven for 5 minutes.

Add leeks, garlic, green pepper, mushrooms and broccoli stir again to coat with oil and cover bake for 20 more minutes.

Serve

• Rack of Lamb with a Garlic and Herb Crust

Serves 4

- 4 racks of lamb
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 6 whole garlic cloves, skinned and chopped
- 2 cups bread crumbs
- 2 teaspoons dried parsley
- 2 teaspoons dried tarragon
- 2 teaspoons dried sage
- salt and pepper, to taste

Make sure the lamb has all the fat removed. Coat in a mixture of garlic and dijon mustard.

Mix the herbs and salt and pepper with the breadcrumbs and sprinkle over the mustard coating on the lamb, where they should stick.

Place in a preheated oven at 200 Celsius (fan) 220 Celsius (conventional) for 1/2 hour (very rare) 3/4 hour (medium) 1 hour (well done).

Serve.

I THOUGHT I would talk about vitamins and minerals over the next few weeks, why we need them and what they actually do. There are 13 vitamins that are essential to maintain health in humans: Vitamins A, C, D, E, K and the B vitamins: Thiamine (B1), riboflavin (B2), niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5), pyroxidine (B6), biotin (B7), folate (B9) and cobalamin (B12). The four fat-soluble vitamins-A, D, E, and K-are stored in the body's fatty tissues, which is why some fat in the diet is necessary.

Vitamin A, also known as retinol, has several important functions. These include ensuring the immune system works properly, helping vision in dim light and keeping skin and the lining of some parts of the body, such as the nose, healthy. Foods that contain vitamin A include dairy products, eggs, oily fish, liver and liver pate.

The body can synthesise Vitamin A from a compound called beta-carotene which is found in non-fatty foods such as yellow, red and green (leafy) vegetables, such as spinach, carrots, sweet potatoes and red peppers and yellow fruit, such as mango, papaya and apricots.

Vitamin A is toxic in large quantities

First woman fighter pilot

THERE is a buzz of excitement in Almeria City in anticipation of the opening ceremony of the Virgen del Mar Fair on Friday August 17.

Guest of honour will be Rosa María García-Malea who was born in Almeria in 1981 and became known throughout the country as the first female Spanish fighter pilot and member of the Air Force Patrol.

A great role model for young women, she studied Technical Architecture, Languages and Chemical Sciences in Granada and then passed the General Army Corps, tests at just 21 years of age.

In 2006 she passed the hunting and attack course at the Talavera la Real Air Base (Badajoz) and became the first Spanish fighter pilot aboard an F5.

The fair promises to be an enjoyable affair as usual but the presence of this inspiring pilot will just add that extra gloss on the event.

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Nick Horne *The Rich Pick*

Freelance correspondent, London, England



Choose friendship and childhood imagination

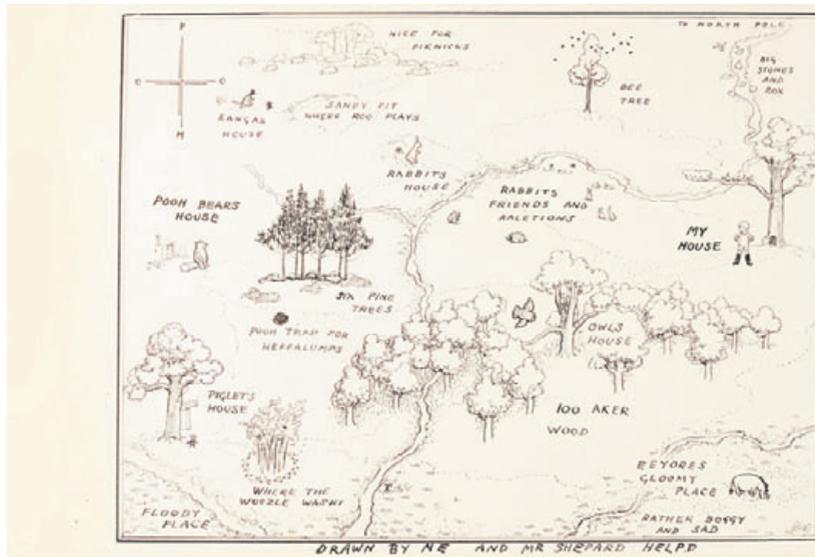
SOTHEBY'S the auction house has just sold my childhood memory. Actually they have not, they have however auctioned a series of inspired drawings by the illustrator EH Shepard at their recent sale, the 'English Literature, History, Science, Children's books and illustrations.'

