

# SUR

## in English

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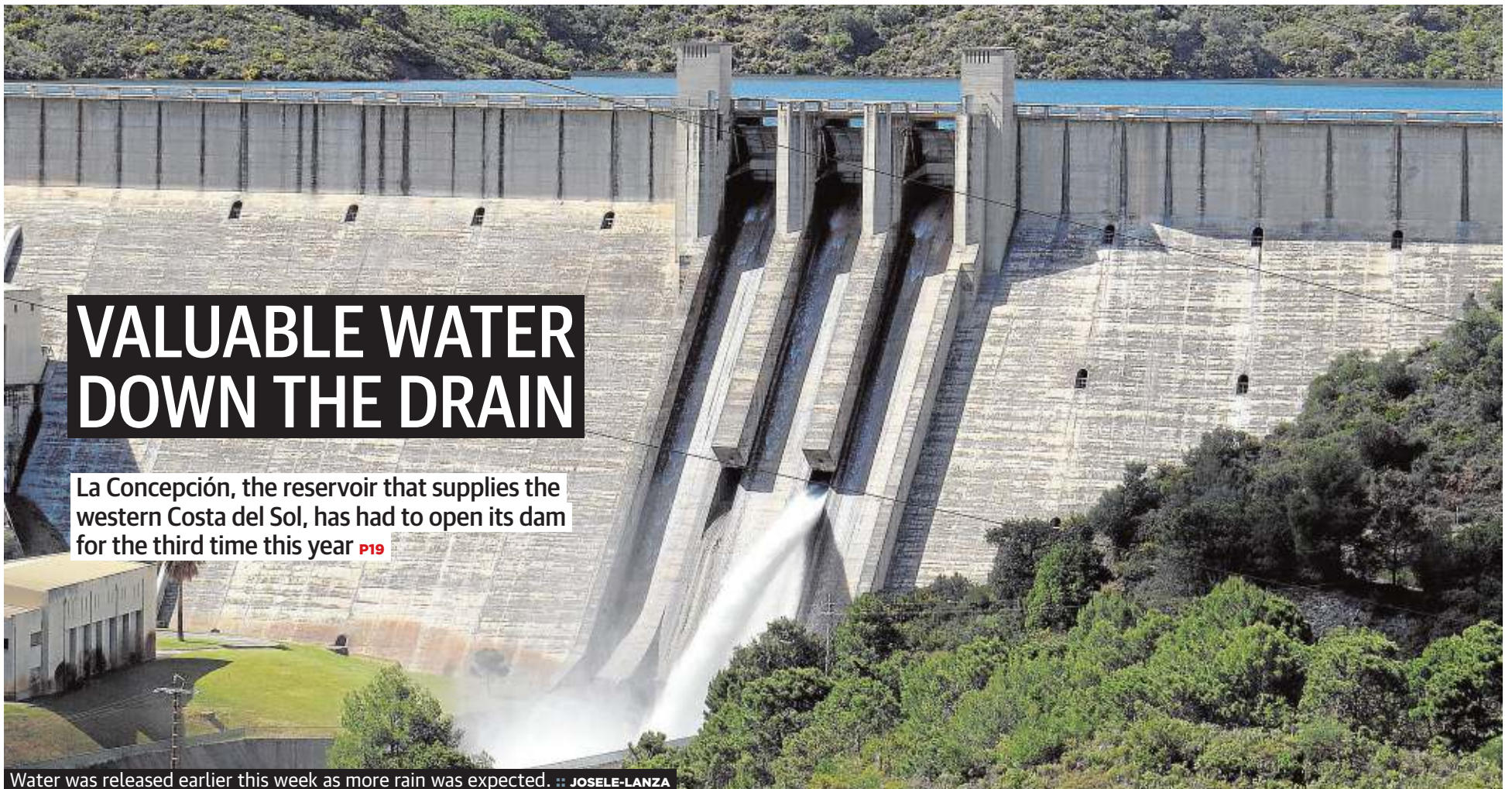
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**COSTA DEL GOLF**

**Top of the class in golf on the Costa**

University courses, Open hopes, Masters disappointments and gender gap battles in this month's edition **INSIDE**



## VALUABLE WATER DOWN THE DRAIN

La Concepción, the reservoir that supplies the western Costa del Sol, has had to open its dam for the third time this year **P19**

Water was released earlier this week as more rain was expected. **JOSELE-LANZA**

# Marbella prepares to fine shirtless tourists this summer with new bylaw

A revamped set of rules to combat antisocial behaviour has been drawn up covering everything from bathing trunks and rude dolls in the street to sexism and ageism

Councillors in Marbella have moved a step closer to getting to grips with the antisocial behaviour that upset many people across the municipality last summer.

Foreign tourists roaming the streets without shirts, especially around Puerto Banús, and hen and

stag parties are just two of the groups that local police will have in their sights this year.

Those caught won't be fined immediately and will receive a warning, but repeat offenders will face a penalty of up to 750 euros.

The new set of bylaws, which is

at public consultation stage before a council vote, should be in place by June.

It draws old bylaws together into one place and also covers heftier fines for incidents like bullying among children and discrimination based on age or sex. **P12**

### SPORT

## Duane makes dream comeback with two golds

The Malaga swimmer returned from a two-year absence to claim two gold medals in the Spanish Championships **P57**



**Cudeca hospice reports nearly four million euros of revenue** in its 25th anniversary year and announces new research centre **P13**

**Sheikh Al-Thani's future at the head of Malaga CF in doubt** as the BlueBay group sets its sights on taking control of the club once again **P53**

**New excavations promised** after surveys reveal that Malaga has the "best-preserved Phoenician settlement" in the Western world **P16**

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# Construction recovery leads to birth of new companies

Ten years after the property bubble burst, the Costa del Sol is seeing a new boom in construction and real estate companies. A third of all new businesses in the province are involved in property development, building or sales



NURIA TRIGUERO

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Ten years after the property bubble burst, the Malaga economy is back on track. Construction, property development and sales have once again become the leading sectors in which to set up in business in the province, according to the report 'Statistics regarding companies in Andalucía' from the Institute of Statistics and Cartography of Andalucía (Ieca).

One in every three companies created in Malaga last year was linked in some way to property; more than 1,700 new competitors joined the sector, encouraged by signs that Malaga is the Spanish province with the most sales in relation to its size.

Of the companies created in the province last year, 789 were in real estate and 785 were in construction. In addition there were 155 new companies dedicated to "specialised construction", which is also in the top ten of the most dynamic sectors. Altogether in these three segments there were 1,729 new companies, which is about 33.8 per cent of the total of 5,111.

This increase is evident from a walk down any main shopping street, where estate agencies once again proliferate. Not only are franchises such as Tecnocasa, Redpiso, Look & Find,



An apartment block under construction in the Teatinos district of Malaga city.  
:: NITO SALAS

Unicasa and RE/Max speeding up their expansion plans in Malaga province, but new local or regional chains are also growing, as are new independent agencies.

The number of self-employed professionals in the property business is also increasing, and they do not need an office because they take advantage

of the potential of the internet and social media.

When the construction industry in Malaga began to pick up again in 2014, most new companies were in this sector. In that year 1,103 construction companies were set up in the province. Estate agencies also increased, but at a slower rate: 699 were

created in 2014. The proportion in 2015 and 2016 was similar, but last year more new businesses were involved in real estate. Judging by the figures for January this year, the trend is intensifying. In that month alone, 115 new estate agencies were set up, compared with 54 in the construction industry.

An obvious question arises: is there a risk of another property bubble? To answer that, it is best to look at different sectors.

In terms of construction, the general secretary of the Association of Constructors and Developers of Malaga (ACP), Violeta Aragón, is clear: "Bearing in mind the huge numbers of construction companies that have disappeared in the past ten years, there is still a long way to go for the sector to get back to where it was," she says.

The statistics support that: according to the 'Directory of economically active establishments and companies in Andalucía', in 2007 there were 17,512 active construction companies in Malaga. That figure dropped from 2009 onwards, and reached rock bottom in 2012 when there were just 11,475, a reduction of 34.5 per cent. In 2016, the last year for which figures are available, there were 12,268, still far lower than pre-crisis levels.

"We are starting from levels that are so low that the growth seems exorbitant, but we aren't worried at all about a possible saturation, at least for the moment," says Violeta Aragón.

## A good time

She is convinced that this is a good time to open a business in the property sector and points out that new niches have arisen in the market: share management, residential and commercial letting and restoring properties for holiday rentals, for example. "Properties are being restored because of the increased demand for holiday apartments, not only in Malaga city, but in other municipalities such as Marbella," she says.

In terms of construction, the focus has been mainly on small specialist companies which offer their services to the big construction firms. "Obviously we are talking about residential building, because there are still very few infrastructure contracts on offer," says Violeta. "Until there is investment in public works again



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'Top ten' of companies created in Malaga in 2017

1	Property sector	789
2	Construction	785
3	Food and drink services	583
4	Wholesale retailing apart from motor vehicles and motorcycles	536
5	Retail sales apart from motor vehicles and motorcycles	335
6	Accommodation services	175
7	Specialist construction	155
8	Sale and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	132
9	Centralised activities; consulting and business management	114
10	Land-based transport	101

Source: Institute of Statistics and Cartography of Andalucía (Ieca)

we will see very little development in inland areas or on the east coast of Malaga. The construction sector is still nowhere near the size it should be in a province like this.”

Fewer new businesses have been set up in the property development sector, partly because of the difficulties that still exist in obtaining bank finance. Residential development in the province these days is still dominated by major international and Spanish companies and financial institutions, apart from some Andalusian companies such as Myramar or Insur.

With regard to estate agencies, opinions differ about the risk of saturation. For Lázaro Cubero, the head of the analysis and reports department of Grupo Tecnocasa, the sector is “returning to normal” after the crisis which resulted in many agencies closing down.

“The number of estate agencies has to correspond to the level of sales and demand,” he says, although he admits that “the risk of saturation does exist, mainly in the big cities, which is where most new businesses open”.

At present Tecnocasa has 24 offices in Malaga province; it opened three last year and plans to open a further six this year. “In Malaga city alone we have 14,300 clients who want to buy an apartment to live in, another 1,500 who are looking for a house and 3,500 clients who want somewhere to rent,” says Lázaro.

José Antonio Pérez, director of the Real Estate Chair of the Institute of Business Practice, confirms that numerous new businesses have opened now that the market has picked up, but he also warns: “If the trends in growth are not maintained, the current cannibalism with regard to resale properties will increase, because the more companies open up the less business there is to go round. The same thing will apply to legal and technical studios, and construction companies”.

Workers in the construction sector in Malaga province



Source: Ministry of Employment and Social Security

Among the estate agencies, one type is proving particularly successful: companies which specialise in foreign buyers. One of these is Azul Real Estate, an agency founded in 2013, the worst year of the crisis.

“We knew that was the time to do it because if you start when things have already begun to improve you miss out on an opportunity,” says

Paco Sánchez, one of the partners in the company. It was a risky commitment at the time, but worked out well. The company now has three offices, two in Malaga city and one in Marbella, and 26 staff.

“About 70 per cent of our sales are to foreign clients. The market is growing thanks to foreign demand, but not everybody can access it. This

is a highly professional business and you need to be a certain size, have international contacts, financing ability and technology,” he says.

Azul Real Estate has an alliance with the multinational Coldwell Banker. “Local estate agencies work in a smaller market, but in times of growth everyone gets their share of the cake,” he says.

Constructors warn that there is now a lack of specialised labour

N. T.

**MALAGA.** Although there are still more than 16,000 people unemployed in the construction sector in Malaga province, the demand for specialist workers has already begun to exceed the numbers available, according to local developers.

“Formworkers, plasterers, machine operators... the companies can’t find the specialists they need,” says the general secretary of the Association of Constructors and Developers of Malaga, Violeta Aragón.

“The problem is that there has been no work for ten years so many have changed profession or have retired,” she explains.

For two years this sector has created more jobs than any other. Since February last year 5,426 workers have registered with Social Security, an increase of 13 per cent. In addition 500 jobs have been created in the real estate sector.

In those two years, property construction and sales have generated more than 11,000 jobs in the province, an increase of 25.5 per cent.

At present about 55,000 people earn their living in these sectors; this is still far lower than before the economic crisis, but there is a clear upward trend.

Where there is a risk of saturation, in his opinion, is in property development. “Prices are going up too quickly and there could be an excess of property on the market in the short term. Many of the projects planned at the moment are not going to succeed because they don’t meet clients’ demands with regard to location or facilities,” he says.

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# Estepona beach club burned down in brutal attack by three hooded men

The police are searching for the attackers who, armed with a pistol, tied up the guard before setting fire to Heaven Beach Club

by J. CANO / C. MÁRQUEZ

**MÁLAGA.** The National Police are investigating an arson attack at a beach bar in Estepona. Three hooded men entered the bar, beat and tied up one of the guards and set fire to the premises.

The events took place at 3am on Sunday morning at Heaven Beach Club, which is located on Guadalmansa beach at the mouth of the river with the same name.

In the beach bar, which was closed to the public at the time, two members of security staff were working. One of them heard a noise and when he went to take a look he was surprised by three men dressed in black and wearing ski masks. One of them was carrying a pistol.

The attackers tied his hands together with a rope before beating him several times, according to the police. They also stole his mobile phone and some of his other personal possessions.



The condition of the structure after Sunday's fire. by CHARO MÁRQUEZ

His colleague, who had not yet been discovered, managed to escape and ran to the nearest house, asking them to call the police.

By the time the police arrived, the men had already set fire to the structure after pouring flammable liquid on a mattress found in the kitchen.

Before making their escape, however, they carried the guard, at this point with serious injuries, 500 metres away from the site so that he was not killed in the blaze.

The police investigations are ongoing as they continue to search for the men and determine possible motives for the attack.

## 112 REPORTS



Spanish and Irish police arrest Dean Evans in Fuengirola. by SUR

## IRA man wanted for murder arrested in Fuengirola

MARBELLA

by M. PÉREZ / J. CANO. Spanish and Irish police officers in Fuengirola have arrested Dean Evans, 28, a member of the IRA terror group who is accused of a murder committed in the Irish town of Gormanston in 2013, as well as taking part in at least one other similar crime. The arrest was carried out at the end of last week by the

Costa del Sol's drugs and organised crime squad, UDYCO, with members of the Spanish Police's fugitive localisation team and officers from the Irish Garda.

Evans had been charged, along with two others for the murder of Peter Butterly, who was shot dead in a car park on 6 March 2013. Days before the start of the trial in January last year, Evans disappeared along with his partner.

The other two men were tried and received life sentences. A Euro arrest warrant (OEDE) had been issued in March 2017.

## Fifteen years for Dane who strangled wife with phone charger cable

MÁLAGA

by Á. F. / J. C. A court in Malaga has sentenced a Danish man to 15 years in prison for the murder of his partner in a Torre del Mar hotel room in 2015.

As reported in SUR in English last week, the man, 54, denied killing her, saying that the couple practised erotic asphyxiation and that he hadn't realised she was dead until the next morning.

However, according to the sentence to which SUR has had access, the man returned to the hotel where the couple were staying, pursuing the women after she returned there following an argument in a beach bar.

He then strangled her with a phone charger and then didn't call the police until the next day, allowing him time to manipulate the crime scene.

As part of the sentence, the man must also pay the father of the victim 200,000 euros in damages.

## Drunk driver who tried to bribe Guardia Civil officers faces three years

MÁLAGA

by J. C. / Á. F. Public prosecutors in Malaga are calling for three and a half years in prison for a man accused of threatening road safety and bribery.

According to reports from the Guardia Civil, a 65-year-old Hungarian man was spotted driving "erratically" at the wheel of a Mercedes on the A-7 motorway as it passed through Marbella in the early hours of 29 October 2014.

Having stopped the man and breathalysed him, he was found to be above the limit at which point he took out his wallet and "repeatedly" offered the officers twenty euros so they would drop the case.

The prosecution is calling for fines totalling 14,400 euros, for his driving licence to be revoked for two years, and for him to serve a three-and-a-half-year prison sentence for attempted bribery of a law enforcement officer.

## Neighbour stabbed in Fuengirola over noise complaint

MÁLAGA

by J. CANO / Á. FRÍAS. A conflict between neighbours over noise ended with a man seriously injured, another victim with superficial injuries and five arrests in Fuengirola last weekend. The events took place at 4am on Saturday morning on Calle Las Yucas.

One of the victims, 42, was taken to hospital in a critical condition after being stabbed in the right lung. On their arrival at the scene, offi-

cers found the man with a stab wound lying next to his brother-in-law, who had superficial injuries.

Two witnesses said that an argument had broken out between the men and some youths, after the former had complained about the noise.

The attackers fled the scene, but one of the youths was found by officers hiding on some wasteland not far away, and two others were nearby. All three of them are Norwegians between the ages of 20 and 24. Two more people, thought to have been with the suspects at the time, were also arrested.



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If one of your pipes has burst, particularly at night or at the weekend, it can be a very stressful situation. Trying to control the leak, trying to track down an emergency plumber and trying to limit the damage being caused by the spill. The damage and repairs can run into thousands. Even small leaks from faulty



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washing machines or dishwashers can quickly cause expensive damage, especially as people go on their summer breaks.

### TIPS IF YOU HAVE A LEAK

If you discover a leak, turn off the stopcock to stop the flow of water and then turn off your main electricity supply. Try and contain the water as much as possible placing buckets under leaks and turning on taps elsewhere in the house to reduce the pressure of escaping water. We advise taking photos of any resulting damage and keep all damaged possessions as evidence in the event of a claim.



# Town demands more resources to combat increasingly brazen illegal street-sellers

Benalmádena's Local Police and shopowners get ready for another summer of conflict with the people selling fake goods to tourists

:: ALBERTO GÓMEZ

**BENALMÁDENA.** Local Police, shopowners and town hall representatives in Benalmádena have been meeting this week to agree a plan of action for the summer to combat and police the annual influx of illegal street sellers, in many cases undocumented immigrants from west Africa, that locals say has become intolerable.

President of the Benalmádena shoptraders' association, Rosa María González, said this week that, "tourist resorts shouldn't tolerate this [bad] image, with the seafront clogged up [with sellers] and frequent arrests and police chases".

"We've been asking for months



File image of the street sellers with tourists last summer. :: SUR

for budget to be made available so the town hall can pay overtime to police, as they are not allowed to increase the total number of officers."

In a report on the situation, compiled by the Local Police chief, officers are asking to be allowed by cen-

tral government to recruit more officers. Benalmádena council, which is responsible for the Local Police, has its hands tied by rules that prevent it temporarily increasing the force for the peak summer months, when the municipality's popula-

tion trebles with the number of tourists.

The local force says that the sellers of goods on the seafront are becoming increasingly self-confident and causing more disruption. Last summer 5,665 items were seized by police before they could be sold.

"At the start, [the sellers] followed police instructions without resisting, then they started to flee and dump the merchandise, but now many cases of them resisting are coming to light and also acting aggressively, which is causing officers to go off sick and injured," explains the document.

Last year, local authorities met with representatives of the Senegalese immigrant community, which is where the biggest group of sellers comes from, to offer other options, such as setting up a cooperative or a street market in another area. However many sellers are illegal immigrants and the groups have been reluctant to give up the sale of profitable fake-branded goods.

## Amazon gets ready to open its first distribution warehouse on the Costa del Sol

:: IGNACIO LILLO

**MÁLAGA.** It seems that the craze for online shopping has finally hooked Costa del Sol residents. Leading online retailer, Amazon has announced that it is to open its first distribution centre in the area to cope with increasing local demand.

After reports last week that the company was searching hard for a large local base so it can fulfil its promise to customers to deliver goods in 24 hours, a temporary site for this summer has been found outside Málaga.

A deal has been reached with train infrastructure company, Adif to put up a temporary structure on 13,000 square metres of land next to the rail tracks at Los Prados, near the Guadalhorce industrial estate.

According to planning requests, a 2,750 square metre tent will go up to provide so-called "last-mile" deliveries of orders to the Costa. Goods will arrive overnight from the main distribution centres in Madrid and Barcelona before being sorted and sent out for delivery on shorter local runs. There will also be 26 shipping containers on-site converted into offices and services for staff.

Amazon already has a local distribution centre in Seville of some 10,000 metres where around 80 people are employed. The Málaga solution is only temporary and the company expects to be at this site for around two years while it finds a place to build a larger Costa facility.

As reported last week in SUR in English, the online retailer has been looking for some time for a Costa del Sol site but has been hampered by the lack of land available for larger-scale units. Restrictions on building by the Guadalhorce river, due to a flood threat, and failure by landowners to prepare land classified for industrial use has been blamed for the shortage, which is affecting other companies that need to open in the area.

## Lift at Los Boliches station is working again at last

The five-week delay was blamed on the need to appoint a new repair company, as Madrid says it won't improve access to other local stations

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

**FUENGIROLA.** After at least five weeks out of action, the lift up to the platform at Los Boliches train station, in Fuengirola, is working again.

The busy stop on the Cercanías line to Málaga, which is used by 600,000 passengers a year, has been without a lift service for five weeks. Following complaints by the Ciudadanos party on Fuengirola council and town hall investigations,

sources said that the delay in repairing the lift was because Adif, the publicly-owned company operating rail stations, hadn't renewed a maintenance contract.

The lift has now been repaired after council complaints and reports in local media, although it wasn't immediately clear if the repair contract has now been renewed as well.

### Other stations fare worse

While both Los Boliches and Fuengirola's main station can be reached by lift, the two other stations in the municipality, Caravajal and Torrealcaniz, are still without proper disabled access, say opposition politicians. Despite complaints to the national government, Madrid claims that the less-used stations are accessible, despite wheelchair users needing to climb steps.



Passengers can avoid the many steps and use the lift again. :: I.G.

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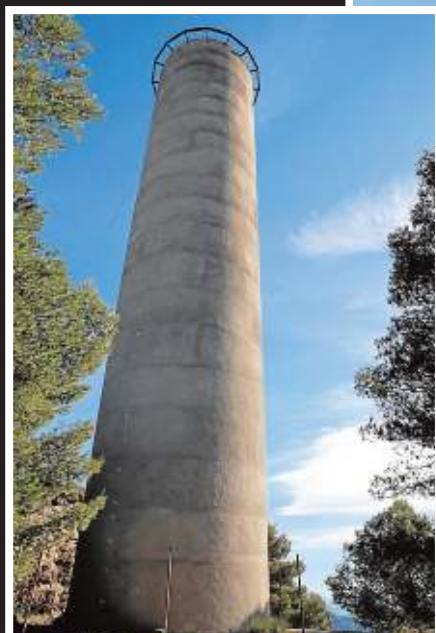
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The surge shaft has a diameter of 8 metres and is 100 metres tall, with 50 metres visible above ground and the other half underground.

:: SALVADOR SALAS

#### IN FIGURES

# 400

megawatts is the plant's nominal output, with four turbines that generate 100 megawatts each.

# 120,000

homes can be powered by the plant during the eight hours that it operates each day.

# 14

pumped storage hydro power stations exist in Spain. Malaga's is one of the most important.

# 1,500

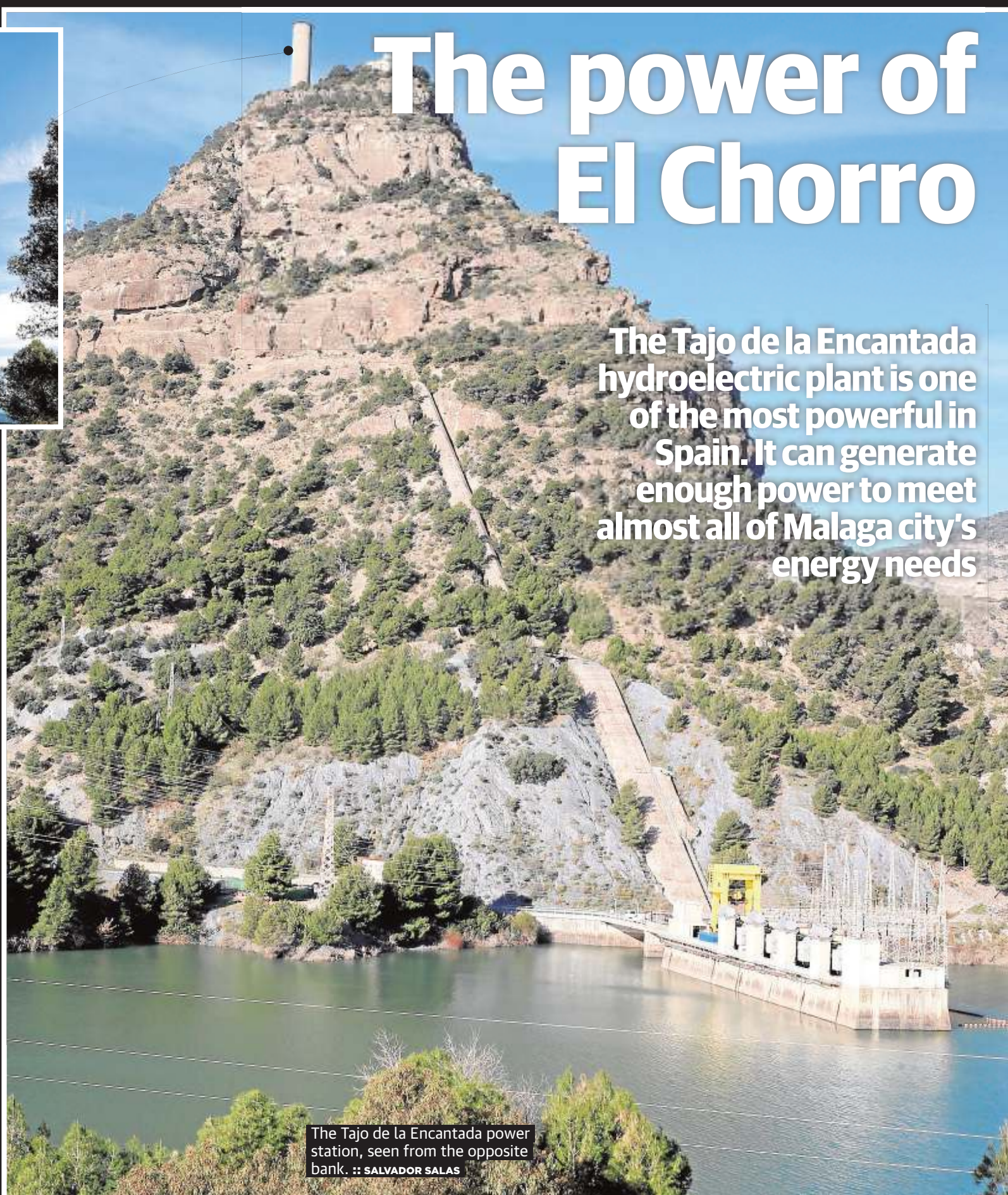
metres of pipeline connect the upper and lower reservoirs, with a height difference of 380 metres.

# 3

cubic hectometres are needed for the power station to operate. This is not lost; it is pumped up to the upper reservoir or allowed to fall as needed.

# The power of El Chorro

The Tajo de la Encantada hydroelectric plant is one of the most powerful in Spain. It can generate enough power to meet almost all of Malaga city's energy needs



The Tajo de la Encantada power station, seen from the opposite bank. :: SALVADOR SALAS

**MALAGA.** The mechanism is apparently simple: when electricity is cheap but not being used (for example, on a windy night, when the power generated by wind turbines supplies a network with little demand), the water is pumped from the lower reservoir to the higher one. It is left up there until there is a peak in demand, when it is allowed to fall to produce a large amount of electricity. The Tajo de la Encantada hydroelectric plant, owned by Endesa, is located in El Chorro, very close to the Caminito del Rey, and is one of Spain's most important power stations of its type. It has just undergone a major tech-

**IGNACIO LILLO**

✉ ilillo@diariosur.es



nical upgrade to ensure that it will continue to function for at least another three decades, and it is one of Malaga province's principal power suppliers. The total output is 400 megawatts (400,000 kilowatts) and, given that the average household energy consumption is 3,300 watts, some 120,000 homes can be directly

powered by the plant while it's producing electricity. That is approximately the entire population of the city of Malaga. Andrés Muñoz and Antonio Velasco, Endesa engineers in charge of the management of this and other local facilities, took SUR into the heart of this eco-friendly power factory.

Tajo de la Encantada was built in 1973. It is a pure pumped storage plant, operating a closed cycle, thanks to the reversible machinery.