Sketches drawn for AA Milne's story of the Hundred Acre Wood 'The House at Pooh Corner.' The history of Winnie the Pooh and his friends, Eeyore, Piglet, Roo and Tigger.

My imagination was fired at once by the Map of the Hundred Acre Wood, happy memories of childhood spent in imagination walking through the wood. Then in the late 1960's the Disney movie arrived 'Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree.' The map was animated and brought to life by Disney's artists so as to magically transport us to the wood itself. I was much older by then but affection is difficult to leave behind.

Someone out there agrees with me! He or she has bought arguably the most famous map in English literature for the princely sum of £430,000. Unseen by the public in the original for at least 50 years this 1926 sketch was expected to fetch £100,000 to £150,000, however the buyer was clearly determined.

A further four sketches by EH Shepard were also auctioned, among them the illustration showing Christopher Robin and Pooh walking hand in hand 'to an enchanted place on the very



HONEY POT LUCK: The map and other sketches fetched hundreds of thousands.

top of the forest' to make their final goodbye. An emotional farewell which is closed by AA Milne with, 'wherever they go, and whatever happens to them on the way in that enchanted place at the top of the Forest, a little boy and his

bear will always be playing.'

Two of the sketches illustrated that most famous of games, Poohsticks at Poohsticks Bridge, one comic image that of Eeyore floating lugubriously by from beneath the Bridge.



Photo credit Sotheby's

The final sketch of the five auctioned may be a description of friendships; it depicts Christopher Robin, Piglet and Pooh leaning over Poohsticks bridge. The five original illustrations were sold for £917,500 (€1,038,260).



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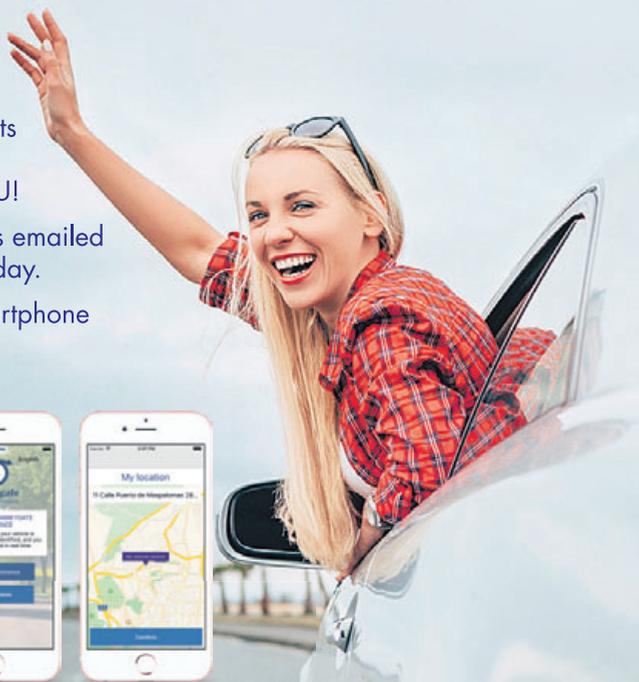
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Hammering it home

Mike Senker

In my opinion

Views of a Grumpy Old Man



DO any of you watch a BBC programme called Homes Under the Hammer? I do, and it amazes me how they buy a property for usually silly money and most people have never bought an investment property before.

How it works is the presenters show the viewers some dump that needs a total refurb then they show you the punter buying it at an auction. They go to the house together and you get told that they are going to put in a new bathroom, new kitchen, rewire, put in new heating, rip a lean-to out and replaster basically everything. 'What's your budget and time frame?' they are asked and this is what flabbergasts me. 'Yeah, I've got a six grand budget and I'll do it in a month.' WHAT? HOW? I don't understand how they do it.