"The turbines pump the water from the lower reservoir to a higher dam at the top of the mountain, and when the conditions of the power grid and the market required it, it is

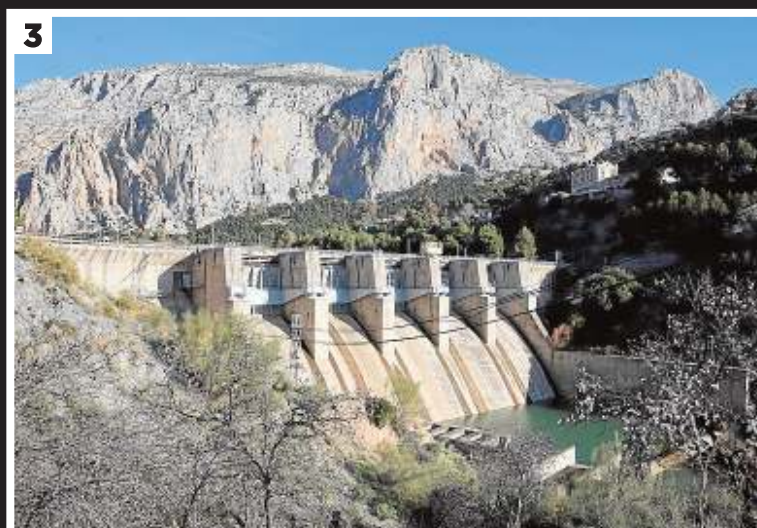
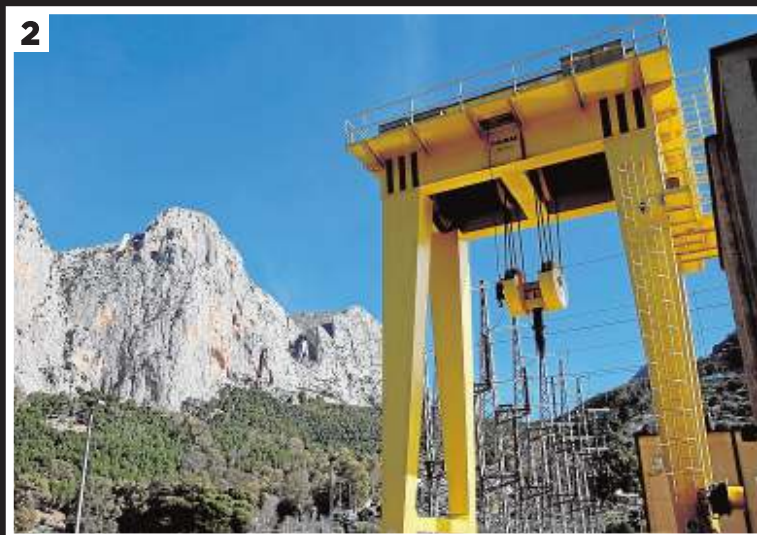
allowed to fall through a pressure pipe, onto the turbines and generate electrical power," they explain. The agua isn't lost or used, it just accumulates in the reservoir below. To power the turbines, three cubic hectometres of water need to fall.

The water is pumped back up to the top reservoir when there is a surplus electricity production locally.

"Wind turbines can generate electricity during the night, when there's wind, but there's little consumption," explain the experts.

However, when the electricity network is experiencing a spike in demand, and prices are more attractive, electricity can be produced "with





**1.** The upper reservoir, on top of the hill, where water is stored to be released when needed. :: SALVADOR SALAS

**2.** A heavy crane to move machinery around the site. :: SALVADOR SALAS

**3.** The lower dam, where the

water ends up after passing through the turbines. :: SALVADOR SALAS

**4.** The four turbines inside the power plant. :: SALVADOR SALAS

**5.** Technicians work in the control room of the hydroelectric plant. :: SALVADOR SALAS

the market has changed, but its primary function is still to maintain the stability of the electricity network.”

One of its principal functions, therefore, is to back up thermal and nuclear power stations. If there were a major blackout, the power generated could help to restart the thermal power plants in Los Barrios (Cádiz) and Carboneras (Almería), which would need 1,500 megawatts of power. “It’s like a huge backup generator for the big thermal and nuclear plants, which can’t start up by themselves.” According to the engineers, this kind of infrastructure shows the

difference between developed and developing countries, because developed countries have a strategic plan. This allows for, for example, the construction of high speed railways, airports and industry, “because a secure network exists”.

#### Underwater power

One of the most striking sights for visitors to El Chorro is the tower on top of the mountain, next to the higher reservoir. It is a surge shaft with a diameter of eight metres and a height of 50 metres, with a further 50 underground, which connects directly to the pipes that draw the water up. Each one of the four turbines uses

between 25 and 27 cubic metres, or more than 25,000 litres, per second. This produces a lot of energy, especially if the gates have to be closed, such as in the case of a shortcircuit or other issue in the network. “When you turn a tap off very quickly, the pipe can shake or even burst,” they explain by way of an example. This high pressure has to be reduced, and that is the purpose of the surge shaft. Emergency stops are very exceptional, however.

The pipe also has special characteristics: it starts with a diameter of 5.4 metres, and as it approaches the turbines it gets thinner, in order to increase the pressure, until it divides into two and then into four, one for each turbine. It is 1,500 metres long, with an underground and overground section, and climbs 380 metres in total.

Finally, the visit ends at the power station itself, which is a sort of submarine, fully submerged in the lower reservoir. It is the length of a 15-storey building, around 50 metres. Inside there are the four turbines, each one 120,000 horsepower. At this scale, everything is worked out with complex calculations to be able to produce such great quantities of power.

The power station is integrated into a larger system of ecologically friendly ways of generating electricity. The dam also serves as a mixer for the waters from the Guadalhorce and Guadalteba reservoirs. The water is salinised and has to be mixed before it can be sent to the El Atabal treatment plant.

added value”.

The engineers clarify that it was designed from the start to be an emergency power supply. In difficult situations, such as a voltage dip or the loss of other power sources such as thermal and nuclear energy, this power plant can maintain the high voltage of the power network.

Initially the plant produces 13.8 kilovolts (13,800 volts) and, through the use of transformers this is raised to 220,000 volts. Then, the Tajo de la Encantada substation, part of Spain’s national electricity network, transforms this power again up to 400,000 volts, ready to be introduced into the network.

In Andalucía, Endesa has two plants of this type, this one and another in Seville (Guillena). In the Pyrenees there are several more. In total, there are 14 hydroelectric plants across Spain.

A key issue to keep in mind, according to the experts, is that the plant does not function continuously;

it generates electricity on demand.

“It can supply electricity for eight hours, but after that the water from the higher reservoir has to be replaced.”

The plant currently has the capacity to keep the network supplied during peak demand times, which are currently between 1pm and 5pm and from 7pm to 10pm, although it does vary according to the season.

It doesn’t function on a regular, daily basis, therefore but works as needed, depending on the market and the chance to make the most of other power sources, especially wind power. “There are often weeks where there is so much wind that it isn’t used.” Similarly, when there is no surplus power, the water cannot be pumped up to the top ready to be dropped again.

#### A super generator

“The pumping stations were designed in the 1970s as an emergency measure, to prevent power outages. Now,

## A multi-million-euro Endesa investment to modernise the power plant

The type of machinery turns in one direction to pump the water up and the other to bring it down again. The machines are big and heavy. Every time they start up, the alternator’s polar masses turn. “It’s as if a wire were being continually bent,” explain the engineers Andrés Muñoz and Antonio Velasco, who are responsible for the Endesa power plant. Every so often the material has to be checked for signs of fracture. The last check was made three years ago, and with the help of the University of Stuttgart (Germany), the

remaining useful life of the power station was predicted, with a fixed number of uses that could not be exceeded for safety reasons.

In the light of this a project was carried out with the help of the manufacturers of the turbines, Alstom, which involved removing and replacing the central body of the rotors (the cylindrical metal supports) where the polar masses rested. To do that, they had to remove the four alternators. Endesa invested five million euros in this recent project. Ten years ago another 15 million euros were spent to repair the stator coil, the stationary part of the alternators. After this upgrade, it is predicted that the hydro power station is ready to operate for at least another 35 years.



# "We are the slaves of the 21st century; people think we must be ignorant"

**Trinidad Jiménez**  
President of Kellys Unión, Malaga

**PILAR MARTÍNEZ**

✉ pmartinez@diariosur.es



After a group of hotel cleaners took their case to the prime minister, this representative hopes that "now the hotels will realise this is not a joke and we are not going to stop fighting for our rights"

**MALAGA.** Hotel cleaners, who have united as 'Las Kellys' (a name taken from 'las que limpian' - the women who clean), have just received a boost they had never imagined. A recent meeting with prime minister Mariano Rajoy marked a turning point in their fight for decent working conditions and for the outsourcing of this service to be brought to an end, because some cleaners without contracts earn less than two euros to prepare a room for a hotel guest. There is also no recognition of the health problems associated with having to prepare a room against the clock, because there are so many to do in one day. "We are the slaves of the 21st century; people think we must be ignorant because we work as cleaners," says the president of the Malaga branch of 'Kellys Unión', Trinidad Jiménez, who is pleased that the meeting with Rajoy has given them "greater visibility". She is now confident that "hotel owners will realise this is not a joke; we are not going to stop until our problems are resolved". Jiménez talks

about the everyday life of room cleaners, upon whom the hotels rely. There is still a long way to go, she says, but they are more determined than ever.

**-What is your working day like?**

-I started working in the early 1990s at the Palmasol hotel, then I worked at others and in recent years I have been at the Don Pedro, on a permanent contract. Our working conditions include meals, holidays and three extra payments. We are employed directly by the hotel, so we have rights, not like the colleagues who do the same work but in hotels which outsource their room cleaning service. The only thing we have in common with them is that our workloads are still not regulated. That is the problem; you have to do everything at top speed because all the rooms have to be perfect. That has an effect on your work and stress levels. Nor is it recognised that there are health problems associated with this work. I have had surgery for carpal tunnel syndrome, I have two lumbar hernias, three dorsals and two cervicals, as well as lumbago and fibromyalgia, but the work inspectors tell me I'll just have to get used to living with the pain. Well, ok, living with it is one thing, but working with it is another.

**-But are you working at the moment, even with those problems?**

-Of course. It's difficult to get time off sick. For Social Security we're just a number. If you have lumbago you should be entitled to some days off work but not in our job, whether you are 20 years old or 54, like me. It is important that these health problems are recognised as being associated with the work. That's what our colleagues told Rajoy at the meeting. We also want our workload to be regulated, article 42, which per-



Jiménez says the sector "is strong and united". :: F. SILVA

**"Cleaners from external companies earn less than half those employed directly by the hotels"**

**"We are very important to the hotels. They sell rooms and those rooms need to be perfect"**

mits outsourcing, to be cancelled, and a lower retirement age.

**-Even so, is the situation for cleaners employed by a hotel very different to that of those who come from outside?**

-It is totally different. Nobody controls the workload of women who are contracted through outside agencies. Their working day is supposed to be four hours but they have to work twice that to get all the rooms done. And they are paid minimum salaries, which work out at less than two euros per room. They earn less than half the salary of a cleaner employed by a hotel, who has a contract and agreed working conditions. We

take home around 600 or 700 euros a month, as well as having holidays and extra payments. Recently there was a cleaner who had an accident in a room in a hotel in Madrid and it turned out she had been given a contract as an office cleaner. How do they explain that? This is a lawless situation.

**-And you must have more contact with clients than most hotel staff...**

-We are the most important department of a hotel, because it is a business that sells rooms and if the rooms aren't perfect there is no business. That's why it makes no sense to outsource this service, because, also, we like what we do, so we work very hard. If we didn't like it we couldn't do it. We often talk to the clients, we get to know them a little and they like to have a bit of a chat. Sometimes, by being friendly, we can cheer them up if they have had a troublesome journey. That's why we don't understand why the hotels outsource this fundamental service.

**-What is the situation like in hotels on the Costa del Sol?**

-The Costa isn't bad. The worst situation is in Malaga city or inland, where hotels have always outsourced this service. We are preparing a survey to obtain more information. Sometimes, when we have made official complaints, we have succeeded in

getting hotels to employ their room cleaners directly, but it is very hard work for us and for the unions, because this is like a war. We started the Kellys Union association in January last year, although the Facebook group began in 2015. There is still a great deal to do.

**-How has the meeting with Rajoy helped your fight?**

-It has made us more visible because our problems have been reported by the media, because I don't think the government works in such a way that just telling Rajoy about your problems means he will sort them out overnight. That isn't how things work. He said he hadn't been aware of the problems but now they have been brought to his attention. Well, at least that's something, so when an MP says they want to change the law he knows that we were there and we have told him what is happening, so let's see if he will vote to support us. So far they have turned down our different proposals. Nor do I believe that after having created a labour reform that permitted this to happen, he is now going to vote in favour of us, but I never lose hope.

**-Two room cleaners from Malaga went to Madrid to support the five colleagues who had the meeting with Rajoy. What was that like?**

-People went from all the provinces to support the five who met the prime minister. They were pleased because they could see that there was interest among the media, and that means that the whole of Spain knows about our serious problems. We are now at a point where, as my colleague says, we are the slaves of the 21st century. This is slave labour.

**-Is that what it feels like?**

-Yes, exactly that. We are slaves in the 21st century. They treat us badly because they think we must be illiterate, as we clean for a living, when in fact most of us have a good education. A lot of women started working early so they didn't have the time to train for anything else, but others, like me, went on to study. Some are even qualified in Tourism. We are not ignorant and people shouldn't treat us as if we were. We do this because there are no decent jobs available. This is the employment situation in Spain. We have to adapt to that. We are important to the hotels. What would they do without cleaners? They sell rooms and those rooms have to be clean, and the way we treat the clients is very important. We are good ambassadors for the hotels. They should remember that. This isn't a joke. We are going to continue fighting for our rights.

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# One year until the Brexit due date: What we know and don't know

By Chris McCann, Partner, Blevins Franks

With less than a year to go until the UK officially leaves the EU, we explore how things stand for expatriates under the proposed Brexit deal.

## Residency: What we know

Although Brexit is scheduled for 29th March 2019, a 21-month transition period is lined up to maintain existing residency rules and benefits until the end of 2020.

Under the proposed citizens' rights agreement, Britons "lawfully residing" in an EU member state before the 31st December 2020 cut-off date will retain the right to remain and access existing benefits in that country after full Brexit takes effect.

Existing partners and close family members can join settled residents in an EU country, even after Brexit. However, residency rights expire if you are absent from the country for five continuous years.

## Residency: What we don't know

What counts as "lawfully residing" is unclear. Permanent residents will qualify, but expatriates living in a country for under five years may

need to prove their settled status.

If you have not already, make sure you have registered with the local authorities and secured supporting paperwork. The residency process takes time, so take action as soon as possible to avoid missing the cut-off date.

Beyond Brexit, we do not know how acquiring residency, visas and permits will work, but expect it to be less straightforward than today.

A key unresolved issue is onward freedom of movement – whether you can automatically relocate to another EU country after Brexit. While the UK has offered "guaranteed rights of return" to EU citizens settled in the UK before Brexit, so far the EU27 has not agreed reciprocal rights for UK nationals.

## Healthcare and pensions: What we know

The deal on the table preserves existing access to pensions and healthcare for residents legally settled in Spain before Brexit.

British expatriates remain eligible for annual increases in the State

Pension, even if you have not started taking your pension before the Brexit cut-off date. As things stand, Brexit will not affect how you can withdraw or transfer UK pension funds.

## Pensions: What we don't know

Post-Brexit, the UK no longer has to follow EU rules on freedom of movement for capital; this could lead to increased taxation of UK pension withdrawals and transfers.

Last year, the UK introduced a 25% tax on transfers to Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Schemes (QROPS) located outside the EU/EEA. Some speculate that this could be extended to within the EU once the UK sheds its obligations to the bloc.

As such, there may be limited time to transfer without tax penalties. Make sure you take personalised, regulated advice before taking any action with your pensions.

## Taxation: What we know

Each country sets their tax rules, not the EU, and tax treatment depends on whether you are resident, not your nationality. Brexit itself

therefore has no effect on how Britons are taxed in Spain. However, under current rules, some non-EU/EEA assets may be taxed differently.

For example, if you sell a Spanish property to reinvest in a new main home within the UK, you currently qualify for capital gains tax relief. Once the UK is outside the EU/EEA, however, the sale could attract capital gains taxes.

A financial planning review can ensure your wealth and assets are structured as tax-efficiently as possible and prepare you for any Brexit implications.

## Taxation: What we don't know

Tax rules are always subject to change, even without Brexit. The main threat here comes from the UK; as the government loses its EU commitments it gains more freedom to tax nationals living in Europe. As already mentioned, pensions could be a key target.

Another could be tax relief rules for expatriates. For example, in recent years the government has threatened to remove the personal income tax allowance from non-resident British

nationals. Taking this away from expatriates post-Brexit could be a relatively easy way for the Treasury to boost revenue in the future.

While the proposed withdrawal agreement and transition period provide some reassurance for expatriates, the final deal is not signed. With only months of certainty left, make sure you do what you can now to secure your position in Spain. A locally-based adviser can help you understand the cross-border implications and prepare appropriately for the post-Brexit world.

*Blevins Franks accepts no liability for any loss resulting from any action or inaction or omission as a result of reading this article, which is general in nature and not specific to your circumstances. Tax information has been summarised; individuals are advised to seek personalised advice.*

# Brexit and pension transfers. A window of opportunity?

Last year the UK began to impose a 25% tax on transfers to overseas pension schemes, including QROPS. This currently excludes individuals and QROPS where both are resident in a European Economic Area (including Gibraltar) country, but who knows what will happen after Brexit? If you wish to move your pension overseas, it may be better to do so now, under known rules, rather than wait and see what happens. Pension transfers can take months, so don't risk leaving it too late.

Keep an eye on the Blevins Franks website for Brexit news - [www.blevinsfranks.com/brexit](http://www.blevinsfranks.com/brexit) and contact us if you want to sign up for regular updates.

## Talk to the people who know

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## HERE AND THERE

## Florida export deal for Malaga wine makers

## MACHARAVIAYA

✪ **J. R.** Moclinejo-based wine makers, Bodegas Dimobe, have announced a deal with a Florida company to export their products to the US. The owners of Bodegas Dimobe, which has remained in the same family for four generations, are descendants of Bernardo de Gálvez, who helped win the Battle of Pensacola in Florida during the American War of Independence. The wines will be presented during a trip to Florida.

## No tram for Vélez-Málaga this year

## VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

✪ **A. P.** Vélez-Málaga's transport councillor and deputy mayor, Marcelino Méndez-Trelles, confirmed on Tuesday that the town's tram, which stopped running in 2012, will not start again this year, despite efforts by the town hall to reinstate it. Méndez-Trelles blamed both the town hall and the Junta de Andalucía for not working hard enough to bring the tram back and said that the latter had shown no interest in starting the service again.

## Popular Irish celebrity chef filming in Frigiliana

## FRIGILIANA

✪ **E. C.** Award-winning Irish celebrity chef, Neven Maguire, was filming in Frigiliana this week for his programme which is aired on prime time Irish television. Frigiliana's tourism councillor, Carmen Cerezo, said that the filming had been made possible through the collaboration between both the Andalusian and Costa del Sol tourism bodies, as well as the Spanish tourist office in Dublin. It has not yet been announced when the programme will be aired.

## Proposal for street to be named after German archaeologist

Hermanfrid Schbuart was director of the German Institute of Archaeology in Madrid and worked on Phoenician excavations around Torre del Mar

✪ **J. RHODES / A. PELÁEZ**

**TORRE DEL MAR.** Following a visit by German Archaeologist, Hermanfrid Schbuart, and his wife to Torre de Mar last Saturday, deputy mayor for Torre del Mar, Jesús Pérez Atencia, has formerly proposed that a street in the town be named in his honour.

The written request was sent to Antonio Moreno Ferrer, mayor of Vélez-Málaga, to which Torre del Mar belongs administratively, on Tuesday.

In the request, Atencia highlighted the work that Schbuart undertook during the years that he was director of the German Institute of Archaeology in Madrid, which led the Phoenician excavations at Los Toscanos, which is located between



Hermanfrid Schbuart (2l) on a recent visit to Torre del Mar. ✪ **SUR**

Torre del Mar and Almayate, Cerro del Mar and Casa de la Viña in Torre del Mar and Morro de Mezquitilla.

Speaking on Tuesday, Atencia said, "For 30 years the German Institute of Archaeology in Madrid's excavations contracted workers from Vélez-Málaga and Torre del Mar, which brought prosperity and a livelihood for many families in this area."

Archaeologist and expert in pre-

history, Hermanfrid Schbuart was director of the institute from 1981 until 1994.

He and his wife were visiting Torre del Mar to attend the exhibition, 'Teamwork: Antonio Valcárcel and the work and excavations of the German Institute of Archaeology in Madrid, 1964 - 1998', which is currently on at the town's old sugar cane factory, the Azucarera.



José Manuel Martín Alba. ✪ **SUR**

## Reduced sentence for Alcaucín mayor at the centre of the Arcos case

✪ **A. PELÁEZ**

**MÁLAGA.** Sentences were passed down on Tuesday in the Arcos case, in which ex-mayor of Alcaucín, José Manuel Martín Alba, along with town hall staff and businesses were accused of involvement in the issuing of false building licences.

Martín Alba was sentenced to 17 months in prison, a seven-year-and-six-month ban from public office and a fine of 600 euros.

A further 11 people were given sentences and 22 absolved.

## PRIZE FOR FORMER SUR EDITOR IN CHIEF

Former Editor in Chief of SUR in English, José Antonio Frías, who is from Periana, was awarded a prize by the town's Mondrón olive oil cooperative during the annual Verdial olive oil day which took place last Sunday. Frías held the position for 17 years between 1995 and 2012. Around 10,000 people attended the event.



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# Fines planned for wearing swimsuits or going shirtless on Marbella's streets

Loitering with items of a sexual nature is also banned in clampdown on the antics of hen and stag groups, especially around Puerto Banús, with penalty of up to 750 euros

■ MÓNICA PÉREZ

**MARBELLA.** Following complaints about mostly foreign tourists wandering the streets of Marbella, especially around Puerto Banús, without a shirt or in swimming costumes, Marbella council has taken action.

Councillors have recently finished drawing up a revised set of local bylaws against antisocial behaviour in the resort which is currently at public consultation phase before being voted on by the full council.

In clause 63 of the section of the

rules headed 'Other behaviour that disturbs coexistence among residents', it is expressly forbidden to "walk or loiter on the public highway or in a public area, except where authorised by municipal authorities in specified areas; if naked; with a bare torso; in underwear; with clothes or accessories that represent the genitals or private parts of humans". In an effort to restrict over-excited hen and stag groups, the rules also extend to include "dolls, dummies, or symbols of a sexual nature".

In clause 63b on "Nudism or Semi-nudism", the rules prohibit "walking or loitering ...just in a bathing costume or similar clothing item, except in swimming pools, beaches, access areas as well as paseos marítimos".

## Warnings given out first

Levels of fine have been set at up to 750 euros, however the council

says that offenders will merely be warned first and given the chance to cover up or put the offending items away.

Councillor for Public Highways at Marbella council, José Eduardo Díaz, highlighted that the new rules "are to improve what there was before, that was already regulated, but in a disparate way".

In the draft document, local cleansing services as well as police and emergency services have made suggestions and now the council is waiting for comments from residents associations and business groups before final approval. It is hoped that the rules will be operational by the end of June.

## Rules on child bullies

The set of bylaws clamping down on antisocial behaviour also includes rules on keeping the streets clean; putting signs, posters or flyers up; and consuming alcohol.



Shirtless visitors to Puerto Banús last summer caused local upset . ■ J-L

It also includes measures to prevent children bullying each other in public areas. If there is bullying at a cultural event or festival, the organisers are required to report it and perpetrators' families could be fined up to 3,000. This rule also

applies to bullying of or discrimination against older and disabled people.

In addition, the rules extend to cover behaviour that could be considered racist, sexist or homophobic, with fines of up to 1,500 euros.

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# Primark still no nearer to opening in La Cañada as court says no

Marbella town hall's refusal to grant a building licence has been upheld after an appeal by the shopping centre's owners

■ HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

**MARBELLA.** The fitting out of a large new shop unit for Primark inside Marbella's La Cañada shopping centre is still on hold. A regional court has found in favour of Marbella town hall in the ongoing dispute between councillors and the centre's owners.

Marbella council has been withholding a building licence for modifications to La Cañada to accommodate the giant Irish-based clothing retailer since December 2014. The shopping centre wants to add a 2,000-square-metre mezzanine floor into the large unit that Primark is going to rent, extra space that is needed in order to fit the chain inside the centre.



The planned unit at the end of the Marbella mall. ■ JOSELE-LANZA

In a complicated explanation centred around Marbella's ongoing lack of clarity about its PGOU master town plan, the regional administrative court said that the local council had been right to turn down the planning application and that the shopping centre, under the currently valid town

plan, cannot have its surface area extended. In answer to the complaint that Marks & Spencer had been allowed to do something similar in the same centre, the court said that it couldn't enter into arguments whether that original decision had been legal or not.

# Marbella's 2m-euro pothole patch up to target 40 streets

■ MÓNICA PÉREZ

**MARBELLA.** The town council in Marbella is to carry out urgent repairs to over 40 local streets because of the poor state of the surfaces. Helped by a grant from the Diputación provincial authority, the work will target potholes, cracks and uneven surfaces once the busy summer season is over.

mer season is over.

The work, which will cover streets in all districts of the municipality is set to last six months and the council is already looking at a similar plan for next year as well.

Among key roads to get a makeover is Avenida Ricardo Soriano in the centre.

# Dog parks close for tidy up and debugging

■ MÓNICA PÉREZ

**MARBELLA.** Marbella council has been closing off the different dog parks across the municipality for fumigation and disinfecting over the last week. Four of the five parks have been shut for a day for the treatment, which officially is safe

after three hours, but, the council explained, better to be on the safe side. The debugging is part of ongoing improvements to the dog exercise facilities, which have had the support of local campaigning group, Marbella Canina.

Improvements have been made to the facilities in Nagüeles, Ashmawi, La Represa and Las Chapas. Work has included replacing some surfaces and improving barriers. The council has 20,000 square metres of dog parks, recently adding San Pedro's Los Tres Jardines from the Junta de Andalucía.



# Cudeca announces revenue of almost four million euros during its 25th anniversary year

The cancer charity also announced the building of a new research and training centre in 2018

BY TONY BRYANT

**BENALMÁDENA.** During the annual results presentation held in Benalmádena yesterday, Cudeca announced that it had ended 2017 in the black for the fifth consecutive year.

Attending the presentation was founder, Joan Hunt; Vice-president, Susan Hannam; Financial Director, Rafael Olalla and Dr Marisa Martín.

During 2017 - Cudeca's twenty-fifth anniversary year - the charity raised over 3,963,000 euros, the biggest percentage of which (1,424,000), was revenue from its 20 charity shops. A total of 189 charity events were staged throughout the year, accumulating more than 400,000 euros, which was 15 per



Cudeca awarded its Golden Pin to the Clinica Buchinger Wilhelmi during Thursday's event. BY TONY BRYANT

cent higher than the previous year.

Rafael Olalla said that 2017 had been a "good year" for Cudeca, high-

lighting the excellent work of all 909 volunteers, especially the collection tin army, who amassed more

than 60,000 euros over the year. The rest of the funds came from donations, wills, banks and a "lucrative

contact with the Junta de Andalucía".

The financial director also pointed out that there had been a significant rise in expenditure, due mainly to the noted increase in patient demand. The total expenditure for the year was 3,916,000, leaving a surplus of around 47,000 euros.

Marisa Martín explained that the number of patients served has continued to grow: in 2017, Cudeca served 1,064 new patients, an increase of 13 percent compared to 2016. She pointed out that in the last five years the total number of patients has doubled. This, she said, "was a very important challenge, perhaps the greatest of all", since it has had to increase the number of home-based care teams to seven to respond to this demand.

Marisa, who has been with Cudeca since the beginning, also said that 2018 would see the building of the new Yusuf Hamied Training Centre: "Thanks to Dr Hamied, who has been a sponsor of Cudeca for many years, this will now become a reality."

The event also included the presentation of Cudeca's Golden Pin Award, given this year to Clinica Buchinger Wilhelmi in Marbella.



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## Inter-centre march committee also receive a Golden Pin Award

BY TONY BRYANT

**BENALMÁDENA.** During a separate presentation held on Wednesday, the Cudeca Gold Pin was awarded to the organising committee of Marcha Intercentros, in recognition of their dedication and commitment to Cudeca. The event was attended by Víctor Navas, Mayor

of Benalmádena, and Elías Bendodo, President of the provincial government of Malaga,

This is the sixth year that the inter-centre march has been organised in aid of Cudeca and it has so far raised a total of more than 23,000 euros. This year's march involved more than 800 local schoolchildren.



Mayor of Benalmádena (centre) during Wednesday's event. BY SUR

## MARATHON RUNNERS RAISE 1,000 EUROS FOR CUDECA

Two enthusiastic runners received a triumphant reception in Mijas on Tuesday, after competing in the Paris Marathon to raise funds for the Cudeca hospice. Milly Fitzgerald and Tim Hulbert, both employees at DeVere financial advisers, returned from the French capital after completing the 26 mile race in four hours and thirty minutes, raising more than 1,000 euros in sponsors. They found the first twenty miles relatively easy, but Tim needed a little motivation from Milly in order to complete the last few miles.

"It's amazing how you find a little extra energy to actually cross the line," Tim explained. Carlos White, Cudeca fundraiser, said, "Tim and Milly have done a fantastic job and we thank them for their tremendous efforts."



BY SUR





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## Fuengirola council rejects official status proposal for 'Fish Alley'

The ruling PP local government has said that recognition of the iconic street would discriminate against other areas

by TONY BRYANT

**FUENGIROLA.** Fuengirola town hall has rejected a proposal by Ciudadanos (Cs) for official recognition to be given to Calle Moncayo, an area known by locals and tourists as Fish Alley in English and Calle del Hambre in Spanish. Ciudadanos had suggested that the street, a popular landmark destination for over 45 years, should receive recognition and be indicated on local maps for it to be more accessible to visitors.

Javier Toro, councillor for Ciudadanos, who claimed that the Partido Popular (PP) has chosen to ignore this popular tourist attraction, defined

the decision as "ridiculous".

A spokesman for PP had claimed that the proposal would discriminate other areas, but councillor Toro hit back saying that they were not discriminating against any other area or sector, but instead intended to "give value to Fuengirola".

"The intention behind the proposal was to grant a distinguishing element to an emblematic area of our town so that tourists can readily find it," Toro declared.

The councillor went on to highlight several other proposals, including a motion to reduce terrace taxes and to extend the opening hours of the town hall offices, all of which were refused by the PP.

"It is a real shame our proposals always seem to run into brick walls put up by the local PP government just because the proposals put forward come from another political party, regardless of the benefits they have for the town," Toro said.



Ciudadanos took the idea to local businesses last month. by SUR



The addiction centre. by T. B.

## Town hall offers help for drug and alcohol addiction

by TONY BRYANT

**TORREMOLINOS.** Torremolinos town hall has initiated a new scheme to highlight the services offered by its drug and alcohol addiction centre. The centre, which is located at 24 Calle Rafael Quintana Rosado, operates a free information, counselling and prevention service.

Run by the social services department of the town hall, the service extends to compulsive gamblers and people who want to quit smoking.

The council has also created a scheme aimed at local students aged between 10 and 16, which warns of the dangers substance abuse.

The centre is not only intended for those suffering from an addiction, but also to family and friends who might be affected by a loved one's dependencies.



## INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTS UNITE IN TORREMOLINOS

Torremolinos enjoyed two days of world culture during its Foreign Residents Festival last weekend. The event began with a colourful parade of the participating countries. Visitors had the opportunity to experience the gastronomic and folklore traditions of the numerous nationalities that live in the town.





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# Malaga has "the best preserved Phoenician settlement in the Western world"

Geophysical surveys of the old island of El Cerro del Villar supports the findings of Mar a Eugenia Aubet, an archaeologist who is calling for new excavations

  FRANCISCO GRI  N

**MALAGA.** The secret to the origins of Malaga has been lying hidden for centuries at the mouth of the River Guadalhorce. The first settlement built by the Phoenicians on the coastline we now call the Costa del Sol was at El Cerro del Villar, then an island in the marshes at the river estuary.

Now recent geophysical surveys have confirmed that this settlement is truly unique.

"Before I didn't dare say so, but now it can be said that this is the best preserved Phoenician town in the Western world," said the emeritus professor of Prehistory at the Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona, Mar a Eugenia Aubet, who was in Malaga last week for a conference that looked at the past, present and future of the Cerro del Villar settlement organised by the city's planning department.

In the cases of Cadiz, or Malaga city itself, the Romans and later civilisations settled on top of the Phoenician remains, destroying part of what had been there before them. However El Cerro del Villar is unique in that after the island



A computer-generated image of the proposed visitor centre by archaeologists Antonio  lvarez and Salvador Garc a.   SUR

was abandoned by what appears to have been a tsunami, no one settled there again and the remains have been preserved.

## Houses and streets intact

"The ground-penetrating radar survey has confirmed that the town is intact with its houses and streets," said Aubet, whose own research and conclusions after the excavation campaigns in the area in the 80s and 90s have now been proved right by the new technological techniques. After seeing the latest results, the archaeologist explained: "Just think, when we came in '87 they told us that Cerro del Villar was totally destroyed!"

According to the archaeologist, the remains can be found just 30 centimetres under the surface and

go down to a depth of five metres, which corresponds to the time when El Cerro del Villar was founded at the end of the 9th century BC, according to the latest surveys. Aubet stressed the importance of resuming excavations at the settlement.

"Malaga isn't aware of what it has here," she said.

The mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, said that if it were up to the city council "the excavations would have started years ago, but we haven't got the authority". He proposed an agreement with the Junta de Andaluc a - which owns the land and is responsible for heritage issues - to begin new digs on the site, with the collaboration of the University of Malaga.



Mar a Eugenia Aubet.  
  FRAN ACEVEDO

De la Torre agreed to Aubet's proposal that Malaga organise and host the Phoenician Studies Congress that would draw more attention to the value of El Cerro del Villar.

Archaeologist Jos  Su rez explained that the geophysical study

involved three types of "x-ray" to collect underground information: ground-penetrating radar (GPR), geoelectric and geomagnetic survey techniques. The result has shown the precise perimeter of the island, even locating its harbour area.

## Archaeology park

According to Mar a Teresa Teixid , who directed the study carried out by the Andalusian Institute of Geophysics at the University of Granada, the surveys have revealed differentiated zones in the organisation of the town, with an urban strip with large houses, streets and a supporting transit road - as Aubet had indicated years ago - and an industrial and artisan quarter with smaller buildings and remains of iron and kilns.

Based on the geophysical study, the archaeologist Jos  Su rez has drawn up a viability project for an archaeology park in Cerro del Villar, which includes the creation of a visitor centre, and analyses the compatibility of ongoing excavations with the presence of the general public.

A system of light walkways over the settlement would allow visitors to view the remains, of which only 10 per cent has been uncovered.

"We just started it, the city is yet to be discovered," concluded Aubet.



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# Illegal quarrying behind Alhaurín de la Torre is still going on, confirms Guardia Civil report

The PDSS environmental campaigning group has accused the public authorities of passivity and says the town hall has been obstructing the end of the quarrying

■ FERNANDO TORRES

**ALHAURÍN DE LA TORRE.** Officers from the Guardia Civil's Seprona environmental protection unit have confirmed what campaign groups have been reporting: illegal quarrying is still going on in the hills behind Alhaurín de la Torre.

Inspectors from Seprona visited the Pinos de Alhaurín quarry a month ago following the receipt of a video recording of stone apparently being illicitly extracted, filmed by a group called La Plataforma en Defensa de la Salud y la Sierra (PDSS), which campaigns to protect the natural environment around Alhaurín de la Torre. The video was taken on 2 February and shows a crane loading rock onto a waiting lorry.

The Guardia Civil report has been sent to Alhaurín de la Torre town hall and the Junta de Andalucía regional government for action to be taken.



View of the quarries. ■ F. T.

Pinos de Alhaurín is one of four quarry sites that were declared illegal in 2005, with a court saying that rock had been taken from the hillside of the Sierra de Mijas for thirty years for construction projects along the Costa del Sol without any sort of permission.

The local town hall agreed a wind-down plan with the sites, with a



gradual decrease in activity. This ended in 2014 and since then three of the four sites have been inactive.

However, as the PDSS has shown with its video, there are still signs of activity at Pinos de Alhaurín and it has complained about the "passivity" of the local authorities, especially the town hall. "They should check that the law isn't being broken, check that the licences exist; it's the same as if somebody opens a bar in the town centre without the paperwork," it explained.

Councillor for the Environment, Marina Bravo, said, in reply to the PDSS complaints, that she was carrying out the necessary investigations and added that there have been several police inspections of the site but that nobody had been "caught in the act".

The Junta de Andalucía has confirmed receipt of the Seprona report and said that it is studying it and will take legal action if necessary.

The PDSS continues its criticism of the local town hall, saying that "for years they have been obstructing the return to legality of the quarries of Alhaurín de la Torre", adding that it hoped this time councillors would take more definitive actions.

## New wind farm planned for Sierra de Yeguas to power 2,700 homes

■ F. TORRES

**SIERRA DE YEGUAS.** The Seville firm Lorte SL has become involved in a new project in Malaga province involving the creation of a new wind farm in Sierra de Yeguas. It will be situated in an area known as El Puntal, next to the Sierra de los Caballos, which already has a wind farm built by the same company.

Jorge Loring, an engineer from Ge&Pe who is developing the necessary technology alongside Lotte, has said that the park will generate enough electricity to power 2,700 homes and will require a 15-million euro investment.

The construction of the park, which will have five turbines, will be separate to the existing park, which was built in 2010 and generates 26 megawatts of electricity, enough for 3,500 homes.

Loring has highlighted that the project is still awaiting the permission of local government, and is therefore reluctant to give any specific dates about the project.

The council has said that it will ensure that the project "is undertaken in due course, following procedure."

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# Costa dam opened for third time after rain

La Concepción reservoir reached 100 per cent capacity on Monday and had to be drained at a rate of over 20 cubic metres per second

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

**MARBELLA.** It had not rained for days, but La Concepción reservoir, behind Marbella, was judged to be over capacity on Monday. Officials there opened up the dam to release some of the water stored inside into the nearby sea. Mid-morning on Monday the reservoir reached 102 per cent of its technical capacity, but by 6pm it had fallen back to 99.98 per cent.

This is the third time this year that staff at the facility have had to release excess water from the reservoir. In the most recent purge, over 20 cubic metres of water was released from the dam per second, according to an official report which explained that releasing water was part of the normal procedure to lower the reserves "to a level in which there is still the capacity to collect further rain, but where there is also enough water in the dam to operate it as normal".

La Concepción reservoir supplies the western Costa del Sol but the infrastructure in the area has been criticised as the reservoir is relatively small and fills up quickly, meaning water needed elsewhere is lost.

Forecasters say that there is a reduced likelihood of further rain over the weekend, with a probability of about 25 per cent across Malaga province as a whole. However, there is a high risk of strong winds exceeding 70 km/h.

Temperatures should range between a seasonally normal 13 and 23 degrees.



The dam, behind Marbella towards Istán, releasing excess water into the sea. :: JOSELE-LANZA

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## Archidona prison has received its first inmates a month and a half after opening

:: FERNANDO TORRES

**ARCHIDONA.** The Malaga II prison complex, located in Archidona, has received its first inmates.

The arrival of the first group, around 200 prisoners, took place this week, according to local mayor Mercedes Montero. This transfer has taken place around a month and a half after the facility was officially opened on 26 February. On that day, the Secretary of State for Security announced that the first cells would be occupied within 15 days. Critics have said that the prison has opened too soon, and that it doesn't yet have the necessary staff members to run it effectively.

## Hipódromo Costa del Sol to be equipped for equine therapy

Councillors add a new service that helps interaction and healing of patients at the troubled venue

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

**MIJAS.** The legal situation with the Costa del Sol Hippodrome, which has not hosted any horse races for some years, is complicated and still ongoing. However, Mijas councillors José Carlos Martín and Nuria Rodríguez hope to bring new life to the facility; they announced yesterday that a new space has been created for equine therapy. Workers have been tasked with repurposing one of the stables on-site for



Rodríguez and Martín in the race course's new facilities. :: I. G.

this activity. "The new space will be able to accommodate six horses. With these new facilities, children and families ...will be able to do so

in all weathers," said Rodríguez, who in the past has highlighted the benefits of this activity for people with a variety of disabilities.

### HERE AND THERE

## Malaga airport now third busiest in Spain

**MALAGA**

:: PILAR MARTÍNEZ. Malaga airport overtook Palma de Mallorca to become the third busiest in Spain last month. 1.3 million passengers travelled through the airport in March, which coincided with Holy Week, an 8 per cent increase on the previous month.

The airport recorded 9,942 flights in March, 9 per cent more than the same period the previous year. In the first three months of this year Malaga operated 25,398 inbound and outbound flights carrying 3.1 million passengers.



A view of the boat. :: S. SALAS

## Century-old schooner for hire in Malaga port

**MALAGA**

:: SUR. A steam-propelled schooner called Anne Bonny, built in Oslo in 1905, has docked in the port of Malaga. It will be offered for hire to locals and tourists for leisure trips and company events. In the 1950s it had a diesel motor installed to convert it into a merchant vessel. In 1992 the boat was acquired by a French company that converted it into a sailing boat with three masts. It was purchased by its current owner in 2013. The boat is built entirely from steel and has remained unchanged in the 113 years since it was built.

## Torremolinos on British holiday Top 10

**TORREMOLINOS**

:: ALBERTO GÓMEZ. The town of Torremolinos is the eighth most popular destination for British tourists in Europe, according to a survey undertaken by Lastminute.com. The resort is the sixth most popular in Spain, and the only Andalusian destination in the Top 10. The authors said that Spain is currently very "fashionable" for British holidaymakers, with only Albufeira in Portugal and Nice in France ranking above it. The top reasons for Brits to choose to visit the Costa del Sol were the excellent weather, the friendliness of the Spanish, the food and the cultural diversity. Leisure activities, the party atmosphere and the opportunity to save money were other considerations.



# Malaga province, where competition between taxis and private hire vehicles is fiercest

There is now one 'VTC' for every four taxis on the Costa del Sol, even though by law the ratio should be 1:30, and more come from other provinces in the summer months

## FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

**MALAGA.** The Costa del Sol has become a haven for vehicles known in Spain as VTCs; these are pre-booked vehicles with drivers, which tourists often use to travel from the airport to their hotels. They are normally dark-coloured top-of-the-range saloon cars, similar to a normal taxi in appearance, and are often used by companies such as Cabify.

In Malaga province VTC licences have tripled in the past four years and there are now 683, according to a report published by the Ministry of Transport last month. The ministry regulates the business, although it is the regional governments who grant the licences. The numbers have been steadily increasing. There were 604 in November, 571 in July last year and only 240 in 2014, and now only Madrid (2,933) and Barcelona (920) have more VTCs than Malaga province.

When these figures are compared with the 2,741 taxis which operate in Malaga, according to the National Institute of Statistics (the ministry's figures only show the 2,583 which are authorised for inter-urban services), it becomes clear that this province is the furthest from complying with the ratio of one VTC for every 30 taxis which is established under Land Transport regulations.

At present there is one VTC for every four taxis in Malaga (1:5 in Madrid, 1:12 in Barcelona and 1:10 nationally). In other words, officially there should only be 86 VTCs or, viewing it from another perspective, there



A VTC in the waiting area for pre-booked vehicles, beside the taxi rank outside Malaga's main railway station. :: FRANCIS SILVA

should be 20,490 taxis.

This is not the case in other tourist destinations, because two other factors increase the competition in this region even further. Firstly, in Andalucía another 456 licences (161 of them in Seville) have been granted which enable the drivers to operate anywhere in the region by prior reservation. One example is Cabify, which as well as having a presence in Malaga, also operates in Seville, Barcelona, Madrid and Valencia. The company has about 100 self-employed drivers who move between Malaga and Seville provinces according to demand. At present the majority are in Seville but in the summer they will come to the Costa del Sol to expand the service there, mainly in Malaga city, Marbella and other tourist resorts such as Torremolinos and Benalmádena.

The second factor is that 5,759 VTCs in Spain are authorised to work

outside their normal region as long as those journeys do not exceed 20 per cent of their quarterly turnover. It was the arrival of several dozen vehicles from Madrid to take advantage of the Malaga Fair which set off the tense conflict with local taxi drivers last August. Figures from the Unauto-VTC union show that about 30 companies are operating these vehicles in Malaga province, in addition to self-employed drivers who work for tour operators, travel agents or apps like Cabify.

The 1:30 ratio is being ignored in this area because the last socialist government liberalised the sector and withdrew this restriction in 2009. This led to numerous new licences being granted. When the conservative PP came into power in 2013 it tried to stop this by changing the law, but it took two years for the new regulations to come into force and the 1:30 ratio did not take effect until November 2015.

## QUOTES

**José Royón Taxi Confederation**

"We are highly regulated, but the VTCs have total freedom to move around and set their own prices"



**Marta Campos Cabify in Malaga**

"The two services can complement each other and we can open new paths of collaboration"



**Pablo García Unauto-VTC**

"Taxis and VTCs have always coexisted. For an area like Andalucía there are not that many licences"



## Legal vacuum

Because so many licences had been granted (1,881 were issued between December 2009 and November 2015), the Junta de Andalucía stopped issuing them, but last November the Supreme Court found in favour of two companies who had been denied 80 licences by the Community of Madrid. The taxi sector now fears that other companies will follow suit and the courts could ratify the 10,000 applications for licences which had been made in Spain before November 2015, of which 1,000 were in Malaga.

Is there enough work for them all?

The taxi drivers fear that the future looks "increasingly bleak", while Unauto-VTC and Cabify say there is enough demand. "For an area and a population as large as Andalucía there are not that many licences. Taxis and VTCs have always coexisted on the Costa del Sol. The difference now is that major companies have come onto the scene and are also doing urban journeys, just as we are allowed to," says Unauto-VTC's Andalucía representative, Pablo García.

The director of Cabify in Malaga, Marta Campos, says this is a good time for tourism on the Costa del Sol and that "coexistence is possible because the two services can complement each other and we can open new paths of collaboration".

The president of the Taxi Confederation of the Costa del Sol, José Royón, is less pessimistic than some, insisting that "by providing a quality service and doing things well everything will be fine". However, he does stress that the rules have to be the same for everybody.

"We are highly regulated, in terms of fares and times of leaving our municipality, while VTCs have total freedom to move around and set their prices according to demand," he complains. He says there should be more controls of VTCs because they are only supposed to be booked in advance but are often seen picking clients up in the streets or driving near taxi ranks in the hope that someone flags them down.

The government believes it has found a way to prevent that problem by obliging VTC drivers to enter every journey they make on a central register, and the Junta de Andalucía is legally restricting the issue of VTC licences by asking councils for a report about demand for the service in their area. A new regulation will also prevent licences being transferred to anyone else for a period of two years after issue.

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# Gibraltar could still be left out of Brexit transition period, says Barnier

Although the UK and Gibraltar consider that the Rock is covered by the latest agreement, Spain is wielding its 'lever' to gain concessions

DEBBIE BARTLETT

**GIBRALTAR.** There is some concern in Gibraltar over remarks made this week by Michel Barnier, the EU's Brexit negotiator, when he is reported to have said during an interview with a Spanish online newspaper that Gibraltar could be left out of transition arrangements for Britain's withdrawal from the European Union if the UK and Spain are unable to reach agreement over matters such as joint control of Gibraltar airport, taxation, contraband and the environment.

As far as the UK and Gibraltar governments are concerned, Gibraltar was included in the provisional withdrawal deal, but Barnier's remarks highlighted the possibility of Spain using the "lever" it insisted upon and having the power to make Gibraltar leave the EU in March next year without the cushioning of an interim transition period.

The British government has insisted that it would never enter into



EU negotiator Michel Barnier. :: EC.EUROPA.EU

any agreement with the EU which was against the interests and wishes of Gibraltar, but the infamous Clause 24 in the EU's negotiating guidelines came as a shock. The clause says that after Brexit no agreement between Britain and the EU which includes Gibraltar could take place without the express approval of Spain.

In the interview this week, Barnier said this clause, insisted upon by Spain, had received unanimous sup-

port within the EU27.

The Gibraltar government believes Clause 24 could well be illegal and has indicated that it would be prepared to take legal action if the EU tries to implement it in a way which is detrimental to Gibraltar. Gibraltar voted strongly in support of Remain in the EU referendum, but is even more determined to remain British and therefore has to leave the EU alongside the UK.

## IN BRIEF



The lectures take place on Fridays. :: UNIVERSITY OF GIBRALTAR

## New Gibraltar History lecture series begins

GIBRALTAR

THE UNIVERSITY'S fourth series of Gibraltar History lectures begins on 20 April and will take place every Friday at 10am until the end of June. The first lecture,

'The Goatherd's Path, a 300-year-old mystery lost in history and translation?' will be given by Roy Clinton MP. The lectures are free, but those wishing to attend should register in advance by emailing [chloe.ramos@unigib.edu.gi](mailto:chloe.ramos@unigib.edu.gi) or calling (00 350) 200 71000 ext 808. The lectures will take place at the Europa Point campus.

## Complaints about new parking scheme

GIBRALTAR

THE GOVERNMENT has received numerous complaints about a new parking scheme which has restricted parking in many parts of the town to residents only. Transport minister Paul Balban was forced to issue a statement pointing out this is a trial scheme and the results will be evaluated at the end of the period.

## May Day events in Casemates Square

GIBRALTAR

TUESDAY 1 May will be a colourful and entertaining day, with events for all the family in Casemates Square from 11am until 6pm. There will be bouncy castles, arts and crafts, face painting, Disney characters, dance performances and a rock concert with Heritage, the Layla Rose band and 24Seven.

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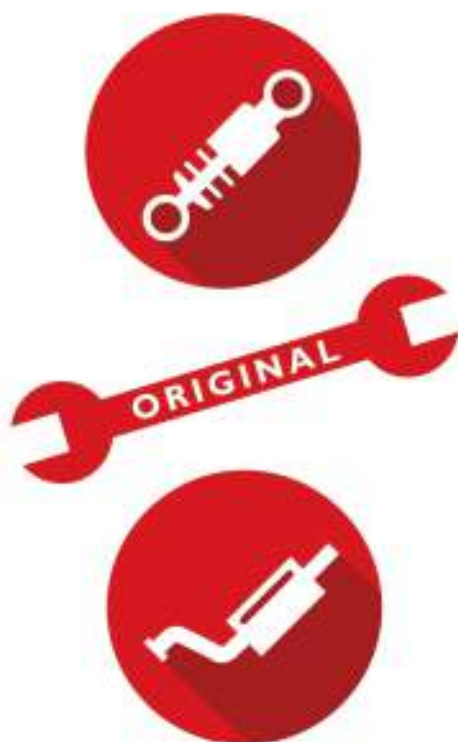
### DO ALL INSURANCE COMPANIES USE OEM PARTS?

At the time of publishing this article, no other insurance company in Spain guarantees the exclusive use of OEM parts in their repairer network. Some insurance companies rely on after market parts and used parts to keep the repair costs to a minimum, only paying for OEM parts if no other parts are available. After-market parts are parts made by a company other than your vehicle's manufacturer. They are new and the spec should be very close to the original specs. However, some minor fitting adjustments maybe required by the body shop. Used parts come from the scrap yard. Cars involved in accidents, engine trouble or age, mean that scrapped cars will have some working parts, which can be resold. The used parts are usually OEM parts.

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We hope the information provided in this article is of interest. If you would like to contact Linea Directa please call 902 123 309  
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## IN BRIEF

**Sànchez can't leave jail to lead Catalans****MADRID**

■ **SUR.** The Supreme Court has said that Catalan separatist and civic leader, Jordi Sànchez, is unable to leave jail to attend an investiture debate, planned for Friday (today), as candidate to be new president of Catalonia. The Catalan parliament had agreed to debate Sànchez's candidacy in an effort to end the current political stalemate. Meanwhile Carles Puigdemont, the original candidate, continues in Germany, waiting to see if he will be extradited to face an embezzlement charge after a German court refused Spain's request to extradite him for rebellion last week.

**Patient hurt in fall out of ambulance on AP-7****ALICANTE**

■ **SUR.** An investigation has been launched after a patient fell out of an ambulance at high speed on the AP-7 motorway while she was being transferred between two hospitals. The incident occurred between Alicante and Valencia.

According to reports in local media, an eyewitness travelling behind saw a large object falling out of the ambulance and warned the ambulance drivers, who hadn't realised what had happened, by flashing his lights. The witness allegedly wanted to call the police but said that the wounded woman was put back in the ambulance and driven off. It was unclear how the mental health patient was able to get the doors open.

**SAUDI'S REFORMER PRINCE IN TOWN**

The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammad bin Salman, paid his first official visit to Spain this week. The 32-year-old heir met with King Felipe VI at the Zarzuela Palace and attended a lunch at Madrid's Royal Palace with other officials on Thursday, hosted by the king and queen. The Spanish royal family has traditionally enjoyed a close relationship with its Saudi counterparts. During the visit, both countries were keen to stress good relations. The prince is seen as the force behind moves to reform and open up Saudi Arabia and Spanish business leaders are eagerly awaiting opportunities to win contracts, including in transport and defence.

**Former Andalusian regional president in the dock on fraud charges**

José Antonio Griñán is among over 20 ex-Junta officials charged over illegal grants and aid money from public funds to struggling companies

**■ SUR**

**SEVILLE.** The former president of the Junta de Andalucía regional government began testifying in court in Seville this week in the so-called ERE case of misuse of public money.

José Antonio Griñán is the first of the two former regional presidents charged in the case to appear. His predecessor, Manuel Chaves is not expected to start his testimony until next week.

Along with the two former presidents, another 20 other top officials in the regional government are on trial as part of the ERE scandal.

The case revolves around the supposed use of public money to pay illegal subsidies to companies. From 2001 to 2010 the PSOE-party controlled Junta de Andalucía operated social support programmes for companies in trouble. In total over 700 million euros was spent.

As part of the programmes, there were supposed payments for fake early retirements for people that never worked at the companies affected; grants to companies that weren't downsizing and to non-existent companies; and extra-high commissions paid to intermediaries such as lawyers and consultants, totalling a mispend of some 136



Griñán outside court. ■ EFE

million euros, investigators have alleged.

The prosecution says that it was impossible for the two former presidents not to have known as they signed off budgets. However, in his statements to the court this week, Griñán said he had no idea of the irregularities until the scandal broke in 2011 and appeared to point the finger at the regional ministry of Employment for its "debateable and unsatisfactory" handling.

The former minister for Employment, appearing ahead of Griñán, had told the court that the subsidies had been virtually all in order.

**Cathedral in wrong city used by mistake on stamp celebrating León****■ SUR**

**MADRID.** The head of Correos has apologised after an eagle-eyed member of the public spotted that a new stamp celebrating the heritage of León, including its cathedral, had used an image of the cathedral in Burgos, some 180 kilometres away.

Conscious of the rivalry between Spanish provincial capitals, Javier Cuesta said that it was the first mistake in the 700 commemorative stamps he had overseen and promised to issue another one to make amends.



The stamp has sold fast. ■ EFE







# Court annuls Britons' mortgage as lender prepares to auction off home

The married couple had taken out an equity release loan from a Danish bank in Marbella but now a judge has agreed, just in the nick of time, that it was missold

■ SUR

**MARBELLA.** A British couple who were unable to pay off a loan of almost 1.2 million euros secured against the value of their Marbella home are sleeping soundly again. It follows a Malaga court's decision that their remortgage had been missold by a Danish financial services company.

The lender, Nykredit Realkredit A/S, had been foreclosing on the property and the home was due to be auctioned off in order to clear the debt just two days after the favourable sentence came

through.

The loan was first taken out in early 2007 with Nykredit Realkredit A/S, which had an office in Marbella, as a form of equity release by the married British pair in their 50s. According to Antonio Flores of Lawbird Legal Services, who represented the couple, they were subjected to "aggressive advertising campaigns in order to take out a 30-year mortgage as a way of saving on inheritance tax". The financial product was marketed as a "Spanish Equity Release Package", or "SERP".

**The financial product was marketed as a "Spanish Equity Release Package" or "SERP" with "aggressive advertising"**

However instead of receiving the money for the loan, under the terms of the agreement, the amount was paid to an associated Danish company, Sydbank, with offices in Switzerland. That company then put it into an investment fund with the idea being that if the funds did well, the homeowners would receive an income, including with enough money to pay off the loan.

Despite this, the fund profit wasn't enough to keep up repayments and at the same time as they were launching legal action against the lender for misselling them the product, the lender was launching its own action against the couple in an attempt to take possession of the property.

The provincial court in Malaga ordered both Nykredit Realkredit A/S and Sydbank (Schweiz) AG to pay the couple back 469,481 euros including interest.

# IAG (Iberia/BA) buys a small stake in Norwegian and may be looking at a takeover



IAG has taken a surprise stake in Norwegian. ■ REUTERS

■ SUR

**MADRID.** IAG has come to the rescue of Norwegian. The holding company that covers Iberia, Vueling and British Airways announced on Thursday that it had acquired 4.61% of the Scandinavian airline and hasn't ruled out launching a full takeover bid.

In the last few weeks investors had begun to have their doubts about the business model at Norwegian, which is reporting an estimated 273-million-euro loss for the first three months of this year. On top of this the company has high debt as a result of its ambitious expansion plan. Only a few weeks ago it increased its capital by 137 million euros to keep that plan alive. IAG said that Norwegian is an attractive investment and the acquisition of a small holding was designed to open up a possible increase in its stake.

THE EURO ZONE  
MARK NAYLER

## A PERFECT STORM



Is there no end to the woes of Spain's ruling Popular Party (PP)? It has emerged that Cristina Cifuentes, leader of the conservative PP in Madrid, obtained a master's degree from Rey Juan Carlos University (URJC) under questionable circumstances. Allegedly, she used her political connections to obtain the qualification without doing any work - a charge which, if true, makes a mockery out of the university and destroys her credibility. As if this weren't enough, the 2018 budget fiasco continues and the PP has been dealt a fresh blow over Catalonia, which in turn will prolong the budget fiasco. Economic and political factors have combined to create a perfect storm around the Spanish Conservatives.

Political problems are delaying the proposed 2018 budget. Prime minister Mariano Rajoy only commands a minority government and is dependent upon support from hostile parties. The group blocking his path is the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), which stands to gain an extra €190 million in subsidies if it approves the PP's delayed spending plan. Yet the PNV is unmoved by Madrid's offer of extra cash: it will only approve the budget if Rajoy removes centralised control of Catalonia, which he imposed at the height of the Catalan crisis last October.

Rajoy cannot relinquish control of Catalonia, though, until the Catalan parliament forms a workable new administration. The region's former, pro-independence president Carles Puig-

demont was released on bail in Germany last week, after German courts ruled he couldn't be extradited back to Spain on rebellion charges. He might still be extradited for misusing public funds - but even so, Catalan separatists have voted (symbolically) for his right to serve as the region's president again. In doing so, they remain stubbornly unpragmatic.

No wonder that the chairman of Catalan bank La Caixa - which moved its headquarters from Barcelona to Palma de Mallorca last October - said recently that the relocation had been a "good move". No wonder, either, that Rajoy retains control of the troubled region, albeit at the expense of securing approval for the 2018 budget.

On top of all this, there's now the issue of Cifuentes' dodgy degree. We're accustomed, of course, to financial corruption dogging the PP, but this is a relatively new kind of scandal. Cifuentes' possible replacement - in the unlikely scenario that she's fired - is the PP's fresh-faced Communications deputy Pablo Casado, supposedly a member of the Conservatives' young, untainted generation.

Casado, however, was also awarded a degree by Cifuentes' "alma mater", and his right to hold it is under investigation too. URJC apparently told him that it wasn't necessary to attend classes or take exams to obtain the master's - a disclosure which might well boost this relaxed institution's application numbers. Meanwhile, the perfect storm engulfing the PP rages on.

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THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE BEST  
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## The gentle giant

THIS  
WEEK'S  
WINNING  
LETTER

In memory of the poor elephant that died in a road accident (SUR in English, April 6th, page 21):

When the elephant died, he broke free of his chains, shook off the sawdust, shrugged away his pains.

Loud music, shouting, harsh lights, they were all gone, an end to the applause, all the tricks had been done.