They buy the house for say 50 grand. They go back a month later and BOOM the place now looks like a palace. Then they're asked, 'Did you stick to your budget?' ... 'Well no, I spent an extra three quid because we needed a new roof.' I'm being sarcastic now! Then they get the estate agent back and get a new valuation. Now the house is worth 90 grand and the

rental income will give them 8 per cent. Simple isn't it? Well let me tell you it isn't that simple. I wish they would show you the horror stories too. The ones where the punters get it all wrong like what happens in real life. Because I know that it isn't that easy.

Sure if you are a builder and you can do stuff yourself it's OK but once you get tradesmen in it can be a nightmare. I'm going to suggest to the Beeb a show called 'Horror Houses Under The Hammer (The Nightmare Continues)' where they buy the gaff, get ripped off by the builder and can't sell it. They do their brains and have it repossessed by the building society. You know, just like real life.

There's always one isn't there? You know the one that tells you, 'tomatoes are actually a fruit not a vegetable.' Err yeah, I know that! smart a**e 'And so are cucumbers, bell peppers and avocados plus a few others. Did you know strawberries and raspberries aren't berries?' OK stop now mate, you are getting on my nerves.

But still they carry on. 'Mountain goats aren't really goats and killer whales never kill much at all and definitely not humans. White rhinos aren't white at all, not even remotely white.' I walk away when he gets on to Sperm whales!

mikesenker@gmail.com

Questions over hiring

A COUNCILLOR in Cantoria has asked for an explanation amidst claims that the town's mayor has put an associate of her husband's on an authority payroll.

Pepe Llamas, of the conservative Partido Popular (PP), claimed the municipal advisor was being paid €34,000 a year. He had also been given use of a council-owned home and vehicle 24 hours a day, Llamas added.

"It is very strange that a person without accredited training costs the town of Cantoria €2,400 a month, has a vehicle at his disposal and lives in a rural house belonging to the council," Llamas said.

The councillor made the claims based on the worker's recruitment file which he said he had obtained after making several requests.

€17,500 is music to the ears

THE Junta de Andalucía has approved the expenditure of €17,500 through the Ministry of Education to improve facilities across four music and dance schools in Almería.

The money will be spent on the provision of new instruments, as well as more teachers, assistants, and a greater range of activities.

Those schools which will benefit from the funding are located in Cuevas de Almanzora, Pulpi, Nijar and Vera.

Delegate for Education, Francisca Fernandez, said: "This funding is essential for the training of students in artistic pursuits, with particular focus on nurturing early music education, the enjoyment of music performance and of music as art."

The musical training will not only be academic, but will involve cultural, aesthetic and psychological aspects.

The grant has been approved by the General Directorate of Educational Planning, and will be overseen by the Ministry of Education.

PITCH PERFECT: Investment to improve facilities for pupils at four music and dance schools in Almería.



Credit: @AlmeriaJunta/Twitter

PSOE defends its reputation

SPOKESMAN for the PSOE in Albox, Francisco Carillo, has emphasised that the ruling recently made by the Court of Almería made no reference to the salaries of socialist councillors.

Carrillo highlighted that only a year ago, PP councillor Perez Quiles was caught receiving two salaries at the same time,

However, following a complaint made by Mr Quiles, the PSOE has been forced to defend its own behaviour on this issue.

"This episode is nothing more than a tantrum," said Mr Carillo.

"This is entire speculation from Mr Quiles, who is guilty from his own scandal and now wants to make us all look like him, when it is not true."

Oil winch restoration gets lift off

THE council of Cuevas del Almanzora is investing its own funds to draw up plans for the restoration of the oil derrick of Sierra Almagrera.

Mayor Antonio Fernandez said: "This is a project that will see the drafting of plans of this refurbishment work, including engineering, health and safety, and budget calculations.

"It will also include paperwork from the Culture Delegation, with a

range of changes made in order to comply with the Heritage Commission."