He gazed at the blue sky, so big, oh, so wide!  
Trumpeted wildly, then breathed in and sighed.  
Musky smell of the jungle, colours flit through the trees, sweet sounds filled his senses with gladness and ease.

The sun shone with a warmth, he remembered so well, from a long time before, that prison in hell.  
A fresh breeze bathed his skin in perfumes so rare,

joy swelled in his heart, all nearly too much to bare.  
Thoughts tumbled madly around and around, whilst tired feet rested, on soft earthen ground.

So long did he stand, locked in wondrous awe, that day crept to dusk and heaven offered more.

As darkness descended his old eyes dropped to a close, ears hearing only whispers, hushing fears that arose.  
Stars hung in the blackness, high up above,  
So like friendly faces, glowing with love.

His great head nodded slowly, as if answering a call, body swaying, relaxing, no he would not fall.  
The gentle giant of the forest, slept where he stood.  
The nightmares were over, he was now home for good.

PAULA WATERTON  
FUENGIROLA

## Golf value

As someone who has a holiday home in Spain and visits around five times per year to the Costa del Sol, I read with interest your article in the April 6th edition in respect of the drop in foreign tourists.

As we are all aware golf tourism is a major part of the tourism sector.

Once again, however, Spain and particularly the Costa del Sol appears to be pricing itself out of this lucrative market. Over the last years the Costas have benefited from the fallout from emerging markets such as Turkey, suffering after unrest and terror attacks. However, these emerging markets and many well-established sectors such as USA are fighting back as Spain appears to become complacent about its recent success.

I have played golf on the Costa over the past 18 years, bringing groups of friends and joining local societies when here as a single player. In the past year prices both from agents and direct from courses have

risen substantially and in the recent peak spring period rises of €10 or more have highlighted what is considered a lack of value from my friends both in Spain and in the UK.

So much so that both friends in the UK and those resident in Spain have booked golf elsewhere. Turkey is once again great value with flights, six rounds of golf on championship courses and a 5-star all-inclusive hotel package available from £900 to £1200 for seven days. For those willing to travel further the USA offers amazing value too with two weeks holiday with 10 rounds of golf including accommodation and hire car for £1600.

Other emerging markets such as Bulgaria are also better value than Spain.

If the Costa del Golf is to maintain its market share then this area of the tourism sector must look seriously at offering greater value for money or it will find itself falling back as competition increases.

GEOFF CAMM  
LA DUQUESA

## Back home

PETER EDGERTON  
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

Playing mini golf in the rain was as near as I could get to a UK seaside day out experience this time around. Actually, we played in a park in London but it still counts, I think. The raindrops creeping slowly down the back of my neck during the game and then the all-day breakfast in a cafe with steamed up windows and an inevitably out of order bathroom resulted in a wave of nostalgia worthy of any coastal town from Blackpool to Bognor.

It was a seven-day stint in England split equally between the North - where I ate so many pies and drank so much tasty beer that I think that I might qualify for some kind of Northern Bloke Knighthood - and the South where I ate many more pies (not as good as up North) and drank more pints but in gastro bars instead of pubs and at twice the price. Still, London was very pleasant in spite of the constant drizzle.

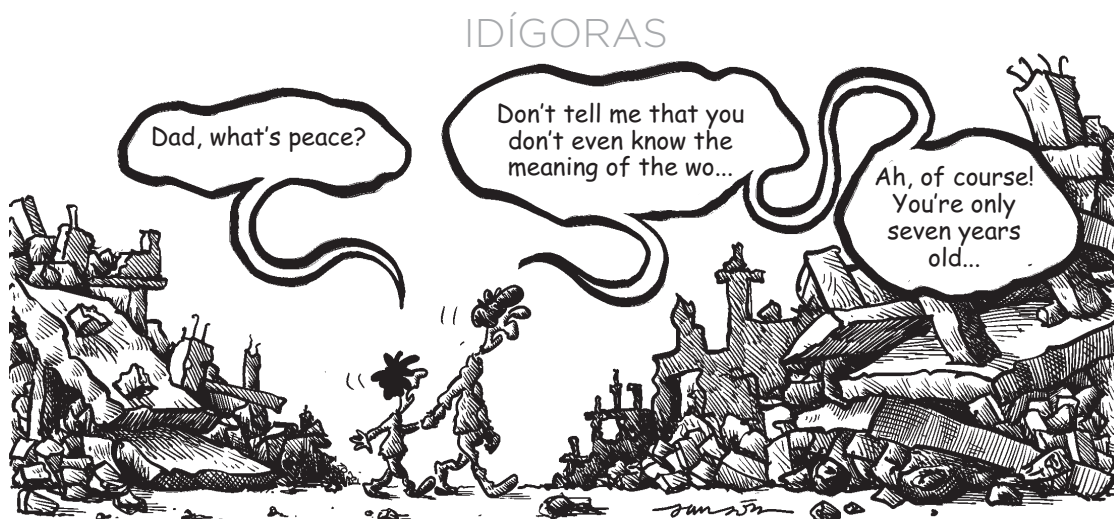
Contrary to the popular image, people in the capital are always happy to help with directions and the like with some even seeming to enjoy the human interaction and giving answers so detailed that I think I could have passed the taxi drivers' Knowledge exam by the time I left. Too many people wore tiny earphones, though, which meant that, occasionally, I was left looking foolish, yelling at someone totally ignoring me.

"Excuse me, do you know where... ah, earphones... er, sorry you can't hear me, obviously and, well, you couldn't hear that either...oh dear, this could go in for quite some time..."

The only place that felt a bit weird was Clapham Junction railway station. Wikipedia says it's the busiest in Europe and I can well believe it. I passed through at rush hour and there were dozens of people running to make connections

in such a knowing and determined manner that I suspect that that is what they do every morning. When I say 'running', I mean really pegging it up stairs and across platforms - blokes in suits, women in tight skirts, hipsters, old people; it was all a bit of a blur. Actually, it could easily have been some kind of commuter game show; I fully expected an enormous foam penguin with a big sponge hammer to appear at any moment from behind Costa Coffee and start picking off the speeding contestants until there was only Dave from Smith and Berkwell Accountants left to claim victory.

Running full pelt to work every morning isn't something to be recommended; it's not good for your stress levels and, frankly, friendly visitors are really put off from asking you for directions. Oh yes, I see, maybe that was their cunning plan.

Las Kellys hit  
La Moncloa

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

The friendly greeting from the receptionist when you first arrive at a hotel and the smile from the waiter who serves you in the cafeteria or on the terrace are of vital importance. However it's just as fundamental, or even more so, for the room to be clean, in fact spotless, when you go in. That's why it's hard to understand that the former are highly valued employees, while the cleaners are not given that consideration. In fact they are so little valued that the hoteliers choose to get rid of that part of their staff and instead contract the same services through an external com-

pany. While it's always wrong to generalise, it's true that on a global level this strategy is growing: more and more hotels are outsourcing work that is key to guests feeling at home in their holiday accommodation.

It was Spain's labour reform that opened the door to a practice that has sent these professionals into such precarious conditions that they go so far as to describe as modern-day slavery. For some time now, the affected workers, with the support of social media, have been uniting to create a unique force, which has been raising its voice to achieve what few imag-

ined they could: to meet with the prime minister, Mariano Rajoy, to explain their problems and ask for his support. And while they believe that they still have a lot to do, this meeting has given them strength, has made them visible in the society and has united them in their fight for decent employment, in which they are valued as professionals: a demand that is so basic and simply common sense. It shouldn't make a difference that in their case their work involves cleaning, a task that is just as important as serving a cup of coffee or checking in a new guest. Or perhaps even more so, because no employee is more in contact with the hotel guests than the cleaners, who strive to learn more, to improve their English and always find a solution to a tourist's problem.

The defence of the quality of the service starts there, by dignifying the profession. 'Las Kellys' have already found their way to La Moncloa, the prime minister's residence, and they are not going to stop until they achieve their deserved goal.

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IN THE FRAME

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# One girl's dream, an inspiration for others

**Kassandra Stultiens Zandstra** Airline pilot and instructor

**Her father has always supported her and used to take her to Schiphol airport on Sundays**

**E**ven when Kassandra Stultiens Zandstra, who lives in La Herradura with her husband and two young sons, was young, she knew she wanted to fly planes. She really got hooked on them when her family moved to the small African country of Guinea Bissau because of her father's job with a Dutch NGO. "We flew back and forth between Africa and the Netherlands a lot in the four years we were living there and I got to really like planes," she explains.

Kassandra, now 36, was just eight when the family moved to Africa and was 12 when they returned to Amsterdam. "At first I thought I would be an air stewardess and then I thought, why can't I just fly the thing?"

## A father's support

During her teens, Kassandra committed herself to researching aeroplanes and how to fly them. Her father, Ted, realised how passionate his daughter was about this future career and fully supported her. "We would go to Schiphol airport on Sundays and he bought me a book, which was written by a woman, about how to become a pilot" she recalls, adding that doing research in the 1990s was difficult as there was no internet like there is nowadays.

After leaving school, having carefully chosen subjects she knew she needed to become a pilot, like physics and maths, Kassandra passed the selection process and was accepted into the Mar-



Kassandra Stultiens Zandstra in the cockpit. :: KSZ

## "I want to inspire other young women"

### :: JENNIE RHODES

**LA HERRADURA** Kassandra Stultiens Zandstra is hoping to organise events in the area to inspire other young women to consider being a pilot. She often uses the new flight simulator, Flight Experience, in Marbella and would like to arrange events to show women in particular the workings of a plane. "It's really realistic,"

tinair Flight Academy in Holland. She explains that while she was the only girl among her fellow students she didn't feel any different from her male counterparts. "If anything they looked after me and would make sure I got home ok," she recalls, adding, "They used to laugh at me because although I was training to be a pilot aged 20 and the thought of fly-

she says and explains that while the simulator can be used by the general public it is also used for training pilots.

Kassandra has set up her own website ([www.femalepilothub.com](http://www.femalepilothub.com)) and hopes that through this and other projects she has in the pipeline she can raise the percentage of female pilots from five "to ten or more" over the next few years.

ing a plane was exciting, I was scared of driving a car and didn't get my licence until I was 23."

In 2006, aged 24, Kassandra got her first job as a pilot for Transavia and flew to 93 different airports during her career. "My first flight was to Crete and it went well," she recalls. "For a while whenever I got back to Amsterdam and watched other planes taking off

comfortable about two women flying the plane. I didn't say this to him but I thought, well you can just get off if you're not happy," she says. On other occasions when she has come out of the cockpit to go to the toilet she has been given passengers' rubbish and asked for drinks. "I'm a woman, they just assume I am the stewardess and it's men who fly the planes," she says.

## Insurance discrimination

The biggest blow came when she had to give up flying after the birth of her first son almost six years ago, when a pregnancy-related condition meant she didn't meet the strict medical requirements to keep her licence. A clause in what is known as loss of licence insurance, which pilots take out in the event that they lose their licence on medical grounds, stated that the company wouldn't pay out for loss of licence related to diving without oxygen, off-roading across deserts, or pregnancy-related medical conditions. "It's discrimination," says Kassandra. "How can a company compare giving birth to diving without oxygen?" She hopes to be able to find a lawyer and fight the case.

In the meantime, last year Kassandra qualified as a flight instructor, meaning she can train pilots and help them to perfect their skills in order to be selected for both flight schools and airlines. "I also want to inspire other young women, but I would tell them to check their insurance carefully," Kassandra says.

The instructor says that for her the biggest hurdle was not, in the end, being a woman, but the financing which is difficult as pilots have to fund their own training. She adds that although it can be difficult, it "isn't impossible and there are solutions". And that is the message that she is keen to get across to anyone considering being a pilot, be they male or female.

## "I was flying with another female colleague and a male passenger said he wasn't comfortable with two women pilots"

and landing I thought to myself 'I just did that' but you don't think about it at the time."

She has since flown planes with her father as a passenger and admits that she prefers short-haul to long-haul flights as they can be "a bit boring" and there is "a lot of sitting around as you can't really leave the cockpit, which is really small".

## Five per cent

Kassandra and her fellow female airline pilots make up only five per cent of the total. She admits that she has experienced sexism in the job. "I was flying with a female colleague once and a male passenger told us that he wasn't



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# From San Francisco's streets to the big screen

Fran Guijarro is finalising his documentary 'Moses', about the life of a homeless man in America



## Unexpected connection.

The lives of 65-year-old Moses and Fran Guijarro, a 36-year-old film-maker and publicist from Malaga, were brought together in San Francisco



▲ **Dream fulfilled.** Moses had always wanted to see Picasso's 'Guernica' and he has now done so. :: SUR



▲ **Family.** On their trip to Spain, Moses met the film-makers family in Malaga. :: SUR

while Guijarro left his job as creative director in an advertising agency to pursue his dream of making films. "He has helped me so much. He has given me some of the best advice I have ever received," he says.

Guijarro slept in the street with Moses, put him up in his home, documented his three attempts at detoxification and his two relapses - "that was the hardest thing of all," he admits - discovered how other artists found inspiration in him, rescued the music he had recorded in the 1970s and 80s in studios in San Francisco and Nashville and witnessed his reunion with his family.

After 600 hours of recording, dozens of interviews, thousands of kilometres travelled around the USA and even a trip to Spain, the puzzle now has all its pieces and the time has come to put it together. Guijarro is editing the film with the help of Álex Lora, nominated in the Short Documentary section of the recent Goya Awards. "I would love to present 'Moses' at the Malaga film festival next year," he says.

One of the most emotional moments for Guijarro was when he and Moses travelled together to Spain. Moses had three dreams: he wanted to see Picasso's 'Guernica', swim in the Mediterranean and eat paella, which he did, cooked by Fran Guijarro's mother in Malaga. "He cried like a baby when he saw the picture. I've never seen anybody become so emotional over a work of art," he recalls now.

Today, Moses is still clean and shares an apartment with others in rehabilitation. He plays the guitar again and now, aged 65, has a new life off the streets. "He has been lucky, but he's brave as well. The problem now is that the problem of homeless people is going to get worse because Trump is cutting back on social policies," says Guijarro. He says numerous factors come into play with regard to homelessness: the lack of universal health care and accessible housing, the fact that in the 1980s Reagan emptied the psychiatric hospitals, the war veterans, the extreme individualism of American society... "it's a failure of the system," he says.

Behind this project is Free Range Puppies, the production company that Fran Guijarro

founded in 2012 with Catalanian Juli López to give a 'social focus' to advertising and communication as well as promote artistic projects like 'Moses'.

"We both worked in big agencies and left because we felt like dogs on leads. That's where the name of the company comes from," he explains. They also organised a crowdfunding appeal to finance the documentary in 2012, and received more than 50,000 dollars.



## ► Music.

Moses was a well-known guitarist, composer and singer in the 1960s and 70s, but his career was cut short because of drugs.

**MALAGA.** Day after day for 20 years Moses lived on the same street corner of the financial district of San Francisco. He used to call it his "office". He didn't ask for money, but he liked to talk to people. Many of the executives who passed him every day were hardly aware he was there; he had become part of the surroundings in what, ironically, is one of the richest cities in the USA. Fran Guijarro did see him, though. He hadn't been in the city long and was still not used to the homeless phenomenon.

"It was a huge cultural shock for me to see so many people living in the street," says this film maker and publicist from Malaga, who at that time - 2007 - was 25 years old and studying film and publicity at the Academy of Art University. That cul-

tural shock provided him with inspiration, however, and he decided that his project at the end of his masters degree course would be a short documentary about the life of a homeless person.

Fran Guijarro is sure this was not coincidence, because that exchange of glances with a 55 Afro-American crack addict changed, and joined, both of their lives. What began as a short documentary ended up becoming a full-length film which has taken ten years to make, and a man who was one of the 12,000 homeless people hidden beneath the mists of San Francisco turned out to be a talented musician with a traumatic past. During the documentary Moses detoxes, gets off the streets and is reunited with siblings who he thought were dead,

**NURIA TRIGUERO**

✉ ntriguero@diariosur.es

The film-maker and publicist, who now lives in the USA, has spent ten years and filmed 600 hours for the documentary, which he hopes to show at the Malaga Festival next year





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**GIBRALTAR.** It's like something out of a James Bond movie.

And it's not surprising, as 007 writer Ian Fleming himself helped design this highly classified World War II military project.

It was back in 1940 that plans for what became known as "Stay Behind Cave" were set in motion. At the time Germany was planning to capture Gibraltar from the British in a plan code-named Operation Felix.

So serious was the threat that a top intelligence officer of the British Navy - Rear Admiral John Henry Godfrey - decided to build a covert observation post in Gibraltar that would remain operational even if the Rock fell to the Axis powers.

From this base the movements of enemy ships would be reported to GCHQ in the UK with clandestine radio communication.

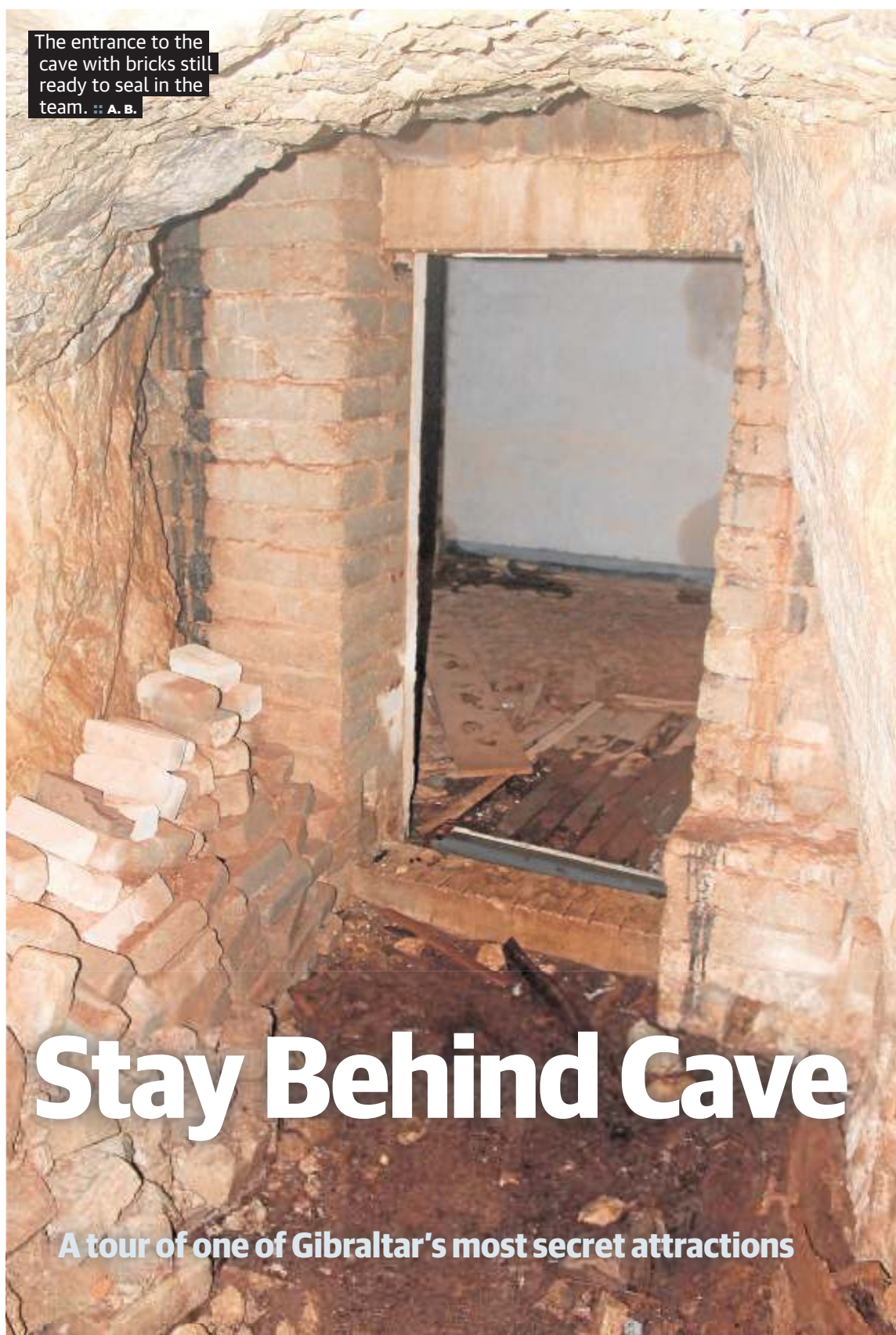
Officially known as Operation Tracer, construction of the listening post began in earnest in 1941 in what is now the Upper Rock Nature Reserve on the southern side of Gibraltar.

The plan was so tight-lipped that Godfrey held meetings with his consultants at his private residence in Mayfair rather than at Whitehall in London.

Among those consultants who helped with the detailed planning for Operation Tracer was a young Ian Fleming, at the time a naval Volunteer Reserve Officer, and one of Godfrey's assistants.

Those trusted with the building of the underground facility were blindfolded to and from the construction site each night under the cover of darkness, and after its construction, they were posted back to the UK and not allowed overseas until the end of the war.

The entrance to the cave with bricks still ready to seal in the team. :: A. B.



# Stay Behind Cave

A tour of one of Gibraltar's most secret attractions

By the summer of 1942 the cave was ready - and a team of six men were selected for the operation, an executive officer as leader, two doctors and three wireless operators.

All six men had volunteered to be sealed inside the cave should Gibraltar fall to the Germans. The initial plan was that they would remain sealed within the facility for a year - but then this was increased to seven years.

All were given cover jobs in Gibraltar during the day, but at night they were transported up to the cave to be trained for a day they hoped would never come.

The plan was that the team could be in the cave within the hour should Gibraltar wake up to an unexpected invasion.

Inside was a living room, three bunk beds, a communications room, a bathroom and two observation points looking over the Bay of Gibraltar on the West and the Mediterranean Sea in the East. Provisions for seven years were also stored within the complex.

What's more, the cave floor was covered in cork tiles to reduce the sound in case any enemy soldiers came close.

In addition, a bicycle with a leather strap instead of a chain (to keep the noise down) was put in the cave to provide electricity for the wireless radio and to keep the men fit.

There was no way out and if anyone died within the chamber they were to be embalmed and buried within a small soil-filled spot close to the entrance - giving a rather sinister feel to the aptly titled Stay Behind Cave.

An eerie feature is that you can still see the makeshift grave all these decades later.

Of course, the Germans never invaded Gibraltar and the cave was all but forgotten.

Intelligence chiefs ordered that the provisions in the complex be removed and the cave was sealed up.

Rumours of a secret complex circulated for decades in Gibraltar, un-

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til its accidental discovery on Boxing Day in 1997 by the Gibraltar Caving Group.

Phil Smith, 55, a senior guide and site manager at Stay Behind Cave, which is managed by the Gibraltar Museum, told SUR in English:

"They had been looking for it for years and whilst passing through a known tunnel, luckily stopped to have their sandwiches by the cave entrance on that fateful day in 1997. They felt a wind coming through the corrugated iron lining of the tunnel where no wind should have been.

"On removing a panel, they saw shuttered concrete instead of the expected natural limestone and a little further down found the cave entrance itself.

"It was more or less as it had been left in 1942."

The authenticity of the site was confirmed by one of the builders in 1998, and a decade later by one of the doctors - Dr Bruce Cooper.

That doctor, the last surviving member of the Tracer team, died in 2010. Sworn to secrecy, he hadn't even told his wife or children about his involvement in the secret complex.

Nowadays the exact location of Stay Behind Cave is still kept secret in order to preserve the complex - and the facility is under lock and key.

However, the Gibraltar Museum organises around 30 guided tours a



Site manager Phil Smith inside Stay Behind Cave. Right, the steps leading to the eastern observation point within the cave. :: A. B.



The living area, designed to be shared by six people. :: A. B.

year and plans are now afoot to make the cave more accessible - in order to increase the number of visitors.

Phil added: "I think the cave fascinates people as it's such an incredible story - in this case the truth really is stranger than fiction.

"All the secrecy does sound like something out of a James Bond film and of course that's because of Ian Fleming. So all these villains and lairs - this is probably where he got his ideas."

In yet another twist to the tale, there are rumours that a second Stay Behind Cave exists on the Rock.

"The known cave does not overlook the runway and surely detailed information of aircraft movements would be just as important as ship movements," argued Phil.

"Someone claims to have seen a plan for a Gibraltar Operation Tracer Cave with a different layout to the one we know about. Another story is that one of the construction party who worked on the project was shown the layout for the known cave and said he didn't recognise it. Whatever the truth, having eyes on the runway would seem to me vital to the success of the operation."

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## NERJA RESIDENTS' DAY



Visitors watch a flamenco performance by Escuela de Flamenco Elena. :: JENNIE RHODES

## A bright day for Nerja

New and old associations came together for the international event for the 19th year running

## :: JENNIE RHODES

The sun came out for the 19th Nerja Residents' Day last Sunday. The event started at 12 noon and was opened by local mayor, Rosa Arrabal, and foreign residents' councillor, Jorge Bravo.

It attracted around 2,500 people, many of whom are foreign residents in the town. Nerja's population, according to the latest figures is 22,121 people, of which 28 per cent (6,207 people) are foreign residents registered on the town hall 'padrón'. The biggest group is from the UK (2,122) and in total 81 countries are represented on Nerja's official census.

This year 36 different organisations participated in Residents' Day, two more than last year, each with their own stall either providing information about their services, rais-

ing money through tombolas, sales of cakes, drinks and other food or by selling products.

There were a number of new associations and businesses present this year, including Liz Brown, The English Nurse, who runs a company providing UK registered nursing care to English-speaking residents in the Axarquía area.

Another organisation which was there for the first time was U3A Axarquía. Members David Wiseman and John MacLennan said that it had definitely been worth having a stall as they had "had lots of visitors to the stall and a lot of interest", adding, "Five or six people have confirmed that they will join us so far."

Among the regulars were Cudeca, who were selling items donated to them such as clothes, jewellery and

sunhats as well as selling tombola tickets; and the Nerja 41 Club, who were giving away samples of cakes baked by members from different countries. Animal charities, including Axarquía Animal Rescue, Costa Animal Society and Give Me Five, also had stalls at the event.

International Club members, Pauline, Maria, Joan, Lorna, Jude, Jan and Katy, who have been living in Nerja for between eight and 16 years respectively, said they come every year and enjoy the atmosphere. Pauline, who was also volunteering on the Royal British Legion stand, added, "It's really good because it's all for charity."

Live music and dancing came from The Shanty Choir Andalucía, and local flamenco groups, Alboreá Juani and Elena, among others.



Rosa Arrabal and Jorge Bravo, Nerja mayor and councillor. :: E. C.



Cudeca volunteers on their charity stall. :: J. R.



International Club members enjoying the sun :: J. R.

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## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

13 APRIL 1986

# Senna pips Mansell by a split second in first Jerez Grand Prix

**DARYL FINCH**

**T**he town of Jerez in the province of Cadiz has always had a long association with motorsport, in particular motorcycle racing. Some even go as far as calling it the 'Mecca of Motorcycle Racing' due to the passion inspired by the sport throughout the past six decades.

It all began in 1956 when the first organised racing began in the town. However, due to its rapidly increasing success locally, the trophy - by this stage known as the Trofeo de la Merced - started to earn a reputation internationally, attracting many of the foreign stars of the day such as Marco Lucchinelli, Barry Sheene, Jan de Vries and Borje Jansson to the sherry region.

Having witnessed the popular-

ity of the races and the prestige they attracted, the town's mayor, Pedro Pacheco, pushed for a permanent track that would be a leader in Europe and would not only host motorcycle racing, but also Formula 1 (at a time when the sport was still relatively unknown in this country).

Construction on the Circuito de Jerez began in 1984 and was ready in time to host its first test race on 5 December 1985.

The track was officially inaugurated on 13 April 1986 for the Spanish Formula 1 Grand Prix which produced a memorable battle between Ayrton Senna and Nigel Mansell, the former shading it by 0.014 seconds. Alain Prost

completed the podium, coming in third, 21 seconds behind.

Jerez would host the Spanish GP for the next four years until it was moved to Catalonia in order to attract larger crowds, with Jerez's circuit's remote location counting against it.

That didn't stop the 1994 and

1997 editions of the European Grand Prix coming, although following the latter, Jerez was temporarily banned from hosting another after mayor Pedro Pacheco disrupted the podium celebrations by presenting a trophy that was supposed to be handed over by a dignitary. Jerez has not hosted an F1 Grand Prix since.

Despite, or perhaps because of this setback, the Circuito de Jerez has consolidated its place on the map for the sport which has stirred passions in the town for decades.

Ever since the first Spanish MotoGP was held in 1987, the date has become a must, a sort of yearly pilgrimage for fans of motorcycle racing.

As a nation, Spain has devel-

## LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

<b>Gran Premio</b>	Grand Prix
<b>Carrera</b>	Race
<b>Circuito</b>	Track
<b>Piloto</b>	Racing driver
<b>Moto</b>	Motorcycle
<b>Coche</b>	Car
<b>Alcalde</b>	Mayor
<b>Espectadores</b>	Spectators
<b>Campeón</b>	Champion
<b>Podio</b>	Podium
<b>Velocidad</b>	Speed
<b>Seguridad</b>	Safety
<b>Vencedor</b>	Winner
<b>Automovilismo</b>	Motor racing
<b>Trofeo</b>	Trophy
<b>Correr</b>	To race
<b>Contratiempo</b>	Setback
<b>Peregrinaje</b>	Pilgrimage



The report from the inaugural Spanish F1 Grand Prix in Jerez in SUR in English, 18 April 1986.

oped a great affinity with the sport and has produced some great riders over the years such as Ángel Nieto, Ricardo Tormo, Sito Pons and Alex Criville. The likes of Jorge Lorenzo (after whom the final corner is named), Marc Márquez, Dani Pedrosa and Maverick Viñales now continue the Spanish success story.