The works are being put out to tender and the winning company will have a maximum period of one month to carry them out.

The oil derrick is located in the Chaparral ravine of Sierra Almagrera, and is one of the oldest in Spain and Europe, dating from 1873.

It contains a master well, a wooden mining winch with two wheels and a metal structure with a steam engine.

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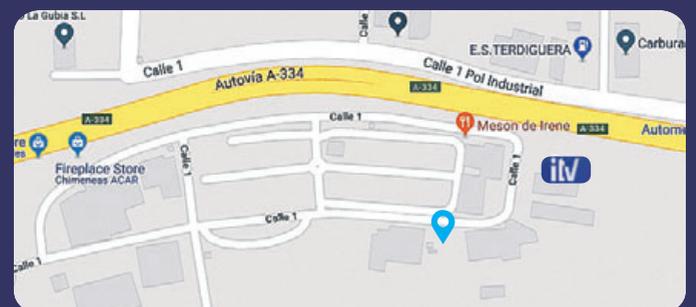
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Authority splashes out on water network

by **Christophe De Chaume**

THE Diputacion de Almeria will invest more than €130,000 in the improvement of the Water Cycle Network, incorporating six streets.

The move was announced by the Councillor for Public Works, Oscar Liria, who explained that the project is included in the Investment Plan for the Improvement of Water Infrastructures.

This is part of an investment of more than €8 million in the localities of Levante and Almanzora between 2017 and 2018 to make the network managed by

GALASA more efficient and sustainable.

It is a project that will overhaul the existing network which is obsolete and susceptible to leaks, causing significant water losses.

The restructuring will require excavation work to replace and modernise 590 metres of piping and 76 connections.

"Since 2011 we have invested more than €30 million to guarantee our water supply in the province," said Mr Liria.

"It has been left to this authority to promote measures to save the GALASA company and provide better infrastructures."

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Official visits



FIRST OUTING: Manuel de la Fuente (centre, right) chaired a meeting.

CUEVAS DEL ALMANZORA has hosted the newly appointed representative of the Spanish government in Almeria, the first town to do so.

Manuel de la Fuente chaired a meeting covering security arrangements for the upcoming Dreambeach Festival which is set to be held in Villaricos and Palomares from August 8 to 12.

A meeting was also held between the subdelegate and local officials covering a range of issues. He also signed the council's Book of Honour.

Antonio Fernandez, Cuevas del Almanzora's mayor, said he was grateful to Fuente for coming to the town before any other. He added that officers had been able to cover a number of issues in meetings during the visit.

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Charity 'pilgrimage' plans



PILGRIMAGE: Hikers are set to visit the Saliente Monastery.

CHAPMAN'S Bar and Restaurant in Albox has organised a hike to the town's Saliente Monastery in aid of local charities. The Saliente Pilgrimage is set to see walkers scale the mountain on September 7.

Connor and Tonia Gray, from the bar, said in a statement the trek would start in the town centre with walkers due to hike the 24 kilometres up the rambla.

"The Pilgrimage is likely to take between six and seven hours, especially as the last few kilometres are straight uphill and it will still be pretty hot," they said.

Money raised from the walk is set to be split equally among four different charities: Animal Protection Society Albox (APSA), Age Support Almanzora, Vera Orphanage and the Walk for Life cancer charity.

"Please support them as they would like to raise at least €2,000 (€500 per charity). Thank you all in advance," Connor and Tonia Gray said.

The bar said sponsorship forms would be available to pick up in locations including APSA and Age Support's buildings, Chapmans, Cutting Edge, Lulu's Dog Grooming, Total Entertainment and CAT services.

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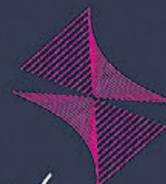
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MOST gardeners and chefs are aware of the importance of herbs for flavouring and spicing-up meals to give a taste that is both exotic and interesting.

Herbs also give a bundle of nutrients that most vegetables do not provide.