Márquez will be the favourite when the race returns on 4 May.

**Bilingual crossword inside back page**



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Hosts and visitors on a visit to a Ronda winery. :: SUR

## Erasmus scheme unites Spanish, Norwegian and German teachers in Ronda

The official language school (Escuela Oficial de Idiomas) in Ronda recently received teachers from Norway and Germany as part of their Erasmus+ K2 programme, which they started two years ago in Oslo.

Taking part alongside the Ronda school are the Voksenopplæring Sinsen in Norway and the School of Second Chance Education Dahme-Spreewald, in Germany.

While in Ronda the visitors took part in a series of activities based on their project, which involves designing and implementing provision for enhancing basic skills and key competences, along with strengthening the profile of the teaching profession.

Outside the classroom, however, there was time to visit the local monuments and enjoy wine-tasting at one of Ronda's wineries.

## LEGAL ADVICE



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#### REF. R. I. A.

Four months ago I had a traffic accident when I crashed into the rear of the car ahead, ending up in a pile-up with four cars involved. Although I had hardly had any alcohol, I tested positive. My car was insured and the company paid compensation to the other cars involved, but now the insurance is demanding me to reimburse

the amounts that they have paid. Is that legal? What is the point in having an insurance policy if later you have to pay the expenses?

Insurance companies are private entities, and they try to defend their own interests. In this case, and due to the fact that you tested positive, the company is legally entitled to have you reimbursing the amounts paid, as it is considered that your behaviour was an excessive risk that is not covered.

#### REF. H. C. H.

Last year I prepared a party at home to celebrate my birthday, and invited my best friends. I was aware that two of them could not stand each other, but I thought that being my birthday party they would try to get on well. At first they ignored each other, but after a couple of drinks, one of them started to wind the other up, and they ended up coming to blows. The next

day I spoke with the one who had started the fight and he told me that he was going to sue the other for having assaulted him. I did not give too much importance to this, but I have now received a notification to appear at court as a witness. I do not want to go because both of them are my friends, and they both are responsible for the fight. Can I refuse to appear alleging that I have close ties with them?

No, if the court has officially summoned you, you have the obligation to appear, as otherwise you could be fined or even taken by force and indicted for disobedience. Nevertheless, before giving testimony, the judge will ask if you have relationship with any of them or a particular interest in one of them winning the case, so if you say that you are friend of both, the judge will be able to assess your testimony properly.

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## PET CARE

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## Preparing for summer

### Make sure your pets are well looked after while you are away on holiday by doing some early research

Planning to go away for the summer holidays? One job that demands early attention is the booking of kennels for pets. There are good kennels and not so good and you want the best for your animals. After all it is their holiday too.

If you have used a certain kennel before, and you and your pets were very satisfied with it, then do not delay for it may well be fully booked.

If you have not put your animals into kennels before then dispel the idea that they are going to prison. Your pets will enjoy the company of canine and feline friends, professional care and a change of environment. Of course they will miss you for a few days but will soon settle down. That is why I suggest you do not put them into kennels for a few days to experiment if they like the experience. As soon as they start to settle you take them out again. It is unsettling and next time they may

associate any kennel as the place they were not content.

If you leave your pets with friends do give the matter deep thought. It may save money but are the friends really experienced with animals or just "love them". Your pets may choose to go home on their own so make sure the friend has secure premises.

I remember when Erny and I ran kennels, a caring couple came to us a few weeks before their holiday and wanted to book in their cocker spaniel. With regret I had to refuse the booking because we were full. They left the dog with friends as other kennels were also full. A few weeks later I came across the couple who were very hostile. It emerged that the friends had not secured the gate and the dog had run into the road and was killed.

Fix an appointment and visit a few kennels if this is your first time or you wish to change. Ask

questions and a good kennel owner will respect your concern. Is the kennel manned by a responsible, experienced adult both day and night? Do the pets have their own accommodation and don't have to share unless they are from the same owners?

Do they have protection from leishmaniasis by being in sleeping quarters with fine netting over the window? What exercise area is there and when are the dogs allowed out for exercise and for how long? What food is given and how often? Is fresh water always at hand? Is a vet available and can your own vet be used (bearing in mind the distance involved)?

The Japanese have a word 'honna' which is difficult to translate but 'gut feeling' is close. If you are happy with your choice go ahead and book. Relax on holiday; your pets will be in professional hands and safe.



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DENISE BUSH



## READER'S PHOTO



:: URSULA RUSSELL

## AMARYLLIS ENJOYS THE SUN

Ursula Russell from Benahavis sent in this photo of an amaryllis and says, "Every year my Amaryllis produces beautiful blossoms; this year

there were seven stalks. The potted plant is partially shadowed by a Dama de Noche but otherwise in the sun all day."

## GARDENING HINTS

## Taking softwood cuttings

Softwood cuttings are probably the most successful way to propagate perennials, deciduous shrubs and some trees. The 'softwood' is literally the flexible, new growth and they are the easiest to get to root. Softwood cuttings should be taken first thing in the morning and placed in a plastic bag to help reduce moisture loss. Choose strong, non-flowering shoots about 10cm long and cut them just above a leaf node. To prepare the cutting for planting, use a clean, sharp knife and cut it just below the

next leaf node. Pinch out the tip and trim off any lower leaves. Dip the base of the cutting in hormonal rooting powder or liquid (this will increase success rate). Make a hole in a pot of compost using a pencil or a dibber, and place the cutting in the hole so that the leaves are just above the surface of the soil. Firm the soil and lightly water in. Then cover the pot with a transparent plastic bag and place it in a warm, bright spot. The cuttings should start to root within 6 to 10 weeks.

## PHOTOS

## Calling all gardeners

We know that many of our readers have lovely gardens, or enjoy growing plants on their terraces or balconies, so why not share them with others?

Email your photos to [english@diariosur.es](mailto:english@diariosur.es) or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Malaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation. Alternatively, you can send them to us via Facebook ([@surenglish](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter ([@SUR\\_English](https://twitter.com/SUR_English))

## GARDENING

## Palisot's Giant Sage

Large, heart-shaped leaves and purple sage-like flowers make this tall plant an exotic addition to the garden

Brillantaisia is a genus of about twenty species native to tropical Africa and Madagascar. It is commonly called Giant Sage and although it is not related to the Salvia family, it is certainly a giant. From a spring sowing it can quickly reach 8 to 10 metres tall by 1.5 metres wide, especially in ideal, warm, wet conditions.

The hairy, square stems are simi-

lar to those of the mint family but Brillantaisia is part of Acanthaceae. The heart-shaped leaves are large and exotic looking, sometimes with toothed edges; they can measure 15cm long by 7cm wide.

The flowers, which are similar to Salvia, form in loose clusters at the ends of the branches and attract bees and butterflies.

The young flowers have a white 'keel' whereas mature flowers are all purple so the overall effect is of bicoloured flowers. After flowering has finished, elongated, cigar-shaped seed pods develop about 30mm long. Once ripe they explode open scattering the flat brown seeds around. The seeds are covered in fine hairs which help them to cling to animals' coats and other surfaces, assisting their dispersal.

In hot and humid parts of Australia, Brillantaisia is classed as invasive as it will happily colonise large areas in ideal conditions. It needs a rich soil, plenty of warmth and moisture and is not drought or frost resistant.

Brillantaisia was first collected by French botanist Ambroise Marie Francois Joseph Palisot, Baron of Beauvois, whose life was beset with bad luck and bad decisions. In Africa most of his collection was destroyed in an attack when the British invaded. He caught yellow fever and went to his uncle's house in Haiti which was later burned in an uprising and his collection there was lost. He was imprisoned and then deported to the US where he was robbed of everything he owned and left destitute. He joined a circus but managed to get a job as a curator for a private botanical collection. He was finally allowed to return to France (after the revolution) but lost everything again when his ship was wrecked off Nova Scotia. It is hardly surprising then that very few of the specimens he collected and recorded have survived.



Brillantaisia and close-up (inset). :: TARA KENT

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# Learning Spanish in a café enviroment

Spanishcafé operates around Spain and is an innovative way to learn the language



Spanishcafé, which operates in Malaga, aims to help people of all abilities to improve their conversational Spanish in an informal, relaxed environment



An upper intermediate Spanishcafé group taught by Clara Anuncio (right). :: B. CLARKE

**MALAGA.** Learning Spanish in Spain normally follows one of two routes. The first is attending lessons at a language school, which tend to be highly structured and all too reminiscent of school days. The other is attending a language exchange, where you run the risk of sticking to speaking in English by hanging around with native speakers or meeting a Spanish speaker who wants to improve their English, with little thought of your own language goals.

Spanishcafé offers an alternative: conversation-based lessons in a re-

laxed café atmosphere. Clara Anuncio, one of the organisers, said: "There is an enormous difference between our classes and a conversation exchange, given that, as well as practising the language, the teacher helps the students with their mistakes and explains grammatical structures as needed."

The sessions, which cost far less than the equivalent at a language school, take place in either the Picnic Dreams café or the cafeteria of the Carmen Thyssen Museum in

Malaga. There are also classes in both Madrid and Seville. A typical class begins with students ordering drinks, followed by a general discussion and some informal group activities. The sessions usually end with a conversation centred around topics chosen at random by the organiser, which can range from animal rights, to fashion or whether true love really exists.

"One of the best things about Spanishcafé is being in a small group with people of a similar ability," says Suzy, an Irish student who began learning

Spanish three months ago. She explained how she started off as a beginner but after an intensive language course complemented by Spanishcafé she is now an upper intermediate. "Spanishcafé has really built my confidence and speaking ability. Not only does Clara support me during the session, but she is more than happy to correct any written Spanish that I bring to class," she added.

Clara is enthusiastic about the benefits of Spanishcafé: "It's really rewarding to teach Spanish to peo-

ple from so many different countries with varying abilities. We design our classes to be fun and enjoyable, to allow everyone to improve their Spanish and increase their fluency in a natural way by using the language."

Heike, a student from Austria, says she has really come into her own since joining Spanishcafé. "I learnt some Spanish at school, but it wasn't the same as the teachers themselves weren't native speakers and they were trying to get you to pass an exam, not learn the language for the enjoyment of it. Spanishcafé is very different. You become very comfortable with the other pupils and enjoy going to the sessions. It's a lot like going for coffee with friends, except that you're also learning a second language."

Spanishcafé is a recent offshoot of the long-running Englishcafé, which has been helping locals learn English for several years. One of the teachers, Martin Hyam, 57, from London, has spent the last four years teaching in Malaga, having previously lived in Valencia, Santiago de Compostela and Sorbas in Almeria. He has a PGCE in adult basic education and has taught in adult and community education. "Englishcafé provides students with an opportunity to develop their functional communication skills," he said. The classes, he continued, have been helpful for Spanish adults who are preparing for English oral exams, interviews in English, and for work and travel needs.

**i For more information visit :**  
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**SOCIETY SCENE**

# The Lions enjoy a night of Ukelele

Some associations decorated hats for Easter while others went on treasure hunts and excursions

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

**T.A.P.A.S**

**Treasure Hunt**

Even the weather could not dampen the spirits of the record number of entrants who joined The Andalucía Performing Arts Society Car Treasure Hunt recently. Fifteen cars and over 50 people formed teams of Spanish, English and Dutch speakers and set off from El Cruce Restaurant in Coín through the countryside and picturesque villages of the Guadalhorce area collecting answers to clues placed along the way. TAPAS chairman Bob Stopforth said, "Our TAPAS treasure hunts are becoming more and more popular, especially with the routes and clues now printed in both English and Spanish versions. We were absolutely delighted that so many people came along to take part and helped us raise nearly 200 euros for local charities."

**Lux Mundi**

**Trip to Lisbon**

Recently friends of Lux Mundi from Torre del Mar and Fuengirola travelled by coach to Lisbon. They stayed at the four-star Fenix Urban hotel for five nights, giving them plenty of time to take the tourist bus and see the city. A ferry took some across the river Tagus to visit the famous Cristo Rei and enjoy the views of the city and the river. Others visited various museums including the Gulbenkian Collection and the Se, the city's cathedral with its twin castellated bell

towers and rose window.

Some of the group also visited the Torre de Belem, the cultural centre, the Museu Nacional dos Coches and the beautiful Mosteiro dos Jeronimos with its richly carved arches and balustrades. On the final day there was an excursion to Cascais and Sintra, and on the way back the coach went over the Vasco da Gama Bridge, the longest bridge in Europe.

**La Cala de Mijas Lions Club**  
**Memorable events**

Three Ukulele groups, from Fuen-girola, Cabopino and U3A, came together in The Times Bar for a concert for the La Cala Lions Club recently. The Lions Club also had a special Easter meal at the Restaurant Ole, Urb Los Claveles, the same venue where they hold their twice monthly meetings (every 2nd and 4th Wednesday). Owner Juan prepared a typical Spanish meal while secretary Sandie Tavendale held the quiz and raffle, raising valuable funds for the club.

The President of the Lions, Julie Barry, explained that all the money raised will go to local causes. This year the club celebrates 20 years of service to the local community. New members and volunteers are always welcome, so call in at the charity shop for more information from Monday to Saturday from 10am to 2pm or call 677059061. Donations of clothes, bric-a-brac etc. are always appreciated. Their next event, the Spring Fayre and Fashion Show, is on May 14th at the Hotel Tamisa Golf.

**Age Care Association**

**Easter Bonnet day**

A special Easter event at the Age Care Association this year was 'Make your own Easter Hat'. Many people



The La Cala Lions Club Ukelele night. :: SUR



Age Care decorated hats for Easter Bonnet day. :: SUR

participated, making their hats with enthusiasm and using resources from home. The group at Calahonda, which now has over 120 members, meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at the International Baptist Church. They hold musical events, informative talks and other activities such as whist, dominoes, an art group which this year has produced the first Age Care Calendar, a bridge group, a book club, a Spanish group and a chair aerobics group which is extremely popular. Age Care coffee mornings are held on Monday 11am to 1pm in Tanges Sports Bar in Bonanza Square, Benalmádena; on Tuesday, 11am to 1pm at the Calahonda Day Care Centre, the International Baptist

Church; on Wednesday, 11am - 12.30pm in Fuengirola's Salon Varietes Theatre Bar; on Thursday, 11am - 1pm in Coín at Pepe's Bar opposite La Trocha; on Thursday, 11am - 1pm in Calahonda at the International Baptist Church; and on Friday, 11am - 12.30pm in Los Boliches at the Hogar del Jubilado, Calle Frita, above the Fruit Market.

Call Lesley 635 407 255 or contact [info@agecarecosta.org](mailto:info@agecarecosta.org)

**What are you up to?**

If you are involved in a club or association and planning events, trips or activities that would be of interest to other readers of SUR in English, we would love to hear from you:

Email: [surinenglish.su@diariosur.es](mailto:surinenglish.su@diariosur.es)



TAPAS treasure hunt winner. :: SUR

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# Drugs to the rescue

Spain is a leader in the use of antidepressants and sleeping pills. They are necessary for serious disorders but do not always work, create addiction and have side effects. "They're not perfect, but they are the best alternative available"



INÉS  
GALLASTEGUI



**P**sychoactive drugs don't work and they kill people. That is the message from Danish biologist and doctor Peter Goetzsche, who has written books and given talks on the subject and was recently at a conference organised by the Institute of Nutrition Sciences and Health in Madrid.

The idea that anxiolytics, antidepressants and sleeping pills are prescribed too easily without taking into account their side effects nor their limited effectiveness is not new. However the negative voices have recently got louder for two reasons: one, the use of this type of drug is rapidly growing - Spain is one of the biggest consumers in Europe - and two, there is an increase in chemophobia (an irrational aversion to chemical products), as well as growing enthusiasm for 'alternative' medicines. And then there is the conspiracy theory that suggests that the pharmaceutical industry makes sure people remain sick in order to make more money.

In an article to promote one of his books, Goetzsche said that the consumption of psychotropics is the third cause of death in Britain, after heart problems and cancer. He attributes this to their side effects: patients with dementia being



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➤ treated with drugs which increase the risk of heart attacks, strokes and diabetes, relapses caused by sleeping pills and suicides provoked by antidepressants.

Peter Goetzsche goes even further and says these drugs are useless. "The industry invents mental disorders so that people become addicted to its products," he has insisted. He believes only some extreme cases should be treated with medication.

For example, he says selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI), the most popular antidepressants, base their effectiveness on correcting a chemical imbalance in the brain whose existence, he says, has never been proven. The Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) for which thousands of children are given medication is not, in his opinion, a mental disorder but a label given to active or intellectually curious children. He also says the severe psychosis suffered by patients with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or serious depression should be treated with "psychotherapy, empathy and love".

### Chemistry or words

Is this, then, a new battle between defenders of two different ways of looking at mental health, those who want to restore 'normality' to patients' brains through chemical substances and those who want to cure them by talking to them and getting them to change their behaviour and negative thinking?

Criticism of psychiatry is not new. In the 19th century there was strong opposition to degrading treatment in mental institutions, and in the 20th century to electro-shock treatment and lobotomy.

The development of modern pharmaceutical products and the humanisation of psychiatric attention helped, but some still question non-pathological patients being given medica-

## THE PRINCIPAL DISORDERS

### The chemistry of sadness

Sadness, apathy, increase or loss of appetite, insomnia, tiredness, irritability, anxiety and thoughts of death are some symptoms of depression. The most commonly used antidepressant drugs are selective

serotonin reuptake inhibitors (the best-known brands are Prozac, Paxil, Zoloft and Lexapro) and norepinephrine (Cymbalta, Pristiq). Many of these drugs cause dependence and have to be stopped gradually.



tion, paternalism towards patients and the conflicts of interest between doctors and the industry.

"Self-criticism exists within psychiatry, but there is nothing similar in the field of psychotherapies," says psychiatrist Pablo Malo, the Spanish author of a blog called 'Evolución y neurociencias' (Evolution and Neurosciences). He says that different meta-analyses (systematic reviews of scientific studies on the same theme) agree that psychotherapies are no more effective than drugs, that there are economic interests behind

certain therapies (the sale of books, courses and mobile apps, for example) and that psychology is not exempt from adverse effects, including a worsening of the disorder being treated or suicidal ideas.

Malo refers to mindfulness, "an industry which moves millions", as an example even though its effectiveness has never been sufficiently proven, and the controversial regression therapy, which uses hypnosis to create false episodes in the memory and has destroyed families and resulted in parents and carers

### A nervous wreck

Tachycardia, agitation, hyperventilation and insomnia are some of the symptoms of anxiety, which includes obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic and phobias. The most usual treatment is with benzodiazepines, which have sedative and anxiolytic

effects. The best-known are lorazepam (Orfidal), alprazolam (Trankimazin) and the sleeping drug lormetazepam (Noctamid).

The use of these in Spain has risen 57 per cent in recent years, to an average of 8.6 users a day for every 100 inhabitants, which is higher than in the USA.

being charged with sexual abuse or ill-treatment which they have not committed.

Malo says Dr Goetzsche "looks for data which conveniently fits his ideology" and ignores the fact that some psychoses may respond spontaneously to psychotherapies, benzodiazepines (a sedative) or simply a placebo, but there are also psychoses which become chronic and do not respond to any treatment known so far. And in the middle of these two extremes is "a majority in which it is impossible to prevent the use of antipsychotics, especially in the acute phases of decompensation".

Saying that schizophrenia can be cured with "empathy and love" is, in his opinion, "an insult, not just to psychiatrists but also to science, intelligence, history, the patients and their families".

The underlying problem, he says, is that Goetzsche "doesn't believe that serious mental illness exists, a mental disorder which the patient cannot control, which produces great suffering and justifies the use of medications which do undoubtedly have side effects, but are still the best alternative available".

Peter Goetzsche shields himself with the prestige of the organisation to which he belongs, and whose Scandinavian branch he runs: Cochrane, an international network of research-

ers, professionals and patients dedicated to checking scientific research in order to offer "credible, accessible health information which is free from commercial sponsorship and other conflicts of interest".

Nevertheless, in 2015 the parent company distanced itself from his statements: "The views expressed by Professor Goetzsche are not those of the organisation," it said.

In reality, psychiatry and psychology are complementary and the majority of patients receive both types of treatment, according to the president of the Spanish Psychiatry Society (SEP), Julio Bobes.

A meta-analysis of the 21 most common antidepressants, published in The Lancet in February, concluded that they are all more effective for serious depression than placebos, the fake drug which is administered to a control group to see whether people's illnesses change simply because they believe they are being treated.

The work, which looked at 522 trials in which over 100,000 adults took part, confirms the incredible power of suggestion, because about 30 per cent of patients improve within two months when they have been given sugar tablets. However, this percentage rises to 60 per cent among those who are given the actual treatment.

"Antidepressants have been improved and they are not only more





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### Delirium and hallucinations

Psychotic disorders are the most serious and are characterised by delirium, hallucinations and loss of contact with reality, among other symptoms. The most important is schizophrenia, although bipolar people and those with serious depression can also

suffer from them. Among the latest generation antipsychotics and neuroleptics are clozapine (Clozaril, FazaClo), risperidone (Risperdal), olanzapine (Zyprexa) and aripiprazole (Abilify). The latest is a slow-release drug, Trevicta, which is administered every three months.

effective, they also have fewer side effects and are tolerated better," explains Bobes. He says we live in a society in which many people believe they are ill when they are not.

"There are patients with slight depression, as a result of adaptive situations: the person who has lost their job, the mother who is upset because her son and his partner have separated, the grandmother who never sees her grandchildren.... these are problems of everyday life. Then there is serious depression, an endogenous illness which is genetically conditioned. There are people who go to bed and can't get up, or wash or do anything at all," he explains. They, he insists, need medication.

### The discomfort of life

His view coincides with that of José Manuel García Montes, spokesman for the Spanish Society of Clinical Psychology and Health. "Psychologist Hans Eysenck said in the last century that 70 per cent of mental health problems cure themselves with time.

In the long term, psychotherapy is a little more effective than antidepressants, but that isn't saying much," says this lecturer at Almería university. "In fact, nearly any 'treatment' is effective for depression: going to the gym, going for a walk, being with friends, reading a book or adopting a dog. You have to ask yourself what depression is, so that almost anything meaningful that you do works."

The problem, he stresses, is that in our society we want to get rid of difficulties quickly. "Society is psychologised and psychiatrised. Problems which we use to call 'feeling sad' or 'going through a bad time' are now medicalised. There are hard situations in life and people can be worried, anxious, or sad. What is wrong is that we insist that we need to be happy and think positively all the time," he says.

### The biggest consumers

It is a fact that the use of psychopharmaceuticals is increasing. The consumption of antidepressants tripled in Spain between 2000 and 2013, from

### THE FIGURES

# 2.4

million people in Spain suffer from depression and 1.9 million from anxiety, according to the WHO. About 600,000 have schizophrenia.

# 160

doses per 1,000 inhabitants are taken daily of anxiolytics, antidepressants, hypnotics and sedatives in Spain.

26.5 to 79.5 doses per thousand inhabitants. The use of other drugs such as anxiolytics rose from 38.1 doses per thousand inhabitants in 2000 to 56.3 in 2015, and hypnotics and sedatives from 17.9 to 30.9.

"It's worrying," says GP Juan Simó, the author of a comparative study into the use of drugs in Europe. He believes the economic crisis has played a part - although not noticeably in Greece, which was particularly badly affected - but says the biggest problem is dependence on these drugs. "It's not that more are being prescribed than are necessary; it's that some people start taking them and find it hard to stop. In general people aren't aware that you can get hooked on these drugs," he says.

### ANA'S STORY

## "I wanted to get into my car and just leave my life behind"

#### I. GALLASTEGUI

A year and a half ago, Ana collapsed. There was no apparent cause for her tiredness, apathy and crying. She didn't even realise what was happening to her. It was her family - her father is a doctor - who realised. "It was an accumulation of things," she says. At the age of 40, she was in an insecure, stressful job which was paying less than previously, she had no time to herself and cared for her two children most of the time because her husband worked until 9pm. "Sometimes I used to fantasise about getting into my car and leaving my life behind without a backward glance. Other times I just wanted my husband to be at home with us," she explains.

She was diagnosed with an anxiety-depressive disorder and was off work for five months. She was prescribed an antidepressant, to be taken in the morning, and an anxiolytic before going to bed. She also saw two psychologists. The first wanted to organise her diary so she could have time for herself, but didn't look at the cause of her problems. The second was better, but after a few sessions just recommended books for her to read. "So I was paying her

instead of going to the library," she says. Her appointments with a health service psychiatrist barely lasted five minutes.

Ana is feeling better now. "Nothing has changed. My problems are the same, but I have learned to look at them differently," she says. She has removed some of the stress from her life: she used to be obsessive about making sure the evening meal, which was the only one the family ate together, was perfectly nutritious and tasty. "Nothing complicated now. I stick to simple things," she says. She has also changed her job and has more time to herself. "At first you don't want to go out, but you force yourself to do small things," she says.

Two months ago she tried to gradually reduce her medication, but the insomnia and bouts of crying returned.

"I want to stop taking the pills. They make me slower, like a zombie, but I get panicky about stopping them," she says. "I've always hated taking anything, even if I was in great pain, and with these you can't control your mind. Well, I suppose you never do, really. That's just how it is," she says.

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# Colon cancer screenings will be available across Andalucía by the end of the year

ÁNGEL  
ESCALERA

✉ aescalera@diariosur.es

The regional minister for Health, Marina Álvarez, has stated that tackling the disease is a priority for the Andalusian health authorities

**MÁLAGA.** The regional minister for Health, Marina Álvarez, announced on Monday that all Andalusian health centres will begin routine colon cancer screening this year. That means going from just 25 health centres with the necessary equipment to carry out blood tests on faeces at present, to 1,600 by the end of 2018.

That was the commitment made by the regional Health minister, who assured listeners at the event in Seville that the prevention of bowel cancer is a priority for the Andalusian government, because it is a very important public health issue.



Marina Álvarez spoke at an event in Seville on Monday. :: SUR

She said that screening “will be a priority this year as part of our comprehensive oncology plan”. Álvarez acknowledged the difficulty of implementing screening across the board, given that the target population, those between 50 and 69, is over two million, of whom 400,000 live in Malaga province. Currently there are only three health centres in Malaga city that have a colon cancer screening programme: Alameda-Perchel, La Roca and Carlinda.

Discovering colon cancer at an early stage is essential if the patient is to make a full recovery. Undertaking a blood test on a patient's faeces is an effective and sensible measure to ascertain whether a pa-

tient is suffering from bowel cancer and how advanced the disease is.

The announcement from Marina Álvarez came after the Andalusian provincial branches of the Spanish cancer association, AECC, called for the health service to extend the screenings to everyone aged between 50 and 69 years old. The AECC, marking the Day Against Colon Cancer held on 31 March, declared that “Andalucía is a black spot” in Spain's fight against the disease.

Of the 1,983,846 Andalusians between the ages of 50 and 69 years who have the right to access the bowel cancer screening programme, only 104,807 have received a letter inviting them to have the test, which makes up just 5.2 per cent of the total, according to the organisation.

The AECC has shown that 90 per cent of cases of colon cancer that are detected early, through a blood test carried out on faeces, can be beaten.

This test, as well as saving many lives and reducing patients' suffering, is cheap: it costs the health service two euros. If the result is positive, as it is for between six and seven per cent of people who take the test, doctors will undertake a colonoscopy to confirm that the patient is suffering from colon cancer. The colonoscopy costs the health service is 180 euros. In contrast, the average cost of treatment for full-blown cancer of the colon is currently around 27,000 euros.

**The blood test is carried out on faeces to detect the early stages of cancer and premalignant lesions**

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JOSELE-LANZA

## RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE DISEASE

The Spanish cancer association AECC set up an information table at the entrance to Marbella town hall in order to raise awareness for Day Against Colon Cancer on 31 March. Bowel cancer is the most common form of cancer in Spain, with 41,400 new cases each year.

## Opticians use World Health Day to encourage routine eye tests

✉ SUR IN ENGLISH

**MÁLAGA.** An eye test is not just for people who need glasses, but a vital health check, was the message delivered by opticians on World Health Day on Saturday. “Having an eye test every two years, or when you notice

a change in your vision, enables your optician to identify changes that might be associated with certain eye conditions,” said experts from Specsavers Opticas.

Sian King, a midwife in the UK, had fluid on her brain detected by an

eye test, which potentially saved her life by preventing a more serious brain aneurysm, explained José Ángel Moral-Tajadura, Specsavers Opticas Retail and Business Development Manager, who used the case to illustrate the importance of tests.

Free advanced eye tests using the latest technology and highly trained ophthalmologists as well as information on eye health and protecting the eyes are available throughout April in Specsavers Opticas stores.



## DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA



Berja is located in the southern zone of the Alpujarra of Almería. :: OFICINA DE TURISMO DE BERJA



Sierra de Gádor. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ

# Beneath Almeria's Alpujarra

### TWO DAYS IN BERJA

Car + walking

**Journey time:** 2 hours from Malaga.  
**Visits to places of interest:** 6 hours.  
**Local hiking routes:** 5 horas.



JAVIER ALMELLONES

To reach the Alpujarra of Almería from the Mediterranean coast one must travel through Berja, an Andalusian village known for the fertility of its surrounding lands and its historic legacy.

Its strategic location, near to the Mediterranean and sheltered by mountain ranges with an abundance of water, led to it being prized by a variety of different civilisations. This is clear from the many areas of historical and archaeological interest.

Both the Romans and the Arabs left their mark on the

surrounding area, evidenced by the intricate network of water channels that surround the mountain ranges around Berja. In fact, there are still country estates and farmsteads that have a strong link with the agriculture in the local area, including Alcaudique, Banejí, Peñarrodada, Hirmes, Castala, Río Chico, Chirán and San Roque, among others.