Garnishing and seasoning adds a touch of class to even simple meals but having fresh herbs is always a challenge unless you have space and time for a herb garden.

It is a bother to have to find time to go to markets and find out that the not so fresh herbs wilt even more by the time they are taken home and added to the meal. The easier thing is to add dried herbs, but these are never as good as freshly picked herbs.

The easiest way to have fresh herbs is to have a window or planter box as near to the kitchen as possible and grow the herbs there. A simple tray with the herbs in pots in a place with plenty of light can allow you have fresh herbs right in your kitchen.

Even if you do not have green fingers you can have the advantages of fresh herbs by buying ready-grown



FRESH HERBS: Easy to grow and add flavour to food.

plants and just pick the leaves you need as they keep growing. When the plant cannot produce sufficient for your needs, or has passed its time, just buy another.

The herbs in pots are generally not

expensive in comparison to buying bunches of fresh picked leaves that deteriorate so quickly after you buy them.

It is better in general to buy the growing plant and use it fresh to add

vitality to the meal. If you have used fresh herbs direct from plants you will know the difference.

I prefer to harvest herbs just when they are to be added to a meal so having them growing nearby is important.

If you have time, space and interest you can grow many from seed in a very small area and save yourself the need to buy the plants. There is a lot of satisfaction in growing your own if you can.

The best herbs to grow are of course the ones that you would use the most and that will grow in small containers. Some herbs, such as lemongrass, are too big for small containers but are fine if you have a place for large containers.

The most suitable herbs for small containers in a Mediterranean zone include basil, chives, thyme, lemon balm, oregano, parsley, various mints, coriander (Cilantro), rosemary, sage, tarragon, stevia, camomile, dill, fennel, lemon verbena and marjoram.

If you buy the plants, the pot they come in is often sufficient to last a couple of months. If they are still growing strong after this time, it is a good idea to repot them into a larger container to allow them space to continue to grow.

If you select plants of a good size you can harvest fresh herbs at home with a minimum of fuss for weeks at a time.

Watering your garden in summer

NOW that the heat and humidity have arrived on the coast, provisions for watering the garden need serious consideration in order to keep it thriving through the

hot summer months.

These are the hot tips from local gardening professionals:

The best block of time to do any work in the garden

would ideally be between 5am and 9am.

The cooler temperatures at these hours of the day allow the plants to absorb water before the heat of the

sun burns off the moisture.

If watering the plants at this time of the morning is impractical, apparently the next best time advised by the experts to water plants

out in the sun is three hours before sunset.

Plants need time to dry off before sunset otherwise mildews and other issues will arise in them. It is ad-

vised to only water shaded gardens in the early evening if desperate.

Watering the grass is a difficult balance. Whilst wanting to keep the grass alive, wasting water so that it looks like a golf course isn't necessary.

Healthy turf that goes dormant with a brown appearance will bounce back when temperatures cool down.

For best results they recommend watering heavily and less frequently rather than lightly and more often. One inch of water is the general rule of thumb, a good gauge is to place an empty tuna can on the grass as you water and when it is full the grass is fully watered.

Unlike plants, the best time to water grass is at night. Sprinkler timers are available in most hardware stores or garden centres up and down the coast.

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Sonya Piggot - House-sitter.

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MOTORING FACT



In Mexico, it isn't necessary to take a driving test since anyone over 18 can buy a licence for 626 pesos (£28). There are more than four million cars in Mexico City alone.

THE performance prowess of the new Ford Fiesta ST is demonstrated by a new film that features an amazing driving location - 400 metres below ground in one of Europe's largest salt mines.

Shot at a secret location with World Rally Championship driver Elfyn Evans at the wheel, the Fiesta ST is seen slipping, sliding and jumping in the dirt. The sound of the 200PS 1.5-litre Eco-Boost engine is amplified by its surroundings as it tackles a high-speed drop through the narrow, entrance tunnel.

"The salt is actually like fine gravel to drive on, quite slippery to be honest, especially on road tyres," said Evans. "You expect it to be claustrophobic but actually it's quite the opposite, a great place to really enjoy the new Fiesta ST."

A series of stern tests have taken place in some of the most stunning environments across the continent - from the Arctic Circle in Norway, to the sunny climes of Mallorca. Until now,

Underground, overground ... Fiesta ready for a challenge



Photo credit: Ford Media Centre

STERN: The new Fiesta ST has undergone rigorous tests.

all the locations have been above ground.

Ford chose the secret salt mine location for a new TV advert that sees the car put through its paces within the mine's 60-kilometre network of tunnels, where temperatures are a constant 16°C and safety precautions required that a skeleton crew was used for the three-day shoot amid strict safety precautions.

"The drama of the tunnels and the chance to show off Fiesta ST's ability on a different type of surface were a big part of choosing this unique location," said Leo Roeks, Ford Performance director. "It wasn't a typical race track, it was somewhere we could drive this great car to its full potential."

Robot car technology improved

AN autonomous car has used artificial intelligence to improve its driving skills within 20 minutes.

The team at Wayve showed how a Renault fitted with the technology used trial and error to correctly follow a lane, without the use of sensors and engineered rules as other self-driving cars work.

Wayve co-Founder and chief executive Amar Shah said: "The missing piece of the self-driving puzzle is intelligent algorithms."

Five-star blaze

A MINIVAN pulled away from a petrol station in St Louis, Missouri with the fuel hose still attached. The result was an enormous spray of petrol which ignited and turned a nearby blue Lamborghini Huracan's hot-running V10 engine into a fireball.

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Audi Q8 set to challenge its competitors

THE Audi Q8 combines the best of two worlds: the elegance of a four-door luxury coupe and the convenient versatility of a large SUV.

The generously dimensioned interior with variable luggage compartment, state-of-the-art operating and suspension technologies, as well as intelligent assistance systems, make the Audi Q8 a convincing companion for business and leisure.

With the permanent quattro all-wheel drive and a ground clearance of up to 254 millimetres, the SUV coupe can continue when paved roads end. The Audi Q8, which is manufac-

tured at the Bratislava plant, can be ordered in Europe now and will be available at dealers in August. Prices start at €76,300.

With a wheelbase of almost three metres (9.8 ft), the Audi Q8 offers ample space for five people. The interior space exceeds that of the direct competitors in almost all relevant dimensions.

The Audi Q8 is a representative of the progressive design language that Audi f i r s t

brought onto the road with the new A8.

Strong contours and athletically tight surfaces convey a feeling of power, sophistication and the special dynamics of the permanent all-wheel drive.

The Q8 interprets this in its very own way, as the fusion of an elegant four-door luxury coupe with a large SUV, and with echoes of an Audi icon - the original Quattro.



Photo credit: Audi Media Centre

LUXURY: Available to buy in Europe next month.



Photo credit: Elektroauto

CONFUSED: More charging points than believed for electric cars.

Electric car myths busted

THE British public lack understanding when it comes to pure electric cars, with half of Brits saying they wouldn't be able to describe what one is to someone else.

Joint industry and government campaign, Go Ultra Low, is working to dispel myths and give Brits the facts about the benefits of choosing a pure electric car

New research published this week has revealed that there is a huge amount of misunderstanding within the British public when it comes to pure electric cars, with many unaware of the benefits around performance, charging and cost.

One of the biggest areas of confusion is whether you can

put an electric car through a car wash.

While this is no issue - just as with a petrol or diesel car - a significant number admit they aren't sure if this is an option for pure electric car owners.

Nearly half think petrol or diesel cars accelerate quicker than a pure electric, even though, in many cases, the opposite is true.

And finally, many don't realise how many charge points there are throughout the UK.

On average they think there are only 6,000 charge point connectors, when actually there are more than twice that amount, at around 17,000.

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ROAD TEST

by Nick Fletcher

Suzuki Ignis

KEY sales factors in the SUV sector are model practicality, style and image, so you have to give Suzuki great credit for coming up with a small and more radically designed SUV which really stands out.