Berja is considered one of the best-preserved historic town centres in the province of Almería, with highlights including the picturesque church of the Anunciación, its Town Hall and its magnificent mansion houses and architecture from the 18th and 19th centuries. These features are all evidence of its past as an important mining town, with the magnificent Plaza Porticada as the jewel in the crown.

The town itself is perfect for exploring on foot, with some hidden gems including the Chapel of the Virgen de Gádor, one of the oldest religious buildings in the Almería Alpujarra region.

The surrounding countryside is incredibly beautiful and not to be missed by any visitor to Berja. The lush landscape is a hiker's paradise and there are other activities that visitors can enjoy, including the protected spaces of the Castala park and areas of ecological importance such as the mountainous regions of Gádor and the Adra river.

There are plenty of other hiking opportunities, including the route around the nearby Benínar reservoir and its surrounding area.

### QUICK GUIDE

#### What to see in Berja

##### Chapel of Nuestra Señora la Virgen de Gádor.

Sanctuary located in the Pixnela area, dating back to the 16th century. *Calle Santuario, s/n., 04760 Berja*

##### Parish church of Nuestra Señora de la Anunciación.

The town's main religious building, built in a neoclassical style. *Plaza de la Constitución, s/n. 04760 Berja.*

► **Torre de los Enciso.** Defensive structure in the Mudejar style (16th century) in the centre of Berja. *Calle Agua, 18. 04760 Berja*

**Town Hall.** An excellent example of historic architecture. *Plaza de la Constitución, 1, 04760 Berja.*

► **Benínar Reservoir.** Close to Berja, this reservoir is not only used for agriculture but also for recreational, tourist and sports purposes.



Plaza Porticada. :: OFICINA DE TURISMO DE BERJA



The Benínar reservoir. :: SUR





One of the rooms displaying the exhibition 'Simpatía con el Expresionismo'. :: SUR

# Expressionism, an invitation to connect

**The Museum Jorge Rando has a new exhibition dedicated to the works of seventeen artists**

:: SUR

**MALAGA.** 'Simpatía con el Expresionismo' is the title of the new exhibition that runs at the Museum Jorge Rando in Malaga until 23 May. Artists from the Pro Arte y Cultura group, together with painters from Das Atelier, the Museum Jorge

Rando's own art school, are displaying their works in the museum's Sala 1. The exhibition is curated by Julia Sáez Angulo and Carmen Pallarés.

Seventeen artists, from among the more than four hundred who make up the international Pro Arte y Cultura (PAC), were selected to

display their work at the Jorge Rando alongside paintings by two artists from Das Atelier.

Sympathy with Expressionism "is the unity felt by the painters of the group with the work of the artist Jorge Rando that is permanently on display here, in this museum", explained the curators.

"The museum was born with the need to be a free and inspiring place as it is the headquarters of the New Expressionism led by Jorge Rando, an institution not only aimed at showing the work of the great masters of expressionism and neoexpressionism, but also those disciplines that dig deep, investigate and articu-


late in relation to this heterogeneous pictorial universe," the director of the Jorge Rando Museum, Vanesa Díez Barriuso, said.

In the exhibition each canvas tells a different story through the language of lines and daubs, through its purpose, visualised by the person who admires it; through the techniques, figurative and abstract expressions, apparent in creating it; but which all converge in the necessity to reach an emotional resonance through the language of expressionism.

'Create and Assist' is the motto of PAC, which was founded in Madrid in 1990 and directed by the painter Mayte Spinola. The group aims to help existing and new, young artists, as well as combining art and fundraising.


PAC, whose honorary president is Her Royal Highness Princess Anne of Orléans, organises the presentation of the Mayte Spínola Gold Medals, awarded to recognise outstanding professional careers in the world of artistic creativity. Their first gold medal for excellence in painting was granted to Jorge Rando and the second was awarded to Antonio López.

Besides the gold medals, diplomas of excellence are awarded for creative work in the fields of art, museums, communication, publishing and others.



**MOVIE LISTING**  
From Friday 13th to  
Thursday 19th April

ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH




**L'UN DANS L'AUTRE**  
Director Bruno Chiche  
Starring Louise Bourgoin and Stéphane De Groodt  
COMEDY - 86 min.

Original version in French - Version originale en français

Friday 13: 18:00  
Saturday 14 and Sunday 15: 16:15, 18:20  
From Monday 16 to Thursday 19: 17:30


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**MARY MAGDALENE**

Director Garth Davis  
Starring Rooney Mara and Joaquin Phoenix  
DRAMA - 119 min.


Friday 13: 17:45  
Saturday 14 and Sunday 15: 15:45, 18:00  
Monday 16, Tuesday 17 and Thursday 19: 17:30  
Wednesday 18: 17:45






**READY PLAYER ONE**


Friday 13: 17:30  
Saturday 14 and Sunday 15: 15:40, 17:45  
From Monday 16 to Thursday 19: 17:30






**EARLY MAN**

Sunday 15: 11:45







**DEN OF THIEVES**

Director Christian Gudegast  
Starring Gerard Butler and Pablo Schreiber  
ACTION - 140 min.


Friday 13: 19:50, 22:30  
Saturday 14 and Sunday 15: 20:15, 22:45  
Monday 16, Tuesday 17 and Thursday 19: 19:50, 22:15  
Wednesday 18: 19:50






**PETER RABBIT**


Friday 13: 17:45  
Saturday 14: 15:50, 18:00  
Sunday 15: 11:45, 15:50, 18:00  
From Monday 16 to Thursday 19: 17:30





**PACIFIC RIM: UPRISING**

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15: 15:45



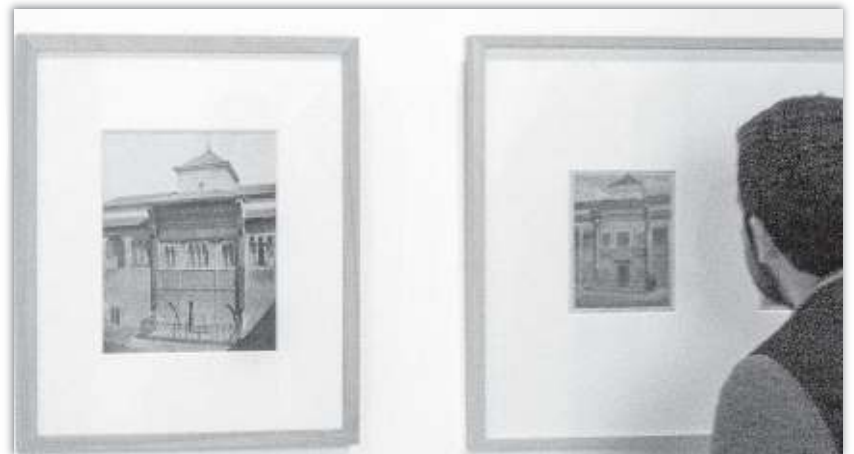




Doré was seduced by the romantic and exotic view of Andalucía in the 19th century. :: FRAN ACEVEDO



Left, Doré's illustration of Malaga cathedral. Above, the photograph he used as a model. :: R. S.



The front of the Alcázar in Seville in a photo (left) and as a print. :: F. ACEVEDO

# The Thyssen reveals Doré's secret

The museum compares works by the famous French illustrator with the photos which inspired him

REGINA SOTORRÍO

@ReginaSotorrio



The artist immortalised costumbrist scenes and beautiful landscapes, reflecting the romantic view of Andalucía in the 19th century

**MALAGA.** His drawings influenced the romantic vision which many painters of the time had of Spain in the 19th century, but he was also influenced by the views of others. 'Gustave Doré. Viajero por Andalucía' at the Carmen Thyssen Museum reveals an unknown aspect of the creative process of the famous French illustrator.

The exhibition compares some of his pictures of Andalucía with the photographs he used as a model, to show "for the first time in such an evident way" that the artist used the

new technology of his time as a tool for his creations.

This is one of the curiosities to be found in the 'Gustave Doré. Viajero por Andalucía' display, which can be seen in the Sala Noble at the museum until 15 July. It includes prints from the Museum Collection of the University of Cantabria and photos from the collection of Juan Antonio Fernández Rivero, who is from Malaga.

The journey through Spain which Gustave Doré made in 1862 in the company of hispanist Jean-Charles Davillier is summed up here in 40 woodcuts showing his passage through Andalucía. These are "collectable treasures which the public can buy" and are currently held by the University of Cantabria, which has focused on graphic works in its collection, explains the technical director of the Exhibition Department, Nuria García.

The results of the trip in 1862 were published in 'Le Tour du Monde' magazine and the book 'L'Espagne'. Doré wanted to show the real Spain, the authentic side of the country, but he ended up being seduced by the graphic force of the gypsy women, the bandits, the grottos, the Moorish pa-

laces... his drawings were carried out "with rigour and a profusion of detail" which would mark the view of everything Spanish in the 19th century.

He was one of the last romantic travellers, the 'colophon' of that exotic image of Spain in Europe. "And here we find a source of inspiration for many painters of the time whose works are also in this museum. There is a direct iconographic relationship with the work of Doré," says the director of the museum, Lourdes Moreno.

They share the sublime idea of the landscape, the costumbrist view, and the clichés about people. Doré's pen immortalised a grotto in Antequera, the Despeñaperros gorge, the interior of the Alhambra and a ravine in the Serranía de Ronda. And it also portrays the smuggler and his woman in Ronda, the gypsy women of Sacromonte, the religious fervour of Holy Week in Seville...

## Reasonable similarities

Doré was directly inspired during his Spanish trip, but he was also inspired by what others had seen and captured with one of the most revolutionary tools of the 19th century: the

camera. As collector Fernández Rivero explains, the direct use of photography was a "current theme" in the publishing industry in the 19th century. Neither newspapers nor books were able to produce a photographic image as such and so they turned to illustration. What is "unusual" about this display, says Fernández Rivero, is that it shows that one of the greatest illustrators of the century also used this technique.

A picture of Malaga cathedral serves as proof of this. The illustration

of 'La Manquita' viewed from Cortina del Muelle, an image which "for a whole era featured on half the front pages in Malaga" is a tracing of a photo taken in 1863 by José Spreafico and Ernest Lamy. Both can be seen in this exhibition.

This reasonable similarity (same frame and perspective) is repeated in the illustration of the Hospital de la Caridad in Seville, the façade of the Alcázar, scenes of gypsies dancing.... Some of the photos were bought in Spain, and others were acquired when he was working for the magazine and the book in France, where anything Spanish was seen as exotic.

This, insists Fernández Rivero, "does not demerit Doré's works in any way". The artist's repercussion and work have gone much further: "He is the great creator of certain Malaga prototypes, such as the typical iconography of the 'jábegas' and 'el cenachero'. He was able to give images to common thought. You only have to think about literary figures such as Don Quixote or Puss in Boots to see for yourself: it is very probable that the first image which comes to mind will have been produced by Gustave Doré," he says.

## THE DETAILS

► **Exhibition.** 'Gustave Doré. Viajero por Andalucía'.

► **Venue.** Sala Noble of the Carmen Thyssen Museum in Malaga.

► **Display.** 40 woodcuts from the Museum Collection of the University of Cantabria and 21 photographs from the Fernández Rivero collection. Sponsored by Estepona council.

► **Date.** Until 15 July.



## EXHIBITIONS

**Magpie International Gallery Marbella.** Until 23 April. C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.

The exhibition by Pedro Molina is entitled Aguadas de Primavera. [www.magpie.international](http://www.magpie.international).

**Master Class.** 14 April, 10am - 2pm. In two parts: the first part will be the theory which will introduce the concepts and basic principles of drawing and the second part where the participant can put into practice what they have learned. Limited places. Registration: [jorkareli@gmail.com](mailto:jorkareli@gmail.com)



Picasso, Malaga.

**Pottery Points**

**Marbella.** Until 18 May. Galería Yusto Giner, C/Madera

A collective exhibition featuring works by Fernando Clemente, Alejandro Ginés, Victoria Maldonado, Livia Marín, Pedro Mora and Concha Ybarra.

**Blackness**

**Malaga.** Until 16 April. Café de Estraperlo, Plaza Poeta Alfonso Canales.

The artists Siobhan Riordan (UK) and Daysury Valencia (Sweden) are two black artists living in Malaga. [www.facebook.com/Café-de-Estraperlo](http://www.facebook.com/Café-de-Estraperlo)

**Great Masters recreated**

**Malaga.** Until 15 April. Casa Sostoa, C/Héroes Sostoa.

The ten paintings in the exhibition were created by Julio Anaya Cabanding and Rafael Jiménez and are recognisable as copies of great master's works, albeit with the artist's own twist.

**Church treasures**

**Malaga.** Until 28 April. ArsMálaga, Malaga Episcopal. Free entry. The old Capuchin monastery, now the Divina Pastora y Santa Teresa

# Queen to take castle by storm

by TONY BRYANT

**FUENGIROLA.** Queen Machine, Europe's top Queen Tribute act is coming to the Costa del Sol for the first time to perform a special charity concert in aid of Cudeca next week.

Queen Machine is on a current European tour and their gig in the Sohail Castle in Fuengirola will be their only performance in Spain. Their show is billed as "the closest you can get to the real thing" and fans flock to their gigs in their thousands.

The tribute band, which originates from Denmark, was formed in 2007 and is fronted by Bajarke Baisner, who performs, sings and looks incredibly like the legendary Freddie Mercury.

Queen Machine presents a truly authentic show, complete with lighting and staging designed to create a perfect replica of a 1980s Queen concert, a period when the band were considered the greatest live act in the world.

The show has received the approval of Queen's guitarist, Brian May, and drummer, Roger Taylor.

The band's costumes are tailor made to look just like the ones worn by Queen and attention is paid to even the smallest detail, like the guitarist's plectrum, a sixpence coin that Brian May used during the height of Queen's fame.

The concert will be held on Saturday 21 April and lovers of the



Bajarke Baisner will recreate Freddie Mercury's magic. by SUR

band will enjoy some of Queen's greatest hits, including Somebody to Love, We Will Rock You, Another One Bites the Dust and Crazy Little Thing Called Love.

The band was originally formed just for fun, but their act was soon receiving brilliant reviews from both critics and fans alike, and they went from playing small venues in Denmark to huge European festivals attended by up to 20,000 people.

The concert will begin with a performance by Paul Maxwell (also known as the Piano Man), a popular entertainer who has performed with Lionel Richie, Gary Moore and Michael Bolton. Paul will perform popular hits of Elton John,

Louis Armstrong, Tom Jones and Tina Turner before Queen Machine takes the stage at 9pm.

Tickets cost 18 and 25 euros and are available online from [www.ticketea.com](http://www.ticketea.com).

For more information, contact [henrik@eventhuset.es](mailto:henrik@eventhuset.es) or 670635786.

**INFORMATION**

► **What:** Queen tribute show.

► **Where:** Sohail Castle, Fuengirola.

► **When:** Saturday 19 April, 9pm.

de Jesús church, is being renovated and the works of art have been moved temporarily to the ArsMálaga gallery. Sculptures and paintings from the Baroque period are on display. [www.arsmalaga.es](http://www.arsmalaga.es)

**Picasso, El Deseo Atrapado**

**Malaga.** Until 27 May. Fundación Picasso, Casa Natal.

An exhibition of pieces of Picasso's work from 1905 - 71 showing amorous and carnal desire.

**Quilting exhibition**

**Alhaurín el Grande.** Until 2 May. Casa de la Cultura.

The Quilters del Sol and the Finca Vida Art Group have joined together for the exhibition entitled



Church treasures, Malaga.

'The Sky's the Limit'. Open 10am - 2pm and 4pm - 8pm.

**Costa del Sol Photographic Benalmádena.** Until 27 April. Casti-

**llo Bil-Bil.**

The members of the Costa del Sol Photographic Club are exhibiting some of their photographs.

**Frans Koolen**

**Torre del Mar.** Until 20 April. Tr3 Puertas, Avda Andalucía.

Artist Frans Koolen (1949) from Netherland/Sweden is bringing a series of paintings, some of them in large format, from Stockholm for the exhibition. He works within the extensive and pluralistic field of abstract expressionism and is visiting as the third part in the Una Revolution project.

**Superpunk**

**Torre del Mar.** Until 29 April. Centro

**Cultural Ntra Sña del Carmen.**

Local artist Javi Rojo will be exhibiting his art which he says is influenced by Almodóvar, Hitchcock, Andy Warhol, Dalí and Greta Garbo.



Superpunk, Torre del Mar.

**Cabradeluna**

**Vélez-Málaga.** Until 27 April. Centro Contemporáneo 'Francisco Hernández'.

The inauguration is this evening at 7.30pm.

**CHARITY****TAIL spring dog show**

**Torrox Costa.** 14 April from mid-day. Chiringuito El Barco, Playa Peñoncillo.

Judging commences 2pm. Fifteen classes - rosettes and cups - including egg and spoon race with your dog, stalls, tombola and raffle and the famous cake stall. All proceeds to the Tail Rescue Refuge.

**Cabaret for Cats**

**Coín.** 5 May, 7.30pm. Jordan's Bar opposite La Trocha. 13€

Homemade lasagne and apple pie is included followed by entertainment by The Sound Bites whose repertoire includes songs by Abba, The Carpenters, Michael Buble, Carol King, James Ingram, Linda Ronstadt and many other popular artists. Vegetarian meals and group table bookings can be ordered by calling Cath: 952 112 057. Tickets from Martin's paper shop, Cristina's paper shop, and the A.I.D. charity shop (all located in Alhaurín el Grande).

**Darkness into Light**

**Estepona.** 12 May, 6am. Starting from Carrefour.

From 400 people at the first Darkness Into Light in 2009 to 180,000 people last year, DIL has become a movement in more ways than one across Ireland and all over the world. The aim of organiser

## Help Save Part of Malaga's International Heritage

The English Cemetery Foundation (La Fundación Cementerio Inglés de Málaga) urgently needs your help to maintain this beautiful place that is of great historical and cultural significance to the entire international community on the coast.

Not only is it a peaceful green space in the city but also the resting place for many distinguished Europeans.

**Please donate generously. Thank you!**

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[www.cementerioinglesmalaga.org](http://www.cementerioinglesmalaga.org)

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## MUSIC & DANCE

### The Wall Bar

**Malaga.** Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm, entry free.

**13 April.** Constanza & Javier. Jazz duet.

**14 April.** Richard Ray Farrell. The New Yorker bluesman in person.



Richard Ray Farrell, Malaga.

### Frisina music

**Malaga.** 13 April, 8.30pm. Malaga Cathedral.

The works of Marco Frisina will be performed by Malaga's Municipal Band, the cathedral choir, the Pueri Cantores Sanctissimum Corpus Christi and Colegio Las Chapas choirs.

### Harp quartet

**Nerja.** 14 April, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€

The Cuarteto de Arpas de Málaga was founded in 2014 by Lidia del Río de Miguel, María Jesús Bedoya Ruiz, Tibor Tejeda del Río and Thaïs Tejeda del Río. The repertoire includes adaptations of classical composers, as well as works written especially for them.

### Orquesta del Conservatorio Rafael Orozco

**Almuñécar.** 15 April, 7pm. Auditorio Casa de la Cultura.

The Rafael Orozco music school orchestra from Córdoba, under the baton of José Antonio Guerrero, will be playing El Amor Brujo by Manuel de Falla and Danzón 2 / Conga del Fuego by Arturo Már-

# Opera and chamber music in Mijas

## TONY BRYANT

**MIJAS.** Lovers of opera and chamber music will enjoy the concert by Australian mezzo-soprano, Allegra Giagu, who is making a one-off appearance on the coast next week. Organised by Project Music Management, the concert will take place at the Avanto restaurant in La Cala de Mijas on Thursday, 19 April.

Allegra Giagu made her Sydney Opera House debut at the age of eleven and came into the media spotlight a few years later as a soloist during The Edinburgh Military Tattoo, performing Salute to Australia leading to a collaboration with Dame Judi Dench on Classic FM. Allegra studied music at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. She went on to perform on stages all over the world, accompanying the Sydney Symphonic Orchestra and the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

For her concert on the Costa del Sol, Allegra will be accompanied by celebrated UK-based pianist, Nicole Panizza, who received her Doctor of Music degree after a performance-led study of American art song settings of the poet Emily



Mezzo-soprano Allegra Giagu will perform in Mijas. :: SUR

Dickinson.

The show in La Cala de Mijas will include poetry recitals and the music of Ravel, Vivaldi, Schubert and Bizet.

Tickets for the show, which begins at 8.30pm, cost 25 euros and include welcome drinks and canapés. Reservations can be made on [pmmtickets@mail.com](mailto:pmmtickets@mail.com) or call: 693 751 857.

## INFORMATION

► **What:** Classical music concert.

► **Where:** Avanto Restaurant, La Cala de Mijas.

► **When:** Thursday 19 April. 8.30pm

quez. Tickets from the Casa de Cultura.

### Chamber Philharmonic

**Nerja.** 17 April, 8.30pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 20€

The Chamber Philharmonic orchestra's repertoire combines popular works with other less known works from different musical periods.

### Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

**Malaga.** Auditorio del Museo Picasso

**17 April 8pm.** Cuarteto con Fuoco. Beethoven's Quartet n°7 in F major, Op50 n°1 and Dvorak's Quarteto N°14 in A flat major Op 105, B193.

[www.orquestaflarmonicademalaga.com](http://www.orquestaflarmonicademalaga.com)

**Malaga.** Auditorio Edgar Neville

**13 April, 8pm.** The orchestra will be playing pieces by Schumann (concerto in A minor Op129) with cello soloist Dragos Balan and



Victor Coyote, Mijas.

Schubert (Symphony n°9 in C major 'La Grande'). Tickets <http://www.teatrocervantes.com>

### Alegro con Fuoco

**Malaga.** 20 April, 8.30pm. Sala María Cristina, Fundación Unicaja. 15€.

Chamber pieces by Ravel, Caplet, Debussy, Delibes, Massenet and arias and instrumental pieces from

the opera Carmen by Bizet and Fantasia.

### Victor Coyote

**Mijas.** 20 April, 8pm. Casa Museo.

Victor Coyote introduced Punkabilly in the 80s and then switched to Latin and panamerican music. he will be in concert as part of the 'Música en el Patio' season at the Casa Museo.

### Ricky Lavazza

**Benalmádena.** 14 April, 8pm. The Moonlight Lounge, Sunset Beach Hotel. 15€.

The best of the West End and Broadway with Ricky Lavazza, Gemma Lloyd, Juliet Williams and Fibi McGregor. Tickets [www.lava-productions.rocks](http://www.lava-productions.rocks) or from the hotel or call: 695887366

### Heavy Metal concert

**Malaga.** 14 April, 10pm. Sala Paris

15, C/La Orotova. 17€  
Blaze Bayley, the former lead singer of Iron Maiden, is playing

several dates in Spain and will be in Malaga on 14 April. More info [www.costadeldisco.com](http://www.costadeldisco.com)

## Romantic music

**Cajiz.** 19 April, 8pm. El Molino de Cajiz, Axarquía.

Mezzosoprano Simona Mango, flautist Guiseppe Nova and pianist Ivana Marija Nidovic will be playing pieces by Ravel, Bizet, Fauré, Chaminade, Borne, Caplet and Sarasate. [www.elmolinodecajiz.com](http://www.elmolinodecajiz.com)

## Atsuko Shimado & Juan Galiardo Trio

**Nerja.** 20 April, 9pm. C/Pintada.

The Ventana Abierta Jazz Club is hosting 'Keys Overdose' with Atsuko Shimado and Juan Galiardo Trio.



Juan Galiardo, Nerja.

## Johnny G stars in "The Legends of Vegas"

**Nerja.** 19 April, Hotel Villa Flamenca. Tickets just €15, call 691934626 for enquiries.

A fast moving and sensational show that pays homage to some of Las Vegas' greats, including Bobby Darin, Louis Prima, Elvis Presley and The Rat Pack.

## Royal British Legion concert

**Nerja.** 21 April, 7.30pm. Nerja caves restaurant. 5€.

CoraXalia with conductor Eusebio Pita will be performing. Reservations: call 654 085 811/ email [dgdeepblue@gmail.com](mailto:dgdeepblue@gmail.com) or call 615 550 886 / email [Hamish.crompton.gunn@gmail.com](mailto:Hamish.crompton.gunn@gmail.com) or call 633 382 117 / email [patsyandrea-son@hotmail.com](mailto:patsyandrea-son@hotmail.com)

## Tamisa Night Fever

**Mijas.** 27 April, 7.30pm. Hotel Tamisa Golf. 23€

70s and 80s night at Tamisa golf Hotel. Booking essential call: 722 336 978 or email: [solo-sol@email.com](mailto:solo-sol@email.com) or [reservas@hotteltamisagolf.com](mailto:reservas@hotteltamisagolf.com) 952585988



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Saint George's Day will be celebrated in Cártama on Monday 23 April. :: SUR

## Saint George's Day garden party

:: TONY BRYANT

**CÁRTAMA.** The Andalucía Performing Arts Society (TAPAS) are hosting a special St George's Day garden party on Monday 23 April. In true English style, sandwiches, afternoon tea and a collection of homemade cakes will be available. The event will offer an afternoon of fun and games, along with a typical singalong of pub songs, where audience participation will be encouraged.

Entertainment will be supplied by Alhaurín El Grande-based singer, Helen Rush, known along the coast for her outstanding tal-

ent as a solo artiste and for her performances with The Andy Peacock Big Band.

There will also be a fancy dress, where prizes will be given for the most original St George's Day costumes.

The event, which begins at 2pm, will be held in Betty's Salon de Té in Cártama Estación.

Tickets are five euros for TAPAS members and six euros for guests, and will include a free cup of tea or soft drink and cake on arrival.

Tickets can be reserved on casa2oliva@yahoo.co.uk or by phone: 687 783 309.



Inflatable horse racing at last year's charity event. :: SUR

## Grand National at the Tamisa Golf

:: T. BRYANT

**MIJAS.** Those who like a flutter on the horses will enjoy the special fundraising Grand National afternoon at the Tamisa Golf Hotel in Mijas on Saturday 14 April.

The event, organised by the Cudeca Goldies, begins at 2pm and will show all of the racing from Aintree on large television screens. There will also be a bookmaker on site for those who want to back a favourite.

This is the third time Cudeca

has organised the event, which includes fun activities like the inflatable horse racing contest, a raffle and live entertainment supplied by Laura Elen and Amelinde Hernández.

Tickets cost 35 euros, 10 euros of which will go to Cudeca, and includes welcome cava, beer, wine and a grand buffet, which will be available all afternoon.

Tables can be reserved by calling the Tamisa Golf Hotel on 952 58 59 88, or Carlos White on 663 083 249.

## MUSIC & DANCE

### Spring concert

**Malaga.** 29 April, 8pm. Sala María Cristina, Fundación Unicaja. The Academia Orquestal de Málaga will be performing a grand concert. The orchestra is made up of musicians from various music conservatories in Malaga. Tickets: unientradas.es

## FLAMENCO

### Flamenco abierto

**Vélez-Málaga.** Peña Flamenca Niño de Vélez, C/Tejeda 10. 29, 30, 31 March, 8pm. Samaruco Flamenco.

### Flamenco in the Museum

**Malaga.** Museo de Arte Flamenco Peña Juan Breva, C/Ramón Franquelo.

14 April, 8.30pm. Ana Pastrana (dance) with José Miguel Fernández (vocals), Carlos Haro (guitar). For information and bookings call 687 607 526 or email info@flamenka.com

### Antonio Guerra

**Vélez-Málaga.** 20 April, 9pm. Teatro Del Carmen. 12€

Flamenco with Chelo Soto and Delia Menbrive singing. Carlos Haro on guitar, David Galiano percussion, Nelson Doblas violin and Macarena Álvarez clapping.

## LECTURES

### U3A Lectures

**Torrox.** 13 April. Restaurante Parquesol, El Morche, 11am. Free. www.u3aaxarquia.com

**Brexit and how it will affect you here in Spain - the story so far** Myra Cecilia Azzopardi from the Citizen's Advice Bureau Spain has examined the UK/EU agreement in detail and is well qualified to provide reliable, independent advice on your acquired rights, freedoms and resident status as a European citizen.

**Fuengirola.** Lux Mundi reference Library, free to members, guests 5€. Email: u3afuengirola@gmail.com

**Science and Crime - 'Beyond DNA'** 25 April, 11am-12.30pm. What have been the developments in the scientific detection of crime since DNA Fingerprinting in 1985? How close are we now to getting a complete picture of a culprit from a sample of his DNA?

### Magpie International Gallery

**Marbella.** 13 April, 7pm C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.

**Film and Visual Arts.** This is the fourth topic of Magpie International Art Talks' program, presented by Professor Juho Ahava, from Finland.

### Lux Mundi Art Appreciation

**Fuengirola.** 24 April, midday. Fundación Lux Mundi, C/Nueva. 15€. A talk about the country, customs and people of Colombia, finishing off with a lunch of typical Colom-



Ana Pastrana, Malaga.

bian food. Reservations: www.luxmundi.org or call 952474 840 or email: luxmundif@gmail.com

### Lux Mundi Art Appreciation

**Torre del Mar.** 16 April, 10.30am. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, Avda Moscatel. 2€. "The Private Life of Masterpieces" The Kiss by Klimt. After watching the BBC arts documentary there will be a discussion.

### Costa Discussion Group

**Fuengirola.** Café Manila, Paseo Marítimo Rey de España, 77, Los Boliches.

**Legalise assisted suicide?** 20 April, 6.30-8pm. Some countries allow terminally ill people to request help to end their life, usually with the aid of a doctor. But ought a healthy person also have the legal right to choose to die aided by someone else, whether ill or not? www.facebook.com/groups/costa-delsolfreethinkers/

### Can you beat Brexit

**Fuengirola.** 19 April, midday and again at 5pm. IPV Palace and Spa. From residency and citizenship, to pensions and tax, the talk will cover a range of topics, explaining your rights as British citizens living in Spain. Organised by De Vere Spain with guest speaker Ryan Perkins. Free.

### The Arts Society lectures

**De La Frontera.** 18 April, 11am. San Roque Golf Club. Visitors 12€. **The Russian Apocalypse, The Tragedy of the Last Romanovs.** A talk by Peter Warwick. www.facebook.com/theartsocietydelafrontera

## EVENTS

### Feria de Mujeres Empresarias

**Fuengirola.** 13-15 April, starting at 10am. Plaza de la Constitución. The fair for business women and female entrepreneurs, will be an opportunity for 14 women who run businesses in the town to promote their products and services to the public. www.fuengirola.es

### Día del Perro

**Fuengirola.** 15 April from 10am in Plaza del España. Castillo Sohail for stalls and activities. The dog walk leaves from Plaza del España at 10am and goes to the castle where there will be stands selling everything for pets, veterinary

advice, dog groomers etc. The Parque Zoosanitario Municipal Animal-Domus will bring some of its dogs waiting for adoption.

### Thespa

**Fuengirola.** 25 April, 7.30pm. Los Boliches, Masonic Hall. 16€ members, 18€ guests. Includes set meal.

'Green Forms' by Alan Bennett and 'Scent of Honeysuckle' by Jean Lennox Toddle. OGM starts at 6.45pm. Reservations tel: 622 454 422 www.theatrecoastadelsol.com or email: thespabooking@gmail.com

### Illuminate

**Benahavis.** 14, 15 April. Gran Hotel Benahavis.

Organised by Mijas-based healer Mark Bajerski - author of 'The Accidental Psychic' and 'Hold That Thought' - will feature leading pure energy healing practitioners from around the world, who are giving their expertise free of charge. www.markbajerski.com

### Magpie International Gallery

**Marbella.** 14 April, 10am - 2pm C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.

**Master Class.** In two parts: the first part will be the theory which will introduce the concepts and basic principles of drawing and the second part where the participant can put into practise what they have learnt. Limited places. Registration: jork-areli@gmail.com

### Classic Motor Show

**Cártama.** 15 April from 10.30am. In aid of breast cancer associatoon ANVER, the Classic Car Show will be held in the Parque de los Naranjas in Cártama Estación. Registration is 15€ per vehicle. Tel: 630060444 www.anvercontraelcancer.org

### Historical reenactment

**Yunquera.** 13-15 April. The town of Yunquera relives the War of Independence with a special reenactment of events that happened in 1811. There will also be themed tours of the town, a craft market, workshops and activities. www.yunquera.es/turismo



Día de Perros, Fuengirola.

### Trip to Priego de Córdoba

**Fuengirola.** 18 April departing 8.25am from bullring and 8.20am Feria ground. 25€ Full details contact Fundación Lux Mundi Fuengirola, C/Nueva 3. Tel: 952474840



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Elviria: Hairdresser Martin's (Centro Comercial Elviria)

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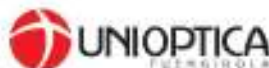
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## EVENTS

## Trip to Gibraltar

**Torre del Mar.** 19 April, 17 May, 21 June. Various departure points. 12€. Passport required. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

## Star Wars Storm Troopers

**Malaga.** 5 May, from 5.30 to 8pm. The 501 Legion will be parading through Malaga from La Farola through Muelle Uno, Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Plaza de la Marina, Calle Larios and finishing in Plaza la Constitución.

## Floral Art Club

**Estepona.** Agro Jardín, Cancelada. 17 April 3pm: "Just For You" with Kath Gibson, who qualified as a demonstrator in 2010. The Hands On session on 19 April, will be the last one before the club's AGM in June. The design this month will be a Living Card, something which the club hasn't done before. This session will be at 11am at Agrojar-din, Cancelada. Places for these ses-sions are limited. www.face-book.com/esteponafloralartclub. Call Janet on 694425219 or email:



Floral art, Estepona.

esteponafloralartclub@hotmail.com

## O. V. FILM

SUR in English advises calling cinemas to check for any last minute time changes. Lunchtime and late night screenings weekends only.

## Cinesur Miramar

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengi-rola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.  
**Peter Rabbit:** 12.10, 16.00, 18.00.  
**Ready Player One:** 12.00, 16.20, 19.00.

**Crooked House:** 12.20, 16.20, 18.20, 20.20, 22.20, 00.20.  
**Den of Thieves:** 18.15, 21.00 (Tues).

## Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665.

www.cinesteatrogoya.com

**Mary Magdelene:** 17.45 (Fri, Wed); 15.45, 18.00 (Sat, Sun); 17.30 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).

**Ready Player One:** 17.30 (Fri, Mon-Thurs) 15.40, 17.45 (Sat, Sun).

**Early Man:** 11.45 (Sun).

**Den of Thieves:** 19.50 (Fri, Mon-Thurs); 22.30 (Fri); 20.15, 22.45 (Sat, Sun); 22.15 (Mon, Tues,

Thurs).

**Peter Rabbit:** 17.45 (Fri); 15.50, 18.00 (Sat); 11.45, 15.50, 18.00 (Sun); 17.30 (Mon-Thurs).

**Pacific Rim: Uprising:** 15.45 (Sat, Sun).

## Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León.

Tel: 902 902 103 or visit

www.yelmocines.es

**Crooked House:** 15.15 (Sat, Sun); 19.55 (Tues).

**Peter Rabbit:** 15.00 (Sat, Sun).

**Ready Player One:** 16.50 (every day).

## Live screenings of opera and

## ballet and theatre

www.yelmocines.es

**Luisa Miller (Verdi) live at the MET.** 14 April, 18.30, (Plaza Mayor, Rincón de la Victoria, Vialia)

## Musica Con Encanto

Iglesia de La Virginia, Urb La Virginia, Marbella. 689 000 944 / www.musicaconencanto.org

## Score: A Film Music

**Documentary:** 14 April, 7pm. 12€ This award-winning documentary film features Hollywood's finest composers and explores how they created and continue to create the greatest film scores of all time.

## A day of fun to celebrate the flowers of Estepona

The town hall has organised guided walks and an open air festival to celebrate the creation of the "garden of the Costa del Sol"

## :: CHARO MÁRQUEZ

**ESTEPONA.** One hundred streets, 15 kilometres of road and 20,000 flower pots, are just some of the details of the overhaul of the streets in Estepona's old town under the town hall's 'Estepona Jardín de la Costa del Sol' project.

The plan, which started in 2012, has now reached 100 streets and to celebrate this number, the town hall has organised an open air party with live music and various activities on Saturday 14 April in the Plaza Antonia Guerrero.

The mayor, José María García Urbano, said that the project has been "a milestone" in the recent history of the town "because the old town has been converted in record time into one of the most beautiful in Andalucía and is one of the main tourist attractions in the region".

To make the 100 remodelled streets better known, this Saturday a guided walk and a bicycle route has been organised around the old town.

The walk will start at midday and will leave from the Plaza de Blas Infante. Along the route the



A typical street in the old town . :: C. MÁRQUEZ

councillor for Historical Heritage, José María Guerrero, will keep participants informed about the archaeological discoveries that have come to light over the past six years due to the remodelling works.

The cycling route starts from the Carmen Thyssen gardens in the Parque Botánico- Orquidario at 11.30am.

The festivities in Plaza Antonia Guerrero will begin at 1pm. There will be free tastings of traditional Andalusian and local dishes. This event will also raise money for AVOI, a charity for children with cancer, as the bar will be run by the

association.

The mayor explained that Saturday would be a day for everyone who had actively participated in the Estepona Jardín de la Costa del Sol project as well as for anyone from other towns in the province who are interested in the initiative, "which has helped to revitalise the local economy as more and more catering and leisure businesses open in the old town", he added.

Local marching bands will also be taking part in a parade through the town's brightest streets, whose plants will be looking their best for Saturday's festivities.

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# Repsol unites its 'suns' in Malaga

The tour to launch the new jacket designed by Juan Duyos started at the Thyssen museum

Around 30 Malaga chefs who have been awarded with nearly half the Repsol 'soles' (suns) in the province, modelled the new white chef's jacket

:: MARINA MARTÍNEZ

**MALAGA.** The sun shines in Malaga an average of 300 days every

year, for that reason this area is called the Costa del Sol. Or one could call it Costa de los Soles as Andalucía's restaurants have been awarded 48 'Soles' (suns) by the Repsol Guide, 22 of them in Malaga province.

This was enough reason for the guide to choose the city to launch the tour of the new Repsol chef's jacket, designed by fashion designer Juan Duyos for the 528 'soles' that shine in Spain.

Haute cuisine and haute couture were linked by the same thread, that of creativity. The venue for this event was also connected to the world of creativity, the Museo Carmen Thyssen Malaga. The patio of the Palacio de Villalón was filled with the white of these new jackets, modelled by nearly thirty chefs from across Andalucía.

"We're starting the tour in

Malaga because we have seen how it is awakening, it is very powerful, there is a lot of talent and much attention to the raw materials," explained the director of the Repsol Guide, María Ritter who added that after nearly 40 years of publication, "the jacket needed to evolve."

The designer Juan Duyos accompanied Ritter. "When they called me it gave me a great lift, the classic jacket had hardly changed and to design a new one was a challenge," admitted the designer who usually works with natural fabrics but this time has created a material made from recycled clothes and plastic. The fire resistant jacket has a clean line; "The loops, unnecessary seams and buttons have been removed."

The Repsol Technology Centre is behind the innovative fabric that

is stainproof, allows liquid spills to slide off and resists heat.

The Andalusians who wore it yesterday included the Malaga chefs whose restaurants have been honoured with one 'sol': Arte de Cozina, La Cosmopolita, BiBo, Marbella Club Grill, Messina, Refectory Campanario and Sollo; with two 'soles': Don Giovanni, El Lago, José Carlos García, Raw Kabuki, Los Marinos and Skina; and the only one with three, Dani García.

Dani García also has two Michelin stars and pointed out that the fact that Malaga has more than half of the 'soles' in Andalucía "says a lot about the gastronomic level" in the province.

For García, the distinction is an incentive, but in the end, "the greatest recognition comes from the day-to-day customer."



The Andalusian 'soles', in front of the Thyssen museum in Malaga. :: SALVADOR SALAS

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## ADIOS TO ANOTHER WINE DYNASTY



**T**he largest winemaker in Spain is the Catalan cava house, Freixenet. It owns bodegas in many regions and exports to 140 countries. Total sales are half a billion euros. However, control of what was once a family business has just passed into the hands of the German drinks multinational Henkell, for a sum rumoured to be around 300 million. The story behind what over the years developed from a family spat into a battle – shows how internecine differences can threaten the base of any business.

Founded in 1889 by the Ferrer and Salas families, Freixenet was initially an unremarkable local bodega, but when cava began to be produced in Cataluña early in the last century, the firm produced its famous Carta Nevada in 1941. Spanish New Year's Eve TV would not be the same without Freixenet's iconic midnight spot that has over the years featured Liza Minnelli, Raquel Welch, Paul Newman, Sharon Stone and Shakira, to name but a few.

Nevertheless in the early years of this century cracks appeared in the facade, and the three shareholding families, the Ferrer Noguera (42%), Hevia Ferrer (29%) and Bonet Ferrer (29%) started to fall out. The board appointment of ten new family members in 2010 was unhelpful, but it was probably the poor financial re-

sults over a decade that were the underlying issue. The Hevia family wanted out but the price they set was too high for the others, so negotiations started with third-party investors. Things became very bitter. The Hevias, always opponents of Catalan independence, were on record as saying they loved Spain – so the decision to sell their stake to a foreign company seems strange. Feelings ran high on the basis that if they really supported Spain they should have accepted the lower offers from the other two families that claimed they had offered their top price. To make it worse the Hevias had let it be known that if the Germans did not close the deal, there were Chinese waiting in the wings. Not a happy ending, but one that is becoming frequent in the wine business.

### Blanc Pescador

#### WINE OF THE WEEK

A real favourite of the value-for-money brigade, this Catalan white wine is known as vino de aguja, literally 'needle wine' in reference to its slightly-sparkling nature. Made first in the 1960s, it is an unerring accompaniment of fish dishes, and it is hard to find anyone who does not like it. Not to be taken too seriously, at around 5€.



## No date set yet for reopening of top catering college's restaurant



The chef, Victor Trochi takes a class in the La Cónsula. :: NITO SALAS

The Junta cannot guarantee that students at the famous La Cónsula, near Malaga, can serve the public before the end of this academic year

:: FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

**MÁLAGA.** There is still no date for the reopening of the public restaurant at the La Cónsula catering and

hospitality college in Churriana, near Malaga. The top training facility, which has launched the careers of many well-known local chefs, is waiting for the Junta de Andalucía to approve the prices it wants to charge diners. In the meantime the students are cooking and serving dishes for each other.

This is the second academic year that the public restaurant has been closed since the college itself restarted its classes after a period of

uncertainty. Now with the facility operating again, it is only the restaurant that remains closed. The Junta de Andalucía's representative for Malaga province, José Luis Ruiz Espejo, has said that "some administrative matters and legal reports" are still missing.

The proposal to reopen the restaurant was first sent to the Junta, which is responsible the college, in October. It would open Monday to Thursday for lunch.






# BlueBay, with its sights set on Malaga CF once more

The hotel group is keen to take control of the club, conditions they say were agreed in 2013 but not fulfilled by owner Sheikh Al-Thani

■ ANTONIO GÓNGORA

**MALAGA.** Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani has always said that he is not interested in selling Malaga football club, despite the sporting crisis it finds itself in and demands from fans for him to sell up.

He owns almost all of the shares in the club but there is one threat to his ownership hanging over him, that of 'caso BlueBay'.

The BlueBay hotel group is demanding that the conditions of a contract, which it signed with the sheikh and his collaborators in 2013, be honoured.

In a statement released on Tuesday, the group said that the contract entitled them to "co-ownership of the 97 per cent shares in the club" and "control of the club to implement a viable and sustainable project for the future".

This deal was signed at a time

when the club had amassed huge debt following its run in the Champions League and needed funds to rebuild the squad.

However, Al-Thani and his representatives argue that the group failed to comply with the conditions of the contract, thereby rendering it invalid.

Sources at the club say that BlueBay only paid two million euros of the amount due, and this money has been returned to them.

BlueBay, however, has reiterated its desire to push ahead with "the lawsuit open against Mr Al-Thani" whose trial is expected to get under way after the summer. It was originally due to start two years ago before Al-Thani's lawyers lodged a criminal complaint for falsehood

**Al-Thani says BlueBay never complied with the conditions of the contract agreed in 2013**

and misappropriation against former Malaga CF directors Abdullah Ghubn and Moayad Shatat, and the head of BlueBay, Jamal Iglesias. This put a spanner in the works but now that these complaints have been officially shelved, proceedings can, in theory, continue, barring any further last-ditch attempts to stall the process from Al-Thani.

**Clashes with authorities**

Al-Thani has been ruffling a few feathers this past week after coming under fire from a number of public figures including Malaga mayor, Francisco de la Torre, and the Diputación provincial government chief, Elías Bendodo.

Both had been reflecting on the sorry state of affairs at the club and Al-Thani questioned their commitment to Malaga CF, dismissing their statements as "populist comments" and asked what happened the financial help that had been promised.

De la Torre refused to react to the sheikh's comments but Bendodo appealed for "more commitment" and fewer "smokescreens".

BlueBay, in its statement, also promised its "total respect for institutions".



Gonzalo Hervás, general director of BlueBay, at preliminary hearing two years ago. ■ S. SALAS



Jofre and Husillos in the directors' box. ■ NITO SALAS

## New head coach to be chosen this week to lead club in Segunda

The chosen candidate, however, won't be named until safety is mathematically impossible

■ SERGIO CORTÉS

**MALAGA.** Malaga's search for a new head coach is about to be over. After Friday's defeat to Deportivo La Coruña [report on page 54] removed all hope of salvation, club lawyer Joaquín Jofre and sporting director Mario Husillos are keen to finalise the search in order to get ahead with planning for next season.

After being turned down by his primary target, Juan Ramón

Muñiz, Husillos has been shortlisting and sounding out alternatives. His major criteria are experience in Segunda and enthusiasm for the project.

It is understood that the list of candidates has been reduced to two and that Husillos will meet with the pair in person before deciding who to offer the job to.

Though the club expects to have chosen a candidate by the end of the week, he will not be officially named until safety is mathematically impossible, likely to be in match day 33 when Malaga face Levante, primarily out of respect for current head coach José González who would see his contract renewed for another year if he kept the club in the elite.

## The future of Juanpi, a major obstacle in planning for next year

■ S. CORTÉS

**MALAGA.** He was once hailed as the future of Malaga, but now the club's future may hang on shipping out the Venezuelan midfielder. Juanpi is on the market, but moving him on is not going to be easy.

He is one of three players, alongside Federico Ricca and Michael Santos whose salary will not be halved when relegation is confirmed. However, the problem goes

beyond this. The club renewed his contract to ward off potential suitors at a time when he started to break through into the first team. However, his value has dropped significantly since then and he is far down the pecking order at present, yet he will be the second top earner next year on around two million euros.

The club is actively looking for buyers given the player's reluctance to consider new terms.

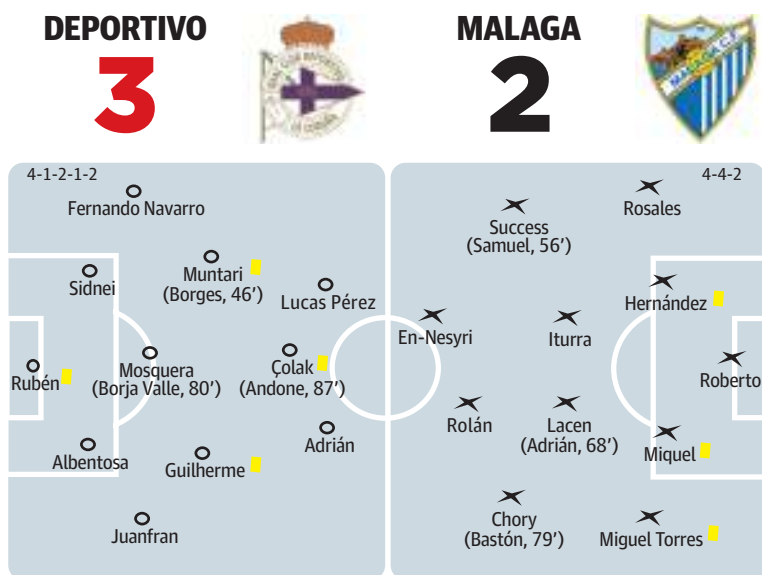
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## LINE-UPS



**Unused substitutes:** Koval (GK), Schär, Valverde, Bakkali.

**Unused substitutes:** Prieto (GK), Ricca, Keko, Bueno.

## STATISTICS

## BALL POSSESSION

48% / 52%

DEPORTIVO	MALAGA
3	2
11	9
6	4
5	5
7	6
2	1
16	14
4	3
0	0

**Goals:** 1-0 Lucas Pérez (6') [pen.]; 1-1 Guilherme (41') [o.g.]; 2-1 Adrián (70'); 2-2 Rolán (73'); 3-2 Adrián (85').

**Referee:** Mateu Lahoz.

**Venue:** Riazor (16,932 spectators).

## TABLE &amp; FIXTURES

MATCHDAY  
31

## LEAGUE TABLE

★ Champions League ■ Europa League ▼ Relegation

TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★ 1. Barcelona	79	31	24	7	0	79	16
★ 2. At. Madrid	68	31	20	8	3	51	15
★ 3. Valencia	65	31	20	5	6	59	31
★ 4. Real Madrid	64	31	19	7	5	77	34
■ 5. Betis	49	31	15	4	12	52	53
■ 6. Villarreal	47	31	14	5	12	41	37
7. Sevilla	46	31	14	4	13	39	50
8. Girona	44	31	12	8	11	44	48
9. Celta	43	31	12	7	12	50	43
10. Eibar	40	31	11	7	13	36	45
11. Getafe	39	31	10	9	12	35	30
12. Athletic	39	31	9	12	10	33	35
13. Real Sociedad	37	31	10	7	14	56	52
14. Espanyol	36	31	8	12	11	26	38
15. Leganés	36	31	10	6	15	26	39
16. Alavés	35	31	11	2	18	28	45
17. Levante	31	31	6	13	12	28	45
▼ 18. Deportivo	23	31	5	8	18	29	63
▼ 19. Las Palmas	21	31	5	6	20	22	63
▼ 20. MALAGA	17	31	4	5	22	19	48

## Results

Deportivo - MALAGA	3-2
Alavés - Getafe	2-0
Celta - Sevilla	4-0
Betis - Eibar	2-0
Barcelona - Leganés	3-1
Levante - Las Palmas	2-1
Real Madrid - At. Madrid	1-1
Real Sociedad - Girona	5-0
Valencia - Espanyol	1-0
Villarreal - Athletic	1-3

## Fixtures

Girona - Betis
Sevilla - Villarreal
Barcelona - Valencia
Las Palmas - Real Sociedad
Leganés - Celta
Athletic - Deportivo
Eibar - Alavés
At. Madrid - Levante
Getafe - Espanyol
MALAGA - Real Madrid

# Late heartbreak for Malaga in relegation dogfight

DARYL  
FINCH

✉ dfinch@diariosur.es

The Blue and Whites fought back twice but conceded the winner with five minutes to go

**MALAGA.** Malaga's battle to beat the drop took a major blow last Friday night as direct rivals Deportivo La Coruña scored late to secure all three points, the first win of Clarence Seedorf's reign.

Boosted by the previous week's 1-0 victory against Villarreal, Malaga, again unchanged, started stronger but received an early setback within five minutes when Luis Hernández misjudged the flight of the long ball before clumsily bringing down Lucas Pérez in the penalty area.

Despite the short run-up, the on-loan Arsenal striker sent Roberto the wrong way and buried the ball into the side netting.

Unperturbed, the visitors picked up where they left off and contin-



En-Nesyri could have won it in the second half. :: AGENCIA LOF

ued to exert pressure on Dépor. Winger Isaac Success often found space on the right-hand side and had a number of opportunities that a player with greater match fitness might have taken. First, his left-footed shot was blocked out for a corner and, but for a loose touch, he would have been through on goal minutes later. In the 32nd minute

he then snatched at a volley from Chory Castro's long throw, hitting the ball harmlessly into row Z.

However, Malaga's persistence paid off five minutes before half time when forward Diego Rolán forced Guilherme to hook the ball into his own net. The midfielder couldn't react quickly enough to Roberto Rosales' corner, which re-

ceived a flick-on from Ignasi Miquel on the way through to the back post.

This was little more than the Costa del Sol side deserved but they were forced onto the back foot after the restart by a resurgent Deportivo side which looked to get the ball into Lucas Pérez as quickly as possible.

His pace caused all sorts of problems for Luis Hernández and Ignasi Miquel, both of whom picked up yellow cards, ruling the former out of this weekend's clash against Real Madrid at La Rosaleda.

Malaga keeper Roberto had to be on his toes in the second half and superbly denied Pérez from six yards out just a minute in.

He also stood firm in the face of Adrián who ought to have done better when put through by a clever Pérez flick.

The home side had certainly stepped on the accelerator and Guilherme almost made amends when his shot cannoned off the post after Roberto was wrong-footed by the deflection off Miquel's back.

As the pressure continued to build, Dépor got the goal they deserved; it was Adrián who finished off the move, sliding home Pedro Mosquera's cutback from the left.

Dépor, however, are not deep in

relegation trouble for nothing. Just three minutes later they let their vulnerabilities show once again when substitute Samuel García managed to shrug off the attentions of two players despite miscontrolling the ball, before whipping in a near-post cross for Rolán who spectacularly hooked in the second Malaga equaliser of the game.

With a draw of no use to either side this late in the season, neither team could afford to sit back and take the draw and the game flip-flopped for the remaining twenty minutes.

Youssef En-Nesyri, mostly anonymous throughout the clash, almost won it when he smashed his header onto the crossbar from Rosales' deep cross.

But it was to be Dépor's night. The sharpness in their attack had Malaga hanging on by their fingernails until the resistance finally broke with five minutes to go and Adrián bagged the winner in almost identical fashion to his first, sweeping the cutback into the far corner, this time from the right and from substitute Borja Valle.

Seedorf's side have leapfrogged Las Palmas into 18th place, six points above Malaga who are now 14 points from safety after Levante's late winner against Las Palmas (2-1).

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# González: "We lost because we were trying to be brave"

The Malaga head coach questioned the penalty award: "In games like these, the referee doesn't have to blow"

OPTA

**LA CORUÑA.** Malaga head coach José González couldn't hide his disappointment following his side's 3-2 defeat to Deportivo La Coruña, a result which virtually seals his side's relegation to Segunda.

"The team has lost for being brave," he said. "Dépor beat us by playing counterattacking football."

González did question the award of the early penalty, though. "It was a dubious decision," he said. "I don't know whether in games like these you have to blow for them."

The coach had nice words to say about forward Diego Rolán, who scored one and forced another: "We've missed him a lot this year. He's been a great professional and his individual contribution has been superb."

Rolán himself admitted that fa-

tigue has played a part in defeat. He said: "It's [the result] a shame because we played very well in the first half. In the second we let our guard down a little because we were very tired, but we pulled it back towards the end."

An injury to Chory Castro changed the rhythm of the game, he said, as the Uruguayan is a "key player for the team".

Despite the loss, Rolán refused to throw in the towel: "We are all going to continue fighting until the very end because we are all professionals."

Chory's injury is not José González's only concern going into Sunday's match against Real Madrid. With Luis Hernández picking up one booking too many, the coach will have a dilemma as to who should partner Ignasi Miquel in central defence.

The main candidate is Diego González but instead of two left-footed players in the middle, the coach might prefer to play the experienced Miguel Torres in the centre and reinstate Federico Ricca at left-back.



A LOOK AT LA LIGA

ROB PALMER

Commentator, Sky Sports  
@robbopalmer



## Masterful management

**Real and Barça had contrasting fortunes in Europe this week, but both sides' managers deserve credit**

If a Formula One car has no fuel in the tank then it's about as useful as a tractor with no diesel... and that just about sums up Barcelona.

In La Liga they have so far proven to be the "Invincibles" with a reserve of energy, yet when it came to European football they succumbed to human weaknesses.

"It's a shock" said so many people after the historic turnaround in Rome. Well it wasn't if you'd observed their previous two performances. Two weeks ago they needed Lionel Messi to spring off the bench to save the game against Sevilla, and last weekend it was his hat-trick that saw off Leganés. But even the superhero can't save the day every time.

In contrast people were criticising Zinedine Zidane for withdrawing his superhero Cristiano Ronaldo just after he'd scored a goal against Atlético in the Madrid derby. With his exit went Real's chances of winning the game but the manager was thinking of the much bigger picture; the league is lost and he needed to preserve the reigning World Player of the Year for a more important match.

As Messi and co looked expired in the closing yards of their Champions League quarterfinal, Ronaldo sprung wings to win the



Ronaldo scored the last-gasp penalty which helped Real progress in the Champions League after being given a rest by Zidane. **EFFE**

header that led to the penalty, and then he had the mental reserves to hammer it past the Juventus goalkeeper to propel Real Madrid into the semis.

Zidane won't get the credit he deserves for his choices. Remember he also hooked Gareth Bale and Casemiro at half time. Bale's replacement Lucas Vázquez 'won' the penalty that decided the game.

One day his management will be recognised. Remember this is the first man to have overseen the winning of back-to-back Champions League titles. Sadly more media energy is spent on criticising Ernesto Valverde, the Barcelona coach. For me, this is misguided.

Valverde has squeezed every last globule of energy out of a team that has all but mathematically won La Liga and is in the Copa del Rey final. He's done this with one of the most limited Barcelona squads in recent years. Philippe Coutinho and Ousmane

Dembélé have been recruited at great expense but both are eighteen months away from reaching the standards required at the Camp Nou. His intelligent use of Andrés Iniesta has added at least a season to a player who looked expired a year ago. Overall, the team is still good enough to do the double and join the exclusive "Invincible" club.

As for Real Madrid they are keeping alive my pre-season prediction that they will reach another European final. It's a shame that it's at the expense of Gianluigi Buffon who exited in inglorious fashion.

He has been an outstanding goalkeeper but the Juventus goalkeeper departed without class as he was dismissed for ranting at the officials and appearing to manhandle Michael Oliver. I'm guessing the 'Respect the Ref' campaign hasn't reached Serie A yet. He was more buffoon than Buffon.



Rolán scored one and forced another. **AGENCIA LOF**

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# Four hundred and counting for Marbella's most trusted stalwart

According to 34-year-old **Javi Moreno**: "My dream is not to play for Real or Barça, but to take Marbella to Segunda"

:: **JULIO RODRÍGUEZ**

**MARBELLA.** Now at 34 years of age, Javi Moreno has, over the course of his 400 career matches, forged a reputation as 'Mr Reliable'. He is an old-school number 6: covers a lot of ground, dominant in the air and has great distribution. But after 15 years in the game (across every group of Segunda B), he has no intention of hanging up his boots any time soon.

Javi Moreno, who shouldn't be confused with the legendary former Alavés, Milan and Atlético forward, made his debut in Segunda

B at the age of 19 for his native Mallorca's B team. But for a single season in Tercera with Villarreal B, he has played his whole career in the third tier, representing teams such as Fuenlabrada, Benidorm, Alzira, Huracán, Badalona, Guijuelo, Compostela and Amorebieta, all before arriving at Marbella last summer.

Although he missed six matches either side of the winter break because of injury, this campaign he has played 26 times and his performances have been of the level of a team fighting at the top of the table.