The new Ignis is the size of a small city car but its high-up stance, flared arches and funky looks earn it top marks for visual charisma. It is also amazingly roomy inside, seating four adults with ease. With prices starting at just €11,325 (£9,995) it is no surprise it has made an immediate impact.

There is only one engine, a 1.2 litre 89 hp petrol, but it is also available with the option of a more economical mild-hybrid system, and there is also a four-wheel-drive option for those needing more grip. The engine gives a 0-100 kph time of 11.5 seconds and top speed of 165 kph (103

mph). Fuel economy is very good at 21.2 kpl (60.1 mpg) and emissions quite low at 106 g/km.

Three trim levels are available and my test model was a top-spec SZ5 with AllGrip four-wheel-drive and the hybrid system and priced at €17,555 (£15,499).

Standard kit is generous and includes colour touchscreen, sat nav, Bluetooth, DAB radio, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto smartphone mirroring. You also get four powered windows, roof rails, alloy wheels, air con, auto lights, rear parking camera, cruise control with speed-limiter as well as hill-hold and hill-descent controls.

On the move, Ignis is nimble thanks to its low-down weight and short wheelbase and is fun to drive. The engine is more quiet than most in the small-car sector, the five-

speed gearbox slick and the suspension set-up gives decent ride quality.

The two-tone cabin looks attractive, and is well laid out. Trim materials are not top grade but do look durable. The 260-litre boot is bigger than in most city cars and the split-fold rear seats also slide back and forth so passenger and load space can be varied and with the seats down, load space is increased to a surprising 1,086 litres.

Ignis is a nicely-created package aimed at those who want a lot of car for their money and a stand-out image.

**STATS PANEL**

- **Model:** Suzuki Ignis SZ5
- **Engine:** 1.2 litre petrol
- **Transmission:** 5-speed manual
- **Performance:** 0-100 kph 11.5 seconds, top speed 165 kph (103 mph)
- **Economy:** 21.2 kpl (60.1 mpg)
- **Emissions:** 106 g/km

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


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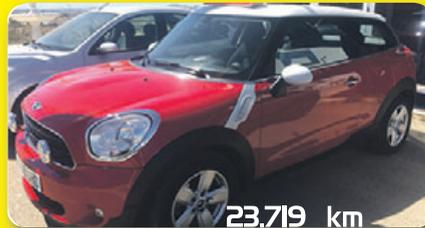
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FRANCE won the Fifa World Cup for the second time after beating Croatia 4-2 in a thrilling final in Moscow.

A Mario Mandzukic own goal from a free kick (18 mins) got France on the board, but Ivan Perisic replied 10 minutes later with a well-taken left foot strike into the corner.

Croatia then felt they were on the wrong end of another controversial VAR decision, shortly before half time.

Referee Nestor Pitana contentiously awarded a spot-kick for a handball by Perisic, after consulting pitch-side replays, which Griezmann calmly converted.

In a high-octane second half, France drove the dagger deeper with two crisp strikes in six minutes from Paul Pogba and Kylian Mbappe, either side of the hour mark.

Croatia, however, showed the spirit that got them into the final, refusing to give up



VIVE LA FRANCE: The French team celebrates a deserved World Cup triumph.

Oui are the champions

France win second World Cup crown

and even clawing a goal back when Mandzukic pounced on a poor error

from France goalkeeper Hugo Lloris.

But France saw out the

win to make manager Didier Descamps only the third person to lift the trophy as a

player and manager, following Mario Zagallo and Franz Beckenbauer.

Meanwhile, England's campaign in Russia ended with a 2-0 defeat by Belgium that meant the Three Lions finished in fourth place.

Thomas Meunier put Belgium ahead after just four minutes when he slid in ahead of Danny Rose to divert Nacer Chadli's cross past goalkeeper Jordan Pickford.

England had chances to level in the second half as Toby Alderweireld cleared off the line from Eric Dier, while Harry Maguire also headed wide from a good position.

Eden Hazard wrapped it up for Belgium with eight minutes left when he got the better of Phil Jones to drive past Pickford, who had just saved smartly from Meunier.