In the changing room his voice is one of the loudest, as you would expect from a veteran, however, he's also one of the fittest in the squad. According to head coach Fernando Estévez, "He will reach 500 games for sure: he looks after himself well and no one trains better



Marbella's Javi Moreno in training. :: **JULIO RODRÍGUEZ**

than he does. He lives for football."

## The final furlong

With the season approaching its end, promotion to Segunda is a distinct possibility for the Costa side.

"I've spoken to [goalkeeper] Wilfred more than once about this and we agree that this team is going places. They know what they're doing," said the man himself, Javi Moreno. "The coach has helped us a lot and the work that's been done here must be recognised. No one thought at the start of the season that we would do so well but all of the hard work is paying off."

Having played for so many years, including at the Camp Nou in a Copa del Rey tie against Barcelona with Benidorm, Moreno knows what he wants from his career: "My dream is not to play for Real Madrid or Barcelona, it is to finally gain promotion to Segunda with Marbella."

## A coach in the making

Moreno is making the most of his time in Marbella and has started studying for his coaching badges at the coaching college in San Pedro.

Despite this, though, he doesn't think his time is up yet: "I think I have four more years left in me at a competitive level. I still go into training with the same energy and desire that I always had. It still bothers me when training hasn't gone as I had hoped."

# Milestone almost marked with late equaliser

Wasteful Marbella remain top despite defeat but Javi Moreno could have helped clinch a point but his late header was disallowed

ÉCIJA 1 MARBELLA 0

:: **J. RODRÍGUEZ**

**ÉCIJA.** Four months later and Marbella have experienced defeat again. An excellent goal from Sergio Moyita sealed all three points for a deserving Écija on Sunday afternoon. They did just enough to thwart the league leaders who were uncharacteristically wasteful in front of goal, but also had a second-half goal chalked off in controversial fashion.

Marbella paid their opponents too



Corpas struggles to cope with the Écija defence. :: **JULIO RODRÍGUEZ**

much respect in the opening exchanges, taking a cautious approach which allowed Écija to settle into a compact shape. Despite this, Corpas had a couple of chances in the first half but failed to really challenge the keeper, Molero.

Ezequiel and Moyita proved to be a very strong attacking combination for the home side, driving down the wings and creating openings that weren't seized upon by the strikers. The teams went into the changing room with the score level.

The shackles came off in the second half as both teams took more risks in the search of the opening goal. Álex Llamas carved out a golden chance for the hosts with a powerful run down the left before cutting the ball back for Francis who hit the ball miles over the bar.

Marbella responded in the 54th minute after Corpas found Ferrón with a precise cross that Molero tipped over the bar.

In the 68th minute Ezequiel very nearly scored after latching onto a long ball but was denied by the save of the match day from Wilfred.

The visitors didn't heed this warning and were caught out by a stunning dribbling display from Moyita, who powered his way through the Marbella defence before lifting the ball over Wilfred to give his side the go-ahead goal with twenty minutes left on the clock.

Javi Moreno, in the 400th match of his career, thought he had levelled the scores when he headed home a corner at the far, but the effort was controversially disallowed by referee González Mansilla after consulting with his assistant.

Despite the surprise loss, Marbella remain confident of winning the league. The Costa side are still top, level with Cartagena (who lost 2-1 in Murcia), with five games left to play.

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# Duane's golden comeback

CARLOS J. MARTÍNEZ

Twitter: @carlosmm10

The Malaga swimmer claimed two gold medals at the Spanish Championships this week, despite only just coming back from a two-year absence

**MALAGA.** The happiness on the face of Duane da Rocha said it all. She had just finished the final of the 50m backstroke in the Spanish Championships at Inacua in Malaga and recorded a time which sealed a gold medal. For Da Rocha, returning from a break from sport to tackle the psychological issues years of elite sport had inflicted, this was the perfect way to bring an end to two very complicated years for the athlete.

Monday was a very intense day for Da Rocha. The Club Natación Mijas swimmer had to take part in the preliminary round for the 50m backstroke in the morning, easing her way into the semifinals with no difficulties, with a time of 28:87 seconds. When evening came, the Malaga swimmer (she was born in Brazil but grew up in the province) progressed to the final with a time of 28:51 seconds. The veteran then turned back the clock and demonstrated that class is permanent, winning the final with a time of 28:67.

However, there was even more to come from Da Rocha on the final day of competition

Mireia Belmonte's haul allows her to participate in the European Championships in Glasgow. :: M. FERNÁNDEZ

**Enjoying swimming**  
"Getting that competitive edge

on Wednesday. The swimmer picked up her second gold medal of the competition, winning the 100m backstroke with a time of 1:00.87 - close to the Spanish record set by Nina Zhivanevskaya, 1:00.29.

"I enjoyed it but I was very nervous. It's been a long time since I've taken part in such a big final," she admitted.

Her results are not enough to qualify for the European Championships, although it's likely that she has done enough to qualify for the Mediterranean Games.

and that 'tingle' back has been incredible. What's happened has been very tough but I feel like I have been born again," said Da Rocha, with the medal around her neck, of the difficulties she has had to overcome in the past years.

"I am very happy to have won this

medal. In the morning, I didn't expect to feel so good and in such good shape. During the evening, I would have liked to have recorded a better time, but my objective during these championships was to enjoy it."

These triumphs came at Inacua, in Malaga, a venue that is close to

Da Rocha's heart: "I have always enjoyed coming back to Inacua, because I only have great memories of the place. I qualified for two Olympic Games here; in fact every time I've been here I've got good results."

After living briefly at the High Performance Centre in Barcelona to prepare for the Olympics in Rio, Da Rocha decided to come home: "In Barcelona it was very difficult to be myself and I was having psychological problems. Coming back to Malaga was the best decision. Thanks to the atmosphere, the trainer and the group I have been able to concentrate on swimming again," she said after coming down from the podium.

With regard to her next challenges, she said: "I think I have to focus on enjoying it then from there take it step by step. I don't want to finish my career in a bad way or have it characterised by problems and frustration."

## A deserved third place

Duane da Rocha wasn't the only representative of Malaga in the championship. María de Valdés got a deserving third place on Monday (her first of two bronzes), with a time of 16.41:47, in the 1,500m freestyle. In it, Mireia Belmonte claimed the top prize, finishing after 16.07:43, winning her the gold medal, but also earning her qualification for the European Championships to be held in Glasgow. This was not the Catalan swimmer's only success: having done a 2.12:54 in the 200m freestyle semi-final to earn her a spot at the championships in August later this year, she went on to win six gold medals, one in each event in which she competed.

## Michelle Alonso, the first swimmer with an intellectual disability to compete

:: ENRIQUE MIRANDA

**MALAGA.** The story of Michelle Alonso, known as the 'Little Mermaid of the Canaries', was the centre of attention at Inacua on Saturday as she became the first swimmer with an intellectual disability to compete in the full Spanish Championships.

Alonso, 24, has a disability of 37 per cent and has twice won Para-

lympic medals for Spain (gold in London 2012 and Rio 2016 in 100m breaststroke).

On Saturday in the first qualifiers, she recorded a personal best in the 50m breaststroke with a time of 33.55, in the same series that Jessica Vall broke the Spanish record (31.10).

Alonso qualified for the semifinals in the afternoon but narrowly missed out on the finals with a score of 33.61.

"I am very happy with the result. I didn't expect to make it as far as the semifinals, but once I was there, of course I wanted to get to the final," she said. "I tried, I suffered... I'm proud to have come this far."



Michelle Alonso. :: F. SILVA



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David Ferrer, lifted up by his teammates after his victory on Sunday. :: AFP PHOTO

## Spain through to Davis Cup semis after comeback win

Veteran David Ferrer sealed a 3-2 win after a five-hour battle; his country will take on France in September

### :: MANUEL SÁNCHEZ

Spain will face France in the semi-finals of the Davis Cup, their first in six years, after beating Germany on Sunday when they mounted an astonishing comeback.

Germany led the tie 2-1 after Saturday's doubles but world number one Rafael Nadal, playing his first event since retiring with a hip problem in the last eight of the Australian Open in January, levelled it up with a 6-1 6-4 6-4 victory over Alexander Zverev.

The clash lasted two hours and

20 minutes and was a show of dominance from the Mallorcan.

This left it down to the veteran David Ferrer, with Nadal as cheerleader courtside, to complete an unlikely revival, seeing off Philipp Kohlschreiber 7-6 (7-1) 3-6 7-6 (7-4) 4-6 7-5 in the deciding rubber in the Valencia bullring.

Ferrer's epic victory, in a game which lasted almost five hours, will go down in Spanish Davis Cup folklore. Having lost his first game to Zverev, he stepped up and showed great endurance and nous to see off his younger counterpart.

"It wouldn't have been an easy decision to put faith in me," said Ferrer after the match, recognising that coach Sergi Bruguera could quite easily have opted for the inform (and younger) Roberto Bautista.

"This is an unforgettable day; I don't know how I did it. This competition has been one of the toughest of my life," added Ferrer who said it was "the best feeling" playing in front of "my people, my friends and my future wife".

In the semifinals, Spain will take on France, on French soil, after they saw off Italy 3-1 in Genoa this week.

The matches will be played over the weekend of 14 to 16 September at a location yet to be decided.

## Marc Márquez accused of 'destroying' MotoGP after 'deliberate' crash

Márquez and bitter rival Valentino Rossi have been embroiled in a war of words since Márquez forced Rossi off the track in the Argentinian GP

### :: EFE

**SAO PAULO.** Spanish rider and reigning MotoGP champion Marc Márquez has admitted to making a mistake during Sunday's Argentinian Grand Prix when he was punished for riding into bitter rival Valentino Rossi.

Speaking at an event for one of his sponsors in Sao Paulo, he said:

"It was through bad luck that I touched Valentino and when he went onto the grass he fell. I understand my mistake and I was punished for it."

Rossi, however, disagreed: "It is not a mistake. If all the riders race like this, without any respect for rivals, this is a very dangerous sport and [it will] finish in a bad way."

"This is a very bad situation, because he destroyed our sport. I'm scared on the track when I am with Márquez."

Márquez, whose race was hampered by erratic driving and behaviour finished 18th, while Rossi, following the crash, finished one place behind.



Marc Márquez, the reigning MotoGP champion. :: EFE



## BARONA COME OUT ON TOP IN LIGA ANDALUZA PLAYOFF

Friends turned into foes at the weekend as both Fuengirola teams, Barona and the Lions, faced off in the playoff final for the Liga Andaluza. Having lost to the Lions in the normal season 7-2, Barona put on a major show of strength to avenge the defeat with a comfortable 11-1 win in the final.

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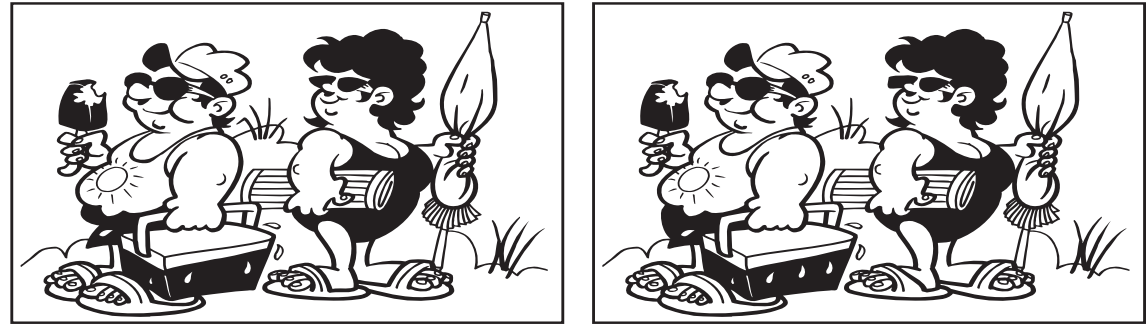
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THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES




THE STARS



**Aquarius**

January 21 - February 19


If you admire someone make a point of getting together with them or at least arranging to do so.



**Pisces**

February 20th - March 20th


This week you could feel that instant rapport with someone. Not so harmonious are some relationships at work.



**Aries**

March 21st - April 20th


Surprise meetings bring both romance and inspiration. Try to hold back from making a sharp comment at work.



**Taurus**

April 21st - May 21st


A feeling of pure fun and joy reminds of days long gone. This could be triggered by contact from the past.



**Gemini**

May 22nd - June 21st


Wanting to do something out of the ordinary, your sense of adventure is in full swing.



**Cancer**

June 22nd - July 23rd


Work-wise, be sensible and time any changes carefully. Patience will pay off in this area.



**Leo**

July 24th - August 23rd


Feeling a little sentimental this week? Seek out the company of those who will understand your mood and the directions of your thoughts.



**Virgo**

August 24th - September 23rd


Sometimes wishing that there were two of you? Certainly this week is going to stretch your talents.



**Libra**

September 24th - October 23rd


In a sensitive and sensuous week, pay special attention to a loved one. Is it time to admit your feelings at last?



**Scorpio**

October 24th - November 22nd


The urge to turn over a new leaf does not have to mean changing everything. However, making little tweaks will not get you results.



**Sagittarius**

November 23rd - December 21st

A bit of 'inward thinking' is good. You have no objection to your own company when others are annoying.

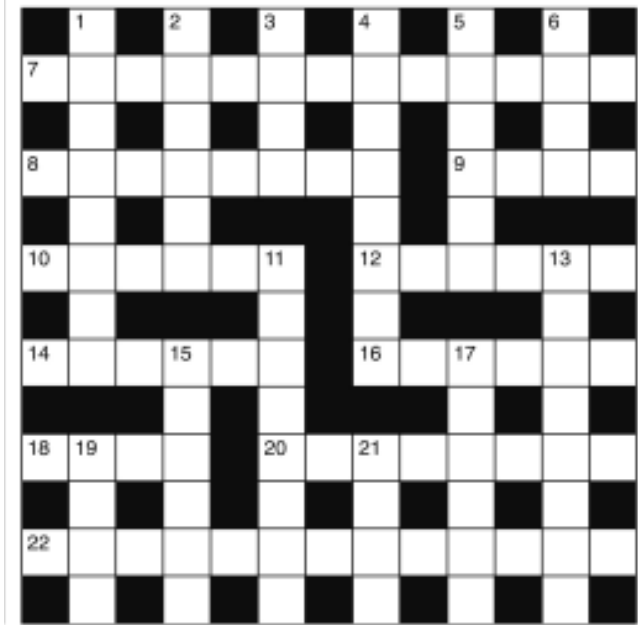


**Capricorn**

December 22nd - January 20th

Spending time with an old friend sheds a light on your current questions.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11290



- Across**

  - 7 Just the man to make armies' lines go astray! (13)
  - 8 Caviare manufacturer (8)
  - 9 Call for Wagnerian work (4)
  - 10 Soft bed needed for the sportsman (6)
  - 12 Am coming back with female complaint (6)
  - 14 A diversion near the mountain road (6)
  - 16 Strong enough to resist any ill-feeling (6)
  - 18 Hadn't paid for the ring before getting married! (4)
  - 20 Describing the fundamental virtues for a churchman (8)
  - 22 An attractive device in current production (13)
- Down**

  - 1 Fellows agree it's how thought is produced (8)
  - 2 Almost makes a point with time to spare (6)
  - 3 See 19 Down
  - 4 Part of its charm is no meretricious error in the title (8)
  - 5 Describing nearly everything about star arrangement! (6)
  - 6 You must have the last word here (4)
  - 11 Stop work and make better recuperative holiday (4-4)
  - 13 Seed said to be badly affected by bacteria (8)
  - 15 He's hooked (6)
  - 17 A game - and the captain needs to be in control of it (6)
  - 19 & 3Dn Properly constructed water supply produced (4-4)
  - 21 An inclination for this age to rush about wildly (4)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

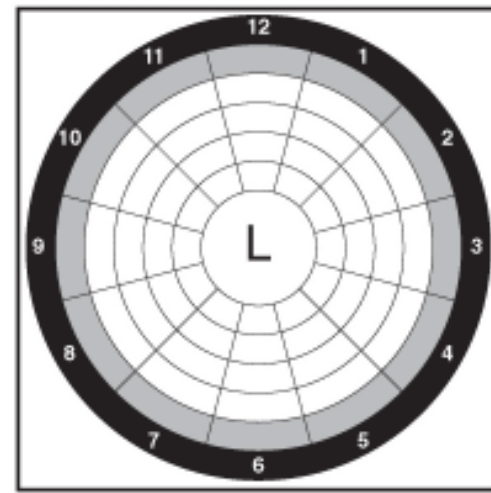
**Instructions**

Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

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

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter L in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of an Australian band.



- 1. Follow-up
- 2. Real
- 3. Chaste
- 4. Antenna
- 5. Cheerful
- 6. Hard tooth covering
- 7. New Testament book
- 8. Attack violently
- 9. Ceremony
- 10. Particular
- 11. Involve
- 12. Five cents

THE WORDPUZZLER

C	L	A	B	L	E	M	E	O	R
O	S	T	O	R	Y	E	L	P	A
M	E	S	T	I	A	P	H	O	T
P	A	R	T	Y	R	I	N	W	U
U	L	B	O	G	F	R	O	E	T
N	P	O	M	A	I	N	D	R	Y
C	L	N	A	B	R	I	D	D	O
H	A	R	D	A	I	L	A	M	P
A	M	E	O	N	N	O	T	U	M
D	U	F	N	T	G	L	E	G	U

CAN you identify the words that may precede line from the clues listed below?

- 1. Celebration
- 2. Sacking
- 3. Very warm
- 4. Principal
- 5. Difficult
- 6. Fable
- 7. Fruit
- 8. Nadir
- 9. Alcoholic drink
- 10. Might

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**Radio Sol Almjara** (99.1 FM)

Nerja radio in English and German and night time World Radio Network

**HeartfmSpain** (88.5 FM Costa, 96.1 FM inland) Music, entertainment, news

**Lick FM** (103.6 FM Marbella)

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**ACE FM** (106.8 FM)

Inland radio, news and music

The Beat fm (106 FM)

24 hours, music and entertainment

QUIZ

**QUESTION 1**

Which animal's milk is used in pecorino cheese?

- 1. Buffalo
- 2. Cow
- 3. Goat
- 4. Sheep

**QUESTION 2**

From which country does Brahma beer originate?

- 1. India
- 2. Brazil
- 3. Germany
- 4. Japan



LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across
- Down
- 1) Construction (12)

6) Advantage (7)

9) Scratch (7)

10) Pleasant (10)

12) River (3)

13) Odourless (7)

15) To furnish (8)

16) Bear (3)

17) Perseverance (5)

20) Echo (3)

21) Sports (8)

24) Morning (8)

26) Bad (3)

27) Racing driver (6)

28) Music theory (6)

31) Cough (3)

32) Setback (12)

35) Dwarf (5)

36) They believe (5)

37) Safety (9)

38) Pi (2)

40) Englishwoman (7)

45) To gnaw (4)

46) Speed (9)

47) Mayor (7)

49) Twelve (4)

50) Spectators (12)

51) Race (7)
- 1) Track (8)

2) Second (7)

3) Close (finish) (6)

4) I copy (5)

5) Wave (3)

6) Winner (8)

7) Savings (7)

8) Motor racing (13)

11) Champion (7)

14) Recipe (6)

18) To sob (8)

19) Not even (2)

22) Trophy (6)

23) He lies (3)

24) Motorcycle (4)

25) You (pl) (2)

26) Motivated (8)

27) Pilgrimage (11)

29) Grand Prix (4, 6) (10)

30) Leader (5)

32) Car (5)

33) New (f) (5)

34) I used to persuade (9)

39) Test (6)

41) Key (5)

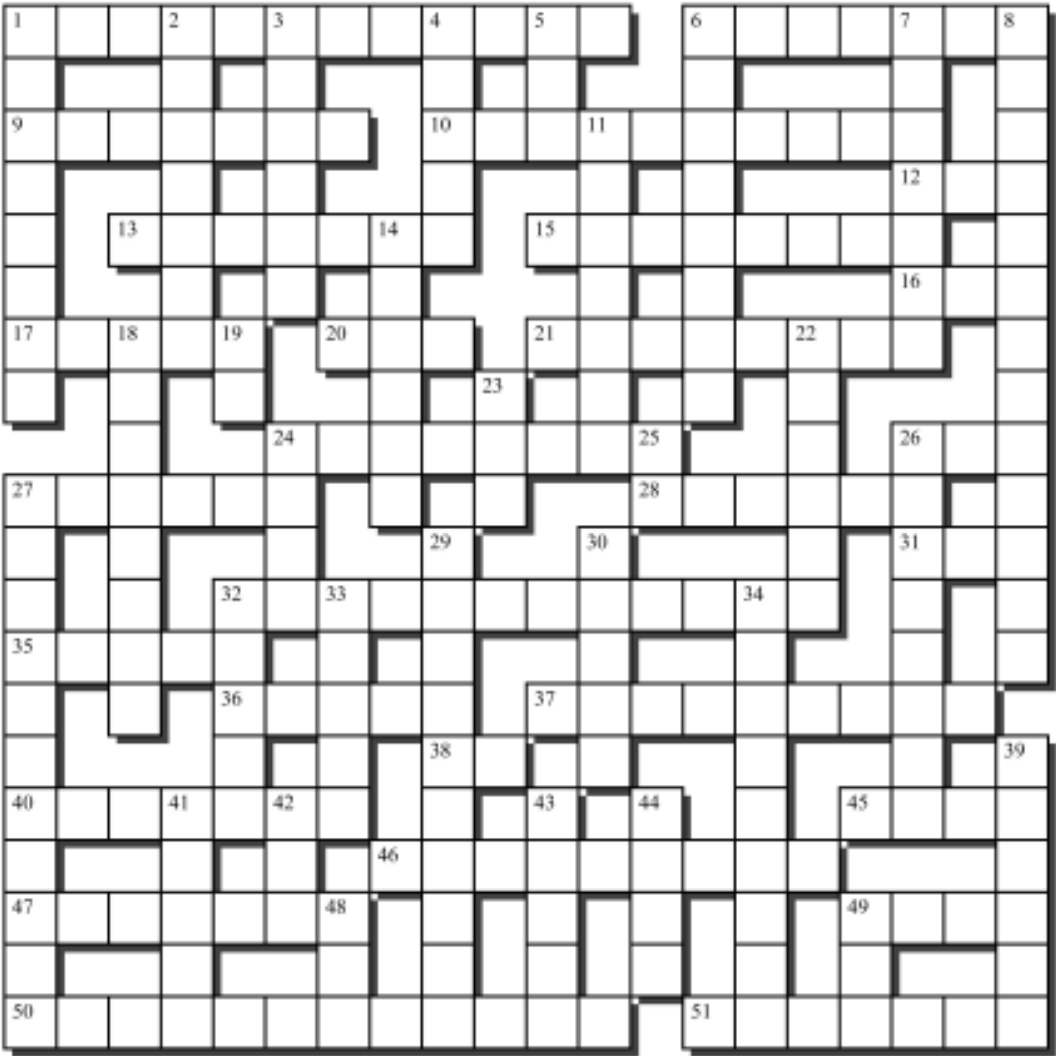
42) Thirst (3)

43) He races (5)

44) Wine (4)

48) That (f) (3)

49) To give (3)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

**Answer 1:** Brazil  
**Of interest:** Brahma is a Brazilian beer, originally made by the Companhia Cervejaria Brahma, which was founded in 1888. The brewery is currently the fifth largest in the world.

**Answer 1:** Sheep  
**Of interest:** Pecorino is a family of hard Italian cheeses made from ewe's milk. The word derives from Italian 'pecora' meaning 'sheep'.

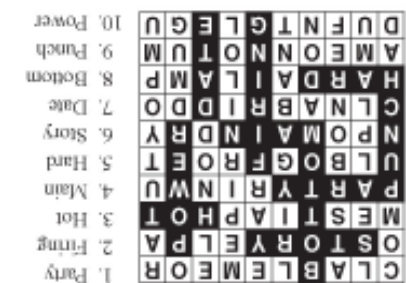
Cryptic Crossword

**Solutions:** Across: 7 Generalissimo; 8 Sturgeon; 9 Ring; 10 Player; 12 Malady; 14 Bypass; 16 Robust; 18 Owed; 20 Cardinal; 22 Electromagnet. Down: 1 Mentally; 2 Nearly; 3 Made; 4 Mismomer; 5 Astral; 6 Amen; 11 Fest-cure; 13 Diseased; 15 Addict; 17 Bridge; 19 Well; 21 Ramp.

Clockword solution



Wordpuzzler solution



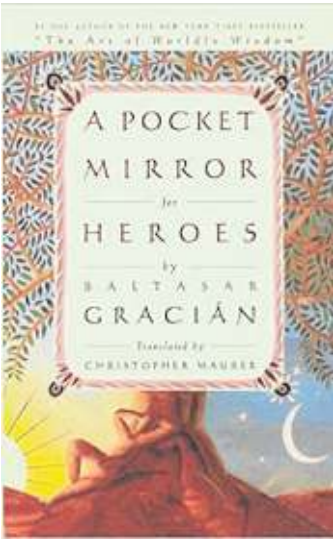
Sudoku solution

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

Language Crossword



BOOK OF THE WEEK



A Pocket Mirror For Heroes  
Baltasar Gracián

“The Art of Worldly Wisdom’ by Baltasar Gracián was forgotten for three hundred years, until its republication in 1992 turned this classic into a New York Times bestseller. Gracián, the Spanish Jesuit considered Machiavelli’s better in strategy, sets a new standard on the art of living and the practice of achieving. The art of heroism—how to be “the consummate person, ripe and perfect: accurate in judgment, mature in taste, attentive in listening, wise in sayings, shrewd in deeds, the centre of all perfection.”

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

We cannot start over but we can begin now and make a new ending

ZIG ZIGLAR

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Marella Celebration	15/04	Gibraltar	Mahon	06.00	22.00
Saga Sapphire	15/04	Motril	Lexoes	08.00	23.00
The World	15/04	Cartagena	-	09.00	23.00
Oosterdam	16/04	-	-	07.00	18.00
Costa Favolosa	16/04	-	-	09.00	19.00
Viking Sky	17/04	Cartagena	Viking	08.00	19.00
Wind Surf	17/04	-	-	08.00	19.00
MSC Fantasia	18/04	Funchal	Civitavecchia	08.00	17.00
Prinsendam	19/04	Cadiz	Mahon	08.00	0.00
MSC Poesia	19/04	Cadiz	Palma	08.00	15.00
Costa Pacifica	19/04	Santa Cruz	Barcelona	12.00	20.00
Clio	19/04	Cartagena	Gibraltar	14.00	23.00
Norwegian Epic	20/04	Gibraltar	Barcelona	08.00	18.00
Black Watch	20/04	Livorno	Southampton	08.00	18.00
Marella Celebration	22/04	Cartagena	Lisbon	06.00	22.00





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# Malaga rolls out its red carpet

The city is hosting its famous ten-day Festival of Spanish Film for the 21st year

EF E

**MALAGA.** The Malaga Festival of Film in Spanish begins in the provincial capital today, 13 April. The event, which is now in its 21st year, is a meeting point and showcase for the Spanish and Ibero-American audiovisual industry, and nine of the 19 full-length films which will be screened in various venues across the city are from the other side of the Atlantic.

Festival director Juan Antonio Vigar says the international character of the event is the result of "months of hard work". This year's festival will be paying tribute to two international guests: Guillermo del Toro, from Mexico, is to receive the Malaga Prize after his triumph at the recent Oscars, and the Retrospective is dedicated to famous Spanish film director Juan Antonio Bayona.

As well as the film screenings - which will take place across venues such as the Albéniz cinema, the Teatro Cervantes and the Palacio Episcopal - the festival will include 'Mafiz', the Málaga Festival Industry Zone, which is based on the Palmeral de las Sorpresas in Malaga port so visitors can discover more about this "Mediterranean and luminous city", as Juan Antonio Vigar describes it.



The iconic red carpet is in place on Malaga's Calle Larios. EF SUR

This year the festival organisers wanted to highlight the work of female filmmakers, especially as their presence in this industry is still minimal. In the different sections, 37 per cent of the films selected have been

directed by women, as have 11 of the 17 documentaries.

With regard to tributes, costume designer Paco Delgado will be presented with the Ricardo Franco prize; actress Mónica Randall will receive

the Biznaga Ciudad del Paraíso; director Rodrigo Sorogoyen will be awarded the Premio Eloy la Iglesia; while 'Un hombre llamado Flor de Otoño', by Pedro Olea, is this year's Gold Film.

Vigar says this year's official selec-

tion includes well-known names as well as young filmmakers with a different and more contemporary views.

Among the entries this year are 'Las leyes de la termodinámica', by Mateo Gil; 'La voz del silencio' (Brazil), by André Ristum; 'Ana de día', by Andrea Jaurieta; 'Benzinho' (Brazil), by Gustavo Pizzi; 'Casi 40', by David Trueba; 'El mundo es suyo', by Alfonso Sánchez; 'Formentera Lady', by Pau Durá; and 'Invisible' (Argentina), by Pablo Georgelli.

The official section will also include 'La reina del miedo' (Argentina-Denmark), by Valeria Bertucelli; 'Las distancias', by Elena Trapé; 'Los adioses' (Mexico), by Natalia Beristain; 'Los buenos demonios' (Cuba), by Gerardo Chijona; 'Memorias de un hombre en pijama', by Carlos Fernández de Vigo; 'Mi querida cofradía', by Marta Díaz de Lope, and 'No dormirás', by Gustavo Hernández.

The festival has more Twitter followers than any other in Spain (over 94,000) and the event, which lasts for ten days, is expected to attract tourists from all over the world. Those already in the city by chance will also get caught up in activities, with red carpets laid around the city (the largest on Calle Larios, alongside a public photo exhibition) providing plenty of selfie opportunities.

Tickets for a number of screenings and the gala events are available to the general public and can be purchased through the festival's website ([festivaldemalaga.com](http://festivaldemalaga.com)).

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