In some ways it was a game neither side really wanted, but to finish the tournament in fourth place is a proud achievement for Gareth Southgate's young side.

Golden boy

ENGLAND captain Harry Kane won the Golden Boot after finishing as the World Cup's top scorer with six goals.

Croatia's midfield maestro Luka Modric took home the Golden Ball, a deserving award as player of the tournament.

Kane is the second Englishman to end as the top scorer in a World Cup after Gary Lineker scored six goals in 1986.

He had 14 shots in the tournament and scored with all six of his shots on target.



CAPTAIN FANTASTIC: Kane will only get better in an England shirt.

Joshua to square up to Povetkin

BRITAIN'S Anthony Joshua will defend his world heavyweight titles against Russian Alexander Povetkin at Wembley Stadium on September 22.

The 28-year-old unified the WBA, IBF and WBO world heavyweight belts with a unanimous points win over New Zealander Joseph Parker in Cardiff in March.

Unbeaten in 21 professional fights, he now faces 38-year-old Povetkin, the WBA champion from 2011-2013.

Povetkin knocked out Liverpoolian David Price on the Joshua-Parker undercard in Cardiff.

The experienced Russian has suffered only one defeat since his professional debut in 2005, losing by unanimous decision to Wladimir Klitschko in Moscow in 2013.

The bout will also be a meeting of two former Olympic champions, Povetkin



PACKING PUNCHES: Joshua is seeking global domination of his sport.

taking super-heavyweight gold at the 2004 Athens Games and Joshua the same title at London 2012.

"I can't wait to get back in the ring, the end of March feels a long time ago now," said Joshua.

"Povetkin has serious pedigree and only a fool would underestimate what he brings to the table."

The Russian was banned in March 2017 after failing a second drug test in a year but was cleared to resume fighting nine months later.



JOE ROOT'S gritty century laid the foundations for England's series-levelling victory over India in the second one-day international at Lord's. Root made 113 as England won by 86 runs, to take the series to a decider.

TO READ MORE

GB sprints home third



AWESOME FOURSOME: The athletes celebrate a superb victory.

GREAT BRITAIN finished third in the inaugural Athletics World Cup at London stadium, thanks in part to a surprise victory in the women's 4x100m relay.

British anchor Shannon Hylton held off Jamaican Tissanna Hickling for the hosts' only win on the second day.

Britons Morgan Lake, Nick Miller, and Adelle Tracey won silvers in the high jump, hammer and 800m respectively.

The United States finished ahead of Poland to top the overall standings, sharing a prize pot of almost €400,000.

US captain, Queen Harrison, said: "It is fantastic to be the first winners of the Platinum trophy. Every other country will have to

come and live up to that and try to win it, and we will really want to come back and win it again."

Former world champion Dai Greene, representing Britain for the first time since 2013 after a run of injuries, came third in the 400m hurdles.

Beth Dobbin marked her international debut with third in the 200m and Neil Gourley won bronze in the 1,500m.

There was confusion before the men's 4x400m relay, when Britain were forced to withdraw due to an injury.



NINE DINING: Marquez celebrates his ninth consecutive win in Germany.

Marquez extends lead

HONDA'S Marc Marquez clinched an incredible ninth consecutive German Grand Prix triumph to extend his MotoGP lead.

The Spaniard has now won in the top category at Sachsenring for the past six years and three times in the smaller classes before that.

Marquez took a major step towards a fourth consecutive world championship with his fifth win of the season, at what is likely to be the final MotoGP at the Sachsenring before the Nurburgring takes over.

The season heads into the summer break with Marquez leading by 46 points in the rider's

standings, with the 25-year-old leading Valentino Rossi by nearly a two-race advantage.

Yet just like in Assen it was the Ducati of Jorge Lorenzo who shot out into the lead.

When Lorenzo ran out wide at turn one on lap 12, Marquez elected against rushing through and waited until the end of the lap to line up his fellow Spaniard and slide past at the final corner.

From there Marquez set about pulling away from the rest of the field, and despite a brief fightback from Rossi, he was able to cruise home to take the chequered flag.

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